



The HIS Mission is to provide international learners with opportunities to pursue academic and personal excellence within a caring community.



## WHAT TO EXPECT

Upon entering high school, students in grade 9 have opportunities to develop their knowledge and understanding within a variety of courses and experiences. They are tasked with learning new topics, demonstrating mastery of content, and applying that content creatively through independent investigations. Students work collaboratively in projects to ask questions, find solutions, and develop new approaches to problems.

Students also are encouraged to join after school activities including sports teams, creative experiences, and clubs that enrich their personal and social lives. The information in this brochure presents the range of learning experiences available to students at HIS.





### IB MIDDLE YEARS PROGRAMME

HIS is an accredited WASC and International Baccalaureate World school, which offers the IB Middle Years Programme for students in grades 6-10. Each student demonstrates attainment and learning in the subject classes listed below.

### LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE

Students can choose between English or Chinese Language and Literature courses. Both courses address concepts of communication, creativity, connections, and perspective through studies of language texts and literary texts. Students develop skills in analysis, composition, and presentation through their studies.

### MATHEMATICS

This program gives students a sound knowledge of basic mathematical principles while allowing them to develop the skills needed to make connections in mathematics to real-world situations and recognize mathematical patterns through investigations. The course explores the concepts of form, relationships, and logic.

### SCIENCE

This course keeps inquiry as the foundation of teaching and learning. Students work independently and collaboratively to investigate topics through research, experimentation, and observation by making connections between science and every day life. The concepts addressed throughout the year include the ideas of change, relationships, and systems. This is an integrated class studying topics of Biology, Chemistry, and Physics during the year.

### SOCIAL STUDIES

Students are challenged to respect and understand the world from historical, geographical, social, economic, religious, and cultural perspectives. Through explorations that discuss the impact of these approaches on the individual, society and environment, the course approaches concepts of change, global interactions, systems, time, place, and space. The integrated social studies class presents units on history, current events, geography, and political principles.

### LANGUAGE B

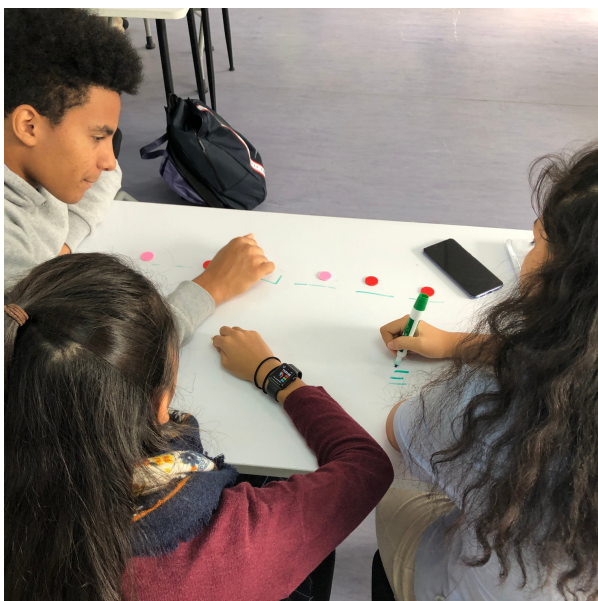
Students are expected to develop competence in multiple languages while gaining respect for cultural perspectives that relate to the languages learned. At HIS, students can choose from Chinese, Spanish, or English language acquisition courses to develop their skills as multilingual learners. Various levels are offered for student growth in concepts of connections, creativity, and culture.

### PROJECTS & ATL SKILLS

The ATL Skills class meets weekly with a teacher to provide academic skill development and support the student's learning in all subjects. Students practice self-management skills, research skills, communication skills, collaboration skills and thinking skills in this class by completing creative projects.

### ADVISORY

The Advisory program provides pastoral support for students in small groups of 10 students per advisor. The students connect through team-building activities, reflection on their learning program, and participation in service projects. They take part in a Life 101 rice babies activity and a work placement program to practice life skills during the year.



To see the  
Grade 9 subject  
units, scan the  
QR code





### ARTS (DRAMA, MUSIC, VISUAL ARTS)

In grade 9, students choose an arts class from the options of Drama, Music, or Visual Arts. Each course requires a performance exhibition of the skills and projects undertaken throughout the term. Through studying the arts, students are encouraged to think creatively, develop artistic skills, use their imaginations, see other perspectives, reflect on the context of art, and make connections between the investigation and the practice. The art courses focus on the concepts of aesthetics, change, communication, and identity.

### DESIGN

In grade 9, students take Design twice a week. As a link between innovation and creativity, the Design course encourages students to explore the problems and potential solutions available to them. Using the design cycle as the foundation for the course, students use imagination, creativity, research, and collaboration to achieve their final products. The course focuses on key concepts of communication, communities, development, and systems. Students choose projects of personal and social interest for development.

### PHYSICAL AND HEALTH EDUCATION (PHE)

Giving students an opportunity to understand and appreciate the value of being physically active and making healthy life choices is an important part of middle school. Students will learn about and learn through physical activity in the PE portion of the course, which meets twice a week, while they learn to respect each other and work collaboratively through the Health portion of the course, which meets once a week. Combined, the course addresses the concepts of change, communication, development, and relationships.

### TECHNOLOGY

Each student is issued a Macbook Air computer for use in the classroom and at home. They will learn how to use their technology responsibly and to manage their schedules, course requirements, and classwork. With wifi internet access and Managebac as a learning platform, the students and teachers collaborate with students for creative and purposeful technology usage.

### SAMPLE GRADE 9 SCHEDULE

In grade 9, students take eight courses, which meet two or three times a week for 70 minutes per class period. Students attend five classes each day.



1	<b>Physical and Health Education 9.2</b> 8:00AM - 9:10AM Filipe Nogueira ☒ GYM	<b>Mathematics 9.2</b> 8:00AM - 9:10AM Simon Lamplugh ☒ A002	<b>Physical and Health Education 9.2</b> 8:00AM - 9:10AM Filipe Nogueira ☒ B204	<b>Spanish Language Acquisition</b> 8:00AM - 9:10AM Andres Sanchez ☒ B305	<b>Design 9.2</b> 8:00AM - 9:10AM Matthew Tupper ☒ A306
2	<b>Mathematics 9.2</b> 9:30AM - 10:40AM Simon Lamplugh ☒ A002	<b>Social Studies 9.2</b> 9:30AM - 10:40AM Andrew (Andy) Haltom ☒ B016	<b>Spanish Language Acquisition</b> 9:30AM - 10:40AM Andres Sanchez ☒ B305	<b>Mathematics 9.2</b> 9:30AM - 10:40AM Simon Lamplugh ☒ A002	<b>English Language and Literature 9.2</b> 9:30AM - 10:40AM Danielle Bowers ☒ B001
3	<b>Social Studies 9.2</b> 10:45AM - 11:55AM Andrew (Andy) Haltom ☒ B016	<b>Science 9.2</b> 10:45AM - 11:55AM Christopher Widi ☒ A201	<b>Science 9.2</b> 10:45AM - 11:55AM Christopher Widi ☒ A201	<b>Social Studies 9.2</b> 10:45AM - 11:55AM Andrew (Andy) Haltom ☒ B016	<b>Projects and ATLs 9.2</b> 10:45AM - 11:55AM Terry Strombeck ☒ B307
4	<b>Spanish Language Acquisition</b> 12:35PM - 1:45PM Andres Sanchez ☒ B305	<b>English Language and Literature 9.2</b> 12:35PM - 1:45PM Danielle Bowers ☒ B001	<b>Design 9.2</b> 12:35PM - 1:45PM Matthew Tupper ☒ A306	<b>English Language and Literature 9.2</b> 12:35PM - 1:45PM Danielle Bowers ☒ B001	<b>Science 9.2</b> 12:35PM - 1:45PM Christopher Widi ☒ A201
5	<b>HS Visual Arts 10</b> 1:50PM - 3:00PM Jamie Sanchez ☒ Art Room	<b>Advisory Lin 9.3</b> 1:50PM - 3:00PM Lily Lin ☒ B304	<b>Physical and Health Education 9.2</b> 1:50PM - 3:00PM Filipe Nogueira ☒ GYM	<b>HS Visual Arts 10</b> 1:50PM - 3:00PM Jamie Sanchez ☒ Art Room	<b>Activity Period 9</b> 1:50PM - 3:00PM Alice, Zhang Congling ☒ TBD





Students are encouraged to develop their own areas of interest in creative, active, or service-oriented activities. Above and beyond the curricular program of study, these activities, programs, clubs, and events challenge the students to collaborate with classmates and deepen their interests outside of the classroom.

### CHINA TRIP

At the end of September, the class participates in a China Trip to facilitate learning and understanding of the cultural elements of life in China. The grade 9 trip to Guizhou is a five day physical and cultural experience where students challenge themselves through hiking, working within a rural village, and visiting a local school. They learn more about Chinese minority culture, remote villages in rural China, and teach local students English during the experience.

### VARSITY SPORTS

High School students are able to join the varsity sports teams for Volleyball, Basketball, Soccer, Badminton, Table Tennis and Swimming. The HIS teams are part of the SISAC and ACAMIS conferences and end the seasons with tournaments playing against other schools in China. Practices typically run three times a week during the sport season with weekend matches and area events. HIS teams are well respected in the conference events because of the quality of play and teamwork present.



### AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

With creative opportunities including Model United Nations, art club, baking club, musical ensembles, robotics, and performances, students can develop their interests and allow them to experiment within a safe and engaging environment. We encourage students to create their own activities and gain leadership skills by offering a Student-Led Activity (SLA) after school or during activity period. Students can join service activities to connect with the local community as well.

### STUDENT LIFE

Students can enjoy events including school dances, winter chill evenings, lock-ins, intramural sports, movie nights, and spirit day events as organized by the HIS Student Council. Also available are regular school events including the Welcome Barbecue, International Day, and the HIS 5k Dragon Run to encourage students to join the community at HIS.

### PAFA INFORMATION

Parents are encouraged to join the Parents and Friends Association to provide support for student events and activities, but also to take part in parent meetings and events to support the student and program needs. For more information, please access the website: <https://www.his-china.org/support/pafa>

