



XLIS
XI'AN LIANGJIATAN
INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

2026-2027

**XI'AN LIANGJIATAN INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL
ADMISSIONS POLICY**

Xi'an Liangjiatan International School Admissions Policy

Xi'an Liangjiatan International School offers admission to students of the appropriate age who hold foreign passports and are interested in an inquiry-based, constructivist approach to education. The school offer the IB Primary Years Programme, Middle Years Programme and IB Diploma Programme. At time of the admission interview, it is essential that parents have researched about the programmes we offer and are willing to demonstrate commitment to supporting the IB philosophy of education at home. Applicants need to peruse our website (<https://xalis.com/>) and the IB website (www.ibo.org) to understand our educational philosophy and academic offerings.

XLIS is an inclusive school, and we admit students from all cultures and backgrounds. The language of instruction in the school is English and in order to be admitted to the school all students should show a level of proficiency in this language. As part of our admissions process, all students who are learning English as their second language, must complete WIDA EAL testing for speaking, reading, writing, listening and literacy. These tests help to place students appropriately and the results support the EAL teachers to plan their language support program.

XLIS Class Level	Expected WIDA Requirement
P4-P5	2
P6-M3	2.5
M4-M5	4
DP1-DP2	4

Table 1: Expected WIDA Admissions Requirement

As an inclusive institution, the school allows the admission of students with special needs. The Learning Enhancement teacher can support a limited number of students with special needs. Students should have documentation of their needs with a current Psychological Educational Report. Admission will be dependent on need and numbers of students requiring support. We cannot offer support for students with (documented or undocumented) severe learning disabilities. The teachers are able to facilitate students with a range of typical learning needs through differentiated practices in the classroom.

The mission of our school is to provide education for and develop global citizens from overseas who come to our city. At times these students may not perfectly meet our WIDA entrance requirement, however, they may be given the opportunity to proceed to interview with the principal. This is so that we ensure students coming to our city have a place to learn while their families are serving to advance our community.

In keeping with our commitment to mother tongue, our admissions department is comprised of multi-lingual staff members who speak Chinese, Korean and English who can support families with translation and cultural transitions. We welcome families to XLIS in multiple languages.

Our goals are to:

- ensure all accepted students enter and exit the school well through clear systems, procedures and with the support of caring staff members.
- make sure all of our students are placed in appropriate level for their age and school background.
- warmly and professionally welcome all suitable students and families to our community.
- to be sure our students all enter well we are committed to rigorous English as an Additional language testing upon entry for all EAL learners.
- ongoing communication with our admissions staff throughout the process of entering and exiting the school.

Diploma Programme Policy Admission Guidelines

The Diploma Programme (DP) is a rigorous two-year programme, new students are only admitted at the start of DP 1, in the first two months of the programme. Because of the academic demands of the DP, it is not possible for students to catch up on months of material that will be covered in the DP examinations (May of DP Year 2) and internal and external assessment requirements. The only exception to this rule is for DP students transferring from other IB Worlds schools who have been attending school full time and taking DP courses that are also offered at XLIS. Students would need to have followed an

identical course of study to enter the programme later in the DP year.

The Diploma Programme language of instruction is English. Due to the highly academic nature of DP and level of English vocabulary of each subject, we can offer places in the DP to students with WIDA level 4 preferably 5 or higher on all aspects (speaking, listening, reading, writing and literacy). All DP candidates will meet with the DP Coordinator and Secondary Principal to determine subject selection. Consideration to student strengths, interest and future university requirements will be discussed at the admissions meeting with DPC and HoS. Our admissions process takes into consideration successful placement at XLIS and beyond to university.

Students must commit to the Diploma Programme fully over the course of the two years. It is not possible to complete this demanding programme successfully while completing additional non- Diploma courses in the evenings and on weekends at academies. This course of study is challenging for the most talented and hard-working students. Our motto in the XLIS Secondary is that “English is the language of inclusion.” We support translanguaging practices when needed but encourage students to communicate in English, the language of instruction and common language for the majority of their time at school. Once student reach a high level WIDA stage, they should be communicating with members of the mixed language group classes in the language of instruction to be inclusive of all members of the class.

All students applying to XLIS Diploma Programme must submit transcripts (translated into English) from all previous schools, application form, proof and documentation of citizenship and attend interviews with the Admissions Department, Division Principal and Head of School. Our admissions process is rigorous to enable the right fit for all students. We use an online portal called Open Apply for our application procedures.

Middle Years Programme Policy Admission Guidelines

The Middle Years Programme (MYP) is an intense five-year programme. Students may enter MYP 1- MYP 5, based on their age and previous academic experience and success.

In MYP 5, students are required to complete a major project called the Personal Project for the successful completion of the programme. Students entering MYP 5 late in the year will not be able to complete this important assessment but will be given an alternative assessment to demonstrate readiness for the Diploma Programme.

Students should enter MYP 1 to MYP 3 with a WIDA level of 2.5 and MYP 4 and 5 with WIDA level of 4 in all areas (speaking, listening, reading, writing and literacy), in order to access the curriculum of DP where high levels are required across all components of the WIDA tests. All MYP students are required to take a full complement of courses and these courses will be outlined by the Head of School in the admissions interview. It is essential that students and parents research the IB and understand the MYP concept-based approach to education before the admissions interview. Parents and students are asked to commit to this philosophy as their primary educational focus and not attend hours of alternative (non-IB) programmes in the evenings and on weekends. Maintaining primary focus on the education that we offer at XLIS is essential for success.

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All students applying to XLIS Middle Years Programme must submit transcripts (translated into English) from all previous schools, application form, proof and documentation of citizenship and attend interviews with the Admissions Department, Secondary Principal and Head of School. Our admissions process is rigorous to enable the right fit for all students. We use an online portal called Open Apply for our application procedures at XLIS.

Primary Years Programme Policy Admission Guidelines

The Primary Years Programme (PYP) is an eight-year transdisciplinary programme.

Students may enter the PYP at any stage based on their age and previous academic experience. In Primary 6 students are required to take part in the PYP exhibition. This is to demonstrate their understanding of the five essential elements of the programme before making the transition to the MYP. As with our MYP and DP programmes, English is considered the language of inclusion. We require students to use English as much as possible when working together in groups.

New students from P4 and above are tested using the WIDA test before admission into XLIS. This test assesses the student's listening, speaking, reading and writing skills in English. If a student scores between 1-3 on the test, he/she will enter our English as an Additional Language (EAL) program. Students in this program receive extra support in their class to understand the content of lessons. They are also taken out of the class in small groups for support. As soon as a student reaches a 3 on the exam, they begin to transition out of the EAL program. In order for students to access the PYP, the following minimum WIDA scores are required: P4-P5 = 2, P6 = 2.5.

In the primary school maximum class sizes are 22. In ECE B the numbers are capped at 18 and in ECE A 16. Students are placed according to our age chart, as we believe students develop best with peers of their own age. Our teachers carefully differentiate for the needs of students.

The first step is our online application through Open Apply. After all the required documents have been uploaded the student will meet with the principal for an initial interview. If the principal feels the school can meet the needs of the student a parent interview will be arranged with the Principal and the Head of School (HoS). During this time the Principal and HoS explains both XLIS and the PYP philosophy to education. It is essential that students and parents research the IB and understand the PYP concept-based approach to education before the admissions interview. Parents and students are asked to commit to this philosophy as their primary educational focus and not attend hours of alternative (non- IB) programmes in the evenings and on weekends. Maintaining primary focus on the education that we offer at XLIS is essential for success.

Version 1: Updated in June 2024

Version 2: Updated in November 2025



XLIS WeChat



XLIS Website



XLIS



XLIS China



XLIS China



XLIS China