



Frequently Asked Questions

SECONDARY SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT PLANS AT NORD ANGLIA INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL, HONG KONG

In 2013, our parent company, Nord Anglia Education, which is headquartered in Hong Kong, was allocated a disused school site in Lam Tin, following a competitive tendering process with the Hong Kong Government. We fully renovated this site and opened our school, Nord Anglia International School, Hong Kong (NAIS), on 1 September 2014. In its current state, the school can comfortably accommodate Years 1 to 9 and a maximum of 792 students.

However, as our goal was to grow the school into a full all-through school – Years 1 to 13 – we immediately started to look for a second campus.

In 2014, the Hong Kong Government released five more sites: two empty school buildings and three greenfield sites. Nord Anglia Education submitted bids for the greenfield sites with a view to building a through-school providing Years 1 to 13 education. Several other international schools (both Hong Kong-based and overseas operators) also applied.

When will a decision be made by the Hong Kong Government?

We are in close contact with officials in the Education Bureau, who are managing the process, however a final decision has not yet been made. The Education Bureau has told us that we will be informed by letter. We look forward to their response.

What will happen if NAIS is not successful in its bid for a new campus?

It is important to remind parents that we have not yet received any notification from the Education Bureau on our submission.

However, as part of a large and established group of premium international schools, it was important that we look at a range of options, including not being successful this time in our submission to Government for a second site or campus.

As such, in parallel with our submission to the Education Bureau, we are working on plans to expand the number of classrooms, sports areas and recreation spaces here in our Lam Tin Campus.

These plans would involve a second stage of construction work (Phase 2) and would allow us to expand up to Years 10 and 11, so that our current students would complete their Cambridge IGCSE examinations here in Lam Tin.

What extra construction are you proposing at the Lam Tin school?

We are working with highly experienced school architects to develop plans to add a new five-storey classroom and sports block behind the Panda Playground. This Proposed Phase 2 building work would turn our current U-shaped classroom block into a full “quad” or square with new classrooms and a sports pitch on the fourth side (see plans below).



What extra facilities would this Proposed Phase 2 add?

Accordingly to the latest design and plan, the Proposed Phase 2 would include the following:

- Ground floor: An extended covered play area behind the Panda Playground
- 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th floors: Teaching areas, split into two classrooms on each floor (specialist or general)
- 5th floor: Open sports pitch for Secondary School, with shading

Please note that the above is subject to change according to the final design and approval. Nevertheless, we aim is that once this extension was completed, we would have enough general and specialist classrooms (art, music, science) to allow our current students to study from Year 1 to Year 11 here in Lam Tin.

What would be the schedule for the Proposed Phase 2 construction?

It's important to note that we are at the design and planning stage and we still require internal and government approvals. However, we wanted to include our NAIS parents at the earliest stage of these plans.

The architect plans are being finalised for internal approval and submission to the Building Department. Subject to such approval, according to our current schedule, we plan to start work in December 2015 and complete by December 2016. We will continue to keep all our current and new families updated on the Proposed Phase 2 work as it progresses.

What disruption would the Proposed Phase 2 construction have on the daily operation of the school?

Under our current planning, we would aim to start building work at the end of 2015. Our specialist school architects are working on creative solutions to minimise disruption and ensure the highest level of safety during the full construction period.

Work will be restricted to weekends, school holidays and outside Primary school hours (2.45pm onwards). The building work will be contained behind sheeting and hoardings to minimise the impact of dust. We will have extra cleaning staff and exploring having more air purifiers around the school.

A Project Manager will be responsible for mitigating noise and dust and for ensuring that the building work progresses as safely and efficiently as possible. We will be sharing regular updates with all parents.

Will areas of the current school be cut off during the building work?

The architect is working hard to ensure minimal disruption to the school during the Proposed Phase 2 construction work. Currently all areas of the school will remain open. The road next to and behind the school will, however, be closed for construction vehicles and site offices.

We're still seeking clarification from the architect and contractors as to whether an area of the playground behind the Hall (opening in August 2015) would be hoarded off for construction equipment.

What happens if there are delays to the Proposed Phase 2 building work?

Under the current plans, the Proposed Phase 2 would be completed by December 2016. We do not need the additional classrooms and sports facilities until August 2017 when our current Year 7 students will move into



Year 10 and would start their two-year IGCSE exam courses. It is important to factor in this extra time, however the proposed extension is a relatively simple and self-contained construction project.

Will we continue to look for a second campus or additional space?

Yes. Our goal remains the same: to have two campuses – one in Lam Tin and one elsewhere. We look forward to hearing back from the Education Bureau in due course in relation to our current submission.

We are also continuing to explore various options with private developers as well as the government. We will continue to update parents as these future plans develop.

If we secure a large enough second campus or a greenfield site, we will keep our Lam Tin school and aim to build an additional all-through school on the second site (Years 1 to 13). However, this will depend on the size of the second campus.

What are your plans for the Year 12 and 13 IB Diploma?

The Proposed Phase 2 extension allows all our students to sit their IGCSE exams here in Lam Tin during Years 10 and 11. The first group of students to do this will be our current Year 7s. They will complete their two-year IGCSE examinations in June 2019.

We then plan to offer the International Baccalaureate Diploma (IB) in Years 12 and 13. Our current Year 7s would begin the two year course in August 2019.

Our current forecasts show that we will reach capacity in our Lam Tin school in the academic year starting August 2018. We would need additional space from August 2019.

We are actively looking at two options:

- Our preferred option is to secure a greenfield site and to build a bespoke through-train school: kindergarten to Year 13.
- Our Plan B is to secure smaller premises close to Lam Tin which we can renovate into a school for our Years 1 & 2s or our Years 12 & 13.

We will continue to keep parents informed and involved in these developments as they progress.

Are our current secondary school teachers fully qualified to teach IGCSEs and the IB?

We have an exceptional group of Secondary School specialist teachers covering Sciences, Music, Art, Geography, History, English, Maths, PE, Drama, Modern Foreign Languages and Computing.

These teachers are trained and experienced in teaching and administering the IGCSE curriculum in their subjects and have proven results. Additionally all teachers will attend refresher training courses and will liaise with colleagues worldwide for the purposes of moderation and best practice. This continuing programme of professional development (CPD) ensures that our teachers maintain and develop their teaching skills. Our teachers also benefit from our global Nord Anglia University which is an advanced professional development programme used by teachers from across our 35 schools.