





Nord Anglia Education

ISM is a proud member of Nord Anglia Education, the world's leading premium schools organisation. We are a global family of 69 international schools educating over 67,000 students from pre-school to the end of Secondary education.

Nord Anglia Schools are driven by one unifying philosophy – we are ambitious for our students, our people and our family of schools. Our schools deliver a high-quality education through a personalised approach, enhanced with unique global opportunities to enable every student to succeed academically, socially and personally.

We believe that there is no limit to what your child can achieve. Our approach to education enables students to achieve more with us than they would at other schools. We take the time to discover their passions and tap into their strengths. Our small-size classes mean that our teachers can devote time to every child. Our flexible approach to learning allows our staff to adapt to each student's needs.

We nurture confident, creative global citizens with a thirst for knowledge and the vision to change the world for the better. Our results are consistently higher than global averages. One in three Nord Anglia students go on to study at one of the world's 100 best universities.

Thanks to Nord Anglia's collaboration with world-leading organisations such as MIT, Juilliard and UNICEF, we have access to global programmes that give our students the skills, qualities and outlook to create their own exciting futures.

Our Curriculum

The aim of the curriculum at ISM is to offer your child a strong academic foundation and a diverse learning experience that allows them to excel in those areas where they have special interest or ability.

The programme is based on English National Curriculum (ENC) and has been enriched and adapted to our context. We aim for a high standard of attainment and many students will be working at a level that goes beyond the objectives of the ENC.

While core subjects such as English, Maths and Computing form a central part of the curriculum, our Integrated Curriculum for students in Years One to Four offers a broad range of subjects including Geography, Art and Design and History. In Years Five and Six, we move towards a more clearly-defined subject orientated timetable with increasing access to subject specialist teachers in preparation for Secondary School.

As an international school, we place great importance in the learning of a second language and provide opportunities for students to acquire a high level of fluency. All children in Years Five and Six choose from Spanish and French, to complement our required Russian classes and core English curriculum.

English Language
Mathematics
Science
Integrated Curriculum
History
Geography
Art and Design
Modern Foreign Languages
Computing
PSHE
Music
Physical Education

We are committed to ensuring your child experiences experience a wide range of disciplines. Everyone is required to play in a sports team, learn a musical instrument, take part in a performance and join in one of the school's various outreach programmes. A range of other optional activities and educational trips complete the programme.

| Age* | Year | Phase | |
|------|------|---------------|--|
| 5 | 1 | Lower Primary | |
| 6 | 2 | | |
| 7 | 3 | | |
| 8 | 4 | | |
| 9 | 5 | Upper Primary | |
| 10 | 6 | | |

*Age as of 1st September



Our Curriculum

English Language

Speaking and Listening

Discussion and oral presentations are a core aspect of many lessons and play a crucial part in vocabulary development. Lessons are designed to encourage speaking and listening for all students and often incorporate opportunities to present or perform using oral skills.

Writing

English Language lessons encourage students to express themselves creatively and imaginatively and to communicate with others effectively in a range of genres. Students learn to become enthusiastic and critical readers of stories, poetry and plays, as well as non-fiction and media texts. The structure of the language is explored through work on grammar, punctuation, spelling and handwriting. Attention to these important areas ensures that creative and imaginative ideas are presented in an organised manner.

Regular "Big Writing" tasks encourage students to utilise their writing skills in extended pieces of work. Selected pieces will be identified for editing and final presentation for display or their writing portfolios.





Reading

Reading is a crucial skill that supports learning across the whole curriculum. We place our focus on fostering a love of books and literature among our students. Children are taught to read, initially through the development of phonic knowledge and the sharing and discussion of books. We read in different ways at ISM to ensure that students develop reading habits that will remain with them throughout their school life and beyond.

Drama

Drama provides excellent opportunities for creative exploration, expression and performance, as well as the exploration of contemporary and historical issues in an imaginative way.

Drama is an integral part of the English Language curriculum. It includes dramatic play, story enactment, imagination journeys, theatre, games, music and dance. Every student takes part in at least one drama production per year.

Through play and performance students develop a sense of ease in public situations. Every student will enjoy the opportunity to play a role in a class assembly and an annual production within every year.



Mathematics

Mathematics is a creative and inter-connected discipline and provides solutions to some intriguing problems. It is also essential to everyday life, and critical to science, technology and engineering. A good mathematics education therefore provides a foundation for understanding the world, and the ability to reason mathematically.

Mathematics is taught daily from Year One to Year Six in a way that ensures confidence and accuracy when using numbers in increasingly complex activities. In addition, an understanding of the wider associated topics such as measurement, shape and handling of data is taught.

Students are introduced to topics such as geometry and algebra to solve a variety of challenges and problems related to real life situations. In doing so, they are inspired to be involved with the world around them through Maths. Mental strategies are learnt on a daily basis in warm-up activities to each lesson.

Science

Through science, students understand how major scientific ideas contribute to technological change, thus impacting on industry, business and medicine and improving quality of life. Students are taught to work scientifically by asking simple questions, performing experiments and tests, making observations, classifying and presenting data, analysing functions, relationships and interactions, using evidence, reporting findings and drawing conclusions.

As they progress through Primary School, the children develop a deep understanding of a wide range of scientific ideas. They also explore more abstract theories and recognise how these help them to understand and predict how the world operates. Through their studies, students begin to recognise how scientific ideas change and develop over time.

Integrated Curriculum

In Years One to Four, students will enjoy a thematic approach to learning within the subject areas of History, Geography, Art and Design. This topic-based approach allows more clear links with the local context and the UK ensuring that learning is relevant and meaningful for all students.

Each topic is carefully planned to incorporate opportunities to learn outside of the classroom, take some form of action, learn through enquiry, develop creativity and also offer real opportunities to develop their writing skills in a context. The content of the topics is carefully designed in order to ensure a balance between the subject areas and clear progression and skill development.

| Year One | Golden Celebrations | Epic Events |
|---------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|
| | Map It! | Let's Go Wild |
| | Local Heroes | Who Am I? Holidays |
| Year Two | Magnificent Moscow | From Farm to Fork |
| | Splendid Seasons | The Seven Wonders |
| | Intrepid Explorers | |
| Year Three | That's Ages Ago! | Tomb Raiders |
| | Where on Earth Are We? | Special Spaces |
| | Is Climate Cool? | |
| Year Four | Medieval Me | Great American Road Trip |
| | Natural Disasters | Russia Rules |
| | Victorian Britain | |

In Years Five and Six, these subject areas are taught discretely in preparation for Secondary School.

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History

History encourages students to consider how the past influences the present, what past societies were like, how these societies organised their politics, and what beliefs and cultures influenced people's actions. It supports not only the gathering of knowledge, but also develops important skills.

Students find evidence, weigh it up and reach their own conclusions. To do this, they need to be able to research, sift through evidence, argue and defend their point of view - skills that are prized in adult life. A range of topics are studied relating to Local and World history.

Geography

Geography develops knowledge of places and environments throughout the world, an understanding of maps, and a range of investigative and problemsolving skills both inside and outside the classroom.

Topics include knowledge and understanding of world geography, major cities, states, countries and continents as well as the human and physical characteristics, races and cultural diversity.

The geography curriculum at ISM places emphasis on learning through being practical and creative, and students enjoy activities such as making a working model of a volcano or conducting surveys to record relevant geographical data.

Art and Design

Art and Design at ISM stimulates creativity and imagination. Lessons provide visual, tactile and sensory experiences and a unique way of understanding and responding to the world.

In their weekly lessons, students learn to use colour, form, texture, pattern and different materials and processes to communicate what they see, feel and think.

They explore ideas and meanings in the work of artists, craftspeople and designers. They learn about the diverse roles and functions of art, craft and design in contemporary life, and in different times and cultures.

Modern Foreign Languages

Learning a foreign language provides a perfect opportunity to open up and learn about other cultures. A high-quality languages education fosters students' curiosity and deepens their understanding of the world. As an international school, we view the learning of language as particularly relevant in the modern world and therefore modern foreign languages is a key part of our curriculum.

We are very aware of the enormous opportunities that are available to us being based in Moscow and therefore Russian is offered to all students at an appropriate level including beginners and native speakers. Additionally, French and Spanish are introduced in Key Stage 2.

Computing

Students will have weekly lessons to improve their programming skills. Laptops and iPads will be regularly used in classrooms as a crucial tool across the curriculum. Students use technology tools to find, explore, analyse, exchange and present information responsibly and creatively.

They learn how to employ technology to enable rapid access to ideas and experiences from a wide range of people, communities and cultures.

Increased capability in the use of computing promotes initiative and independent learning, with students being able to make informed judgments about when and where to use computing to best effect, and to consider its applications for home and work, both now and in the future.

While we believe the internet is an excellent resource and that children should see it as part of their learning and everyday life, we are very focused on embedding e-safety across the school.

Children take part in regular e-safety activities to remind them of the importance of keeping themselves safe online.

Personal, Social and Health Education

PSHE is an important area of the ISM curriculum that helps children grow and develop as individuals and as members of families and communities. Through PSHE, students will have the knowledge, understanding, skills and attitudes they need to lead confident, healthy, independent lives and to become informed, active and responsible citizens.

Students are encouraged to take part in a wide range of activities and experiences across and beyond the curriculum. As part of the PSHE curriculum, students at ISM take part in a number of charity initiatives and also contribute to supporting local orphanages and organisations looking after the homeless in Moscow.

They reflect on their experiences and understand how they are developing personally and socially, tackling many of the spiritual, moral, social and cultural issues that are part of growing up.

They learn to understand and respect our common humanity, diversity and differences so that they can go on to form the effective, fulfilling relationships that are an essential part of life and learning.

Music

Music is a universal language that can engage and inspire students and therefore has a central place in the ISM curriculum. Throughout the year, an exciting schedule of concerts and musical workshops provides students with the opportunities to showcase their work and talent, both in the school and in the wider community.

Musical education at ISM begins in Early Years and continues every year, allowing students to develop an appreciation and love for music whilst honing their musical skills. ISM offers an extensive music programme that allows students the opportunity to play in groups or sing in a choir. For those interested in taking their musical talents further, we offer individual music lessons for a range of instruments.

Primary School Instrumental Programme

All students from Year Two to Year Six follow the Primary School Instrumental Programme, which is in addition to the music curriculum at ISM. Working in small groups, students are introduced to instruments such as the recorder, guitar, brass or woodwind and are taught by music specialists to become fluent and talented musicians.





Singing

At ISM, singing is an important part of the Music curriculum and is an 'ongoing skill'. From Early Years through to Year Six, singing takes place in almost every single music lesson. By having a vibrant singing culture, we aim for all children to experience the joy of learning to sing individually or as part of a choir. Primary School children sing in assemblies and often perform a song for their parents as part of their class assembly. Every child in the Primary School is also involved in at least one production throughout the year, where they learn all the songs in a musical.

Ensembles and Orchestra

In order to further develop the skills learned in the classroom, students are able to perform in ensembles and in an orchestra. These opportunities develop a sense of camaraderie and teamwork, as well as helping the students to become better musicians and more confident performers. For the most determined and gifted students, there are opportunities to become part of the inter-school ISM Orchestra with the chance to perform in recitals at many of our sister schools throughout the world.



Individual Music Programme

Students with a greater interest in music are encouraged to join the Individual Music Programme in which they receive individual music lessons in their chosen instrument(s) by a specialist teacher. The Individual Music Programme is not included in the tuition fees.

Physical Education

The Primary School PE curriculum offers a range of sports, including gymnastics, basketball, swimming and outdoor-based activities such as football and athletics. Students learn how to plan, perform and evaluate actions, ideas, and to improve their quality and effectiveness. Through this process, students discover their aptitudes, abilities and preferences, and make choices about how to get involved in lifelong physical activity.

The emphasis is placed on the ABCs (Agility, Balance, Coordination and Speed) as children progress through the Lower Primary and Upper Primary School. We believe that every student has the ability to achieve and can find an activity which they enjoy. The department is fully focused on making sure that all students enjoy sport and value the importance of living a healthy active lifestyle.

While the focus is on the fun and enjoyment of playing sport, there are regular opportunities to compete in inter-House competitions, sports days, and swimming galas. For outstanding performers, there is also the chance to represent ISM in the annual COBIS games.

Personal Development

Top of the school's priorities is the personal development of its students. The study of academic subjects is as much a means for developing key skills as it is for acquiring subject-specific knowledge. The following are key attributes that students should develop at the school and the learning of which must be integrated into classroom work and school life:

- Independence
- Teamwork and leadership
- Self-discipline
- Presence
- Awareness
- Decency
- Courage

The personal development of our students in these areas is carefully tracked and reported as they make their way through Primary School.

The Student Council plays an increasingly important role in the personal development of our students. We create a friendly and supportive environment where our students can change the world around them and develop teamwork and leadership skills. Our Student Council, Digital Leaders and other school committees actively work to bring ideas expressed by our students to the attention of our school's leadership team.





Beyond Traditional Education

School Trips

School trips are crucial opportunities to learn outside of the classroom. Throughout the Primary School, our trips are organised in relation to the topics and themes being taught in class. Trips may be to museums, cultural sites and events or activity centres and are designed to support the learning in the classroom. Moscow has a huge range of historic buildings and museums, and through visits to places such as the Kremlin or St Basil's Cathedral, students are able to appreciate the rich history and culture surrounding them.

From Year Three onwards, we offer the opportunity to enjoy an annual residential trip. In Years Three and Four, the trip typically takes place within Russia. Years Five and Six travel abroad to countries such as Austria, Germany or France, and stay there for a week. This opportunity is of great benefit in supporting independence, leadership, teamwork, maturity and self-esteem.

Community Service

The school has an ongoing and established relationship with local charities. This relationship extends beyond fundraising. Every student will be involved in community service on a termly basis. It may be in a fundraising capacity but it must also involve an investment of time. Through these programmes, such as volunteering at a local orphanage,

our students are encouraged to empathise with and take into consideration those less fortunate than themselves. Organising cake sales, music marathons and other fundraising activities have allowed ISM students and the school community to raise money for local charities as well as for international causes such as Children in Need. We Believe that our students should grow up with an understanding and commitment to citizenship both close to home and in a much wider context.

Enrichment

Each term, students get the chance to take part in new learning experiences and activities outside of their curricular subjects. These organised sessions are designed to be an enjoyable social opportunity for all and allow students to explore new areas and complement their studies. In addition, enrichment programmes help develop skills such as teamwork and leadership.

Enrichment programmes cover a range of activities including extra sports sessions, drama, singing, debating, baking and chess. Each term, students can choose a new activity to take part in as part of the programme.

Assessment and Reporting

Detailed written reports are issued four times per academic year, accessible via the iSams, Parent Portal. The reports are informed by the formal assessments that students undertake each term. The assessments and reports ensure that your child is progressing at expected levels and are suitably challenged and supported.

The Initial Report will include a summary of academic and pastoral progress in the early weeks of the year. Comments are intended to give an outline of how the year has started.

The Mid-Year Report will identify effort, progress and achievement in all areas of the curriculum. It also includes general comments. The report will reflect performance in the first half of the year.

The Mid-Year Short report is a short summary update before end-of-year assessments, in a similar style to the Initial Report. This report includes a general pastoral academic and pastoral comment, as well as grades in core areas related to English and Maths.

The End Of Year Report will identify effort, progress and achievement in all areas of the curriculum. It also includes general comments. The report will reflect performance in the second half of the year.

Each Report will be timed to coincide with a Parent, Teacher and Student Consultation. Consultations will focus on key points of the report, as well as ways that parents can provide support at home to maximise progress. Parents will also have the opportunity to browse student work books.

We are also committed to keeping parents regularly informed about classroom work via our 'Seesaw' app. At the beginning of each term, curriculum information is published, providing parents with information about the teaching and learning that will take place in the child's class that term. Parents are also provided with weekly updates from the classroom, via our weekly teacher message.

Commitment to Tailored Learning

ISM is committed to helping all students discover the full extent of their abilities. This pursuit of excellence is realised through our tailored approach to each child's education experience.

Within classrooms, we differentiate learning experience in each lesson to ensure that all students are robustly supported and challenged in their learning. Students are also regularly given personal targets that ensure they are motivated to reach the next stage of their development.

Special programmes, such as our Most Able and Talented programme, ensure that students with exceptional academic skills are provided with Individual Action Plans, catering specifically to their own learning needs. In this way, we ensure that every student achieves outstanding levels of growth in pursuit of their full potential.

Through our commitment to tailored learning programmes, we ensure that all of our students experience an education that inspires them to grow into strong and capable individuals.





We offer a strong academic foundation and a diverse learning experience that allows your child to excel in those areas where they have special interest or ability.

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