



### **When should applications be submitted?**

Applications are accepted all year round for all classes.

Admissions are possible all year, depending upon availability.

### **What do I need to submit with the application?**

Please refer to the admission guidelines available on the website.

### **What age groups does PIPS serve?**

PIPS offers 5 year levels from 1 to 6 years old.

- Playgroup is for 1 to 2 years olds.
- Pre-Nursery is for 2 to 3 year olds.

For 2016-2017 admissions into our Nursery (3-4 year olds) or LKP (4-6 year olds) your child should be born in

- 2013 for Nursery level
- 2012 or 2011 for LKP level

### **What curriculum does PIPS use?**

As a fully authorised IB World School PIPS uses the IB-PYP framework, which is an inquiry- based approach. To find out more about our school curriculum, please visit the 'Teaching and Learning' section of the website.

### **Do you offer a bilingual programme?**

We offer 2 streams, one is English, with 2 English teachers, and the other is bilingual, with an English teacher and a Putonghua teacher.

Languages are taught through an immersion programme and children do not have to speak either language before. We are used to children speaking Japanese, French or other languages at home and they pick up new languages rapidly, successfully and in quite a short time.

### **What is the class size and teacher/child ratio?**

<b>Year level</b>	<b>Class size</b>	<b>Teacher:child</b>
<b>Playgroup</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>1:8</b>
<b>PN</b>	<b>12 or 15</b>	<b>1:6 or 1:7.5</b>
<b>LKP</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>1:9</b>

### **What are the fees for submitting an application?**

There is an application fee of \$500 to cover administration costs.

There is a registration fee of \$550. Please refer to the admission guidelines for further details.

### **What are the monthly fees?**

Please refer to the main website page.

### **Are there any other fees payable, apart from tuition?**

There are no other fees payable apart from the occasional school outing or event.

### **Do I need to make an application for the Pre-Nursery if my child is in the Playgroup?**

Yes, it is not automatic to go to the Pre-Nursery from the Playgroup. Existing Playgroup students will be asked if they wish to apply for a Pre-Nursery place. If so, they must make an application. Once in the Pre-Nursery parents will be asked if they wish their child to progress to the next year group. No further application is necessary.

### **What are the class hours?**

Playgroup classes are 2 hours long and you can choose to enrol for 2 or 3 sessions per week.

PN and N classes are from 8.30-11.30 or 12.30-3.30.

LKP classes are full day from 8.30 – 3.00.

### **Can my child attend for 3 days, not 5 days?**

Our classes are all 5 days per week, either mornings or afternoons in the PN and N, and full day for LKP. We do offer 2 afternoon programmes in the Nursery year, which are 3 or 5 days per week.

English Enhancement Programme (EEP) is 3 afternoons per week.

Putonghua Enhancement Programme (PEP) is also 3 afternoons per week.

Activities Programme (ACT) runs for 2 afternoons per week and is a mixture of art, drama science and cooking, taught in English.

EEP/PEP and ACT can be combined to make 5 afternoons per week.

Some children start off with 3 afternoons per week and then, as they become more mature, they attend for 5 afternoons.

### **Must a child be accompanied in the Playgroup?**

Yes, an adult must stay with the child for the whole 2 hour session.

This can be a parent or another caregiver, such as a domestic helper.

The same adult must stay for the whole session.

### **What happens in the Playgroup in a typical session?**

There are a variety of activities for children to explore freely in the classroom and under cover area including building blocks, puzzles, manipulative toys, sensory play, such as playdough, sand and water and role play. After they have settled and explored the learning environment, there is a short circle time when songs and rhymes are sung and there may be an art activity which is introduced. There is a book corner where children can browse books, often related to the current theme. The children also play outside and can explore the large sand pit, ride on cars and bikes and visit the school garden. They learn social skills and how to follow the class routines. There are about 10 themes, which they investigate throughout the year, such as transport, animals, colours, food etc. They also have cooking sessions in our specially designed children's kitchen. They will visit the music room twice a week and also have Putonghua time twice a week with our specialist teacher. There is usually a short 'goodbye' circle time when there may be a short story and more rhymes.

### **Can children join the Playgroup throughout the year?**

Children may start in the Playgroup when they are 1 year old.

Places can be available throughout the year as children who are 2 years old may go up to the Pre-Nursery after their 2<sup>nd</sup> birthday.

### **Is the school uniform compulsory and when should I buy it?**

Yes, school uniform must be worn from the Pre-Nursery upwards.

The uniform can be purchased from the school office where there are samples for viewing and trying on. There is a PIPS school bag, which is optional. Uniform can be purchased at any time and can be ordered using the uniform order form.

### **Can I visit the school to view the facilities?**

Yes, we have regular school tours. Please call 2812 6023 to schedule a tour.

### **Do you have any Open Days?**

We have one Open Day during the school year, usually in the first term. Please call 2812 6023 for details.

### **Is there a school bus?**

We do have a school bus service, which is run by an independent company. Parents apply directly to the company and they try to accommodate most requests.