



iSATM

**2024 - 2025
Prospectus**

A kind and inclusive community of reflective
global citizens in Northeast Scotland

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Welcome to ISA Discover the new possible



Nicholas Little
Head of School - International School Aberdeen

“We are a school committed to ensuring that every student develops their personal wellbeing and academic abilities so that they thrive in, and positively contribute to, each of their communities.”

Our Story

International in mind and body. Local in spirit

Our school was established in 1972 and is Scotland's first international school. By international, we do not mean we support only expatriate families. In fact, we are an inclusive school for children aged between 3 to 18. ISA meets the growing demand for local families to join the school to not only experience the quality of teaching we deliver but also because they recognise our learning is wide, with no barriers.

Our strength is diverse intelligence and we provide something different when it comes to private education. Yes, we have impressive facilities, a multi-cultural base and a breadth of unrivalled global educational opportunities. But at the heart of

our school, we support children to find their place in the world, no matter what that path might be.

Our students are challenged to reach their maximum potential through academic success and personal growth, becoming multi-cultural life-long learners who are self-aware and technologically minded.

Our teachers ensure every graduate leaves the school confident living life and are as prepared as possible to succeed and become confident, socially responsible, active global citizens in a complex and ever-changing landscape.



Our Mission & Values

As a kind and inclusive community of reflective global citizens in Northeast Scotland, we provide a broad high-quality education with multiple pathways to success. We aim for every student to develop their personal wellbeing and academic abilities so that they thrive in, and positively contribute to, each of their communities. When we learn, we engage with and reflect upon information and experiences to construct new or modify existing understandings and develop our values. ISA's approach to learning is concept based and we also recognise the rich diversity of different cultures and traditions of learning and education. Our vibrant community grows through our understanding of ourselves, others and our mutual interdependence. Together, we strengthen our voice and agency, developing our values. Thus we make positive changes both here and in our diverse local and global communities.

Caring
We show empathy, compassion and respect. We have a commitment to service, and we act to make a positive difference in the lives of others and in the world around us.

Open Mindedness
We critically appreciate our own cultures and personal histories, as well as the values and traditions of others. We seek and evaluate a range of points of view, and we are willing to grow from the experience.

Principled
We act with integrity and honesty, with a strong sense of fairness and justice, and with respect for the dignity and rights of people everywhere. We take responsibility for our actions and their consequences.

Thinkers
We use critical and creative thinking skills to analyse and take responsible action on complex problems. We exercise initiative in making reasoned, ethical decisions.

ISA Values
The IB Learner Profile

Inquirers
We nurture our curiosity, developing skills for inquiry and research. We know how to learn independently and with others. We learn with enthusiasm and sustain our love of learning throughout life.

Knowledgeable & Skillful
We develop and use conceptual understanding, exploring knowledge across a range of disciplines. We engage with issues and ideas that have local and global significance.

Risk-Takers
We approach uncertainty with forethought and determination; we work independently and cooperatively to explore new ideas and innovative strategies. We are resourceful and resilient in the face of challenges and change.

Reflective
We thoughtfully consider the world and our own ideas and experience. We work to understand our strengths and weaknesses in order to support our learning and personal development.

Communicators
We express ourselves confidently and creatively in more than one language and in many ways. We collaborate effectively, listening carefully to the perspectives of other individuals and groups.

Balanced
We understand the importance of balancing different aspects of our lives - intellectual, physical and emotional - to achieve well-being for ourselves and others. We recognise our interdependence with other people and with the world in which we live.

Our Learning

A broader perspective to learning, developing global thriving minds

In a world full of rapid advancement and constant change, getting the grades just isn't enough. We need to prepare children to find their place in this evolving landscape and bring clarity on how they can grow, diversify and transform.

More than ever, children require intellectual curiosity and a passion for learning. We must support them not only with resilience but the ability to think critically, have empathy and a deep level of self-awareness in order to be successful in the future.



ISA do this through four key pillars:

Multi-cultural

Our students are self-assured in multi-cultural groups and mindful of social assumptions. Not only do they have the ability to communicate freely in a foreign language, but they are also well equipped to become successful global citizens, wherever they settle. By working and learning in a diverse environment, ISA students have the ability to bring out the best in others from a variety of backgrounds so they can grow and transform in any community.

Life-long learner

ISA students take responsibility for their own learning which is crucial in today's fast changing and complex world. Our students are not only intelligent, but they also have thinking skills and an ability to interpret, decipher, respond and solve challenges that we don't even know exist yet. With a natural desire to learn and develop, ISA students have a mindset that ensures they achieve their academic potential by using initiative to make the right decisions throughout life.



“The school excels in providing students with excellent opportunities to broaden their horizons.”

Technologically minded

In an ever-evolving digital world, ISA students are prepared today for the technology of tomorrow. With the ability to leverage technology to enhance their study, work or home life, our students are digitally resilient and routinely use technological thinking to solve problems. Furthermore, they consciously develop technological skills and know how to make the most of the technology at their fingertips.

Self-aware

ISA students are encouraged to explore and reflect on their character, resilience and personal agency. In doing so, our students have the ability to take action, be effective, influence their own decisions and assume responsibility for their future. This level of self-awareness ensures our students believe they have the capacity to adapt their thoughts and behaviours in the face of conflict or change and to allow for constant improvement.

Our Academic Life

We ensure we provide the tools, so children are confident in living life in an ever-changing global society

Preschool (Age 3 – 5)

An early start to develop a passion for life-long learning

ISA's state of the art preschool is a caring, supportive and stimulating environment that encourages creativity, exploration and investigation across our curriculum.

We support parents to lay the foundations for their child's future through an education programme which is designed to cater for the individual needs and developmental levels of each child. Our flexible learning environment supports literacy, numeracy, thinking skills, sense of well being as well as a range of physical competencies which all contribute to developing self confidence and an awareness of

being connected with others and the world. Your children will be encouraged to make choices and become involved in their learning journey.

At ISA preschool, children's natural curiosity and imagination are nurtured, and our children run home at the end of the day eager to share their experiences.



Elementary School (Age 5 - 11)

Fostering positive goals and beliefs

The learning environment at ISA stimulates intellectual curiosity, develops positive personal qualities and physical and emotional well-being. We want every child to succeed in something and they are positively taught to appreciate that you learn when you apply yourself.

With a focus on individual excellence, the school is dedicated to improvement and this drives the pupils to achieve. We follow a core curriculum of reading, language, arts, mathematics, social studies, science, creative arts, physical education, and technology. Each child is working towards having

the skills and ability to pass the IB Diploma Programme and these proficiencies are being developed throughout their time at ISA in preparation for the higher-grade studies to enter university.





Middle School (Age 10 – 14)

Encouraging responsibility and global awareness

As a stepping-stone between Elementary and High school, this school year has a clear sense of purpose.

Our standards-based curriculum is vibrant and enriching allowing pupils to choose classes such as Lego Robotics and Theatre Tech in addition to the more traditional subjects. Not to mention wider opportunities including class trips and service learning to develop local and global perspectives.

At this stage of learning, we also focus on teaching students new strategies to become responsible and empowered learners as well as encouraging them to take risks with their thinking and build strong interpersonal skills.



High School (Age 13 – 18)

Developing young adults in a diverse and open-minded environment

The High School programme at ISA gives students a safe setting in which to develop into young adults and reach their full potential.

We deliver courses to meet the requirements of the Cambridge IGCSE curriculum with the option to sit external examinations at the end of Grade 10 (S4). We are proud to also offer the International Baccalaureate Program in Grades 11 and 12 (S5-S6). The qualification offers students both breadth and depth academically with aspects such as Theory of Knowledge, Creativity-Activity-Service and the Extended Essay, setting it apart from other educational systems.

In addition, pupils learn local and global perspectives through the numerous co-curricular activities and have opportunities to grow academically, artistically and athletically. By providing a range of options, our students can pursue their interests, strengths and passions.



International Baccalaureate Diploma (IB)

Strides ahead of core academic skills

IB is the fastest growing curriculum in the world. It is a balanced academic two-year programme of education for pupils aged 16 to 19 in preparation for going to university. Studies are categorised into:

- Language & Literature
- Language Acquisition
- Individuals & Societies
- Sciences
- Mathematics
- The Arts

A Theory of Knowledge, 4,000-word Extended Essay is also included in the curriculum as well as Creativity, Activity and Service program requirements.

The IB aims to “develop **inquiring, knowledgeable** and **caring** young people who help to create a better and more peaceful world through **intercultural understanding** and **respect**. The organization works with schools, governments and international organizations to develop challenging programmes of international education and rigorous assessment. These programmes encourage students across the world to become **active, compassionate,** and **lifelong learners** who understand that other people, with their differences, can also be right.”

The programme is highly regarded by government agencies and universities alike. In fact, UK universities ranked the IB Diploma at 94% for encouraging independent inquiry, against less than 50% for A Levels and Scottish Highers.



Our Student Life

We empower students and build a sense of self advocacy

Time at ISA is positive and active. Student life is extremely well balanced and throughout the year, students are encouraged to enjoy and participate in an array of experiences and opportunities in a high achieving multi-cultural environment.

They play basketball, volleyball, football, tennis, and badminton as well as enjoy our 25m swimming pool and 8m rock climbing wall. ISA's Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme provides a challenge of 'mind, body and soul'. The academically inclined enter international mathematics competitions and language groups and the more artistic perform in concerts, choirs, and plays. Those looking for something different can choose from Circus Skills, Pottery, Model United Nations, Robotics, Scuba, Jazz Band, and Highland Dancing. The list is extensive!

With a jam packed after school activity schedule, students often don't want to go home! There truly is something for every student and we celebrate being different but with a sense of belonging.



Our Promise

Supporting students to 'Just be you.'

At ISA, we are committed to supporting each and every child to have the confidence and skills to reach their own unlimited potential. With a diverse yet personal approach, ISA supports and encourages children to develop a depth of student agency as well as embrace the complexities of self-identity.

We want every child to:

- Be themselves
- Be confident in their individuality
- Be proud of their personal self-identity

By encouraging students' dreams and aspirations, being supported through times of change, and driving ambition, ISA students leave our school ready. Ready for their future.



Admissions

A must see school

The best way to learn about ISA is to visit. We encourage tours and of course they may not always be possible so we also run scheduled Open Days to allow interested families to plan some time with the school.

ISA is a welcoming environment and we have honed our admissions process to meet the needs of every family, whatever your situation might be. Our no obligation tour will give you great insight into what the school has to offer your child.

We can assure you that the enrolment of your child and the transition to ISA will be seamless and our experienced Admission Team is here to support and answer any of your questions along the way.

If you have any questions, please direct these to:

Admissions

ISA - International School Aberdeen
Pitfodels House
North Deeside Road
Pitfodels, Cults
Aberdeen AB15 9PN

Tel: +44 (0)1224 730300

Email: admissions@isa.aberdeen.sch.uk

Fees

Preschool

A Registration Fee of £175 is charged for each new child.

Full year fees from August 2024 – June 2025:

3 Days	£8,200
4 Days	£11,000
5 Days	£13,120

If a child enters Preschool after the year has begun, payment will be pro-rated for the remainder of the academic year. Note: Preschool Day Rate is £75

Elementary, Middle & High School

	KINDERGARTEN & G1	ELEMENTARY G2-5	MIDDLE G6-8	HIGH G9-12
2024 – 2025 Academic Year Fees	£11,600	£15,700	£16,850	£17,350
New Students Registration	£500	£500	£500	£500
Returning Students Registration	£250	£250	£250	£250
School Bus Fees	1st Child £800 Subsequent £650	1st Child £800 Subsequent £650	1st Child £800 Subsequent £650	1st Child £800 Subsequent £650

*The 2024-25 Corporate fees are available upon request

Fees include textbooks, capital fees, majority of after-school activities.

ISA has no formal school uniform.

Sibling Discount 25% discount for 3rd child and 50% discount for 4th and further children.

A limited number of places for financial support is available for all grades, excluding Preschool.

For more information, please contact our Admissions Team: admissions@isa.aberdeen.sch.uk

The logo for International School Aberdeen (ISA) features the lowercase letters 'isa' in a bold, white, sans-serif font. A small 'TM' trademark symbol is positioned to the upper right of the 'A'. The background is a solid dark blue with a large, diagonal lime green stripe running from the top right towards the bottom left.

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