

STUDENT ENROLMENT

Early Years:	53
Primary	168
Middle	87
High School	115
TOTAL	423

FACULTY

Foreign	57
Turkish	24
TOTAL	81

Figen Sonmez | **Head of School**
 Malcolm Ringo | **Secondary Principal**
 Nicole Incel | **Deputy Principal**
 Alina Zamfirescu | **IBDP Coordinator**
 Lauren Fajobi | **CIE Coordinator**
 John Potter | **College Counselor**
 Monica Dođru | **College Counselor**

Overview

MEF International School (MEF IS) is a Preschool to Grade 12 co-educational day school located in Istanbul. With an enrolment of **423** students representing **54** nationalities, all students who attend MEF IS hold a foreign passport.

There are **81** faculty members representing **16** nationalities, and **roughly 45%** hold advanced degrees. The staff to student ratio is **6:1**.

The school is accredited by the Turkish Ministry of Education, the Council of International Schools (CIS) and the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC). It is also a member of the European Council of International Schools (ECIS). MEF International School is authorised by the IB to offer the Primary Years Programme (PYP) and the Diploma Programme (DP), and it is licensed by Cambridge Assessment International Education (CAIE) to offer the Cambridge Lower Secondary and Cambridge IGCSE curricula and examinations in the middle and high schools, respectively. The school was founded in 1998 by Dr. Ibrahim Arıkan, a Physics teacher, and has grown along with the family of MEF schools in the Istanbul and Izmir regions.



Motto

Building Bridges between Countries and Cultures

Mission

We inspire, nurture and challenge our students to realize their unique potential.

Vision

To be an open-minded community striving for creativity, innovation and excellence.

Internationalism & Interculturalism

At MEF IS, we define these as 'a dynamic discourse that fosters: knowledge and respect; the search for commonalities and a celebration of differences; international mindedness and a peaceful, ethical and progressive society.'

Learning Definition

At MEF IS, we understand that 'learning is the ongoing process of constructing new understandings of the world through experiences and interactions. It consists of making connections, reflecting and expanding on current knowledge through motivation, curiosity, exploration, experimentation and natural consequences resulting in change in the way we think and perform.'

Campus

The school is located in central Istanbul on multi-purpose facilities on a 40-acre campus shared with MEF National School. The school is nestled in the hills above Ortaköy, only minutes away from the residential neighborhoods preferred by the international community residing in Istanbul. Facilities include a 25 meter heated swimming pool, outdoor soccer pitches, indoor gymnasium, computer labs, concert auditorium, dance studio, art studios, cafeteria, library, outdoor playgrounds.

Curriculum

MEF IS school programmes share a common philosophy - a commitment to a high quality, challenging education where students develop not only knowledge, understandings and skills but also the attitudes and values to help them become confident, balanced and socially responsible students. MEF IS implements the IB Primary Years Programme for students aged 3 to 11, which enables them to learn through an inquiry-based approach by exploring six transdisciplinary themes.

The middle school follows the Cambridge Lower Secondary curriculum in the areas of English, Mathematics and Science (Biology, Chemistry and Physics), as well as additional subjects that have been chosen to develop skills across different disciplines. In Grades 9 and 10, students follow the Cambridge International General Certificate of Secondary Education (IGCSE) curriculum taught over two years and other subjects to prepare students for the IB Diploma Programme. This provides a balance of practical experience and theoretical knowledge over a wide variety of subject areas to ensure a balanced, holistic, and rigorous education.

Students in Grade 11 and 12 complete IB Certificates in English, Mathematics, a Modern Foreign Language and in up to two other IB subjects. Additionally, students study other demanding subjects in core areas in preparation for higher education.

Selected students also have the opportunity to follow the prestigious IB Diploma Programme in Grades 11 and 12. **Courses include English, Turkish, Self-study Language, French, Spanish, Economics, History, Psychology, ITGS, Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Environmental Systems and Societies, Mathematics and Visual Arts.** Additionally, both IB Certificate and IB Diploma Programme students complete the Creativity, Activity, Service (CAS) requirement by participating in creative endeavors, physical activities, and service-related projects. CAS offers students an alternative to the academic rigor of the IB Diploma Programme, promoting internationalism and a balanced lifestyle.

Regardless of the programme that is followed, the aim is for students to have the opportunity to explore the curriculum offered in a student-centered environment which allows for inquiry, critical thinking and problem solving skills to be developed in order to enhance communication, collaboration and creativity.

Grading

Students are given grades to reflect examination results, class participation and other performance items each semester. The final grade is an average of the two semesters. The GPA is weighted (calculated by multiplying the grades by the number of hours in each course). MEF IS records grades on the scale of 1 to 7. The passing grade is 60%, and the scale is illustrated below.

School Grading System

Score	Grade	Merit
90-100	7	Excellent
80-89	6	Very Good
69-79	5	Good
60-68	4	Satisfactory
49-59	3	Unsatisfactory
34-48	2	Poor
01-33	1	Very Poor



UNIVERSITY ACCEPTANCES

North America

Boston University
Brandeis University
Carnegie Mellon University
Columbia University
Duke University
George Washington University
Hofstra University
Loyola University
McGill University
McMaster University
Michigan State University
Ohio State University
Rhode Island School of Design
Simon Fraser University
Syracuse University
Texas A&M University
University of Akron
University of British Columbia
University of Buffalo
University of California Berkeley
University of Illinois
University of Iowa
University of Miami
University of Minnesota
University of New Brunswick
University of San Francisco
University of Tampa
University of Toronto
University of Waterloo

United Kingdom

Brunei University
Central St. Martins College
City University London
Durham University
Imperial College
King's College
London School of Economics
Loughborough University
Queen Mary University of London
Regent's University
Royal Holloway University
University College London
University of Birmingham
University of Cambridge
University of East Anglia
University of Edinburgh
University of Hertfordshire
University of Leeds
University of Liverpool
University of London
University of Manchester
University of Newcastle
University of Nottingham
University of Plymouth
University of Sheffield
University of Surrey
University of Westminster
University of York

Europe

Anglo-American University
Bocconi University
Catholic University of the Sacred Heart
Delft Institute of Technology
Ecole Hoteliere Lausanne
Erasmus University
European School of Economics
Ghent University
Hult International Business School
Institute de Empresa Istituto Marangoni
Jacob's University
Leiden University
Tilburg University
University of Amsterdam
University of Belgrade
University of Copenhagen
University of Groningen
University of Leuven
University of Utrecht
Vatel International Business School
Vrije University Amsterdam
Webster University

Asia - Australasia

Chinese University of Hong Kong
Hongik University
Korea Aerospace University
MacQuarie University Australia
Sejong University
Sogang University
Yonsei University

Turkey
Bahcesehir University
Bilgi University
Istanbul University
Istanbul Technical University
Koc University
MEF University
Middle Eastern Technical University
Ozyegin University
Sabanci University
Yeditepe University

Extra-curricular Activities

Clubs, sports and after school activities are an important part of life at MEF IS. Students participate in club activities two to four class periods per week and also have the option to attend after school activities. Students choose from over 15 club offerings in the secondary school, which vary each semester. **Some of the clubs that have been offered are Volleyball, Basketball, Football, Yoga, Math Olympiad, World Scholar's Cup, FRC Robotics, Model United Nations (MUN), Junior Model United Nations (JMUN), Modern European Parliament (MEP), Duke of Edinburgh Award, Blank Canvas, Fashion Design, Film Making, Chess and Coding.** Community Service participation is an important element of the school and is reflected in the activities conducted by students, the PTA and teachers. All members at MEF IS have the opportunity to get involved in community service projects both locally and globally which may be considered part of a student's DOE or CAS endeavor. **Some examples have included donating time in retirement homes, collecting clothes and educational materials for displaced and refugee children, caring for dogs and cats at shelters, and in protecting the environment.**



MEF IS Cambridge IGCSE Scores

First Language English, English as a Second Language, Literature (English), Co-ordinated Science (Double Award), International Mathematics, Foreign Language French, Foreign Language Spanish, First Language Turkish

Year	MEF IS A*-C
2018	80%
2017	90%
2016	70%
2015	63%
2014	57%
2013	74%

MEF IB Diploma Scores (from a possible 45 points)

Year	High	Low	Average
2018	40	22	32
2017	38	25	33
2016	43	35	39
2015	43	23	34
2014	45	26	32
2013	36	22	28
2012	38	22	29

*The world average over these years was a score of 30 points.



Almost 100% of graduates have attended an impressive range of world-class universities. Acceptances from 2009- 2018 are listed below.