



# AN AMERICAN SCHOOL FOR YOUR CHILDREN?



INTERNATIONAL   
AMERICAN  
SCHOOL





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# 1. HEAD OF SCHOOL'S WELCOME

Casvi International American School was founded to carry on the work of Colegio Internacional Pinosierra (founded in 1953) while at the same time transforming and enhancing its education system, and adapting it to the times that our students are going to live in.

Our mission is to educate our students and train them to acquire not just knowledge, but also the values that will allow them to develop personally, intellectually, and professionally into examples of a better future society.

Our system is based on a constructivist approach that combines multiple intelligences, cooperative learning, and early stimulation.



We offer an international education designed to:

- Educate children and young people to become citizens of the world by learning different languages.
- Stimulate curiosity and investigation by offering individualized education through the International Baccalaureate Organization's programmes.
- Encourage diversity and flexibility of teaching methods.

In short, we put all our efforts into developing our students' skills and attitudes and into encouraging their talents, far exceeding the content offered by traditional education.

**José Manuel Baena**  
**Head of School**



## 2. THE INSTITUTION

Casvi Group was created in 1985, when Mr. Juan Yagüe Sevillano - who had spent 20 years working in education - founded the first Eurocolegio Casvi in Villaviciosa de Odón. From its beginnings with just one classroom per grade, it's grown into a large international private school with almost 1,300 students and 120 teachers.

In 2005, the newly created Casvi Boadilla del Monte, a charter school, joined the group of schools with nearly 1,800 students and 140 teachers, founded with the same vision and values as the original school.

Established in 2017, Casvi International American School is a private, international, co-ed school, located in Tres Cantos, and based on the American school system whose mission is to educate and create citizens of the world.

We at Casvi Schools are constantly adapting ourselves to society's new needs and requirements, and we educate our students for a successful personal and professional future. This is why we have a deep and ongoing commitment to innovation, both in terms of leveraging new technologies to help learning and of introducing new teaching methods.

A fundamental pillar of our schools is the implementation of the three International Baccalaureate (IB) study programmes at all teaching levels: the PYP (Primary Years Programme), MYP (Middle Years Programme), and DP (Diploma Programme).

The International Baccalaureate uses a skills-based, constructivist methodological framework designed to educate students to be inquirers, knowledgeable, thinkers, communicators, principled, open-minded, caring, risk-takers, balanced, and reflective. In addition, international-mindedness, language acquisition and encouraging students' talents - backed by superior academic performance - have been the foundation of this education system for more than three decades.



## 3. ACCREDITATIONS

### **Community of Madrid:**

Casvi International American School is authorized by the Community of Madrid and its study programme is fully accepted under Spanish education legislation.

### **Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools:**

Casvi International American School will be accredited by the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools. The accreditation granted by the United States means that Casvi International American School can be recognized as an American school by the U.S. Embassy in Spain.

### **International Baccalaureate:**

The school is a candidate school for the three IBO (International Baccalaureate Organization) programmes. These are the Primary Years Programme (PYP), Middle Years Programme (MYP), and Diploma Programme (DP).



## 4. LANGUAGES

### **English**

English is the language of instruction in the pre-school and elementary stages. In addition, in middle and secondary school, English language learning will be reinforced with native english speaking teachers.

### **Spanish**

Spanish is the language of instruction in middle school and high school and will be treated as the mother tongue in pre-K and elementary school along with English.

### **Other languages**

In addition to English and Spanish, learning other languages – such as French, Chinese, and German – will be encouraged.



## 5. EDUCATIONAL PROJECT

The International Baccalaureate programmes are the foundation for Casvi International American School.

The International Baccalaureate (IB) uses a skills-based constructivist methodological framework that can be applied to any education system and its programmes and contents are designed by and for teachers.

The IB programmes applied to an American education model - fully authorized by the Ministry of Education, Culture and Sports - make possible for English to be the language of instruction at Casvi International American School, with native English-speaking teachers. Moreover, the IB's language policy includes the mother tongue - in this case, Spanish for the majority of students - as the language of instruction for the subjects of Language and Social Studies.

## 5.1. IBO Programmes

Casvi International American School's education model is based on the three IBO (International Baccalaureate Organization) programmes: the PYP (Primary Years Programme), in pre-school and elementary school; the MYP (Middle Years Programme), in middle school; and the Diploma Programme in High School, though students will have the follow Spain's High School Programme, or a combination of the two, if so desired.

IB programmes challenge students for excel in their studies, and encourage both personal and academic achievement.

The theory of multiple intelligences, emotional intelligence and early stimulation are an integral part of these programmes. Our goal is to educate citizens of the world, young people who are inquirers, knowledgeable, thinkers, good communicators, principled, open-minded, caring, risk-takers, balanced, and reflective. In short, we help them to learn how to learn on their own.

## 5.2. Spain-USA grade equivalences

Spanish System	American System		IBO program
1º - 2º E. Infantil	Pre-K	Lower School	Primary Years Programme
3º E. Infantil	Kindergarten		
1º - 5º E. Primaria	Grades 1 - 5		
6º E. Primaria - 2º E.S.O.	Grades 6 - 8	Middle School	Middle Years Programme
3º - 4º E.S.O.	Grades 9 - 10	High School	
1º - 2º Bachillerato	Grades 11 - 12	High School	Diploma Programme

# 5.3. American system

## Lower School 1 -5

Playing skills are the fundamental basis of learning in all Pre-K and Kindergarten routines. During this stage, work is also done on important aspects such as independence and self-esteem, oral, physical and artistic expression, and beginning reading and math. This rigorous and stimulating programmes promotes the development of independent learning skills, which encourages all students to assume responsibility for their own education.

It is part of the IB's Primary Years Programme (PYP) and the language of instruction is English. Students learn through transdisciplinary units of inquiry.

At this stage, our main goal is to create work habits that will help them to successfully deal with their middle and high school studies.

Exhibition represents a significant event in the life of a PYP student. It is an opportunity for students in their final year to exhibit the attributes of the IB learner profile developed throughout their engagement with the PYP.

## Middle and High School. Grades 6 -10

At this stage, which is part of the IB's Middle Years Programme (MYP), students are encouraged to make practical connections between their studies and the real world, which prepares them for success in future studies and in their lives.

The MYP, which is based on modular courses by discipline, offers students the tools they need to investigate and to become creative, critical and reflective thinkers.

This phase ends with a Personal Project, which consists of several months of work on a topic chosen by the student followed by a project that the student presents to the rest of the school community, a self-assessment and subsequent reflection.





## High School. Grades 11 - 12

In our school, students may study Spain's High School Programme, which prepares them for the Spanish University Entrance Exam (abbreviated as EvAU in Spanish). For this reason, the language of instruction at this stage is Spanish.

In addition, students will have the option to follow Spain's High School Programme combined with the IB Diploma Programme that builds their social, research, thinking, self-management, and communication skills.

In addition to the official written exam, in order to finish the Diploma Programme, students must carry out the following activities:

- **Theory of knowledge**, which introduces the student to reflecting on the sources of knowledge.
- An **extended essay** (research paper), similar to the university-level Senior Thesis or Project.
- **Creativity, activity and service (CAS)** activities, in which the student must take part in various individual and group projects, with creative, sports-related and volunteer activities.



## 5.4. Guidance Department

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Our **Guidance Department is composed by** a group of professionals working in the following areas: analysis of psychological and education reports; improving study habits; guidance sessions for parents, teachers, and students; organizing University Orientation Workshops at the school; and technical advice on the various facets of school life.

## 5.5. Support Programs

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- Differentiated Instruction.
- After school supervised study, designed for middle-school students in need of even more individual support outside the classroom.
- Tutorial activities. Communication between the school and the student's home is considered fundamental, especially for students needing more oversight.
- Learning and Support Programme for both special needs students as well as those with exceptional abilities.
- Intelligence Development Programmes with participation in Enrichment Programmes.

## 5.6. Sports Club

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Sports are an important part of the curriculum and include activities such as tennis and gymnastics and are also presented as an exceptional way to acquire healthy lifestyle habits and skills.

Our **Sports Club** - which has achieved resounding successes in judo, tennis, soccer, basketball and rhythmic and artistic gymnastics - is the flagship of our sports program and we are the only school in the area that takes **part in the Madrid Championships**.

Equally prestigious are our **Cross Pinosierra** - now 31 years old - our **In-School Tennis Tournaments**, and the **Multisports League**.





## 5.7. Artistic Activities

Artistic disciplines such as music, drama, and painting are prominently featured in the school curriculum in order to promote artistic talent in all students. All kinds of activities are available, one being the school’s prestigious choir.



## 6. BOARDING SCHOOL

The school has a girls’ boarding school and a boys’ boarding school under the supervision of education professionals who help students to develop independence and a sense of responsibility, complementing the efforts of teachers and students in the classroom.





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Calle Gavilán, 2 · 28760 Tres Cantos · Madrid - Spain  
Telf. (+34) 91 804 02 12 · Fax: (+34) 91 804 06 00 · [www.casvitrescantos.es](http://www.casvitrescantos.es)