



# THE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL OF PORT OF SPAIN

CONFIDENCE EXCELLENCE INTEGRITY



## About ISPS

The International School of Port of Spain (ISPS) is a private, co-educational day school based on a US curriculum model. It offers a college preparatory holistic education, in English, from Pre-Kindergarten through Grade 12. Founded in 1994, ISPS is an accredited institution since 1996 by The Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.

ISPS families are local nationals or members of the expatriate business and diplomatic communities to Trinidad & Tobago. The School (Grades PreK3 -5) includes students from over 24 different nations; approximately 15% are from the United States and 35% from Trinidad and Tobago).

Educational and experiential trips are considered an important part of the curriculum. Community service is actively encouraged. Sporting events, cultural programs, student government, and productions are scheduled throughout the year.

## Faculty

Our aim is to recruit and maintain highly qualified, experienced, and innovative teaching staff. We have 14 classroom teachers, 2 classroom assistants and 8 specialist teachers in the Elementary School. Every teacher is properly credentialed to teach at the appropriate grade level. Our faculty's professional expertise is indicated by the fact that over 50 percent of the Elementary teaching staff has a master's degree.

## Curriculum

The International School of Spain (ISPS) is authorized to teach the International Baccalaureate (IB) Primary Years Program (PYP). We continue to develop inquiry, knowledge and caring young people. We are proud to be a part of the IB World School. These are schools that share a common philosophy — a commitment to high quality, challenging, international education that ISPS believes is important for our students. We firmly believe that we are “preparing tomorrow's leaders today” by having high expectations and a staff of highly qualified and caring teachers.



## Elementary School Profile 2018-2019

The diversity of the student body provides a richness that allows students to become more globally aware. The Primary Years Programme (PYP) focuses on the heart as well as the mind and addresses social, physical, emotional and cultural needs as well as academic ones. At the heart of the PYP is a commitment to structured inquiry as a vehicle for learning.

Six organizing themes help teachers and children explore knowledge in the broadest sense of the word. Teachers and students use key questions that are concept based to structure the units of inquiry.

They acquire and apply transdisciplinary skills while developing an understanding of these important concepts. The development of explicit attitudes and the expectation of socially responsible behavior are also essential elements of the program.

The cornerstone of the Primary Years Programme (PYP) is the Programme's Student Profile. These are the ten most important attributes of an international person and answer the question, What do we want the children to learn?

At ISPS, we want the students to learn to become inquirers, thinkers, communicators, risk-takers, knowledgeable, principled, caring, open-minded, well-balanced and reflective.

## Grading System

The school year consists of 182 instructional days divided into terms. Additionally, there are three standards-based reports that are distributed (e.g., November, March & June).



## Discipline & Climate for Learning

The elementary school recognizes good behavior with positive comments, house points, recognition at our weekly town meetings. The guidance program provides opportunities for learning good work habits, developing problem solving skills, and engaging in self-esteem activities. Our Learner Profile and attitudes are integrated across the curriculum. The ISPS student handbook has guidelines on expectations for student's behavior.



## Student Achievement

The staff strives to educate every student to his or her fullest academic potential. Our student population is very diverse and learning styles differ, we chart students' progress in a variety of ways. Test scores are only one measure. Achievement is also measured through teacher observation projects and portfolios containing various student assignments. Measurement for Academic Progress (MAP) grades K-5 include reading, mathematics and language usage. ERB Writing assessment provides a direct measure of writing. This test is given in grades 3-5. These tests are given during the spring of each year.

## Counseling and Support Services

- A Student Support Team (SST)
- A school nurse five days a week
- Assistants provide a variety of support services
- An after-school activities program
- An early morning, (RISS) Reading Intervention for Student Success and, (MISS) Math Intervention for Student Success
- A parent volunteer for each classroom
- A Homework Pod
- Parent Workshops

## Special Features

- IBPYP World School
- Inquiry-based learning
- Six-Trait Writing Program
- PYP Exhibition
- Accelerated Reading
- Music program introducing strings, guitar, recorder, pan, percussion and chorus
- Recognition for high scores in Word Masters Analogies Test
- Summer program to support academics
- Student newsletter "Wazzup"
- Annual Walk-a-thon for underprivileged children
- Visual Thinking/Artful Thinking (Project Zero)
- IXL Online Mathematics
- Lucy Calkins Reading & Writing Program
- A-Z Reading (Raz-Kids)

## Enrollment

High School	<b>131</b>
Middle School	<b>85</b>
Elementary School	<b>153</b>

## Contact Information

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### Key Personnel

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