

New Cairo International School: Candidate Information Pack



Thank you for considering NCBIS as your next place of work. As someone who has been working in UK and International Schools for the last 30 years, I know how important a move to a new country and a new position is. With this in mind, we have compiled this brief information pack that hopefully gives you an overview of our school and will convince you that a move to NCBIS will be a good move for you, both professionally as well as personally. I hope you apply to come and join our team!

John Bagust
 Principal, NCBIS

Background Information about NCBIS

Founded in 1978 for the purpose of educating English speaking foreigners, NCBIS has grown in size and changed site but remains proud of its sense of community and strives to meet its motto each day: 'bringing out the best in everyone.'

NCBIS, a not-for-profit NGO, is a leading British International School in Cairo and was the first in Cairo to gain full accreditation from the Council of International Schools (CIS). NCBIS is an IB World School, delivering the PYP, English National Curriculum in Key Stage 3, IGCSE programme in Key Stage 4 and the IB Diploma Programme in Key Stage 5. The school also has a Dutch section offering the Dutch Curriculum to primary aged students Gr1-8.



Our School is non-selective with just over 700 students catering for learners from Nursery to Year 13. While the present school site can accommodate more students, the Board of Directors made a strategic decision to limit the school enrolment to 815 students in order to maintain a safe and spacious school environment. NCBIS is member of both COBIS and BSME. It inspected by the Independent Schools Inspectorate (ISI) in order to gain BSO accredited status and another inspection will take place in October 2019.



Currently there are over 60 nationalities at NCBIS, with English the teaching and playground language, and by statute, we must maintain an overall ratio of 65% expatriate children to 35% Egyptian/dual national pupils, unlike most schools in Cairo. This sets us aside as a truly international school and provides a wonderful opportunity to develop international mindedness within the classroom. Class sizes are small with a maximum of 22 pupils. Indeed our overall teacher to pupil ratio is just over 1:8.



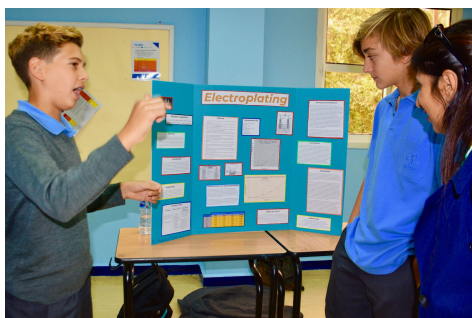
NCBIS strives to provide a holistic education based on the types of learning which are important for students in the 21st century. Pupils experience the joys and challenges of learning as we guide them to develop skills and attitudes essential for their future. Creativity and curiosity are fostered as expanding minds wonder, question, and eagerly tackle new challenges.



Small class sizes allow our well trained, professional teachers and teaching assistants to focus on individual student needs. Children experience active, well supported and resourced lessons often driven by their own questions. Classes have regular opportunities for outdoor learning as well as educational visits to locations around Cairo. We also attach great importance to the thriving extra-curricular programmes which engage students in sport, the arts and service activities.

Curriculum on offer

In the Primary School, we have taken the UK National Curriculum for England and sequenced it into a series of subject-specific, comprehensive Scope & Sequence documents, which we teach through the pedagogy of the Primary Years Programme (PYP). The International Baccalaureate (IB) Primary Years Programme is an international, transdisciplinary programme designed to foster the development of the whole child, including their social, physical, emotional and cultural needs as well as their all-important academic needs.



The curriculum at Key Stage 3 is based on an enhanced version of the National Curriculum for England, which takes into account our international setting and cohort. This course provides one of the highest value added in the region (measured by the University of Durham's CEM centre).

In Year 10 and 11 we offer a wide range of Cambridge and Pearson GCSE and IGCSE subjects in which all NCBIS students expected to sit examinations in Mathematics, English, between one and three sciences, at least one additional language, at least one additional humanity and or art subject. Over 92% of Year 11 students in 2018 achieved six or more A*-C /9-4 grades; with the overall average A*-C grades of 88%. 56% of all grades were A*-A/9-7. A number of our IGCSE / GCSE students who took exams in June 2018 were recently awarded by Pearson Edexcel as highest performers in Egypt and Africa:

- Highest Mark in Africa GCSE English Literature
- Highest Mark in Africa GCSE Drama
- Highest Mark in Africa IGCSE Spanish
- Highest Mark in Africa IGCSE German
- Highest Mark in Egypt IGCSE Business Studies
- Highest Mark in Egypt IGCSE French
- Highest Mark in Egypt IGCSE Geography

In Years 12 and 13 students follow the IB Diploma Programme with great success. 96% of IB students achieved the Diploma with an average score of 32. Students have gone on to study at prestigious universities worldwide such as: Cambridge University, UCL, King's College London, Virginia Tech, University of California, Davis and the American University of Cairo.

Facilities at NCBIS

The school is well resourced and has very good facilities. It is located within a secure walled campus, at the heart of the quiet residential suburb of New Cairo.



The Primary School and the Dutch stream share the main Primary building, housing 21 classrooms, a library resource centre and additional Learning Support bases. Separate to the main building is our Early Years area, with a shaded outdoor learning environment, including a large sandpit and splash pool.

The Secondary School occupies two buildings, one which accommodates the English, Mathematics, and Modern Foreign Language faculties; and the other which accommodates the library, Computer Studies, Humanities and Science faculties. All rooms are fully air conditioned and the school has a good IT infrastructure with all classrooms in the school being networked with internet access, as well as being equipped with interactive whiteboards. Across the school sets of iPads and Macbooks / laptops can be booked for class use, enhancing the ICT provision in our two libraries. In a fourth building the school auditorium, Music, Drama and Art departments are housed.

Our PE department is located next to the sports facilities which include a large grassed sports pitch, fitness centre, a heated learner pool and a heated outdoor 6-lane 25m swimming pool, fitness gymnasium, as well as a multi-purpose all weather court.

We also attach great importance to the thriving extra- curricular programme which engages students in sport, the arts and service activities. The school is located within a secure walled campus, at the heart of the quiet residential suburb of New Cairo.

Working at NCBIS

One of the great things about working at NCBIS is the wonderful friendly atmosphere that exists at all levels but particularly between the students and the staff. It really is a welcoming school and a home away from home where people look out for each other and ensure you feel part of the community quickly.

We are privileged to attract and retain teaching staff of very high calibre that bring a wealth of experience to the school, and





continue to develop through our comprehensive CPD programme. The successful candidate will join a dynamic international school which epitomises the school aim of 'bringing out the best in everyone'.

We also have a very active social committee that ensures there is a fantastic atmosphere, not only in the school, but outside too (see section below on living in Egypt).

What our staff say about working at NCBIS:



Tracy, Deputy Head Primary

"The unique point about NCBIS is that it is a non-profit school, which to me gives the school a good feel. We are a community; staff and parents living and working together. The school is involved with many different charities and endeavours to help those in need in our host country.

The school facilities are fantastic, with track and field, gym and pool, not to mention the auditorium and ball courts, science labs, drama and art studios. No matter what your personal interests - there is an opportunity for you to bring your passions and interests into the school.



Christina, Secondary maths teacher

"I came from a school that had 2000 students so coming to a school as small as this one makes a huge difference in the way we teach and manage a work life balance. It is also safe to say that on the whole the students are here to learn so again makes teaching them a little easier."



Beth, EYFS teacher

"School life is enjoyable and rewarding. The small class sizes are fantastic for both me as a teacher and my son. SLT are very approachable and are always there if any issues arise. There are also many social events including sport and other such gatherings for which have been enjoyable and a great way to meet others."

Living in Egypt

It is very possible to maintain a good standard of living, travel regularly, eat frequently at restaurants and still put aside a sizeable sum of money in savings each month. The cost of living in Egypt is very low for the average expatriate teacher. There is a lot to do in the evenings and weekends, with a very active social scene amongst expatriate and local nationals. A host of gyms and sports clubs are available for the more active, while there is a thriving arts / theatre scene in Cairo and a number of pubs / late-night venues are available too.



It is very easy to get away to countries in Africa and Europe, or local desert areas and beaches. Cairo is a huge city and weekends (Fridays and Saturdays) offer a chance to explore the city, gardens, architecture, museums and the pyramids. The expat-only BCA clubs / pubs show premier league football, cricket and rugby. At holiday time and long weekends, most staff take advantage of the proximity of the Red Sea Coast, the desert oases, or a flight to Luxor or Aswan. Many go further afield to Lebanon, Dubai, Cyprus, the Maldives, or return to see relatives in their home nation. There is a travel company representative in school to help with all travel arrangements.

What our staff say about living in Egypt:



Tracy, Deputy Head Primary

"I decided to try international teaching for a year and had previously visited the pyramids on holiday once...so I decided upon Egypt for my first international teaching post. My intention was to stay for a year, 2 maximum..... 7 years later I have now started to consider Egypt to be my "home from home." I am an avid diver and have fallen in love with the National Underwater park "Ras Mohamed" which I often visit at

the weekends; it's only a 45-minute flight! But if diving is not your thing, then you will not be short of things to do here in Egypt. We have desert adventures- braving the dunes and sleeping under a sky of a million stars, beach getaways with amazing reefs, ancient history, not to mention art, culture, and the delicious food! You will never be short of a friendly face as we are welcomed by the locals with open arms. There are numerous modern malls for shopping and countless places to eat cuisines from all over the world. Be prepared for driving which is a little more "zingy" when compared to Europe."

Christina, Secondary Maths Teacher

"The main thing about where I live in Maadi is how many friends within walking distance to go shopping with, walk around Maadi, plan activities etc. There are great shops, restaurants, cafes and fitness places to satisfy your needs within walking distance. There are always taxis and Uber cars waiting so it isn't a problem if you don't like walking. Cairo itself has loads to offer in terms of trips, weekend activities and more. I was dubious about moving to Egypt but I must say that it is growing on me every day."

Beth, EYFS teacher

"As a single parent I have found Egypt easy to settle into. The transition has not only been smooth but an all round positive experience. Outside of school our social lives have blossomed and both my son and I have made some amazing supportive friends. My son partakes in sports outside of school including football and basketball. I chose to live in Maadi for the small community feel and access to amenities."

Application Process

Email the following documents to the email address at the bottom of each advert:

1. Letter of application, which should outline your educational philosophy and how you meet the criteria set out in the job description;
2. Your current CV;
3. Names, positions and emails of 3 professional referees;
4. An up to date photograph of yourself.

NCBIS is an equal opportunities employer committed to the ongoing professional development of all our employees, and actively promotes the well-being and resilience of both students and staff. We are familiar with, and uphold, all Safeguarding Policies and Child Protection Procedures within the school, and are fully committed to safer recruiting procedures above and beyond legal requirements. Relevant background checks will take place before an appointment is confirmed.

If appointed you will be required to send proof of identity and the original certificates showing your qualifications in order to gain a work visa.

