



The International School @ ParkCity Kuala Lumpur

*Information for teachers applying to work at
The International School @ ParkCity (ISP) from overseas*

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Introduction

Thank you for your interest in working at The International School @ ParkCity (ISP), we are a very transparent school with a reputation for treating our staff well.

We hope that the following information provides you with an overview of our Outstanding school and also gives you a sense of what it would be like if you were to relocate to Malaysia. It is important that you know as much as possible about ISP before applying so that you are making an informed choice.

Our regularly updated [School Website](#), [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) social media feeds also give an insight into our outstanding school.



About The International School @ ParkCity (ISP), KL

When did the school open?

ISP KL opened in 2011 and has been very successful since then. [Visit our website](#) to learn more.

What ages of students are at the school?

We cater for students aged 3 - 18 Years old.

How big is the school?

The school is one school across two campuses. The Early Years Centre is a purpose built centre a few minutes walk away, whilst the main site caters from Year 1 to Year 13. There are approximately 1,150 students on roll (Jan 2020).

What facilities are there and is it well resourced?

ISP is a very well resourced school. There are specialist classrooms and areas according to subject and needs associated with age. The school has sports facilities on site such as a multi-purpose hall, a sportshall, a small astroturf field and a swimming pool - but it also has access to the nearby Desa ParkCity Sports Club. At the club there are more swimming pools, tennis courts, badminton courts, a large football field and outdoor basketball courts.



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An extension to the main school site is currently under construction. This will be a base for Primary classrooms and contain additional facilities for the whole school, including a second canteen, another large multi-purpose hall, an additional library and a sports field.

What nationalities are there at the school?

The student population is approximately 47% Malaysian students and 53% International students of which there are over 50 different nationalities.



Is the school accredited?

The school has been accredited by the Education Development Trust (EDT) using the [International Schools Quality Mark \(ISQM\) Framework](#). We were awarded Gold Level and judged to be outstanding in all eight areas of the accreditation framework. We are also members of FOBISIA, AIMS and have been awarded 5 stars by the Malaysian Ministry of Education. We have been recognised by Apple for our use of technology for learning, and have twice been designated an Apple Distinguished School.



**Distinguished
School**

Does the school have a good reputation?

We are proud of our good reputation. We ensure rigorous academic challenge but also focus heavily on The Arts and Sports. We are a non-selective, inclusive school and have a solid reputation amongst the international schools in Kuala Lumpur. We have strong connections with a number of external organisations as diverse as The British High Commission and Apple.

What curriculum does the school follow?



Early Years - EYFS Curriculum from England

Primary - The International Primary Curriculum and the English National Curriculum for English and Mathematics

Secondary - An adapted version of the English National Curriculum to fit our setting leading to IGCSE, AS Level and A-Level examinations.



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Working at ISP

What is it like to be a teacher at ISP?

ISP treats staff professionally, fairly and equally. There is a collegial environment in which we place the students at the centre of decisions. We recognise improvements can always be made and staff are actively involved and ideas listened to. Students are well behaved, respectful and motivated. Parents are supportive and appreciative. The Leadership Team work hard to support staff and consider staff happiness and wellbeing to be essential for a successful school.



Where do the teachers come from in ISP?

Please visit our [staff profiles](#) to learn more about our outstanding teachers.



What are the expectations of teachers?

We have high expectations of our teachers. ISP is a busy, successful school and our staff work hard but are well rewarded and are treated professionally. Our teachers enjoy their jobs because of the wonderful, motivated and well-behaved students and supportive parents at ISP.

New teachers can expect to be provided with strong professional support and opportunities for development. The school is a very friendly place and a premium is placed on warmth of relationships between all stakeholders. We have a low turnover of staff generally which is an indicator of staff happiness. We acknowledge that there will always be things that we can do better and we are always looking for ways to improve and develop; all staff are a part of this.

What are the requirements to be a teacher at ISP?

Teachers must hold an appropriate teaching qualification that is recognised in the United Kingdom. All ISP staff are expected to share our commitment towards Child Protection and must agree to full background checks and reference checks prior to commencing employment.



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Is the school supportive of my professional development?

The school considers teachers' continuing professional development (CPD) to be essential if best practice is to be maintained. There are many internal opportunities for CPD utilising the expertise of staff at ISP and these are planned for throughout the year. Our membership of FOBISIA and AIMS means that there is a huge amount of external CPD potential available to teachers. All teachers are provided with a CPD allowance and are encouraged to seek out opportunities. The two CPD coordinators in school also share opportunities via the school's CPD 'portal'.



Are there opportunities for career progression?

As the school has grown since opening in 2011, many career development opportunities have been made available for staff. This will continue as the school continues to grow and appropriate positions of responsibility are put in place. In August 2019 we opened our sister school, [ISP Hanoi](#). This has already created opportunities for staff movement and career development, and this will continue between both schools in the future.

Contracts and Benefits

What is the package like for an expatriate teacher working at ISP?

To attract and retain people of the highest standard, we offer a comprehensive package. This includes:

- *A competitive salary (paid in Malaysian Ringgit)*
- *Excellent professional working environment and career development opportunities*
- *Medical Insurance*
- *Housing and annual travel allowances*
- *An option to pay into the Employees Provident Fund from the second year onwards*
- *Working visa paid for and organised by the school*
- *Benefits for dependents*
- *Sports Centre membership*

What is the length of the initial contract?

The initial contract length is for two years. Thereafter it is renewable for two or three year periods by mutual consent.

What are the accommodation options available?

Most expatriate teachers choose to live on [Desa ParkCity](#). The standard of accommodation is extremely high and it is a pleasant, green and safe part of the city in which to live. Living in Desa ParkCity means that staff are able to walk and cycle to school if they wish. Staff are free to live outside of Desa ParkCity if they prefer, but we recommend to stay in Desa ParkCity in your first year.



What can I expect if I live in Desa ParkCity?



Desa ParkCity is an exclusive township with excellent accommodation and facilities. It is approximately 12km from the centre of KL and is well connected by roads, with public transport links a short taxi ride away. There are many bars and restaurants within Desa ParkCity and many more in the surrounding areas. It is common to see ISP families and students around Desa ParkCity as approximately 50% of ISP families live within Desa ParkCity.

Living in Malaysia

Why Malaysia?

Malaysia is a vibrant country which embraces a variety of cultures and traditions. It is ideally located in South-East Asia and acts as a gateway to many different parts of the continent. Malaysia consists of two regions, which are separated by the South China Sea: Peninsular Malaysia and East Malaysia (Sabah and Sarawak on the island of Borneo). Kuala Lumpur is the capital city and is located on the west of Peninsular Malaysia. Malaysia is one of the lowest populated countries in Asia, with plenty of unspoilt countryside to explore: jungle, tropical islands and beautiful beaches.



The Malaysian People

The Malaysian people are warm and friendly, and most speak English. Malaysia is an Islamic country with a high percentage of other religions and cultures too. In every town you will find a number of mosques, temples, shrines and churches all intermingled together. There is a warm welcome for expats who come to live in Malaysia and you will find people will be more than happy to help you out with some valuable local knowledge and restaurant recommendations!

What is the weather like in Malaysia?

Malaysia has a very stable, pleasant climate with sunshine and high temperatures all year round. Temperatures vary between 25-35 degrees and it is humid and sunny most days, though often with thunderstorms - a real tropical climate. The dependable climate means that you can make plans for



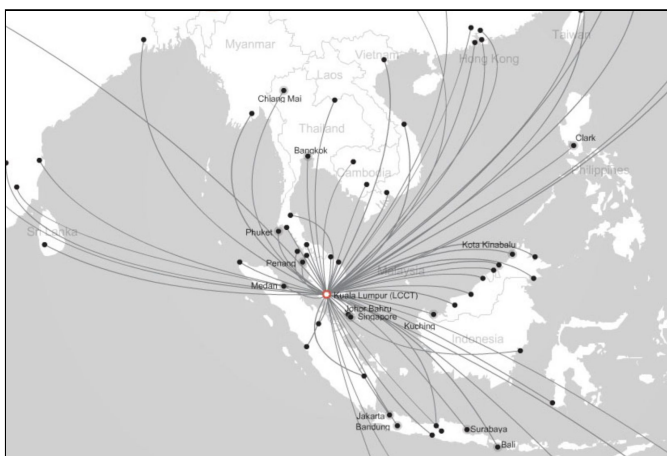
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outdoor activities and events with relative ease. Lightweight clothing is adequate throughout day and night unless you visit the surrounding hill resorts where it is cooler.

What can I expect from transport and infrastructure?

Malaysia is constantly investing in its transport infrastructure, making travel across Malaysia and beyond relatively straightforward and cost effective. There are trains to Thailand, buses to Singapore and Kuala Lumpur International Airport is the base for Air Asia (a budget airline with a solid reputation) so you can fly to most destinations in the region.



There is an excellent and value-for-money online taxi service called GRAB (similar to Uber). Cars can be booked via an app on your phone and are a safe option for travelling in and around the city. Kuala Lumpur also has a growing light-rail system which is simple and cheap to use.

Owning a car is a good investment with fuel costs and insurance being very low. Cars drive on the left and the roads are well signposted. Apps such as Waze and Google Maps work effectively in Malaysia, but beware of rush hour traffic and the many motorbikes and scooters that dot the roads.

What can I do in my spare time?

Malaysia offers a wide range of activities to participate in. From jungle walking and mountain climbing to diving, surfing and exploring its different beaches, there is something for everyone. Each region of the country is rich in culture and offers adventure and relaxation in equal quantities.

Furthermore, Kuala Lumpur has a large expatriate population who over time have established a range of clubs and organisations for both locals and expats. There are sporting clubs, book clubs, painting and gardening clubs to name but a few.

What to expect with eating out and shopping?

Food is very important to the Malaysian people and it takes a prominent position in their homes and neighbourhoods. There is a wealth of choice thanks to the cultural mixture of locals – Malay, Chinese and Indian – as well as the influx of expats bringing food from around the world. Anything you like to eat you are likely to be able to find in Malaysia.



Supermarkets have a huge range of products and produce. The supermarkets located near the school cater for the Expat communities as well as local and include favourite foods from around the world. Shelves are stocked with everything from Dairy Milk chocolate and Marmite to Couscous and Pita bread. Naturally local goods and produce are inexpensive and for the adventurous eater, are certainly worth exploring. There are weekly markets selling seasonal fruits and vegetables and lots of street food for a very low price!

Alcohol is available to buy and drink but prices vary and are a little higher than some other South-East Asian countries. Non-Halal products are also available in designated areas within supermarkets. These may be more expensive than the Halal options.



You will find all the famous brands of shops here in Malaysia and Kuala Lumpur boasts several enormous shopping malls. Prices range depending on what you are buying. There are many familiar shops such as IKEA, M&S and Tesco to help furnish your homes and stock your kitchens.

What expectations of technology and communication should I have?

Wifi and technology is excellent and readily available in Malaysia. The country offers a wide choice of mobile phone providers and high-speed internet connections are available. Packages are not expensive although you can expect to pay the going rate for well known brands such as Apple or Samsung devices. Plug sockets are the same as those in the UK.

I hope that you find the information contained in this pack useful.

Regards,

*Jonathan Turner
Principal*