



Admissions Policy

January 2023

Verita International School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people. We expect all staff to share this commitment and to follow robust safeguarding practices.

Class Size:

The maximum class size is 18.

At the Superintendent's discretion, the school may exceed this class size by 2 (to a maximum of 20) provided that the school can provide both a large enough classroom and appropriate support for the classroom teacher.

Admission

Admission is non-discriminatory and open to all students without regard to race, sex, religion, physical ability, sexual orientation or national or ethnic origin. We invite applications from students who can benefit from a creative, inquiry-based international English language education. Admission and continued enrolment in Verita is determined by the Superintendent based on the following criteria:

- The potential of the applicant to benefit from Verita's educational program;
- The ability of the school to meet the educational needs of the applicant;
- The ability of the applicant to meet the attendance and behavioral expectations of the school;
- Fulfillment of the school's financial and medical requirements;
- The effect of the applicant on the class as a whole.

Admission Priorities

Whenever it is not possible to accommodate all qualified applicants, the following admission priorities will apply:

1. Siblings of currently enrolled students;
2. Former Verita students; and
3. The degree to which Verita can meet the child's educational needs.

A waiting pool of applications will be created if a class is full. Verita will draw from this pool based on these priority guidelines and on a review of all applications to determine those students we feel can best benefit from a Verita education.

Admissions evaluations

1. Admission to Verita will be based on previous school reports and entrance forms through to the end of Year 3. There will be no entrance testing for these younger Year groups.
2. The school will administer basic evaluations of reading, writing and mathematics in all other Years.
3. Children coming from non-English speaking schools will be evaluated for English competency from Year 3 onwards.

Admissions Requirements

Admission to Verita will be guided primarily by whether the school can meet the child's educational needs.

The following factors will be taken into consideration in the admissions process:

At all levels:

- Proof of age, previous school records and confidential and/or parent references.

From Year 4 to Year 6:

- Entrance testing in the areas of reading, writing and mathematics.

The Admissions Committee may make exceptions, within one year, to these requirements based on previous educational experience.

Special Educational Needs

Verita admits students with a broad range of educational, social, and emotional needs provided that the school has the resources to meet those needs, and where necessary, parents pay for, in full, for additional 1-1 shadow teacher support.

Normally:

1. The school will accept students with mild to moderate special educational and/or social-emotional needs.
2. Students with special educational needs should not exceed 10% of students in the school or 15% of children in any particular year group.
3. Verita will only admit children for whom appropriate support—including that of specialist teachers, if needed, is available.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNER PROFICIENCY AND ADMISSIONS

At Verita International School, we believe that, as a school serving both a local and an international community, it is our duty to support our English language learners to enable them to have full access to our rich curriculum.

Since most English language learners take between five and seven years to develop native or near-native proficiency in English, it is important that our school determines which students we can serve and at which levels.

PRIMARY SCHOOL (YEARS 1-6)

Since students enrolled in Primary School have considerable time to develop their English skills prior to graduation, Verita—like most international schools—will accept students who are at the beginning level (Council of Europe Level A1).

ASSESSMENT

Primary-aged children will be assessed using a variety of age-appropriate tools including oral interviews and oral reading as well as reading comprehension tests and writing samples where appropriate. The purpose of this testing is to help determine the nature of the support needed rather than entry to the school.

SUPPORT

In the Primary School, pull-out ELL support will be provided for beginning level English language learners (A1 and A2) from Year 2 and beyond to help them learn the basics of English. Support at the Year 1 level will be decided on a case-by-case basis for absolute beginners only (Level A1).

Intermediate and Advanced level learners (Levels B1 to C1) will receive support in the form of differentiated instruction from their classroom teachers.

Note: Students' ELL levels will be determined by Verita's ELL specialist(s).

Careful consideration will be given when accepting students still acquiring English from Key Stage One on. Normally, no more than 20% of students in any class should require intensive ELL support.

Monitoring and Review

The Superintendent will monitor the implementation of the policy and will report to the Board.

The Board will review this policy annually and assess its implementation and effectiveness. The policy will be promoted and implemented throughout the school.

Policy Category: Admissions Policy

Approved by Michael Wolper

Next Review: January 2023