



**VIENTIANE PATTANA  
SCHOOL INTERNATIONAL**

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## **SCHOOL PROFILE**

### **VIENTIANE PATTANA SCHOOL INTERNATIONAL HISTORY**

Vientiane Pattana School has been in operation since January 12, 1999. It received official documentation from the Lao Ministry of Education and Sports (MOES) in 2001 and obtained approval to be recognized as an international school from the MOES on February 1, 2018. Consequently, the name changed to Vientiane Pattana School International.

The school started as a small nursery with just four students and by the next year had expanded into a kindergarten. As well as following the Lao syllabus offered by the Ministry of Education and Sports, Ms. Jackie Inthavong, the school director, envisioned delivering quality education to Vientiane's youth, which included teaching English so that students at a young age were able to understand and grasp the English language. This early language development would put them on the path to receiving an all English instruction curriculum in their early primary years and beyond. A basic tenet of the director from the beginning has always been the mission of educating and preparing students to be active, involved citizens and life-long learners,

The school grew into the primary section, which was added on year by year until our oldest students, reached Year 5. VPSI expanded again, and continued to offer three more years of education, as parents and students had requested, until the students were a bit older and could go abroad to study.

After many years of being a Junior Secondary School, and after much thought, a new building site was constructed to accommodate our expanded senior high school program. VPSI now offers AS and A levels in a range of subjects, housed in a modern and well-equipped school. All our classes have a maximum of 20 students. Our science labs rival the best across the whole South East Asian region. In July 2018, Vientiane Pattana School International was accredited as a Cambridge International School.

Vientiane Pattana School International started as a classroom of three students. Many years later, we still see numerous positive additions to our community as we continue to do our very best in serving our students and their families.

# VISION STATEMENT

The vision at VPS is to produce global citizens who are culturally aware and equipped with the skills to be successful in any field.

# MISSION STATEMENT

We will achieve our vision by:

1. Instilling in students a joy of learning thereby creating life-long learners
2. Developing self-awareness to the point where every student is happy with themselves
3. By producing academic opportunities for growth
4. Fostering a sense of community responsibility



## AN INTERNATIONAL CURRICULAR EXPERIENCE AT VPSI

Vientiane Pattana School International has always been effective and successful at continually providing its students the advantage and opportunity to explore different curricular using learning styles.

Students start their education in Pre-Primary and Primary with a curriculum that makes literacy more accessible and easier to grasp.

Our Primary Department uses an American based International Program, laced with a tailored primary Math program with specialist math teachers, to offer students aged 5-11 a spectrum of strong curricula to develop a foundation in numeracy, literacy, and sciences. Opportunities for inquiry learning are gradually introduced while these skills are strengthened. The VPSI Primary Math Curriculum adopts the Cambridge system of applying the Concrete, Pictorial and Abstract approach that aids pupils in

achieving a deeper understanding of the key mathematical concepts they need to progress through the higher levels of the Cambridge Math program. Materials used in class are structured and spiraled to ensure a steady build-up of skills as they move from one level to another. The varying strategies employed in our curriculum not only give emphasis on developing students' problem-solving skills and critical thinking, but also accommodate the different kinds of learners we have in our class.

At High School level, Vientiane Pattana Secondary School International is an accredited Cambridge International School and offers Cambridge International Curriculum. The Cambridge International Curriculum is an assured passport to formal and informal post-secondary education.

The Cambridge Lower Secondary is offered to Vientiane Pattana Students at ages 11-14. This acts as an introduction to the Cambridge curriculum. This program, although a different system to the one used in previous years, builds upon the skills introduced at Primary level with added subjects being History, ICT, Geography and Chinese for beginners. Science is still Combined Sciences at this level and Math is no longer Singaporean, but Cambridge.

The Upper Secondary curriculum prepares our students for Cambridge International Exams. The complete program is offered to students from ages 14-19, as three formal exams, IGCSE (International General Certificate of Secondary Education) approximately at age 16; AS (Advanced Subsidiary) to our grade 11s and Advanced Level to our grade 12s for students between the ages of 17 to 19. The entire program is spread out into a 12 year program. The Sciences are no longer combined after grade 8 but are offered as stand alone subjects.



Subjects offered are as follows,

#### IGCSE Level

- English as a Second Language
- English as a First Language
- Mathematics
- Chemistry
- Biology
- Physics
- Computer Science
- Art & Design
- Economics
- Business Studies
- Travel & Tourism
- Global Perspectives
- Dance / Music

#### AS/A Level

- English Language (AS Level)
- English Literature (AS/A Level)
- Mathematics
- Chemistry
- Biology
- Physics
- Computer Science
- Travel & Tourism
- Art & Design
- Economics
- Music / (not a Cambridge subject)

Vientiane Pattana School International is student inspired. The culture and the nature of the school ha always been based on our student's needs and success.



## SECONDARY CURRICULUM

The Secondary Department of VPSI is an accredited Cambridge International School and accordingly, our curriculum follows the British system and is divided into three main sections.

### GRADE 7 AND 8

- Students move from a predominantly single teacher in the elementary school to a range of specialist teachers in secondary.
- Students receive a range of subject experiences that will adequately prepare them for taking IGCSE exams in year 10.
- Main subjects: English, Math, Integrated Sciences (called Combined Sciences in year 8), History, ICT, Art & Design, Geography, Chinese for beginners, and in addition PE are required units.
- Elective subjects are Music or Dance.

## GRADE 9 AND 10

- Students are preparing to take IGCSE (International General Certificate of Secondary Education) exams.
- The compulsory subjects for grade 9 and 10 are English (ESL English or English as First Language), Math and Global Perspectives (grade 9 only). Additionally, a number of pairings are offered. Students will choose four more subjects, one from any group: Chemistry/Economics; Physics/Business Studies; Biology/Travel & Tourism; Computer Science/Art & Design. In addition, PE is a required unit. Elective subjects are Music or Dance.
- From 2025, Chinese HSK 1 (first level of the Hanyu Shuiping Kaoshi, the official examination of oral and written proficiency in Mandarin Chinese) will be offered.

## GRADE 11 AND 12

- Students prepare for their AS/A levels, again a British educational curriculum (following directly on from IGCSE).
- The compulsory subject for grade 11 and 12 is AS English or students may choose Literature in English. A number of pairings or triplets are offered. Students will choose one English plus three more subjects. One from any group: Travel & Tourism/Math; Physics/Music/Business Studies; Computer Science/Biology/ Art & Design; Chemistry/Economics; PE is a required unit but not examined.
- Additionally, grade 12 students are guided in preparing their university entries, practicing CV and scholarship + university applications writing.

\*\*\*Students with AS/A level qualifications are recognised by all the major and minor universities globally. These are rigorous exams held under very strict exam conditions for grade 11 + 12. The papers are sent to Cambridge for marking by external examiners. The papers are graded as if they are all native speakers; there is no special allowance for ESL learners.

