

High School Profile 2020-2021

TH School Hoa Lac is an independent, co-educational boarding and day school for students in Grades 6 to 12, ages 12 to 18 that opened in August 2018. It is approximately 25 kilometers outside of the Hanoi city center and is the first boarding school in Vietnam to offer an international curriculum. The genesis for TH School came from its founder, Madame Thai Huong and her mission to create a network of schools throughout Vietnam that provides students with a world class, English-based international education. Aligned with this vision, 100% of all current Grade 12 students are on academic merit scholarship.

The campus was established in 2018 and we currently have 141 students on campus, 96 of which are boarding students and 45 of which attend day school. From this, we have 15 Grade 12 students that make up the school's first graduating class of 2021. In line with the TH School vision and mission, TH School Hoa Lac offers a challenging academic and holistic education to students. TH School blends a holistic English-based international educational experience with a deep appreciation of Vietnamese language, literature, history and culture. It is centered on the IMYC curriculum (International Middle Years Curriculum) that leads to a bespoke programming that incorporates the IGCSE (International General Certificate of Secondary Education) and culminates in some students taking externally assessed exams at the end of 10th grade. Students then progress to the UK's University of Cambridge A-level qualifications in 11th and 12th grade. In addition, we deliver an extensive co-curricular program that incorporates sports, music, communications and visual arts that allow students to develop 21st century skills needed for future success, that offers an internationally focused college preparatory education.

Vision

The genesis for TH School has come from school founder Madame Thái Hương's vision to create a network of schools throughout Vietnam that provides students with a world-class English-based international education, state-of-the-art resources, purpose-built modern facilities and nutritious meals, all in a nurturing atmosphere of high expectations.

Mission

Our mission is to empower future leaders to:

- think critically
- display empathy
- act with integrity

Academic Programs

TH School is authorized by the Vietnamese Ministry Education and Training (MOET) to deliver an international, bespoke program, which offers international curricula including the IMYC, IGCSE and A-Levels in English. Our bespoke curriculum also includes mother-tongue courses in Vietnamese Literature, Geography, History and Civics for native Vietnamese speakers. Students whose native language is not Vietnamese take Vietnamese language and culture classes as part of the regular curriculum.

Grades 9 & 10

TH School offers both externally examined two-year IGCSE courses in Grades 9 and 10. Students participate in a common core consisting of mathematics, English, science, Global Perspectives/humanities and Vietnamese Studies. Students have the option of sitting IGCSE exams at the end of Grade 10 within English, science, Global Perspectives and mathematics. Science is taught as a bespoke program to include IGCSE single award subjects, in addition to incorporating relevant 21st century inquiry-based learning and more relevant content such as environmental studies and sustainability. Students also participate in physical education, visual arts, music, STEM and Creative Communications classes as part of a rigorous electives curriculum created to enhance core instruction and improve English proficiency in all areas.

Vietnamese Studies, PE, Advisory, STEM, Visual Arts, Music and Creative Communications and choose three AS subjects in Grade 11 with students continuing their studies into Grade 12. A-Level courses offered include: Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Mathematics, Travel and Tourism, Media and Design, Global Perspectives and Business.

English

In Grades 9 and 10, students develop skills in reading, writing, speaking and listening through collaborative, inquiry-based units. Students read informational texts and write in different styles and genres. Through group work, they learn to contribute their own ideas and questions. Units focus on different writing styles and the development of lower and higher order reading skills. Students are also introduced to various literary texts to increase their knowledge of literary techniques and international mindedness. Students are assessed on a bespoke grading system that has been aligned with and graded against IGCSE.

Grades 11 & 12

TH School students prepare for the International Advanced Level (A-Level) examinations in Grades 11 and 12. Students take compulsory subjects in English,

ACCREDITATIONS, AUTHORIZATIONS & AFFILIATIONS

- Vietnamese Ministry of Education and Training (MOET)
- Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) - *candidate status*
- Cambridge International School: A Level & IGCSE
- College Board: CEEB 698022

School Calendar

The school year consists of no less than 180 teacher-student contact days running from mid-August through mid-June.

Academic Honesty

All students are expected to demonstrate honesty and integrity while in attendance at TH School. Students are expected to do their own work; this includes test taking, home learning, class assignments and the creation of original essays, compositions, term papers, and scientific research.

Discipline Policy

TH School will report all external suspensions, withdrawals and incidents of academic dishonesty that arise as a result of a significant disciplinary incident or personal misconduct.

Co-Curricular Activities

TH School has an emerging co-curricular program that includes: robotics, debate, Model United Nations (MUN), music, service learning, Global Issues Network, public speaking, Student Council, extramural sports and drama. Additionally, students participate in advisory classes that are also embedded into our inquiry-based curriculum in order to better prepare students for college and university life after graduation from TH School.

All TH School students participate in service learning projects (SLPS). SLPS can be school sponsored, externally organized or student led.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Pete Kennedy
Superintendent of Schools

Heather Pineda
International Secondary Principal

Michelle Lockwood
Secondary Counsellor
 mlockwood@thschool.edu.vn

In Grades 11 and 12, students are taught and prepared for academic English. Students develop their independent study skills and complete research in a number of areas. They are taught more academic writing styles and these are approached through the study of texts and wider cultural and global issues. Students are encouraged to become inquiring learners and more comfortable with the process of expressing and evaluating their opinions. Critical thinking skills are essential for them to become successful undergraduate students and thus is an area of paramount focus.

Grade 12 Scholarship Awards

Scholarship	Number of students
30% and lower	3
50%	1
70%	5
80%	6

Graduation Requirements

In order for TH School students to earn and receive an official TH School diploma, students must successfully complete the following holistic combination of classes starting in Grade 9 (matching courses from other institutions will be evaluated and accepted in lieu of TH School courses when appropriate):

- 1. English Language** classes at the appropriate phase level for individual students. Students deemed able to successfully sit the IGCSE English as a Second or First language examination are encouraged to do so.
- 2. Humanities:** Minimum two years of Global Perspectives-based humanities classes beginning in Grade 9.
- 3. Mathematics:** Minimum two years of high school mathematics beginning in Grade 9.
- 4. Science:** Minimum of two years of combined sciences beginning in Grade 9.

5. Vietnamese Studies: Students attend the following classes within Vietnamese Studies:

- Native Vietnamese speakers: Vietnamese History, Vietnamese Civics, Vietnamese Geography and Vietnamese Literature.
- Non-Vietnamese speakers: Vietnamese Language and Culture.

6. Three AS & A-Level Courses begin in Grade 11 to consist of any combination of courses that fit students' post-secondary pathways.

7. Electives consisting of yearly participation in art or music, STEM, Creative Communications and physical education while at TH School.

All high school classes taken by students will be listed on the student's official high school transcript. Transcripts will list all classes taken by the student and internal grades earned. Grades given on the transcript are official and will not be changed under any circumstances.

Grading

TH School does not rank students. We do not provide students with a grade point average (GPA), and we do not work on a credit system.

SAT

No students in the current graduating 2021 cohort took the SAT; therefore, data is not reported.

COVID-19 effects

Vietnam responded urgently to the COVID-19 threat; TH School closed from February 3rd 2020. Remote Learning was conducted for all students during these early unsettled months of dealing with COVID-19.

The school finally readmitted secondary students on May 4th. All exams for 2020 were canceled. Predicted examination grades were determined through teacher backed data on a collection of both formative and summative assessments following Cambridge Assessment International Examinations (CAIE) learning outcomes and criteria.

The School Director, Pete Kennedy, approved the integrity of the process and the grade predictions submitted to CAIE.

