

Rabat American School

Rabat, Morocco



On Rabat's Atlantic corniche, a 1962 embassy school built one of the region's earliest IB Diploma programmes.

RANKING DIMENSIONS

Overall	57/100
Academic outcomes	58/100
University placement	56/100
Prestige & heritage	57/100
Alumni network	56/100
Facilities	60/100
Transparency	47/100

EDITOR'S VERDICT

Rabat American School occupies a specific niche in Morocco: a long-established, non-profit American day school in the capital, teaching in English from pre-K to Grade 12, with Middle States, AASSA and US State Department OSA recognition behind it. Founded in ****1962****, it carries the institutional weight of an embassy-era school rather than a recent premium entrant. The strongest point of differentiation is its age and continuity. In a market where many international schools trade on new buildings or brand associations, RAS offers something harder to manufacture: **institutional memory**, a settled identity, and a campus culture built over decades. Its Atlantic corniche setting adds profile, but the real draw is a school that combines an American base curriculum with an established IB Diploma route at the top end.

The campus offer is stronger than many families will expect in Rabat. RAS states that it runs across **9** buildings and includes science labs, a STEAM lab, visual arts rooms, band spaces, an audio/visual lab, a **300**-seat performing arts centre, a gymnasium and a 25-metre indoor pool. That is a serious list, and it signals breadth rather than a narrow academic factory. The school also puts real emphasis on athletics, activities, student organisations and fine arts, which matters for families who want more than test preparation. This is a place for children who thrive in *a busy, outward-facing school day* and who benefit from structure, participation and adult guidance. It suits internationally mobile families, embassy and NGO households, and Moroccan families who want an English-medium university-preparatory education without a boarding model.

What puts RAS on a shortlist is the combination of *capital-city stability*, American schooling, and a mature international community. The school cites **40+** nationalities, which points to genuine diversity rather than token internationalism. For the right child, that mix matters: socially confident students, adaptable joiners and pupils who want to move between academics, sport, arts and service will find room here. Students who need a highly selective, exam-obsessed environment may want more published academic detail than RAS puts into the public domain. The school does not publish aggregate external results here, and parents who rank outcome data above all else will ask harder questions.

The best fit is the student who wants *an anchored international education* rather than a transient outpost: English-speaking or English-ready, comfortable in a co-educational day setting, and interested in a full school life. RAS offers *breadth with backbone*. It is not selling glamour; it is selling continuity, range and a clear K-12 pathway in Rabat. For families who value those things, that is a credible and *hard-earned advantage*.

STRENGTHS	TRADE - OFFS
• Delivers a US-style curriculum through Grade 12, giving expatriate children continuity when relocating from American school systems. • Located in Rabat, Morocco's diplomatic and administrative capital, making it a natural choice for embassy and NGO-posted families. • Small day-school scale allows closer staff-student ratios than large international hubs in Casablanca or Tangier. • Offers Advanced Placement coursework, giving college-bound students a recognized pathway to US university credit. • Operates as a single, established campus rather than a newly founded venture, giving families continuity of institutional history.	• Modest editorial ranking (1226) signals it is not a globally recognized name compared with larger regional American schools. • As a day school only, it offers no boarding option, limiting it to families settled locally in Rabat. • Smaller student body than major international schools in Casablanca means narrower extracurricular, sports and arts programming. • Being one of a limited number of American-curriculum options in Rabat, families have little local alternative if the fit proves wrong.

ADMISSIONS

Admission is generally possible at multiple entry points from early years through Grade 12, subject to seat availability. Applications typically require prior school transcripts, report cards, and sometimes placement assessment or interview, particularly for older grades. Competitiveness is moderate rather than highly selective, reflecting Rabat's smaller expatriate population compared to Casablanca. Diplomatic and embassy-linked families often make up a notable share of the applicant pool, and timing around the US academic calendar and visa/relocation schedules should be planned in advance.

WTS RATING 

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