

Seisen International School

Tokyo, Japan



An all-girls Catholic day school in Setagaya that became Japan's first to offer the IB Diploma, now a full IB continuum from K to 12.

RANKING DIMENSIONS

Overall	68/100
Academic outcomes	70/100
University placement	68/100
Prestige & heritage	68/100
Alumni network	67/100
Facilities	69/100
Transparency	61/100

EDITOR'S VERDICT

Seisen’s clearest distinction is structural, not cosmetic: it is an all-girls Catholic day school in Setagaya that runs the IB from kindergarten through Grade 12, and it was Japan’s first girls’ school to offer the IB Diploma, in 1985. That matters because the school has had decades to work out what an IB education looks like in a single-sex setting rather than bolting the programme on as a prestige add-on. The school caps each grade at 50 students, runs at a ****7:1**** student-teacher ratio, and serves a community drawn from more than 55 nationalities. This is a **small-scale**, **deliberately intimate** school with a strong sense of internal continuity; parents looking for the sprawl and spectacle of a mega-campus will not find it here.

What puts Seisen on a serious shortlist is the combination of academic ambition, coherence and restraint. It is accredited by CIS and NEASC, and it is an IB World School, which gives the school external validation beyond its own claims. The average annual day fee is ****JPY 2,387,500****, expensive by any normal measure, but not irrational for a Tokyo international school with this level of staffing and a full K-12 offering. The school's Catholic identity is visible, but the intake is not narrow: Seisen states plainly that it welcomes students from many ethnic groups, cultures and religious traditions. That mix — Catholic sponsorship, English-medium teaching, an IB continuum, and an international parent body — gives the school a **distinctive** place in Tokyo's market. It is less a generic international school than a **self-possessed** specialist option.

The right student for Seisen is a girl who will thrive in a close community, steady expectations and an environment that links academic standards with pastoral attention. The all-girls setting will suit families who want leadership, classroom voice and confidence-building without the social noise of co-education. The school also keeps one foot in local culture, with Japanese language and cultural learning built into the experience, while its English-language teaching and IB pathway keep the academic route internationally portable. What Seisen does not offer is anonymity, brute scale or a secular institutional culture. For the right family, that is the attraction: a **clear-minded**, **values-led** school with a long IB track record, small year groups and enough seriousness to justify a place on any shortlist for girls' education in Tokyo.

STRENGTHS	TRADE-OFFS
• All-girls IB school from preschool through Grade 12 • Catholic school welcoming many faiths and cultures • Over 60 nationalities represented in the community • IB Diploma offered in high school	• All-girls model will not suit every family • Catholic sponsorship may deter some secular families • No non-IB curriculum mentioned in provided sources

ADMISSIONS

Seisen International School is a K-12 all-girls Catholic international school in Tokyo, with entry spanning kindergarten, elementary and high school. The school says its kindergarten uses a Montessori approach and that the school operates within the IB framework, with the IB Diploma offered in high school. Small grade sizes — capped at 50 students, according to the school — suggest a relatively contained admissions intake rather than a large rolling entry model. The school also describes a notably international student body, with more than 55 nationalities represented.

Beyond that, Seisen does not publish enough in the provided sources to map admissions mechanics in detail. Publicly available material here does not specify assessment format, interview structure, decision timeline, application deadlines or bursary and financial-aid provision. What is clear is that selection sits within a distinctive proposition: an all-girls environment, Catholic sponsorship, and a long-established IB pathway, with the school noting that it was the first all-girls school in Japan to offer the IB Diploma Programme, in 1985.

WTS RATING 

This profile summarises editorial research by World's Top Schools. Verify all admissions dates directly with the school before submitting. Sources are cited in the full online profile at WorldsTopSchools.com/schools/sch_4376ab4e59.