

International School of Kuala Lumpur

Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia



Malaysia's longest-running IB World School, pairing a 25-acre Ampang Hilir campus with mandatory Asia-wide service expeditions.

RANKING DIMENSIONS

Overall	76/100
Academic outcomes	78/100
University placement	76/100
Prestige & heritage	77/100
Alumni network	74/100
Facilities	82/100
Transparency	82/100

EDITOR'S VERDICT

A **25-acre** campus in Ampang Hilir gives ISKL physical scale that many city schools cannot match, but the sharper point is curricular range. This is Malaysia’s longest-running IB World School, authorised for the IBDP since 1989, yet it does not force every teenager down a single sixth-form track. In high school, students can move through PRAXIS in Grade 9, the Pursuits Program, the full IB Diploma, or a mix of individual IB, Advanced Placement and High School Diploma courses. That makes ISKL a strong fit for families who want academic seriousness without the rigidity of an all-IB model. It is also a non-profit, co-educational day school with more than **1,700** students from over **60** nationalities, which puts it firmly in the large, established, internationally mixed bracket of the Kuala Lumpur market.

The school’s special claim is not only longevity but breadth with structure. The editorial tagline points to mandatory Asia-wide service expeditions, and that matters: this is not a campus built only for classroom performance, but for a model of education that pushes students outward. Service and sustainability run across divisions, and the school states that parent communication is frequent, with online platforms, regular assessments and scheduled conferences. That will appeal to families who want a *high-accountability* school rather than one that leaves parents guessing. The average annual day fee across the full age range is **MYR 114,390**, which places ISKL at the *top end* of the Kuala Lumpur day-school market. Parents are paying for scale, choice and institutional depth, not boutique intimacy.

ISKL belongs on a shortlist for students who are ambitious, internationally minded and comfortable in a big, busy environment. It suits children who benefit from options: the all-rounder who wants IB credibility with room to tailor a pathway, the engaged student who thrives on service, and the university-bound teenager who wants more than one route to graduation. It is less compelling for families who want a small school, a narrowly British experience, or a tightly uniform academic culture. The recent destinations listed here — Bond University, the University of Melbourne and the University of New South Wales — do not give a deep read on outcomes, and the school does not publish fuller destination data in this context. Even so, the core proposition is clear: ISKL offers a *mature*, *expansive* international education with real curricular flexibility, and that combination remains *hard to match* in Kuala Lumpur.

STRENGTHS

- The longest-running IB World School in Malaysia since 1965, giving it one of the most established IB track records in the country.
- 2025 IB results showed a 93% pass rate from 129 candidates, with an average score of 34.2 against a global average of 30.6, and 18% scoring 40 or above.
- ISKL offers the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme (IBDP) on a non-selective basis, so entry to the senior programme is not academically gate-kept.
- CIS re-accredited ISKL in April 2024, and the school also holds COBIS accreditation, giving external quality assurance beyond the IB's own status.
- High School students can choose between the IB Diploma or the Pursuits Program, which mixes individual IB, AP and High School Diploma courses, plus a mandatory Global Action Program (GAP) involving week-long experiential trips across Asia.

TRADE - OFFS

- Fees for Grades 9-12 reach MYR 143,400 per year, making it the most expensive school in the market, a significant budget commitment relative to KL peers.
- The curriculum is US-aligned, which makes ISKL less natural for British families targeting UK universities, even though the IB route itself is UCAS-compatible.
- Admission to Middle and High School is subject to WIDA English-proficiency assessment results and the school's capacity to meet the student's needs, so entry is not unconditional at every grade.
- The campus sits in a single eastern-KL location (Ampang Hilir), which can mean a longer commute for families based in the Mont Kiara/Petaling Jaya corridors given the city's traffic.

ADMISSIONS

ISKL runs rolling admissions with some waitlists in popular year groups. Early Years through High School applicants undergo placement testing (WIDA for language proficiency at Middle/High School), and Middle and High School entry is subject to assessment results and capacity. The school accepts children of all nationalities but requires a parent or guardian to hold a valid Malaysian work permit or resident pass. Unlike many competitors, ISKL does not work with commission-based referral agents. The IB Diploma track itself is non-selective, though overall places are managed against programme fit and available resources.

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_5f5592e080.