

Australian International School Sharjah

Sharjah, United Arab Emirates



The UAE's only full Australian Curriculum school, pairing Queensland's QCE/ATAR pathway with deep Emirati cultural grounding since 2005.

RANKING DIMENSIONS

Overall	59/100
Academic outcomes	64/100
University placement	61/100
Prestige & heritage	55/100
Alumni network	50/100
Facilities	68/100
Transparency	65/100

EDITOR'S VERDICT

Australian International School Sharjah occupies a narrow slot in the UAE market: it is the country’s only school built around the Australian curriculum, with the Queensland senior pathway feeding into QCE and ATAR rather than A levels, IB Diploma or the US system. That alone puts it on a shortlist for families who want a straight Australian academic route without improvisation. The school covers ages 3 to 18, has operated in Sharjah since 2005, and runs as a day school in English. Its IB World accreditation adds an extra layer of external credibility, even though the core offer here is clearly Australian rather than a mixed-curriculum proposition. The average annual fee across the full ladder is ****AED 46,346****, which places it in the market as a **serious but not stratospheric** option: not cheap, but below the top fee bands

charged by Dubai’s premium brands.

What gives AIS Sharjah its distinction is not glamour or scale, but clarity. This is a school with **1,700+** students, **60+** nationalities and **150+** qualified educators, so it has enough size to feel established without drifting into the anonymity that affects some larger UAE campuses. The school leans hard into wellbeing, inclusion and family continuity, and the leadership structure reflects that: there is a Director of Wellbeing, an Inclusive Education department, and phase heads running from early years through Grade 12. That points to a *deliberately structured* school rather than one trading on a generic international-school script. Parents who want a campus with a strong Emirati setting, a broad expatriate mix and a school culture built around routine, familiarity and pastoral oversight will find a *clear identity* here.

This is not the school for families chasing the prestige shorthand of British boarding traditions, US college-brand theatre or the cachet of an all-IB sixth form. It suits children who benefit from consistency, a *grounded* atmosphere and a curriculum that stays coherent from Nursery to Grade 12. It will also appeal to Australian families, or to globally mobile parents who want university eligibility through a system that remains underused in the Emirates. Students who thrive here will value community over flash, pastoral steadiness over pressure-cooker competition, and a school that treats inclusion as part of the operating model rather than a slogan.

STRENGTHS

- Australian Queensland curriculum leading to the QCE
- English-medium teaching from Nursery to Grade 12
- SPEA inspection rating of Very good
- Strong emphasis on wellbeing and inclusive education
- Broad international community of 60+ nationalities

TRADE-OFFS

- The school does not publicly publish detailed exam-results data
- Website gives limited curriculum detail on senior years
- Pitch centres on care and community rather than measurable academic stretch

ADMISSIONS

Australian International School Sharjah is a co-educational day school for children from Nursery to Grade 12, so the obvious entry points are Nursery and early years, plus any subsequent grade where places arise, through to Grade 12. The school presents a continuous pathway and notes that many families start in Nursery and stay through graduation. It teaches in English and offers the Queensland curriculum, leading to the Queensland Certificate of Education in the senior years. The school's public material emphasises inclusion, wellbeing and an inclusive-education function, but it does not publish detailed admissions criteria in the material provided. On process, the school does not set out published application deadlines, rolling versus fixed admissions windows, or a clearly described assessment format in the source material here. Nor does it state whether applicants sit tests, attend interviews, provide prior reports, or complete age-specific assessments. No bursary or financial-aid scheme is mentioned in the supplied sources, so families should not assume one exists. The most distinctive feature inferable from the school's own presentation is its stress on an inclusive, multicultural intake rather than a notably selective admissions model.

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_90c57bd35f.