

Brookhouse School

Nairobi, Kenya



On the edge of Nairobi National Park, Round Square service ethics and safari-named houses shape this British day-and-boarding school.

RANKING DIMENSIONS

Overall	66/100
Academic outcomes	67/100
University placement	65/100
Prestige & heritage	67/100
Alumni network	66/100
Facilities	69/100
Transparency	57/100

EDITOR'S VERDICT

Brookhouse trades on a setting that few Nairobi schools can match: Karen, on the edge of Nairobi National Park, with boarding on that campus and a second site in Runda. That geography matters. It gives the school a more expansive, outdoors-facing character than many urban competitors, and it sits neatly with Brookhouse’s Round Square affiliation and its stated emphasis on service, leadership and global citizenship. This is a British school founded in 1981, non-religious, teaching in English, and it covers the full 3–18 span. The academic proposition is conventional in structure and ambitious in tone: British curriculum, IGCSE and A Level, with the school staking a public claim to the best IGCSE and A Level results in East Africa for more than a decade. We have not seen aggregate score data in the public

domain, so parents need to press for hard outcomes rather than slogans.

What puts Brookhouse on a shortlist is the mix of **old-school British framing** and a distinctly Kenyan sense of place. This is not a sterile business-district international school. It is a day-and-boarding school with houses named after safari animals, a strong extracurricular and expedition logic, and a values structure that goes beyond assemblies and posters. Brookhouse also carries three accreditations that matter in this market — BSO, COBIS and CIS — which gives parents a useful external check on governance and school standards. Average class size sits at ***24***, so this is not a tiny tutorial-style school, despite the school’s language about personalised teaching. Families paying an average annual day fee of ***2,046,111 KSH*** or an average annual boarding fee of ***4,081,538 KSH*** are buying a **premium, full-service** British education, not a bargain.

The right child for Brookhouse is academically capable, socially confident and willing to make use of a broad school life rather than treating school as a grades factory. Boarders, in particular, will get more from it if they want a structured community and a campus identity, not anonymous residence. Children who thrive with clear routines, houses, leadership roles and organised activity will fit well. So will internationally mobile families who want recognised British curriculum continuity in Nairobi. The weaker fit is the child who needs a very small-scale environment or the family that wants forensic public disclosure of academic outcomes before committing. Brookhouse offers **status, structure and scale**; it does not trade in modesty, and parents should interrogate the substance behind the confidence.

STRENGTHS

- Member of the Nord Anglia Education network, giving access to global partnerships such as collaborations with MIT and Juilliard for enrichment programming.
- Offers a broad curriculum pathway from British National Curriculum through IGCSE to both A Levels and the IB Diploma Programme, allowing exit-route flexibility.
- Long-established school (founded in 1979), giving it a longer track record in Nairobi than many newer international entrants.
- Operates two dedicated campuses (Runda for younger years, Karen for secondary), allowing age-appropriate facilities rather than a single shared site.
- Boarding option available for secondary students, useful for regional and diplomatic families needing residential care.

TRADE-OFFS

- Fees are among the higher tier for Nairobi international schools, putting it out of reach for many local and mid-budget expat families.
- The split-campus structure means families must manage a transition between Runda and Karen sites as children move from primary to secondary.
- As part of a large multinational network, some parents report a more standardised, corporate feel compared to smaller independent Nairobi schools.
- Popular entry year groups can have limited places, meaning waiting lists are possible despite the school not being ultra-selective academically.

ADMISSIONS

Brookhouse admits students across multiple entry points from Nursery through Sixth Form, with rolling admissions subject to space. The process typically involves an application form, submission of previous school reports, an assessment or placement test appropriate to age, and a family interview. Popular year groups, particularly around key transition points such as Year 7 and Year 12, can fill ahead of the academic year, so early application is advised. Fees are payable termly and are toward the upper end of Nairobi's international school market.

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_ac3668b90a.