

Colegio Michael Ham

Buenos Aires, Argentina



Inside a neo-Gothic castle on the Vicente Lopez barranca, nearly a century of girls-only schooling has just given way to coeducation.

RANKING DIMENSIONS

Overall	53/100
Academic outcomes	55/100
University placement	53/100
Prestige & heritage	54/100
Alumni network	53/100
Facilities	53/100
Transparency	41/100

EDITOR'S VERDICT

Colegio Michael Ham occupies an unusual niche in the north Buenos Aires market: a Catholic day school with bilingual Spanish-English teaching, the IB, and a recent shift from a long girls-only tradition into coeducation. The setting does real work here. The school’s Vicente López campus sits in a neo-Gothic castle on the barranca, which gives it a **strong sense of place** that newer campuses cannot manufacture. That matters for families who value atmosphere as much as programme. Founded in ****1966****, and now operating in both Vicente López and Nordelta, Michael Ham offers a through-school run from age ****2-18****. The result is a school with continuity, a defined identity, and enough scale to sustain two campuses without reading as a chain-school clone.

What puts it on a shortlist is the combination of history and transition. Nearly a century of girls-only schooling has ended; the school now moves into coeducation while keeping the institutional confidence of an established Catholic school. That makes Michael Ham more interesting than standard bilingual schools that sell facilities and little else. It has a clear educational proposition: bilingual instruction, the IB, and a faith-based frame, with public-facing emphasis on reading, community events and student milestones such as the Cambridge diploma ceremony. Parents who want a *serious, settled environment* rather than a fashionable brand exercise will find that attractive. Parents who want hard public data on outcomes will find the picture thinner: the school does not publish aggregate IB results or comparative university placement figures in the public domain. That opacity does not erase the school's strengths, but it does narrow the evidence base.

The school will suit students who thrive in structured settings, value close community, and want a bilingual education inside a school culture with *institutional memory* and *a clear moral frame*. It fits children who like belonging to a school with rituals, houses, events and visible tradition, not those who want a loose, ultra-progressive model. The coeducational shift also makes it a live option for families who like the school's character and location but previously ruled it out on principle. For the right child, Michael Ham offers *continuity with character*; for families hunting maximum published transparency or a secular identity, there are cleaner fits elsewhere.

STRENGTHS

- Authorised IB World School offering the IB Diploma Programme, giving students an internationally transferable qualification.
- Bilingual English-Spanish instruction from early years, a long-standing model among northern Buenos Aires private schools.
- Coeducational day school situated in Vicente Lopez, an established and affluent northern suburb with good road access to CABA.
- Part of a recognised cluster of bilingual schools in the San Isidro/Vicente Lopez corridor, giving families a comparable local peer network.

TRADE - OFFS

- Located outside the City of Buenos Aires proper, meaning a commute for families based centrally or south of the capital.
- Lower international profile and published outcome data compared with larger, longer-established IB schools in the same corridor.
- Single day-campus model, so no boarding option exists for relocating families wanting that structure.
- Fee levels, class sizes and IB Diploma results are not readily published online, limiting pre-enrolment comparison.

ADMISSIONS

Admission points typically run from early years/kindergarten through to secondary transfer years, following the common pattern for bilingual private schools in the Vicente Lopez area. Families should expect an application form, an interview, and an assessment of English and Spanish level for older entrants. Places at popular entry years can be competitive locally, though the school is not among Buenos Aires' highest-demand institutions. Current fees, seat availability and required documentation are not published and should be confirmed directly with the admissions office.

WTS RATING 

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