



Parent School Visit Checklist

Your guide to finding the right school for your child

We have created this simple, practical checklist with key questions to ask, space to jot down your impressions, and helpful reminders drawn from years of experience.

Since 2014, we have connected and informed international parents. What began as a small publication for expatriate families has grown into one of the most trusted sources of insight and information for international parents, educators, and international schools.

Whether you're just beginning your search or narrowing down your options, this guide will help you focus on what really matters your child's happiness, growth, and sense of belonging.

Practical Tips for Choosing and Visiting Schools

1

Gather information, collect brochures, attend open days, and speak with family, friends, colleagues, to create a shortlist of schools to visit.

2

Visit the shortlist and use this checklist. Talk to the principal, observe classes. Ideally in Autumn so you have plenty of time to apply for the following year.

3

Keep your child involved. Use the completed checklist for each school to analyse your options and discuss with your family.

School Visit Checklist

Practical Elements	Notes
What are the entrance requirements?	
How far will your child travel each day?	
How will they get to school?	
Is the school clean and welcoming?	
Are children safe and well protected?	
What are your impressions on the school's key areas?	
What facilities are available?	
What childcare support is offered by the school?	
What are the hours of the school day?	
What technology is provided?	
How does the school ensure security of equipment?	
What technology do teachers use in lessons?	
What is the breakdown of fees and additional costs?	
Which extra curricular activities are available?	

Curricula	Notes
What curricula are offered?	
What is the academic record of the school?	
Which subjects are offered at different levels?	
Where do students continue their higher education?	
Request the list of destinations from last year.	
What special needs support is available?	
What career and university guidance is offered?	
Is the school accredited by an external organisation?	

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Values and Ethos	Notes
How do you feel about the school's mission?	
How many nationalities are represented in the school?	
What percentage of students leave each year?	
How is religion integrated into school life?	
In which areas does the school focus most?	
Which sports teams compete and at what level?	
What teaching styles are used?	
What is the staff turnover rate?	
What qualifications do teachers and assistants hold?	
How many teach in their native language?	
What is the school discipline and homework policy?	
Are there systems for student and parent feedback?	
How often do students take assessments?	
Do students partake in community service activities?	
How do you feel about the school?	
Will your child be happy here?	