

EARLY YEARS



WELCOME TO EARLY YEARS AT ICS!

At ICS, we value and respect each individual child as unique, strong, rich in potential and capable of constructing knowledge. Children experience the world with their families,

peers, homes and travels, through social contexts and cultures, and they bring these experiences to school.

PHILOSOPHY

The early years pedagogy is inspired by the Educational Project in Reggio Emilia and is anchored by our PYP concept-based units of inquiry, reflecting international best practices.

The approach is designed to respect curious, growing children where playful inquiry sets the foundation for important skills

in thinking, self-management, social-emotional growth, communication, physical coordination, and cognitive/academic creativity. Children explore symbolic representation, including early literacy and numeracy, through play and careful educator facilitation.

PROGRAM OF INQUIRY

The ICS Addis elementary school is authorized as an IB Primary Years Program (PYP) school, integrating subject areas to support inquiry and learning in meaningful contexts. The transdisciplinary nature of the curriculum enables students to experience how subject knowledge and understanding work together in the real world towards sustainable action.

The PYP units of inquiry are organized in six themes: Who We Are, Where We Are in Place and Time, How We Express Ourselves, How the World Works, How We Organize Ourselves and Sharing the Planet. Each of the units of inquiry provides opportunities for students to develop the essential elements of the PYP: Knowledge, Skills, Concepts, and Action.

THE LEARNING PROCESS

Our early years program, for ages 2-6, values play and relationships as a driving force for inquiry learning. Children's wonder and curiosity are key to their social and cognitive development and this curiosity motivates each child to explore his or her own questions and theories in a safe and enriching learning environment, both indoors and out. Children are supported in their expression and use all their senses to make meaning through many symbolic processes, including movement, painting, transformation, mathematics, drawing, mark-making, socio-dramatics, building, sculpture and sound/singing/rhythm. These areas of expression help to build a strong cognitive, social, and communicative foundation for future learning in the elementary years and beyond!

Our learning spaces indoors and out are inviting, promote curiosity, and are purposefully planned in response to our beliefs about the capable child, creating rich conditions in which children learn.

EY2/3 AND EY4/5 PLAY SPACES

Our new EY2/3 and EY4/5 play spaces which are child-centered environments that stimulate curiosity with a loose parts approach. Students develop their fine and gross motor skills while engaging in imaginative play, growing food, and creating collaborative games.

More information

For more information please visit our website [Early Years](#).

