

GERMAN EUROPEAN SCHOOL SINGAPORE (GESS)

European Foundations for Tomorrow's World

The German European School Singapore (GESS) is a not-for-profit international school in Singapore whose humble beginnings can be traced back to 1971 when the school started off with just a handful of students and teachers. Today over 1750 students of 65 different nationalities, from 18 months to 18 years (toddler programme to high school) are part of the GESS community.

Through a three-way partnership between the school, students and parents, GESS has established itself as a home away from home for many expatriate families. Given that it is helmed by a Board of Governors comprising solely parents in the school, it is no surprise that the school has continued to be a warm, family-centered school throughout its almost 50 years of operation.

From unique academic offerings to over 90 different co-curricular activities, pastoral care and student-focused teaching methodologies, and an impressive campus, there are just so many ways in which the school caters to the specific needs of children constantly on the move.

CORE PRINCIPLES: 2 CURRICULA, STRONG VALUES AND NON-SELECTION

GESS is the only international school in Singapore to offer a choice between 2 highly sought-after curricula: the IB curriculum taught in English and the German curriculum. GESS' IB results have always exceeded the global average and graduates have been accepted into world-class universities all around the world, particularly in the UK, US, Netherlands and Germany. The Abitur results have often also been exemplary and helped

graduates gain access to top universities in Germany.

Owing to its European and German foundations, the school has at its core the European values of respect, openness and inclusiveness. These values are reflected in everything the school does: from hiring teachers with strong multicultural sensibilities who know how to handle third culture kids, to encouraging students to proudly display and celebrate their cultural origins, and also engaging in Singapore's community life through exchange programmes with local schools and service programmes with local charities.

In the spirit of inclusiveness, GESS maintains itself as an academically non-selective school where students of varying abilities will be able to discover their personal strengths and interests, to find the paths best suited to their personal growth. There is room for every interest and talent at GESS, regardless of whether this is in science, music, sports, research, design or more. GESS is delighted to go on a journey with the children at their pace and at their time.

A STATE-OF-THE-ART CAMPUS: WHERE DREAMS TAKE OFF

In August 2018 GESS moved to a brand-new purpose-built campus which features state-of-the-art facilities that cater to a whole spectrum of interests. These facilities set the stage for students to pursue their interests and dreams further.

From sports amenities like an Olympic-sized swimming pool, a full-sized football field and a multifunctional indoor sports hall to performance spaces like a 400-seater auditorium, a black box theatre, music studios and other key features like a cooking



studio, design and technology laboratory, maker spaces, 3 age-specific libraries and sensory garden, there is so much on offer.

The facilities encourage students to push their limits, practise harder, become braver by performing before bigger audiences, be more creative and breathe life into their ideas. They have a wonderful space to learn, experiment, research, rehearse and celebrate.

WORLD'S FIRST JUNIOR ENGINEER ACADEMY PROGRAMME OUTSIDE EUROPE

While being academically non-selective, the school also ensures that gifted students have opportunities to grow. In that spirit, GESS has become the first ever school outside of Europe to offer the esteemed Junior Engineer Academy programme, which to date has only been offered by schools in Europe.

The Junior Engineer Academy network was inceptioned by the Deutsche Telekom Stiftung (German Telecom Foundation) in 2005 to promote early interest in technical and engineering sectors among young students between the ages of 13 and 14 (typically in Grade 8 and 9).

One of the key highlights of the programme is that it goes beyond the classroom and the school setting. Students work with university academics, scientific bodies and industry experts like NUS Pomeroy Studio, XentiQ, Bosch, Pepperl&Fuchs who are partnering with GESS.

The core focus of the programme at GESS will be on sustainable urban living spaces in the context of Singapore's dense urban environment. Students will not just acquire knowledge and skills but they will get the opportunity to take concrete action as they build GESS' very own green wall.



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LANGUAGE PROGRAMMES FOR STRONG CULTURAL IDENTITY AND GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP

The language programmes at GESS reflect the school's commitment towards enabling students to achieve as much balance as possible between growing into global citizens while also maintaining their cultural heritage which is important to their sense of cultural heritage and identity.

To promote mother tongue language retention, the school has offerings such as the Dutch Mother Tongue Programme and Danish Mother Tongue Programme available to students from Primary School through to High School and help students delve deep into their family languages and attain native level proficiency.

There are also opportunities for students to gain exposure to their mother tongue languages within more informal and immersive settings through the school's unique Language Enrichment Programme (LEP) that provides a very fun and organic environment for students to speak their mother tongue as they engage in other activities such as arts and crafts, cooking and more. Some of the languages on offer include Spanish, Mandarin, Japanese, Korean, Italian etc.

For those looking to pick up a completely new language, all students get the chance to learn German while at GESS and later students in the Middle Years Programme can also opt to learn Mandarin, Spanish and French.



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