



Yongsan  
International  
School of Seoul

TRUTH • EXCELLENCE • DIVERSITY



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## Mission and Vision

**Mission:** Yongsan International School of Seoul is a community of students, parents, and Christian educators working together to instill in each student a passion for truth, a commitment to excellence, and an appreciation for diversity.

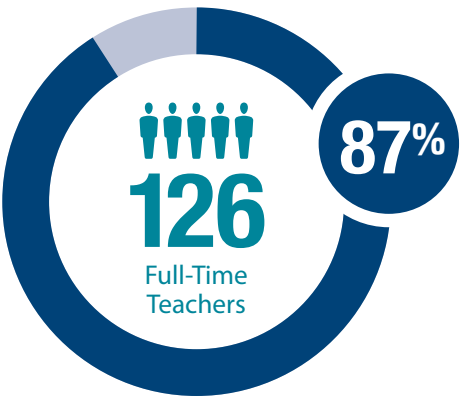
**Vision:** YISS graduates are truth-seeking leaders who are creative, collaborative, compassionate, and committed to impacting the world with servants' hearts.

Founded in 1990, Yongsan International School of Seoul is a private, coeducational day school offering a U.S. curriculum to the international community in the heart of Korea's capital. YISS is fully accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) and the Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI) and is recognized by the Seoul Metropolitan Office of Education (SMOE).

At YISS, you will find a warm, inclusive community of students, parents, and Christian educators. We welcome families and students of all religions and worldviews from more than 50 countries, providing a rich multicultural student experience.



*Our faculty has on average 11 years of teaching experience and 62% hold advanced degrees. Eighty-seven percent of our teachers are from North America.*



## Faculty

One of the hallmarks of the YISS experience is the mentoring relationship between faculty and students. Leading by example, Christian educators demonstrate their commitment on a daily basis. Small class sizes and low student-teacher ratios allow for ample individual attention.

At YISS, our nurturing and supportive learning environment fosters academic excellence. No matter what they pursue, inside or outside of the classroom, students feel accepted and secure in their ability to explore, ask questions, and take risks. Our qualified, passionate faculty and staff inspire a love of learning and unleash each student's potential to achieve.



*"Because YISS is an international school, I have been able to meet people from all around the world and build relationships with them. Because of this, I have become more knowledgeable about the world around me."*

*— Adeline, High School Student*







## The Guardian Way

Beginning on day one, “The Guardian Way”—an honor code based on the virtues of compassion, respect, creativity, and collaboration that creates an atmosphere of trust and camaraderie—is instilled in students. As a result, YISS becomes a home away from home, a distinction that makes all the difference to students who look forward to school each day and to parents who want the best possible educational experience for their child.



## Campus

Conveniently located on a hilltop in the heart of Seoul's foreign community, the YISS campus is a secure enclave where ample green space complements modern buildings. State-of-the-art facilities include two libraries, two gymnasiums, a spacious cafeteria, a 500-seat auditorium, a full-size turf soccer field, and an indoor aquatics center.

Our academic facilities consist of over 60 classrooms, including specialized science and computer labs as well as a "makerspace." All classrooms have access to the high-speed wireless network and are equipped with projectors and audio equipment to facilitate lessons.





*One laptop for each 3rd - 12th grade student is provided by YISS.*

## Technology

Technology integration is designed to demonstrate real-world technology interactions in conjunction with any curriculum area at any time, depending on the suitability of technology for student learning. We teach students not just how, but why and when to use technology.

Kindergarten-2nd grade classrooms have class sets of computers for center and group work, while our upper elementary classrooms have a 1:1 laptop program for students to use during school. To support student needs for consistent technology access, every student in 6th-12th grade is assigned a laptop for classroom and home use. YISS provides a robust wireless network with substantial bandwidth for fast, reliable access to digital learning resources.

The elementary Makerspace is a lab with tools and technology that allow students to create and invent. The Makerspace is designed to give students opportunities to utilize problem-solving skills related to science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM), and activities are designed to be open-ended and promote critical thinking and collaboration.





## Spiritual and Character Education

YISS emphasizes the importance of spiritual and character education in classrooms, chapel services, assemblies, service learning opportunities, and more. Spiritual development involves the deepening of students' knowledge of and relationships with God, while character development consists of examining ideal character traits and learning how to live as people of character.

### **NICS**

In the NICS program, students deepen their understanding of the gospel message, are encouraged to live a life of worship, and embrace what it means to know Christ and make Him known.

### **Oasis**

In the Oasis program, students study character qualities throughout the year. The topics promote a holistic focus on character traits, understanding of self and the world, as well as the student's role in his or her life, others' lives, and the success of our school.



# Service Learning

Elementary students learn about social issues affecting children around the world and the importance of practicing good stewardship through the annual WALKaSOCKathon. Through community events and classroom projects, our students work to make a difference in society.

Middle school students engage in service learning through the Week Without Walls (WWW) and Immersion programs. During WWW, students leave campus to participate in activities that promote outdoor and service learning. Students in 7th and 8th grade can join the Immersion program, which emphasizes spiritual growth, community service, and cultural immersion during a Spring Break trip abroad.

High school students participate in service learning through the Guardians Outreach Education & Service (GOES) program as well as within various service-oriented student clubs. GOES seeks to provide students with opportunities to serve and learn, in Korea and throughout Asia during Spring Break.



# Elementary School

Students in kindergarten through 5th grade are nurtured academically, socially, emotionally, physically, and spiritually with an international education designed to lay a solid foundation for lifelong learning. Elementary school classrooms, curriculum, and activities encourage students to explore new ideas, develop positive character traits, interact with peers, and cultivate critical skills and a love of learning.

YISS students come from many backgrounds and have many different learning styles. Teachers teach the curriculum in a way that incorporates all learners. Standards-based instruction and workshop models allow students to master the basics while discovering innovative ways to apply knowledge, meet challenges, and solve problems.


## Elementary Academics

 Spelling	 Reader's Workshop	 Writer's Workshop	 Social Studies
 Bible	 Character Education	 Technology	 Physical Education
 Science	 Problem-Based Mathematics	 Art	 Music
 Counseling & Skills for Success	 Makerspace	 Mandarin	 Korean





After School Activities



Spanish



Ceramics




Arts & Crafts



Drawing & Painting



Orchestra



Band



Hip Hop Dance



Ballet



Basketball



Fencing



Soccer



Swimming



Taekwondo



Seoul Seekers



Compassion Club

Activities vary each trimester as teachers, parents, and professionals from the community offer their expertise. This is a sample of activities that have been offered in the past, with classes in arts, athletics, music, games and more.

# Middle School

Students in 6th through 8th grade are living through one of the most significant transition periods they will ever encounter. A secure and nurturing environment allows students to grow and learn while feeling accepted and free to share ideas, express thoughts, and ask questions. YISS faculty partner with parents to guide adolescents through these exciting yet challenging years and to help students solidify the values that will shape their character and their futures.

The academic program is designed specifically with middle school students in mind. A variety of teaching strategies and tools are used to engage students in the content and enhance their learning experiences. A selection of exploratory courses provides opportunities for students to pursue their interests in areas such as language, technology, athletics, and the arts.

## Block Schedule



Time	Block
7:50-9:15	A/E
9:20-10:50	B/F
10:55-12:25	C/G
12:25-12:55	Lunch/ Recess
1:00-2:25	D/H
2:30-3:10	Homeroom

*The middle school utilizes a block schedule, allowing students to focus more in-depth on each subject. Core classes are 85 to 90-minute blocks, and exploratories are half-blocks, each taught every other day. The school day culminates with a homeroom period designed to allow students to receive additional academic help, work on homework and projects, participate in chapel or assembly, have club meetings, or play intramural sports.*





## Middle School Facts

- Approximately 250 students
- Faculty includes 30 teachers and administrators
- Student-to-teacher ratio of 8:1
- Average class size of 20 students
- Algebra 1 and Geometry offered for HS credit
- World language offerings in Korean, Mandarin, and Spanish
- Week Without Walls and Immersion: Experiential learning trips
- Korean-American Interscholastic Activities Conference (KAIAC) Sports Competitions: [Basketball](#), [Cross Country](#), [Soccer](#), [Swimming](#), [Tennis](#), [Volleyball](#)



## Middle School Academics



### Core Academic Classes 6th Grade

English / Language Arts 6  
Math 6 / Pre-Algebra  
Science 6  
Social Studies 6  
Bible 6 or Philosophy 6



### Core Academic Classes 7th Grade

English/Language Arts 7  
Pre-Algebra / Algebra 1  
(HS Credit)  
Science 7  
Social Studies 7  
Bible 7 or Philosophy 7



### Core Academic Classes 8th Grade

English/Language Arts 8  
Algebra 1 (HS Credit) /  
Geometry (HS Credit)  
Science 8  
Social Studies 8  
Bible 8 or Philosophy 8



### Exploratories 6th Grade

Band  
Orchestra  
Boys Choir  
Girls Choir  
Art  
Drama  
Debate  
Pop Science  
Team Sports  
Technology  
Global Issues



### Exploratories 7th Grade

Band  
Orchestra  
Mixed Choir  
Art  
Painting  
Drawing  
Creative Writing  
Strength Training  
Careers in STEM  
Urban Ecology  
Robotics  
Entrepreneurship  
Technology  
Global Issues



### Exploratories 8th Grade

Band  
Orchestra  
Mixed Choir  
Art  
2-D Art  
3-D Art  
Drama  
Creative Writing  
Strength Training  
Basketball  
Robotics  
Social Justice  
Global Issues  
Computer Programming  
Scientific Inquiry  
Photography/Yearbook  
WEB Leadership



### Other Middle School Courses

Physical Education  
World Language  
Korean  
Heritage Korean  
Mandarin  
Spanish



# Activities, Clubs and Sports

Activities vary each trimester as teachers, parents, and professionals from the community offer their expertise. Below is a sample of activities that have been offered in the past, with classes in arts, athletics, music, games and more.



Math  
Enrichment

Ping Pong  
Club



Mixed Martial  
Arts

Arts &  
Crafts

Chess  
Club

Praise Band

Tri-M Music  
Honor Society

Language  
Clubs

Scratch  
Computer  
Programming

Student  
Council

Discipleship  
Groups

Missions &  
Service Trips

Basketball  
(Girls)

Cross  
Country (Girls)



Basketball  
(Boys)

Cross  
Country (Boys)

Soccer  
(Girls)

Swimming  
(Girls)

Soccer  
(Boys)

Swimming  
(Boys)

Tennis  
(Girls)

Volleyball  
(Girls)



Tennis  
(Boys)

Volleyball  
(Boys)

- Clubs and Activities
- Girls Sports
- Boys Sports

# High School

In 9th through 12th grade, our college preparatory focus begins to truly shine. The entire high school program is designed to connect students to university-level opportunity and success. Faculty create student-centered classrooms that enhance learning, accelerate achievement, and develop the critical thinking necessary for success in college and beyond.

Our comprehensive extracurricular program includes an array of athletics, performing and fine arts, community service, and leadership programs which develop students' talents, interests, and character.



## High School Facts

- Approximately 300 students
- Faculty includes 51 teachers and administrators
- Student-to-teacher ratio of 7:1
- Average class size of 13 students
- 104 course offerings, 27 AP courses
- World language offerings in French, Japanese, Korean, Mandarin, and Spanish
- Korean-American Interscholastic Activities Conference (KAIAC) Sports Competitions: Basketball, Cheerleading, Cross Country, Soccer, Swimming, Tennis, Track and Field, and Volleyball
- Academic & Fine Arts Competitions: Model United Nations (MUN), Mock Trial, Mu Alpha Theta, Speech & Debate, Choral, Orchestra, and Band



# Block Schedule

	Y Day	S Day
7:50-9:15	A	E
9:15-10:10	Opportunity Block	Opportunity Block
10:10-11:35	B	F
11:40-1:05	C	G
1:05-1:45	Lunch	Lunch
1:45-3:10	D	H

The high school utilizes a simple rotating block schedule, providing teachers the class time they need to dig deeper into content. It also provides a 50-minute opportunity block each day that allows for chapel and assembly on Wednesdays, and club meetings, break, and study time four days per week.

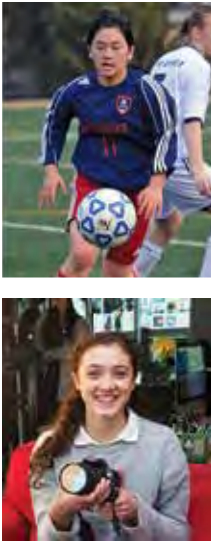


## Credits and Graduation Requirements

In 9th-12th grade, one credit is awarded for each one-year course successfully completed. A half credit is earned for completion of one semester. Students earn the YISS diploma by acquiring the requisite number of credits in the various subject areas and attaining a minimum of 24 credits while in 9th-12th grade.

Subject Area	Required for Graduation	Recommended for University
English	4 credits	4 credits
Mathematics	2 credits	3-4 credits
Science	2 credits *	3-4 credits
Social Studies	3 credits **	3-4 credits
Physical Education	1 credit	1 credit
Foreign Language	2 credits	3-4 credits
Fine Arts	2 credits	2-3 credits
Computer	1 credit	1 credit
Theology, Ethics & Values	4 credits	4 credits
Electives (non-compulsory credits)	3 credits	4 credits

\* Credits must be from Biology, Chemistry, or Physics  
\*\* U. S. citizens and students attending U.S. universities are required to take U. S. History





## High School Academics



### English

American Literature  
AP Seminar  
British Literature  
ELL (Beg/Int)  
Literature for Life  
World Literature  
[AP Language & Composition](#)  
[AP Literature & Composition](#)



### Mathematics

Algebra I  
Algebra II  
Calculus I  
Geometry  
Pre-Calculus w/Trigonometry  
[AP Calculus AB](#)  
[AP Calculus BC](#)  
[AP Computer Science A](#)  
[AP Computer Science Principles](#)  
[AP Statistics](#)



### Science

Biology  
Biology, Ecology, &  
the Environment  
Chemistry  
Chemistry in the Community  
Human Anatomy & Physiology  
Physics  
[AP Biology](#)  
[AP Chemistry](#)  
[AP Physics 1](#)  
[AP Physics C: Mechanics](#)



### Social Studies

Comparative Government/ Economics  
United States History  
World History I  
World History II  
[AP Art History](#)  
[AP Comparative Government](#)  
[AP European History](#)  
[AP Psychology](#)  
[AP United States Government](#)  
[AP United States History](#)  
[AP World History](#)



### Physical Education

Conditioning & Weight Training  
Health & Physical Education



### World Language

French I, II, III, IV  
Japanese I, II, III, IV  
Korean I, II, III, IV  
Korean Literature  
Mandarin I, II, III, IV  
Spanish I, II, III, IV  
[AP Chinese Language & Culture](#)  
[AP Japanese Language & Culture](#)  
[AP Spanish Language & Culture](#)



### Additional Programs

[AP Research](#)  
[Arrowsmith](#)



### Fine Arts

Concert Band  
Digital Media Marketing  
Drama  
Drawing & Painting I ~ II  
Foundations of Art & Design  
Jazz Band  
Journalism  
Speech & Debate  
Strings  
Visual Design 2D/3D  
Yearbook  
Yongsan Chamber Choir  
Yongsan Singers  
[AP Art History](#)  
[AP Music Theory](#)  
[AP Studio Art - 2D/3D/Drawing](#)



### Computer

[Computer Applications: Video & Design](#)



### Theology, Ethics, Values (semester classes)


Christian Theology I ~ II  
History of Thought  
Introduction to Logic  
Introduction to Philosophy I ~ II  
Life Skills & Intro to Worldview  
Modern Philosophy  
New Testament Studies  
Old Testament Survey  
Philosophy of Science  
Senior Seminar  
Survey of World Religions





# Activities and Clubs


Clubs vary each year. Below is a sample of clubs and organizations that have existed in the past.


- Art Club  
Big Data Club  
Bulls and Bears Club  
Business Preparation Club  
Chess Club  
Chinese Language Association  
Community Service Club  
Compassion Club  
ConnectART  
Dance Club  
EcoSave Club  
Engineering/JET Club  
English for North Korean Kids Organization  
Fellowship of Christian Athletes  
Film/Cinema Club  
Forensics  
Glee Club  
Global Youth Mission Korea  
Helping Kids Every Day  
High School Student Council  
Human Rights Korea  
Humane Treatment of Animals  
Japanese Food & Culture Club  
Jazzed  
Junior Debate Club
- Junior/Senior Banquet Committee  
Justice Club (International Justice Mission)  
L Crew Transition Club  
Liberty in North Korea  
Literary Society  
Media Club  
Medical Club  
Mock Trial  
Model United Nations  
Mu Alpha Theta  
National Honor Society  
Red Cross Youth  
Science Club  
Social Entrepreneurship Club  
Social Reform League  
Society Through Photography  
Spirit Club  
Statistics Report  
STEM Club  
Technovation  
Theatre Club  
The Design  
The Supply  
Tri-M Music Honor Society  
Weight Training


**Cheerleading**  
(Girls)


**Basketball**  
(Girls)


**Cross Country** (Girls)


**Basketball**  
(Boys)


**Cross Country** (Boys)


**Soccer**  
(Girls)


**Swimming**  
(Girls)


**Tennis**  
(Girls)


**Soccer**  
(Boys)


**Swimming**  
(Boys)


**Track and Field** (Girls)

**Volleyball**  
(Girls)

**Tennis**  
(Boys)

**Track and Field** (Boys)

**Volleyball**  
(Boys)



Clubs and Activities

Girls Sports

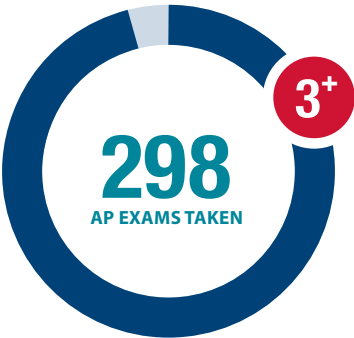
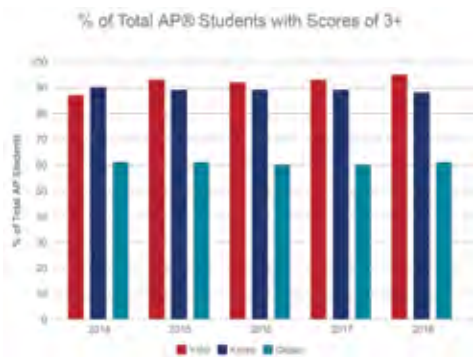
Boys Sports

# AP and SAT Results

At YISS, our numbers all add up to excellence.

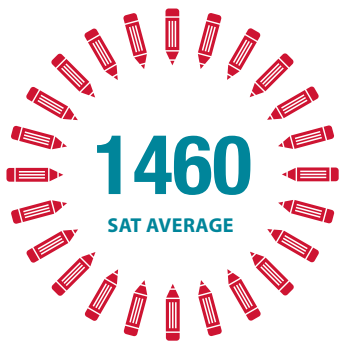
The Advanced Placement (AP) program is the most widely used academic program in the world and allows students to have more freedom than in the International Baccalaureate (IB) program because they can focus on areas of study that they most enjoy.

Our wide range of AP courses and the AP Capstone program equip students with the research, collaborative, and communicative skills that are increasingly valued by universities. They may also provide students with university credits, giving them an advantage when entering university.

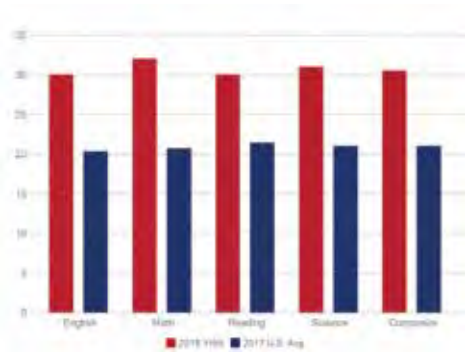


*In 2018, YISS students earned passing scores of three or higher on 95 percent of all AP exams.*

YISS students consistently perform well above the US national average on the SAT and ACT.



*The YISS Class of 2018 had an average SAT score of 1460 — far above the U.S. national average.*



*The Class of 2018 had an average composite ACT score of 30.5.*



*YISS graduates gain admission to many of the world's most prestigious universities, including Columbia, Duke, Harvard, MIT, Princeton, Stanford, UC Berkeley, UPenn, Yale, Imperial College of London, Seoul National University, and the University of Toronto.*



## College Admissions

The YISS community is dedicated to our students' success—in college and life. YISS college counselors use the Naviance program to determine college and career options that are the right fit for each student. Through Naviance, counselors and students search for universities and colleges, prepare applications, and track admissions statuses.

Colleges and universities around the world recognize the talent and potential of YISS graduates. Each year, more than 150 representatives from colleges and universities around the globe visit our campus to recruit students.



*"YISS welcomes parent involvement like no other school that I've been a part of. It is more than just a school, it's a community."*

— Sherifa, Parent from Kuwait







# Student Learning Support and English Language Learners Services

Student Learning Support (SLS) services are designed to meet the diverse learning needs of our student population, specifically students who require additional services to be successful in the classroom. Support includes specialized class instruction from our certified SLS teachers. Teachers and/or parents can recommend a student for evaluation to assess gaps in the student’s skills. There is an additional fee for students who require SLS services.

English Language Learners (ELL) participate in an instructional program for non-native speakers of English. The program helps students attain an academic level of English proficiency in the areas of speaking, listening, reading, and writing. This program is offered to a limited number of students each year. Students’ English language abilities are assessed during the admissions process. There is an additional fee to participate in the ELL program.



# Admissions Application Procedures

## Eligibility Requirements

In order to be eligible for admission, the applicant must be: (1) a child of foreign nationals residing in Korea (either parent being a foreign national), or (2) a child of Korean nationals having studied overseas for a minimum of three years. Students with dual citizenship are eligible for admission, provided they meet one of the above requirements.

## Stipulations Concerning Admissions

Students applying for kindergarten must be age five (60 months) by August 31 of the academic year of entrance.

Students applying from schools with calendar year school years (i.e., January or February until November or December, as in Australia and Singapore) will be considered for admission to the grade that extends their current school year.

## Priority for Admissions

Yongsan International School of Seoul values the diversity contained within its student body, which results from a variety of cultural backgrounds, international experiences, previous school experiences, philosophies, and abilities of our students.

Yongsan International School of Seoul is open to students of all nationalities; however, because the school cannot admit all applicants, priority for admission is applied as follows: (1) applicants of families who are foreign residents in Korea; (2) all other applicants based on qualitative criteria to help determine the match between the student's abilities and needs and Yongsan International School of Seoul's resources and capabilities.

### Other criteria considered within these categories:

- English language proficiency
- Student records from previous school(s)
- Parent's employment by a company with direct investment in Korea
- Extracurricular activities
- Teacher recommendations
- Number of years in an English-speaking school environment
- Family language background
- Any additional factors deemed relevant by YISS

The criteria are not listed in any given priority order. Yongsan International School of Seoul reserves the right to administer selective enrollment when deemed necessary, proper, and in the best interest of the school.

## Waitpool Information

Qualified applicants who are not accepted due to space availability are placed in the waitpool and will be considered if spaces become available.

The waitpool is not chronological based on receipt of application. Consequently, the Admissions Office cannot provide numbers for students in the waitpool or predict availability. However, we will be realistic with families about their chances of being admitted in a certain grade at a particular time.

We strive to obtain a balance in gender and diversity and to ensure availability of needed programs. When selecting an applicant from the waitpool, the Admissions Office considers the criteria listed above along with the admissions priority category of the applicant.

The waitpool is maintained for the applying year only; all applicants who are interested in any subsequent year must reapply.

# General Information



## Calendar and Hours

The academic calendar consists of 180 instructional days, made up of two 18-week semesters, each divided into nine-week marking periods. The instructional week is five days, spanning from Monday through Friday.

Yongsan International School of Seoul traditionally begins the school year in mid-August and concludes in early-June. Our school observes nearly all official Korean holidays and American Thanksgiving. Most years, there is a three-week vacation at Christmas, a Fall Break near Chuseok and a week-long Spring Break.

School Hours : 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. (Kindergarten-5th Grade)  
7:50 a.m. - 3:10 p.m. (6th-12th Grade)



## Cafeteria

The cafeteria offers a choice of nutritious, well-balanced hot meals as well as a variety of sandwiches, snacks, drinks, and desserts. Two set menus, including a halal option, are prepared on-site daily.

Each student is given an electronic lunch card that functions as a debit card at the cafeteria counter. Students who choose not to purchase a hot meal may bring their own lunch from home or supplement their meal with a purchase from the deli.



## Bus Information

Yongsan International School of Seoul offers school bus transportation to assist parents with their child's transportation to and from school. Our fleet of 20 buses services a large region that includes nearly all major areas of Seoul and Bundang.

School bus service is based on route and space availability.

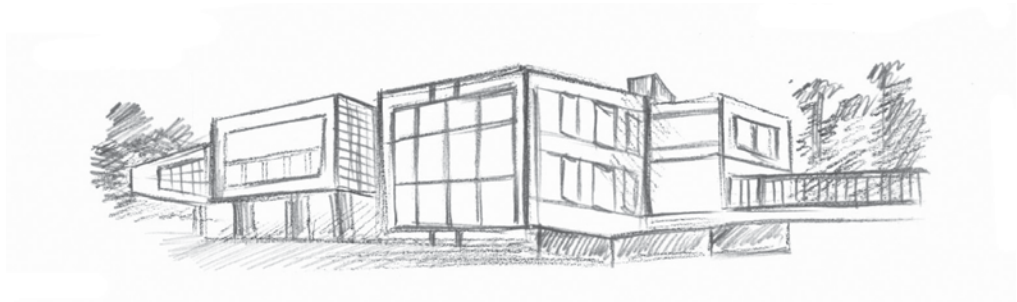


## Guardian Store

The Guardian Store offers a convenient place for students and parents to purchase school supplies. It also carries P.E. uniforms, school uniform shirts, school sweatshirts, and other spirit gear. The Guardian Store is located in the YISS lobby and is operated as a service to our school community.

Hours: Monday - Friday from 11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.





**Yongsan  
International  
School of Seoul**

285 Itaewon-ro, Yongsan-gu, Seoul, Korea 04347  
Phone: +82 (2) 797-5104 • Fax: +82 (2) 797-5129  
[www.yisseoul.org](http://www.yisseoul.org)

