



PARENT SURVEY REPORT

Up to 80% of the decision steps for choosing a school take place before a school is contacted.

This first parent survey report will contribute to authentic international schools reports for parents to download from a schools showcase.

We invited parents in Vietnam to take part in an open and ongoing survey about their motivations for choosing an international school from the perspective of their chosen school.

Parents have a great opportunity to share how they were informed on school choice and to offer their personal insights.

We will continue this survey and hope you agree they will be helpful to parents moving overseas with school-age children.

SURVEY RESULTS

Nov 2017 to Feb 2018

50 Vietnam international schools listed

Respondents

All 8 pages complete	17
Left before final page	12

Requests for preview (selected)

Yes please	18
No thanks	11

Vietnam cities (respondents)

HCMC	27
Da Nang	0
Bien Hoa	0
Ha Long	0
Hoi An	0
Thu Dau Mot	0
Ha Noi	2
Vung Tau	0
Nha Trang	0
Hai Phong	0
Hue	0

Star-rating

Poor Standard	★
Below Average	★★
Average	★★★
Above Average	★★★★
Excellent Standard	★★★★★

Schools, Responses, Stars

HCMC	Responses	None	1	2	3	4	5
ABC International School	2	1			★ 1		
Australian International School	2	1					★ 1
British International School	12	3				★ 5	★ 4
European International School	1				★ 1		
International School Ho Chi Minh City	4	2				★ 2	
Montessori International School	1	1					
Saigon South International School	1						★ 1
Saigon Star International School	1						★ 1
Wellspring International Bilingual School	3	2				★ 1	

Ha Noi	Responses	None	1	2	3	4	5
British International School	1	1					
Singapore International School @ Gamuda	1	1					

Age-range (selected)

0-3 years	0
3-5 years	6
5-12 years	12
12-14 years	6
16-18 years	5

Time since enrollment (selected)

Less than 1 year	5
1-2 Years	6
2-5 Years	10
More than 6 years	8

IMPORTANT FOR YOUR CHILD

Meeting the learning needs and preferences of your child

	Not That Important	Quite Important	Deal Breaker	Not Applicable
International curriculum	0	9	12	0
STEM subjects	2	9	5	5
Vocational subjects	9	9	0	3
Learning in ability sets	1	11	7	2
Language support	1	15	4	1
Special needs support	10	6	1	4

IMPORTANT FOR YOUR FAMILY

Meeting the needs and preferences of your family?

	Not That Important	Quite Important	Deal Breaker	Not Applicable
School location and access	3	14	5	1
School transportation	16	6	0	1
Scholarships	14	6	0	3
Math and science facilities	1	13	9	0
Arts facilities	5	12	6	0
Sports facilities	4	11	8	0
School clubs	4	12	6	1

Items affecting your decision-making

	Not That Important	Quite Important	Deal Breaker	Not Applicable
School website	6	13	1	0
Third party website	10	3	5	2
School interview	4	8	7	1
Recommendation of others	1	11	8	0
Reputation of the school	0	10	10	0

School fees (selected)

This school gives value for money	17
This school does not give value for money	2
Don't know	4

Other schools considered (selected)

Yes	15
No	5

COMMENTS

Liked MOST about this school

Liked LEAST about this school

ABC International School

- Fees are more reasonable than other schools of a similar academic level.
- Same teachers as say BIS.
- It claims to be a school that is child-centred, yet really just cares about grades.
- The owner is nice but some senior management have been there too long and act like they are Gods.

Australian International School

- Sense of community.
- They always keep parents updated via email and apps.

British International School

- Academic, mostly smart kids, most of the teachers are engaging.
- Teachers / staff Environment for kids.
- IB-School.
- Not super sporty.
- Expensive.
- Traffic outside the school.

- A student at BIS is considered as a unique person, having a unique profile and unique needs. In the meantime, he is included into a huge and rich group, which helps him growing. So different compared to France.
- Too many "helicopter" mums. Especially Asian mums are too much "Tiger" mums and control their children too much. School tries everything to reduce this and support independence. But that's an Asian thing. And as more and more Asian children there, the trend is there. But same on any other International school what we can hear.
- Very easy to speak with the teachers, easy to get an appointment.
- We should get a report every month at least, to get the proper reaction on time.
- Very modern and dynamic school with great facilities and lots of events and opportunities.
- We sometimes feel we are facing a big machine lacking of flexibility, when parents try to make a special query.
- So many nationalities.
- Lack of outdoor space.
- Academic orientation and good results.
- Their slow progress in making improvement plans to school facilities.
- How they see every child, great teachers.
- Lack of decent sport facilities.
- Attitude of students.
- Not so flexible always in terms of curriculum.
- Established curriculum.
- The food can be better.
- More innovative in terms of traffic/transport solutions.
- Not enough reports to follow the student improvements.

European International School

- IB-School.
- Limited facilities.

International School Ho Chi Minh City

- The idea to teach children how to learn.
- There is not much control of knowledge level on regular basis.

Saigon South International School

- The high quality teachers and my student's friends. The other parents and us get along great. Our student is happy here, which is most important, and we know he is getting a great education.
- The fees are quite high.

Saigon Star International School

- Sense of closeness and family atmosphere with limited school politics. Every international school promotes a good curriculum but it's in the execution and the quality of staff and how they work together that sets this school apart.
- It does not have enough space, limited facilities, and very limited budget.

OTHER COMMENTS

British International School

- Academic rigour is most important to our family. Also important is a holistic education and engaging environment.
- When we arrived in Vietnam, our son was registered in the French school. We changed our mind 2 weeks before school resumed when we discovered there were other very interesting options.
- School fees were not a problem, as the company pays them.
- We were very happy to choose an international school offering the British curriculum and IGCSE, a good preparation for IB. BIS met our requirements with the facilities selected above.
- Great support for the children. Can always meet and talk to teachers or even the director for any problems or questions and get immediate support.
- Looked at ISHMC but only as a compare and contrast, knowing that BIS was more academic
- Choosing a school is so important! We need some reliable and strong recommendations before taking the decision. We consider that looking at the school website is important of course, but

getting some advice from others, parents, third parties, is essential.

International School Ho Chi Minh City

- We selected the house close to school, when we had selected the school. We don't know yet if the selected school will give the value for money, as we are less than one year in this school.

Saigon Star International School

- It offers a good curriculum with dedicated foreign teachers who are keen on education.
- It has a small teacher-student ratio. Literacy is a strong focus with children excelling in reading ahead of contemporaries in similar schools.
- It offers a well-rounded education with other enriching activities including sports and music.
- As my child is advanced for his years, a smaller class which learning can be paced at different levels is important.
- No matter how good the resources, if flexibility cannot be given for the child's unique needs, then his education may be curtailed
- The deal breaker was actually fees and value of the education for the price paid.

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