



TEDA International School
Tianjin • China

Secondary Parent / Student Handbook

2026-2027

Revised August 2026

A WELCOME FROM THE SECONDARY PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents and Students:

Welcome to the 2026-2027 school year. Secondary students can look forward to a great year of academics, athletics, music, art, community service and more. As always, improved student learning is the central focus for all TIS programs.

This handbook contains important information for parents and students and describes procedures and expectations for Secondary students. It provides parents and students with important information needed throughout the year. Please do not hesitate to contact the appropriate offices, as outlined in this handbook, to have your questions answered and to receive assistance when necessary.

I wish you a fun, exciting, and successful school year.

Sincerely,

Joseph Azmeh

Headmaster and Secondary Principal

Secondary Contact Information:

Secondary Office Direct 6622-6298

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INTRODUCTION

TIS COMMUNITY

TEDA International School (TIS) is a non-profit, internationally accredited, day school offering a nursery through grade 12 program of study for students of all nationalities. As the sole, internationally accredited school in TEDA, TIS is the only international school in the Economic Development Area which has received independent verification from the Western Association of Schools and Colleges that its programs meet international standards.

The TEDA International School community is a diverse one with school community members representing many cultures and backgrounds. The School is supported by the TEDA Education Bureau with day-to-day operations managed by an outstanding, internationally trained, leadership team. The school community includes members of foreign and local businesses as well as local government.

TIS VISION

Empower students to become citizens the world needs.

TIS MISSION

The TIS mission is to serve a culturally diverse community and facilitate the growth of each student's unique capacity through high academic standards and real-world application, practical leadership opportunities, character-building and opportunities to serve both local and global communities. TIS also prepares its students to enter and find success at top universities around the world.

CORE VALUES

There are 4 school-wide core values that guide all components of the TIS curriculum, instruction, and assessment programs at all grade levels. The core values lay the foundation on which all curricular, co-curricular and extracurricular programs are built at TIS. The four core values are:

- **Connected:** Students build connections through inclusivity, awareness, and effective communication.
- **Curious:** Students demonstrate curiosity through being reflective, creative and inquisitive.
- **Caring:** Students demonstrate caring through acts of empathy, respect, and altruism.
- **Courageous:** Students demonstrate courage through acts of integrity, boldness and perseverance.

UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD

TIS supports the rights of children as outlined in the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (ratified by The People's Republic of China in 1992). TIS also believes that a safe learning environment is essential for all children and works to support that belief. The school takes measures to encourage regular attendance at school, and discipline policies are consistent with maintaining the child's human dignity.

ACCREDITATION

TEDA International School receives accreditation from the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC). Educational accreditation is a quality assurance process under which services and operations of educational institutions or programs are evaluated and verified by an external body to determine whether applicable and recognized standards are met.

SCHOOL CONTACT INFORMATION

Main Reception: 22-6622-6157 or 22-6622-6158 / Secondary Office (grades 6-12): 22-6622-6298

Need assistance with:		Pre-K/Primary	Middle/High School
Absence or illness	➡	WeChat message to teacher or call Main Reception	Secondary Office
Classroom or academic concern	➡	Classroom teacher by appointment (WeChat or email)	Classroom teacher by email or contact the Secondary Office
Medical or health issue	➡	Health clinic (Main Reception)	Health clinic (Main Reception)
Update contact information (phone, email, ID, passport)	➡	Admissions	Admissions
Food service or cafeteria	➡	Business Office (Call Main Reception)	Business office (Main Reception)
Financial issues	➡	Finance Office (Call Main Reception)	Finance Office (Main Reception)
Bus service	➡	Transportation Office (Call Main Reception)	Transportation Office (Call Main Reception)
Parent ID cards	➡	Records Manager (Call Main Reception)	Records Manager (Call Main Reception)
School safety issues	➡	Facilities (Call Main Reception)	Facilities (Call Main Reception)

Additional Resources:

Health Clinic/Nurse (Meili Zhang): 22-6622-6158 ext. 6120

Admissions: 22-6622-6297 or TEDA.admissions@TEDAis.org

Guidance Counselor (Ms. Joanna Cui): 22-6622-6158 ext. 6666

College Counselor & Academic Advisor (Ms. Du Han): 22-6622-6295

Library: 22-6622-6291

STUDENT LIFE

SCHOOL AND HOME COMMUNICATIONS

To support communication between home and school, every effort will be made to ensure letters sent home from the school's administration will be provided in both English and Chinese. To keep TIS parents informed about school and community issues and events a weekly newsletter will be sent home. TIS maintains a website (www.TEDAIS.net) where the weekly newsletter, the Parent/Student Handbook, and other important school-related information can be accessed.

Please keep the school updated with your home and mobile phone numbers and your emergency contact phone numbers, as well as your current email address. In the event of an emergency, the School needs to be able to contact parents and/or designated guardians as quickly as possible. If your contact information changes, including home telephone, home address, parents' emails, office and mobile phone numbers, please contact the Admissions Office to provide updated information.

PARENT-INITIATED COMMUNICATION PROTOCOL / COMMUNICATING ISSUES OF CONCERN

When parents need to meet with school leaders, such meetings will typically be carried out with individual families. Whole, grade level meetings and/or large group meetings are not appropriate to discuss confidential student issues and typically do not provide the best dynamics for achieving solutions to problems or challenges. Likewise, posting sensitive issues of concern in public forums and/or WeChat groups is also counterproductive given the potential for misinformation and/or conflict escalation. Respectful, solutions-based communication that respects privacy and confidentiality is the expectation. TIS faculty, staff and/or members of the school's leadership team will not take part in non-school initiated group meetings by stakeholders who wish to register complaints about individuals or question procedures or actions of the school nor will the school conduct sensitive discussions about school matters via unauthorized communication channels.

PARENT-TEACHER COMMUNICATION PROTOCOL

TEDA International School prides itself in welcoming parent participation and involvement. TIS teachers and Principals communicate often to keep parents informed of school events and procedures. Because the school's primary concern is the well-being and education of our students, TIS staff are committed to open, honest communication with parents. Despite the school's best efforts, questions and concerns do arise. To resolve matters quickly and effectively, TIS asks that parents and/or guardians first contact the teacher or guidance Counselor before involving school administration if the issue is one that is related to classroom teaching, learning, and/or student conduct. Given teachers' busy schedules, it is required that parents book an appointment (through the Secondary Office) in advance to meet with one or more teachers.

PARENT PARTNERSHIP AND CODE OF CONDUCT

TEDA International School (TIS) recognizes that a strong partnership between school and home is essential for student success. Parents, students, and school staff each play an important role in creating a positive, respectful, and productive learning environment.

TIS values open communication, mutual respect, and a shared commitment to the academic and personal development of every student. This partnership is grounded in professionalism, trust, and a focus on solutions.

Parent Responsibilities

To support their child's success and the broader school community, parents are expected to:

- Ensure their child attends school regularly, arrives on time, and is prepared for learning
- Support school policies and procedures as outlined in this handbook
- Maintain open and respectful communication with teachers and school staff
- Monitor their child's academic progress, wellbeing, and use of technology
- Encourage responsible behavior consistent with the school's Core Values
- Inform the school of any concerns that may affect their child's learning or wellbeing

Respectful Communication

TIS is committed to clear and constructive communication. Parents are expected to:

- Address concerns through appropriate school channels (teacher → counselor → principal)
- Communicate in a respectful and professional manner at all times
- Allow time for staff to respond to inquiries during working hours
- Focus on resolving issues collaboratively and constructively

Public discussions of school-related concerns—particularly through social media, messaging platforms, or parent groups—are discouraged, as they may lead to misinformation, escalation, or breaches of confidentiality.

Appropriate Use of Social Media and Messaging Platforms

The use of WeChat and other platforms is common within the community; however, parents are expected to:

- Refrain from posting or sharing complaints, accusations, or confidential information about the school, staff, or students
- Avoid engaging in discussions that may harm the reputation of individuals or the school community
- Respect student and staff privacy at all times

Concerns should be addressed directly with the school so they can be resolved appropriately and effectively.

Respect for the School Community

Parents are expected to model the values of respect, integrity, and responsibility by:

- Treating all students, staff, and other parents with courtesy and dignity
- Respecting cultural differences within the international school community
- Supporting school decisions once they have been communicated and explained
- Following campus procedures related to access, safety, and school operations

Disruptive, aggressive, or inappropriate behavior by any member of the parent community may result in restrictions to campus access or further action as determined by school leadership.

Working in Partnership

When concerns arise, TIS is committed to working collaboratively with families. Parents can expect that:

- Concerns will be listened to carefully and treated with respect
- The school will aim to resolve issues in a timely and fair manner
- Decisions will be made in the best interests of students and the school community

Parents are encouraged to approach concerns with a mindset of partnership and problem-solving.

Parent Cooperation in School Matters

From time to time, the school may require a parent or guardian to attend a meeting with teachers, counselors, administrators, or other school officials regarding matters related to a student's academic progress, wellbeing, behavior, attendance, safeguarding, or continued enrollment.

Parents are expected to respond to school communications and participate in such meetings in a timely manner. The school will make reasonable efforts to contact parents through available communication channels and to arrange a mutually suitable meeting time.

If a parent or guardian repeatedly fails to respond to school communications, refuses to participate in required meetings, or otherwise prevents the school from addressing significant student-related concerns, the school may take measures that include temporarily restricting the student's attendance in classes, activities, or other school programs until the required meeting has taken place.

Decisions regarding such restrictions will be made by school leadership and communicated to the family in writing.

Commitment to School Values

By enrolling their child at TIS, parents agree to uphold the school's mission, values, and expectations. A unified approach between home and school plays a critical role in maintaining a positive, safe, and academically focused environment for all students.

LANGUAGE OF INSTRUCTION, LEARNING, AND SOCIALIZING

TEDA International School is a multicultural and multilingual community in which English is the language of instruction. TIS acknowledges and celebrates the diversity of language within our community and strives to create an environment where all students feel welcome and able to participate fully, regardless of their language background.

English as the Language of Learning and Community

English is the language of instruction at TIS and is also the expected language of communication in academic and social settings. Students are expected to use English during class, in group projects, and during school-related activities. While students are welcome to use their mother tongue in appropriate contexts, they are expected to take advantage of the opportunity to practice English throughout the school day.

Intentional Language Use

All students are encouraged to:

- Use English during collaborative work and social settings.
- Use English with English speaking office staff.
- Use English as the language of friendship at TIS.

Language Support at Home and School

Parents can support academic language development by:

- Encouraging daily reading and discussion in English.
- Promoting vocabulary growth and self-expression.
- Staying engaged with school expectations around language use.

Addressing Language Use Concerns

When a student's language choices do not support his/her own learning, and/or repeatedly exclude others, the issue will be addressed by teachers, counselors, or the Principal. Students will be guided to reflect on their language use and encouraged to make adjustments that strengthen their own learning and the TIS community.

Language learning is a journey. At TIS, every student will receive support to become a confident, capable communicator in English while celebrating the richness of multilingual identities.

POWERSCHOOL

TIS uses PowerSchool as its student reporting system for secondary students. It provides:

- **Parent & Student Access:** View assignments, grades, and attendance records.
- **Portal Location:** Visit www.TEDAIS.net and click on the "PowerSchool" link at the top.
- **Login Help:** If login credentials are lost, contact the Secondary Office.
- **Grade Updates:** Students and parents are encouraged to check Power School weekly.

- **Communication with Teachers:** Access teachers' email contact information.

SCHOOL HOURS AND THE CALENDAR

The school day for students is from 8:00am to 3:05pm. Secondary classes follow a five-day schedule. All students have a recess mid-morning, and approximately 50 minutes for lunch.

The regular school year is roughly 180 days divided into two semesters of two terms each. The school calendar may be found online on the website. Parents are also asked to respect the school's calendar and not to take their child out of school for travel, or vacations during regularly scheduled school days. While every effort is made to avoid changes to the calendar, this is sometimes necessary, and notification will be made in the weekly bulletin or by a letter sent home.

ATTENDANCE AND EXCESSIVE ABSENCES

Consistent attendance is essential for academic success. Parents are expected to ensure that their child attends school regularly, arrives on time, and remains for the full school day. The school day begins at 8:00 a.m. and ends at 3:05 p.m. Students should be present and prepared for learning at the start of the first period.

Whenever possible, medical, dental, and other appointments should be scheduled outside of school hours. Family travel should follow the published school calendar, available through the Secondary Office and on the school website.

Late Arrivals

TEDA International School recognizes that occasional circumstances beyond a family's control may result in a student arriving late to school. However, punctuality is an important component of academic success and respect for the learning environment. When students arrive late, instructional time is lost, classroom routines are disrupted, and the teaching and learning process is negatively affected for both the student and their classmates. Students are expected to arrive at school on time and be prepared for the start of the first class period. Students arriving after the start of the school day must report to the Secondary Office before proceeding to class. Students who accumulate more than three late arrivals in a single term may be required to remain in the Secondary Office until the conclusion of first period. In such cases, the student will be recorded as absent for first period and the absence will be reflected in attendance records. Repeated tardiness may also result in additional interventions and/or disciplinary consequences consistent with the school's disciplinary framework.

Attendance Expectations

Students are expected to attend all scheduled classes. Absences should be limited to necessary circumstances such as:

- illness
- family emergencies
- significant personal or religious observances

- external academic commitments

Up to nine (9) absences per course per term are permitted without academic penalty. This allowance is intended to provide reasonable flexibility for families while maintaining a strong commitment to regular attendance.

All absences—regardless of reason, including minor illness—are included in this total. The only exceptions involve significant or extended absences due to documented medical conditions, which may be reviewed separately by the school.

Excessive Absences and Impact on Grading

A student who exceeds nine (9) absences in a course during a single term will be considered to have excessive absences.

In such cases:

- Formative assessment grades will not be included in the final grade calculation
- The final grade will be based on:
 - Summative Assessments (90%)
 - Academic Behaviors (10%)

This adjustment reflects the understanding that formative assessments depend on active participation in daily classroom learning, which cannot be fully replicated through make-up work completed outside of class.

Rationale

Formative assessments—including discussions, in-class activities, and quizzes—are designed to measure student learning at specific moments during instruction. When students are frequently absent, they miss these learning experiences.

Even when work is made up later:

- it does not occur under the same learning conditions
- it may not reflect real-time understanding

This policy ensures that grading remains fair and accurately reflects student engagement in the learning process.

Make-Up Work

Students are expected to complete missed assignments and assessments. However:

- not all instructional experiences can be recreated
- completion of make-up work does not replace in-class participation

Medical and Exceptional Circumstances

The school recognizes that some absences are unavoidable.

In cases involving:

- significant or prolonged illness
- documented medical conditions
- other exceptional circumstances

the school may review the student's situation. Adjustments may be made at the discretion of school leadership, and documentation may be required.

Recording Absences

- Students will be marked AE (Absent Excused) when the school has been informed of the reason for absence.
- Students will be marked A (Absent) when no reason has been communicated.

EARLY DISMISSAL

While TIS actively works to avoid early dismissal days, there are times when students may have to be dismissed early (i.e., end-of-semester exam days). In these cases, the school will communicate in advance so parents can make the proper arrangements.

If at any other time parents wish to take their children from school during the school day, the following will apply: 1) Parents must call the Secondary Office to make the request. 2) A Secondary School Campus Leave Record form must be filled out before a student is allowed to leave campus. 3) If the parent is picking up the student, they must come into the school and sign out their child. Otherwise, they must notify the school how the student will be going home.

DISMISSAL PROCEDURES

Parents should be aware that secondary students at TIS are authorized for self-dismissal meaning that once dismissed, students may find their own way to depart school (walking, bicycle, school bus, public bus, taxi, ride with a friend, etc.). Parents with any concerns regarding self-dismissal should make other arrangements with the school and have those arrangements on file (in writing) with the Secondary Office.

SUPERVISION BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL

TEDA International School provides student supervision from 7:45 a.m. to 3:05 p.m. on regular school days. Students should not be dropped off before 7:45 a.m., as supervision is not available and the school gates will remain closed until that time. The school day officially begins at 8:00 a.m. and the gates close at 8:05 a.m. Students arriving after this time must enter through Reception.

Students participating in after-school academic help, clubs, sports, or other school-sponsored activities may remain on campus until the activity concludes. Any student on campus after 5:00 p.m. must be involved in a school-approved activity and be under the direct supervision of a TIS faculty member. Special permission from the administration is required for students to remain on campus beyond this time.

BUS SERVICE

School offers various transportation options for students living in both TEDA and Tianjin, available for an additional fee. Parents may check with the Logistics Office for more information. Students may not ride the bus if they have not paid for this service. No student will be allowed off the bus except at their designated home stop. All students are required to wear safety belts while on the bus and must follow all safety rules and directions given by the bus monitor. Students are expected to obey all school rules while on any school provided bus.

LOCKERS AND BACKPACKS

The school will assign a locker (and key) to all students in grades 6 to 12. Students are responsible for keeping their locker organized and clean. Students who lose their locker key will be charged a replacement fee of 10 RMB. Any damage to lockers at all will be charged to the student.

Students are permitted to bring backpacks or book bags to campus in order to transport books and other materials from class to class. Parents should keep in mind that there have been cases of injury when children carry book bags that are overloaded. School policy allows school staff to search lockers and/or backpacks/book bags at any time if there is any concern related to student safety.

VALUABLE POSSESSIONS / LOST AND FOUND

The school is not responsible for lost or stolen articles. Valuable possessions must not be brought to school. Toys, jewelry, electronic devices such as phones, iPads or tablets, and other unnecessary items should also be left at home. Provisions have been made for storing students' personal property in the PE area during PE classes/extracurricular activities. Found articles of value such as electronics, wallets, etc., are to be handed in/claimed at the reception desk. Other items of less value can be placed/located in the lost and found box in the cafeteria and/or the gym.

CELL PHONES AND OTHER ELECTRONIC DEVICES

Students in grades 6-11 may bring a cell phone to school; however, cell phones may not be used during the school day. Phones should remain out of sight and silenced from the start of the school day until dismissal unless a teacher or administrator provides specific permission for their use.

Students in grades 6-11 may not bring personal electronic devices such as smart watches, headphones, earbuds, or similar devices to school. Laptops and tablets may only be brought to school when specifically requested by a teacher for a learning activity or educational project. In such cases, the device may only be used for the approved educational purpose and for the period of time authorized by the teacher.

Students in Grade 12 may use personal electronic devices before school, during recess, at lunch, after school, or during class with teacher permission. Teachers may restrict or prohibit the use of devices whenever they interfere with learning.

All personal electronic devices brought to school are subject to the school's Technology Use expectations. Unauthorized use of a device may result in confiscation, parent contact, and/or disciplinary consequences. The school is not responsible for lost, stolen, or damaged personal electronic devices.

SCHOOL TECHNOLOGY USE

Technology at TIS—computers, phones, software (including AI tools), and networks—is intended to support safe, ethical, and purposeful learning. This applies to both school-owned and personal devices used on campus.

Students may be required to create email or online accounts for educational purposes. All use must align with the school's expectations and core values. Violations may result in disciplinary action, including loss of technology privileges.

Guiding Principles

- Technology use is a privilege, not a right.
- Devices and AI tools must be used responsibly, ethically, and legally to support learning.
- Teachers determine what technology is permitted in their classrooms.
- Students must respect others' privacy and cite AI-generated content when used.
- The school is not liable for personal devices.
- Students must not conceal screens during use.

School-Wide Expectations

- Grades 6–11: No cell phones or personal electronic devices (PEDs) should be used during the school day.
- Grade 12: Personal technology may be used before school, at recess, lunch, after school, or during class with teacher permission.
- No food or drink near school technology or in computer labs.
- Follow safety protocols for lithium batteries.
- AI tools may only be used when explicitly allowed and must be cited. Students must critically evaluate AI-generated content.
- All use of AI must support learning and may not replace a student's own thinking or work.

Unacceptable Use Includes

- Using devices without permission or when instructed not to.
- Submitting AI-generated work without citation or to avoid learning.
- Downloading unauthorized software or introducing malware.
- Cyberbullying, harassment, or accessing inappropriate content.
- Using others' login credentials or tampering with files/devices.
- Gaming, torrenting, or bypassing school filters.
- Recording or photographing others without permission.

- Storing unrelated personal items on school servers.

While at school, students are expected to use all technology tools for educational purposes only and always with teacher approval.

LUNCH AND SNACKS

The school provides a full-service cafeteria with both full meal or “a la carte” options. Lunch fees are paid monthly through a special mini-app that is downloaded to one’s smartphone. Students are also welcome to bring their own lunches but are prohibited from ordering food from outside the school for delivery (see relevant section below).

Students are expected to behave courteously to cafeteria staff, as to all the members of the school community. Students must put away their own trays and clean up after themselves before leaving the cafeteria. Note: Only TIS students, faculty, and staff may dine in the school cafeteria unless special permission has been granted by one of the Principals.

Students should bring a reusable water bottle to school for their use each day. The school provides bottled water coolers for drinking water.

ORDERING FOOD FROM OUTSIDE THE SCHOOL

Food must not be ordered from outside restaurants by students during school hours. The only exception is if a teacher is sponsoring a special event, whereby, that teacher will let reception know in advance and will supervise the purchase. Food ordered from outside will **NOT** be allowed to be brought into the school.

STUDENT VISITORS

In order to avoid disruptions to the learning environment, student visitors (including former students) are not allowed on campus during the school day. Exceptions can be made under certain circumstances, and in those cases, requests should be made to the Secondary Office as early as possible.

STUDENT SERVICES

INSTRUCTIONAL SUPPORT SERVICES

Instructional Support is available for students who may be in need of specialized education services. Instructional Support employs specific assessment and intervention techniques to help remove educational or behavioral stumbling blocks for students with unique learning needs. The process consists of a team working together to identify the student’s needs, set goals, and develop an intervention plan to achieve those goals.

Benefits of Instructional Support include 1) identifying students in need of academic, emotional and/or behavioral support; 2) identifying students at risk of failure through a variety of screening methods and

referral procedures; 3) targeted assistance to teachers, students, and parents; 4) formation of a working team that includes parents; 5) identifying and prioritizing problems as well as strategies to assist students; 6) ongoing monitoring and evaluation.

SCHOOL COUNSELORS

The school's Counselors are available to counsel students on school or personal issues. The Counselor works with administration, faculty and parents to assist in maintaining the physical, emotional, and social wellbeing of students. The Counselor assists students in defining goals and directs programs that help students develop values, conflict resolution strategies, social skills, and needed study habits. At the upper secondary grade levels, the Counselor will also work with students to research universities and programs of study.

STUDENT WELLBEING AND MENTAL HEALTH

TEDA International School recognizes that adolescent wellbeing is foundational to academic growth, healthy relationships, and lifelong resilience. TIS is committed to creating a school environment where students feel safe, valued, and supported through the challenges and opportunities of middle and high school life.

A SUPPORTIVE SECONDARY ENVIRONMENT

Wellbeing is integrated into daily school life through advisory sessions, schoolwide initiatives, and targeted wellness programs. These initiatives focus on essential topics such as identity, managing stress, decision-making, peer dynamics, and digital balance.

Teachers, advisors, and school leaders are all part of a community-wide commitment to supporting students' mental and emotional health. Our goal is to help students develop the tools they need to navigate change, build self-awareness, and contribute positively to the school culture.

ROLE OF THE SCHOOL COUNSELORS

Our Secondary Counselors are available to support students with personal, academic, and social-emotional concerns. They provide:

- Individual counseling sessions for short-term support and guidance
- Group workshops on common adolescent issues, such as stress, peer conflict, and time management
- Referrals to external professionals when long-term or specialized care is needed
- Collaboration with parents and teachers to ensure students receive consistent support across settings

Students are encouraged to seek help directly, and confidentiality is respected within the bounds of student safety and school policy.

While TIS is committed to serving as a valuable resource for information and guidance about university admission, ultimately it is the sole and exclusive responsibility of parents and students to obtain relevant information, become familiar with and follow through on application procedures, know and meet established deadlines, and make decisions about university selections and programs of study.

HOW FAMILIES CAN SUPPORT WELLBEING

Parents/guardians play a vital role in promoting wellbeing during the teenage years. You can help by:

- Keeping open, non-judgmental lines of communication with your child
- Encouraging a healthy balance of academics, rest, screen time, and social connection
- Reaching out to the school counselor if your child seems unusually withdrawn, overwhelmed, or anxious
- Modeling positive coping strategies and problem-solving at home

TIS strives to create a school culture where every student feels seen, supported, and empowered to thrive—emotionally, socially, and academically.

LIMITATION OF COUNSELING SERVICES AT TIS

TIS Counselors are trained to assist students in a variety of areas and to utilize various counseling techniques. However, school counselors are not able to provide psychological or medical diagnoses. In some cases, the school may require parents to obtain a formal diagnosis from a licensed psychologist, psychiatrist, or medical physician.

IMMINENT DANGER

In cases where students disclose a risk of self-harm or harm to others or in cases where the school has judged there to be an imminent danger, the student will be removed from the learning environment and parents will be contacted. In these cases, the school will require a professional evaluation; clearance by a physician, licensed psychologist, or psychiatrist; as well as a re-entry meeting with the Principal and Counselor before the student can resume regular school attendance.

STUDENT ACTIVITIES

AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS AND ACTIVITIES

TIS offers students a variety of academic, social, cultural and competitive activities through its extracurricular program which runs over three seasons. Students are strongly encouraged to become involved in extracurricular activities. Information concerning these activities is made available at the beginning of each season. New clubs may be established when student interest is shown and these have been approved by the administration. *Note: Students who are placed on academic and/or behavior probation may be classified as ineligible to participate in after school or extracurricular activities.*

EXTRACURRICULAR COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAMS

Extracurricular community service programs are established to provide students with an opportunity to work actively towards improving their community. Secondary students interested in community service should join one of the clubs that focus on service. Students and/or parents interested in obtaining more information about community service programs at TIS should communicate with the Secondary Office.

EXTRACURRICULAR ACADEMIC & LEADERSHIP PROGRAMS

Extracurricular academic and leadership programs help students develop as leaders and may use academic achievement as well as other criterion when selecting their members. Each of these organizations has a faculty advisor and most have a group of elected student officers who lead regular meetings, communicate with the faculty advisor and school administration and carry out fundraising and other types of activities. Students and/or parents interested in obtaining more information about any of the extracurricular academic & leadership programs should communicate with the Secondary Office or Counselor.

EXTRACURRICULAR SPORTS PROGRAM

TEDA International School believes that a dynamic program of student activities is vital to the educational development of the student, while recognizing that athletic programs are secondary to academic programs. The goal of these programs is to realize the value of participation without over-emphasizing the importance of winning. The purpose is to develop and improve character traits among the program's participants. These programs should expand the experiences available to secondary school students while promoting: teamwork, communication skills, leadership skills, camaraderie, and school pride. For information on TIS sports program, students can go to the P.E. Office.

SPORTS TRIPS

Some secondary sport teams need to travel outside the TEDA area. All trips are organized by the Athletic Director. The purpose of playing teams outside the area is so that athletes get the chance to compete against a variety of schools and to improve their skills. Students who travel for athletic games and competitions represent TEDA International School and as such are expected to abide by all rules of dress and conduct required by school, its coaches, chaperones and hosting schools. Students participating in sporting events which require travel will be brought back to TEDA for pick up unless parents have received approval from the school for other arrangements. *Note: Students must be in good academic standing to represent the school in athletic competition.*

FIELD TRIPS

Field Trips are school events organized by the teachers to supplement, expand and enhance classroom instruction. All school rules apply on Field Trips. Students must have parent permission to attend a field trip. All students participating in a field trip must ride the bus from and to school. At times, a child's parent(s) may be asked to serve as chaperone(s) especially in cases when the child has demonstrated

difficulty managing his/her behavior at school. Students participating in field trips will be brought back to TEDA for pick up unless parents have received approval from the school for other arrangements.

WEEK WITHOUT WALLS

Part of the educational program at TIS is the yearly education experience called Week Without Walls (WWW). Each year, students in grade 6-12 leave TEDA for different parts of China and learn about China's vast geography, culture and heritage. Students also experience service learning as well as experiential learning. TIS expects all students to attend WWW, and students who elect not to go on the trip will be marked as absent for the entire week. If absences from Week Without Walls result in a student exceeding nine (9) absences in one or more courses (in a given term), the school's attendance and grading policy will apply.

OVERNIGHT TRIPS

TEDA International School organizes overnight trips as part of Week Without Walls for students in Grades 6 through 12, and for ACAMIS sports tournaments for students in Grades 9 through 12. These experiences are designed to enrich student learning, foster independence, and—particularly in the case of ACAMIS—provide opportunities for exchange with students from other international schools.

Teachers who chaperone overnight trips assume significant responsibilities to ensure student safety, well-being, and appropriate behavior beyond the structured and predictable environment of the school campus. Their role includes not only supervision, but also emergency response, logistical coordination, and ongoing support for students throughout the trip.

Participation in overnight trips is subject to school review and approval. The Secondary Principal reserves the right to deem a student ineligible for any overnight trip if there are concerns regarding the student's maturity, decision-making ability, emotional stability, or other factors that may affect the safety or success of the experience. Additionally, students must meet academic eligibility requirements to participate in all co-curricular activities, including ACAMIS overnight sports tournaments.

STUDENT CONDUCT

The school's student conduct philosophy centers on supporting students in their learning of self-discipline and appropriate decision-making as an educational process. This student-centered approach is based on the ethical and moral principles of honesty, integrity, equity, inclusivity, personal responsibility, tolerance, and compassion.

TIS supports a model of positive discipline: setting clear expectations for behavior, explicit teaching of expectations, providing meaningful and timely feedback for appropriate and inappropriate behavior, and

ensuring opportunities for restoration when inappropriate behavior occurs.

Students and all community members are expected to conduct themselves in responsible, respectful, and honest ways at all times. If students fail to achieve these expectations, there are corrective steps that teachers and administrators will take to address these behaviors to preserve a safe, productive, and orderly learning environment for all students and staff.

The disciplinary framework described below is intended to serve one or more of the following basic purposes:

- To protect a member of the TIS community from having his/her rights infringed upon by others;
- To help a student make responsible decisions about behavior which may affect the student's own life and/or the rights of others;
- To aid in the effective operation of the TIS community and the school's learning environment;
- To protect the reputation of the school, TIS students, and the school community.

TIS relies on the professional judgment of its teachers and staff to respond in a fair and consistent manner and believes that initial responses to inappropriate behavior should help students learn from their mistakes. When negative behavior is repetitive or substantially disruptive, school administrators become involved in the process of determining the most appropriate consequences, as outlined below.

DISCIPLINARY FRAMEWORK

Inappropriate behaviors are classified as Level 1, Level 2 and Level 3 offenses. Disciplinary consequences may be applied for behaviors that occur on school grounds, at school-sponsored events, or when traveling to/from school events as a supervised group, or for any behavior (on or off-campus) that directly impacts a student's education or the school's purpose and/or reputation.

This list of inappropriate and unacceptable behaviors below is not exhaustive, and situations not outlined in the list will be handled by the school administration in accordance with policy (Issues related to academic integrity, cheating and plagiarism are addressed in the Honor Code section). Consequences for inappropriate behavior may be adjusted by the school administration according to the specific infraction and developmental level of the child.

Disciplinary actions should maintain the dignity and self-worth of the individual. As a community, TIS believes that the development of personal responsibility requires an understanding of the natural consequences of one's actions, and children should experience these consequences for learning to occur. Whenever possible, consequences are related to the infraction and should allow for reparations to those who have been impacted to help recover the student's standing with the school community.

EXAMPLES OF INAPPROPRIATE/UNACCEPTABLE BEHAVIOR	POSSIBLE RANGE OF DISCIPLINARY CONSEQUENCES
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<u>Level 1 Offenses</u> • Classroom disruption • Tardiness to class • Excessive arguing or noncompliance • Failure to comply with the school dress code or uniform requirements • Unauthorized use of personal electronic devices • Chronic unpreparedness for class • Minor damage to the property or belongings of the school or of others • Physical behavior (pushing, wrestling, “playing”) that could lead to injury • Inappropriate displays of affection at school or during school-sponsored events • Selling items for personal gain or profit • Any other improper conduct that interferes with the teaching and learning environment which in the judgment of school administration qualifies as a Level 1 offense	<u>Level 1 Consequences</u> For cases within the classroom, the teacher’s word or physical evidence constitutes sufficient proof for determining failure to meet expected behaviors. Minor offenses are cumulative on a yearly basis. Teacher-assigned consequences may include: • Reflection form • Brief removal from class • Change of seat • Student/teacher conference • Parent contact • Removal of privileges • Lunch detention When necessary, administrators may assign the following consequences: • After school detention • Short-term in- or out-of-school suspension
<u>Level 2 Offenses</u> • Insubordination or malicious defiance • Failure or refusal to comply with directions from, or refusal to identify yourself to, a staff member • Lying or intentionally misleading; acts of false testimony, forgery, or fraud; slandering, defaming or formulating unfounded complaints or accusations • Instigating or participating in any act of harassment, slander, intimidation, hazing, bullying, or threatening any community member Expression of intolerance relating to race, ethnicity, religion, gender, or personal orientation • Leaving class without teacher permission; “skipping” class or school • Use of abusive, obscene, or profane language or gestures • Possession of inappropriate printed material or pornography (magazines, pictures, drawings, etc.); Using a phone/electronic device for the transmission and/or downloading of inappropriate oral or text messages, digital and/or video images • Disrespect for symbols and/or school property • Reckless endangerment including horseplay and inappropriate physical contact or activity which could potentially cause injury • Petty theft (up to 100 RMB) • Indecent exposure • Smoking on campus or during school-sponsored activities • Repetition of Level 1 offenses	<u>Level 2 Consequences</u> Administrator-assigned consequences may include: • Student reflection • Student and parent conference with administrator • Detention • School or community service • Restorative conference • Anti-harassment contract • Behavior Probation contract • Short-term suspension (up to 5 days) • Long-term suspension (5-10 days) According to the severity of the case, Level 2 offenses may be judged Level 3 in nature and thus may warrant consequences which could include immediate dismissal from the school. Serious offenses are cumulative on a yearly basis. An accumulation of Level 2 offenses may result in the student not being permitted to return for the following school year.

Any other improper conduct of students which, in the judgment of the school administration qualifies as a Level 2 offense	
Level 3 Offenses - Using, possessing, under the influence of, or disseminating alcohol and/or drugs or any type of unauthorized substance prohibited by local law - Committing any criminal acts that entail any sanction in the penal system (as defined by law) - Bringing to campus or possessing any ammunition, weapons, i.e., knives, brass knuckles, explosives, firecrackers, flammable materials and/or use of anything that can be considered a weapon. - Assault, fighting - Sexual harassment - Performing an act of arson or creating any type of real or potential fire hazard. - Participating in a serious act of vandalism of school property or the willful destruction of belongings of a school staff member or classmate - Committing a major act of theft (above 100 RMB) or theft of proprietary information - Repetition of Level 2 offenses - Any other improper conduct of a student, which in the judgment of school administration qualifies as a Level 3 offense	Level 3 Consequences Level 3 offenses result in student suspension as the minimum consequence and are cumulative for the duration of the TIS career. School administration may also recommend immediate dismissal depending on the severity of the student's specific actions. Upon serving the specified day(s) of suspension, the school administration may impose additional sanctions and/or follow-up responses involving one or more of the following: - Student and parent conference with administrator - Restorative conferences - Anti-harassment contract - Behavior contract - Notification of legal authorities (if warranted)

Note: Students assigned to out-of-school suspension may not enter the school campus, attend class, or take part in any school-sponsored activity including but not limited to sports events, trips, competitions, and academic or co-curricular events without explicit permission.

HONOR CODE

At TIS, academic integrity is expected. Students demonstrate honesty in all academic work by:

- Submitting original work
- Citing sources appropriately
- Respecting the integrity of assessments
- Only giving or receiving help when authorized
- Cooperating with any honor code investigations

Academic dishonesty—including cheating, plagiarism, lying, or stealing—undermines trust and is not tolerated.

What is Plagiarism?

Plagiarism is the act of using someone else's words, ideas, or work without proper acknowledgment. This includes:

- Copying homework, essays, or projects from another student or online source

- Using AI-generated content without citation
- Paraphrasing someone else's ideas without credit
- Submitting work that is not your own

Students are expected to cite all sources, including AI tools, when used for assignments. If unsure whether something counts as plagiarism, students should ask a teacher or counselor.

Consequences

Violations of the Honor Code may result in:

- Grade penalties
- Redoing and resubmitting the assignment
- Parent notification and administrative review
- Documentation in the student's file

Repeated or serious offenses may lead to further disciplinary action, including ineligibility for continued enrollment.

RESPECTFUL RELATIONSHIPS – NO BULLYING AT TIS

TEDA International School is committed to providing a safe, respectful, and inclusive environment for all students. Bullying of any kind—verbal, physical, social, or cyber—is not tolerated.

Definition: Bullying is defined as repeated, intentional behavior that misuses power to cause physical, emotional, or psychological harm. It may involve individuals or groups and can occur in person or online.

Reporting and Response: All students and staff are expected to report suspected bullying to a teacher, Counselor, or Principal. Every report will be taken seriously and investigated thoroughly. The school will determine whether the behavior meets the definition of bullying and respond accordingly.

Student Responsibilities

- Speak up if you are being bullied or witness bullying.
- Seek help from a trusted adult.
- Support peers who may be affected.

School Actions:

When bullying is confirmed, consequences will align with the school's disciplinary framework (typically Level 2 offenses). Responses may include removal from the regular learning environment (in-school suspension), counseling, restorative practices, loss of privileges, probation, and/or out of school suspension. Repeat offenses may result in expulsion. TIS fosters a culture of empathy, accountability, and personal growth. Students who engage in bullying will face serious consequences, but those who demonstrate a genuine willingness to improve will be supported in making positive, lasting changes.

DRESS CODE

TIS has a school uniform which all students are required to wear during school hours, for special school events, and for designated activities taking place off campus. Students should be aware that when wearing the school uniform, they are representing the values and expectations of TIS and as such should conduct themselves according to the highest standards of courtesy, integrity and social responsibility.

The basic uniform must be purchased upon enrollment or on Orientation Day. Additional pieces may be purchased from the TIS Store, allowing enough choice that everyone should feel comfortable.

The school's uniform design may not be altered in any way to satisfy individual fashion statements.

SCHOOL UNIFORM REQUIREMENTS

- **Pants:** Pants, shorts and skirts must be solid navy blue, solid black or solid grey. Yoga pants, or pants of a similar kind are not allowed. Shorts and skirts should be at least mid-thigh in length.
- **Coats, Hats, Scarves & Gloves:** Outdoor wear should not be worn inside the classroom. Scarves, gloves and head coverings should not be worn in class unless permitted by the teacher.
- **Shirts and Sweater:** Only TIS Store hoodies, sweaters, and shirts are permissible. ACAMIS-issued or commemorative wear is also acceptable.
- **Footwear & Stockings:** Students may wear running shoes, walking or dress shoes, or regular boots, but not 'flip-flops'. Shoes should protect the feet and have a closed toe, with heels no higher than 3cm. Socks of any length, stockings, tights and leggings may be worn. Socks must be solid white, black, navy blue or grey (no pattern). Students who come to school wearing "flip-flops" or Croc type shoes may be asked to leave campus and return with proper, safe footwear.
- **Jewelry:** Jewelry must be conservative and modest. Any jewelry that could cause potential injury is not permitted.

P.E. UNIFORMS

P.E. uniforms should be worn in P.E. class and on special days such as Sports Day. Students may change in and out of their P.E. uniform before and after the class. The P.E. uniform can be purchased from the TIS store and consists of 4 pieces: a t-shirt and shorts for summer, and sweatshirt and sweatpants for winter. Students are required to wear athletic shoes in the Gym.

BEHAVIOR PROBATION

Students may be placed on Behavior Probation as a result of a major disciplinary violation or multiple disciplinary violations over a period of time. The policy on student probation is established to provide students and their families with the opportunity to return to acceptable behavioral standards. Parents will be informed in writing when their child is placed on behavior probation and will be required to

attend a meeting with the Principal and/or Counselor. A contract will be developed which provides the student with a roadmap for removing the probation status. Failure to meet the terms of this contract may result in expulsion or not being readmitted the following school year. Likewise, students placed on behavioral probation more than two times, will lose eligibility for continued enrollment at TIS. Note: Students on Behavior Probation are ineligible to represent the school in student exchange activities.

DETENTION

This consequence requires students to spend time either during recess, lunch or after school with a teacher or administrator to reflect on a particular violation and to offer reassurances that similar violations will be avoided in the future. Detentions can also be conducted on Saturday mornings and parents will be responsible for dropping off and picking up their child.

IN-SCHOOL SUSPENSION

During in-school suspension, learning activities are conducted outside the regular classroom environment in a special setting that provides stricter supervision. In-school suspension is typically assigned in cases where students disrespect classmates and/or the learning environment.

PROHIBITED ITEMS

Alcohol, pornography, weapons of any kind (including replica weapons), tobacco (including electronic cigarettes) and drugs are not permitted on the school premises or at any school-sponsored event. Any material of a graphically violent or offensive nature is prohibited. Possession of any of these is grounds for disciplinary action up to and including expulsion.

PUBLIC DISPLAYS OF AFFECTION

Students are expected to use appropriate displays of affection at school and at school-sponsored activities and events. In public, certain displays of affection, such as holding hands or walking arm-in-arm are appropriate. Other displays of affection or physical intimacy are not deemed appropriate and will be considered a violation of school rules.

ACADEMICS

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

In order to earn a high school diploma from TEDA International School, students must earn the following credits during their high school years (grades 9 through 12).

- 4 credits of English
- 3 credits of mathematics
- 4 credits of social studies
- 4 credits of science
- 6-8 credits for electives

- Note: High School students who demonstrate a need for additional English language support may be required to enroll in a year-long Fundamentals of English course, which will count toward the elective credit requirement.

GRADE POINT AVERAGE (GPA)

TIS prepares grade point average (GPA) calculations for its senior class only. GPA calculations are impacted by class designation – standard level, honors level, or Advanced Placement (AP) level and the total number of credits earned. For more specific information on how GPAs are calculated at TIS, please make an appointment to see the Counselor.

At each year's graduation ceremony, the grade 12 student with the highest cumulative GPA will be designated as that year's valedictorian. In order to be eligible for consideration, a student must have attended TIS, without interruption, for at least the last five semesters of his/her high school career. Grade points will be calculated based on the scale below:

Numerical Grade	Standard Classes	Honors	Advanced Placement
97–100	4	4.5	5
93–96	4	4.5	5
90–92	3.7	4.2	4.7
87–89	3.3	3.8	4.3
83–86	3	3.5	4
80–82	2.7	3.2	3.7
77–79	2.3	2.8	3.3
73–76	2	2.5	3
70–72	1.7	2.2	2.7
67–69	1.3	1.8	2.3
60–66	1	1.5	2
0–59	0	0	0

INCOMPLETE GRADE

Under certain circumstances a teacher may assign an “incomplete” in place of a grade pending work is completed. Incompletes given in terms 1, 2, and 3 must be replaced with a grade by no later than the last day of the subsequent term. Term 4 Incompletes must be replaced with a grade by no later than August 31 of the subsequent school year.

ACADEMIC PROBATION

Academic Probation is a designation for students who have two or more semester grades lower than 60%

or an end of year average (average of semester 1 and semester 2 grades) below 60%.

A student on Academic Probation must:

- Attend a meeting with their parents, Counselor and the Principal
- Attend tutoring/office hours in the affected class(es) at least twice a week.
- Meet with the Counselor regularly to review grades and verify attendance to office hours

Students on Academic Probation may not participate in athletics or co-curricular activities.

After two semesters of Academic Probation, the Academic Review Team will meet to assess whether a student will be allowed to continue as a student at TIS. The decision will be made on a case-by-case basis.

PROMOTION AND RETENTION

Secondary students passing all courses and earning all required credits will be automatically promoted to the next grade level. A high school student (grades 9-11) who fails one core academic subject for the year will be required to earn the credit through an accredited summer school program or online program over the summer break. Failure to remedy an end-of-semester F in the manner described above, may have an impact on a student's anticipated graduation date. Secondary students (grades 6 – 12) who fail two or more core subjects may be required to repeat the grade level.

END OF SEMESTER EXAMINATIONS

Both Middle School and High School have end-of-semester examinations twice a year. First semester examinations are held in December and second semester examinations are held in June. Grade 12 students have their semester 2 exams in late May. Middle School students' exams are worth 10% of their semester grade, while High School students' exams are worth 15%. TIS reserves the right to give an incomplete or grade of zero to students who miss an examination.

MAKE UP POLICY

In the event of an unexcused absence, a student will receive a zero (no credit) on quizzes or tests scheduled that day. The Principal will determine if a student's excuse is valid.

Teachers may issue an ***Incomplete*** to students who have not submitted work prior to the end of a grading period (see section above on Incomplete Grade).

In the event of an excused absence on a day when there is a major assessment, the student will be allowed to make it up for full credit, if it is the first time that a major assessment is missed, in that subject during a given semester. The date of the makeup will be arranged between the teacher and the student. Subsequent missed tests in the same subject, during the same semester may be made up only on a Pass/Fail basis at the teacher's discretion (max credit = 70%).

For work missed because of an excused absence, it is the student's responsibility to find out what

assignments or tests were missed and to arrange with the teachers for makeup work. For unexcused absences, teachers are not responsible for preparing make-up assignments, tests, exams etc. If a student fails to complete a makeup test on the assigned date, the test will not be re-scheduled.

All major assessments missed due to a justified absence are expected to be handed in/taken at the earliest possible date, as agreed with the appropriate teacher.

When students are taking part in evening or overnight school activities or events, teachers will adjust/extend deadlines as necessary.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT (AP) PROGRAM

TIS is proud to have a number of advanced placement (AP) offerings for students to choose from. Advanced Placement classes are equivalent to first year university level work and are therefore academically demanding and require an in-depth study of the subject being taught. Students are encouraged to challenge themselves and seriously consider the option of taking one or more AP classes in each of their high school years (grades 9-12). All students requesting AP courses should demonstrate a preparedness that will give them the best opportunity for success. The School reserves the right to cancel any AP course where enrollment does not meet a certain minimum level or if it cannot obtain a teacher for the course.

While it is important for students to be challenged, taking multiple AP classes may generate excessive academic stress. Students should discuss their course selections with their parents, school Counselor and course instructors. Students and parents also need to know what the summer homework is for AP courses and plan their summer so that the work can be done before the first day of school.

While TIS encourages students to challenge themselves, the school also has a duty to protect students from over-ambitious academic goals that may severely hamper their capacity to manage the various academic responsibilities required for success. Therefore, TIS sets guidelines on how many Advanced Placement classes a student may take at each grade level. Any exceptions are to come through the Counselor and are approved by the Principal. Please note that enrollment in AP courses is conditional upon maintaining academic standards. Students whose grade drops below 70% at the end of Term 1 or Semester 1 may be removed from the class.

AP Guidelines

- Grade 9 students should usually take no more than one AP class.
- Grade 10 students should usually take no more than two AP classes.
- Grade 11 students should usually take no more than three AP classes.
- Grade 12 students should usually take no more than four AP classes.

Students who take AP classes are expected to be in the class for a full year and to take the AP examination in May. All students who are taking an AP course are expected to sit for and take the examination. There

is a charge of approximately US \$150 for each AP exam taken and this amount must be paid to the TIS Finance Office by the announced deadline.

Grades for AP courses are weighted, Ex. a grade of 85% in an AP course has a weight of 4 grade points rather than the 3 grade points. Possible scores on AP examinations are as follows:

- 5 – Extremely well qualified
- 4 – Well qualified
- 3 – Qualified
- 2 – Possibly qualified
- 1 – No recommendation

Note: Grades of 3 or better on an AP exam may fulfill some college graduation requirements or serve for entrance in higher level classes.

Prerequisite guidelines for Advanced Placement study

Course	Minimum Requirement(s)
AP Biology	80% on Biology and Chemistry Semester Exams
AP Calculus	80% on Pre-Calculus Semester Exams
AP Chemistry	80% on Chemistry Semester Exams
AP Chinese	Language test may be required
AP World History	College Ready Benchmark: PSAT-Reading & Writing
AP Computer Science Principles	College Ready Benchmark: PSAT-Math
AP English Language	College Ready Benchmark: PSAT- Reading & Writing
AP English Literature	College Ready Benchmark: PSAT- Reading & Writing
AP Environmental Science	College Ready Benchmark: PSAT- Reading & Writing
AP Human Geography	College Ready Benchmark: PSAT- Reading & Writing
AP Micro & Macroeconomics	College Ready Benchmark: PSAT-Math
AP Music Theory	Teacher Approval
AP Physics 1	80% on Algebra 2 Semester Exams
AP Psychology	College Ready Benchmark: PSAT- Reading & Writing
AP Statistics	College Ready Benchmark: PSAT- Reading & Writing
AP Studio Art: 2D Design	Grade 11 Studio Art plus 1 other HS art credit
AP Business with Personal Finance	College Ready Benchmark: PSAT- Reading & Writing

EXTERNAL EXAMINATIONS

In addition to Advanced Placement (AP) exams, TIS offers other external examinations including the MAP, PSAT, and SAT. TOEFL is not offered at TIS. Students who are required to take TOEFL must make their own arrangements. The TIS Counselor can assist students with registration for many of the external

examinations required for university applications.

ACCREDITED SUMMER AND ONLINE PROGRAMS

Students who complete courses in accredited summer school programs will NOT have those courses and grades posted on the TIS transcript. Should students choose to take courses for remediation or advancement, prior approval must be obtained from the administration. Under certain circumstances, grades obtained through accredited online study programs can appear on the TIS transcript. Please see the Counselor for more information.

GAP YEAR STUDY

TEDA International School offers graduates the opportunity to continue their studies during a gap year. This option is intended for students who wish to further strengthen their academic skills, complete additional coursework, or enhance their preparation for university.

Graduates who wish to participate in gap year study must submit a Gap Year Study Application through the Secondary Office. Approval for continuing study status is not automatic and is granted at the discretion of the school. In general, priority will be given to students who have demonstrated consistent academic effort and performance, positive behavior and adherence to school expectations, and a clear purpose for continued study.

Students and families should note that tuition and associated fees apply for gap year study. Details regarding fees and payment procedures can be obtained through the Finance Office.

REPORT CARDS, TRANSCRIPTS AND RECORDS OF ATTENDANCE

Report cards are issued 4 times a year. End of year report cards may be picked up from the school or mailed if requested, in the week after the end of the school year. Report cards will be withheld if school fees have not been paid and/or if a student has failed to return textbooks and/or library books.

Parents who need an official transcript or a record of attendance must make a request in the Admissions Office. All grade 12 students will be issued a transcript at the end of semester 1 and 2 without charge. Transcripts for underclassmen and or additional transcripts for grade 12 students are produced for a fee of RMB 20 each. Records of Attendance can also be provided for a fee of RMB 20 per copy. Please see the Counselor or Admissions Office for assistance.

WITHDRAWING A STUDENT

For a student to withdraw from TIS and be able to collect school records, students will be required to present a Check-Out Form, which must be signed by those listed to show that all school property has been returned and all fees have been paid. *Note: For any refunds or information about fees, please visit the TIS website under the tab "School Fees".*

STUDY HALL

TIS does not have a regularly scheduled Study Hall for its students. Those students who take an accelerated path with numerous AP courses, may be given a Study Hall period. Students registered in a Study Hall must report to the assigned classroom and teacher for the duration of their Study Hall.

TUTORING AND AFTER-SCHOOL HELP

After-School Assistance. All teachers designate at least 2 afternoons (3:15 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.) for providing after-school help. Students who are struggling in a particular class or whose grade has dropped significantly in a particular class are encouraged to attend these sessions. Secondary students on academic probation and/or who are struggling academically may be required to attend after school help sessions.

Individual Tutoring. By maintaining a high-quality instructional staff, providing a rich, varied curriculum and opportunities for after-school help, the need for individual tutoring should be minimized. The School believes that every effort should be made to help the student with educational problems before recommending that parents hire a tutor.

In situations where individual tutoring is appropriate, parents should be aware that a teacher may not receive compensation for tutoring any student assigned to one of his/her classes.

HOMEWORK

At TIS, teachers assign homework with great care in order to reinforce skills previously taught, foster habits of independent study, and meet the needs of individual students.

Frequency: Homework may or may not be assigned daily for each class. This is at the teacher's discretion based on course and students. The task may be a written response to questions, a reading assignment, or a routine to be followed or practiced. Advanced Placement courses often assign more frequent homework.

Duration: Actual time required to complete assignments will vary with each student's work habits, academic proficiency, and course load. If assigned homework, students should expect to spend at least 20 to 30 minutes per period of class instruction on homework (2 to 3 hours total). Students spending an inordinate amount of time (in excess of three hours) in one sitting doing homework should discuss the issue with the Counselor and assigning teacher. *Some homework assignments are longer and time intensive such as projects, papers, research.* Proper time management is encouraged for all assignments, especially for Advanced Placement courses.

Submission: Students are expected to submit work on time. Students who turn in late assignments on a consistent basis may receive one or more of the following: partial credit, no credit, communication with parents/guardians, guidance intervention, or academic intervention via mandated attendance to after school help sessions.

Absence: Students who miss homework due to excused absence will be given the opportunity to submit missed work. Generally, students are given one calendar day for each day absent to submit the missing work. The teacher and student should discuss the details. Ultimately, it is at the discretion of the teacher to make a professional judgment of what is appropriate.

TEXTBOOKS, WORKBOOKS AND OTHER SCHOOL SUPPLIES

The school provides students with all textbooks, novels and workbooks needed to complete their studies, but these materials remain the property of the school. In today's secondary schools and universities, electronic books are becoming the norm. When actual copies of books are issued, they must be treated carefully, and returned in the same condition as they were received (with the exception of workbooks of course). If there is damage of any kind to any book, the student will bear the cost of replacement or repair, including shipping and customs fees. Books must be kept neat, clean and free of marks. School supplies may be purchased at the TIS (Corner) Store or local stores.

LIBRARY USE

As a community school, TIS recognizes that it is not always easy to find suitable English reading material in TEDA and so the school makes its library resources available, not only to students and staff, but to their families as well during the hours of operation listed below. No materials may be removed from the library without being properly checked out by the librarian. All books must be returned in good condition, by their due date or no later than one week before the end of school. Charges will be levied for lost or damaged books.

When returning books, they should be placed on the cart marked for returned books or given to the librarian. They should not be left on the counter. Students should NOT re-shelve books. Books which have been used in the library should be left on the tables for re-shelving by the librarian.

The library is a place for quiet study. Soft voices are used at all times so others are not disturbed. No food or drink is permitted in the library.

The TIS Library Hours are as follows: Monday through Friday 7:45-4:00

STUDENT AWARDS

TEDA International School is dedicated to excellence and honors those students who demonstrate their dedication to excellence. Throughout the year, awards may be given for special events such as Science Fair, Speech Contest, Math Contests, Social Studies Fair, and others. At the end of each academic year, TIS recognizes secondary students who have demonstrated outstanding academic excellence and improvement in various disciplines. In addition, awards are given to recognize students who have excelled at athletics, service, and leadership.

TIS also publishes an annual Honor Roll and Principal's Honor Roll. To be included on the Principal's Honor Roll, a student must have grades of 90% or higher in all classes for both semester 1 and 2. To be

included on the Honor Roll, a student must have a grade average of 90% or higher in all classes for both semester 1 and 2. In a case in which a student meets the Honor Roll standard for one of the semesters and the Principal's Honor Roll standard for the other semester, that student will be placed on the Honor Roll.

SAFEGUARDING AND CHILD PROTECTION

COMMITMENT TO STUDENT SAFETY

TEDA International School (TIS) is fully committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all students. The safety, wellbeing, and dignity of every child is our highest priority. All students have the right to learn in a secure, supportive, and respectful environment where they are protected from harm.

Safeguarding includes protecting children from:

- Physical abuse
- Emotional or psychological harm
- Neglect
- Bullying or harassment
- Sexual misconduct or exploitation
- Unsafe practices

All members of the TIS community—staff, students, and parents—share a responsibility to uphold these standards.

SCOPE OF SAFEGUARDING

Safeguarding applies to all aspects of school life, including:

- Classroom and school-based activities
- Extracurricular programs, school trips, and school travel
- Online interactions and digital environments
- Student-to-student interactions
- Staff and adult interactions with students
- Situations occurring off campus that may impact a student's wellbeing or safety

STAFF RESPONSIBILITIES

All TIS staff are expected to:

- Maintain professional boundaries with students at all times
- Act in the best interests of the student
- Be alert to signs of possible abuse, neglect, or wellbeing concerns
- Respond promptly and appropriately to any safeguarding concern

- Report concerns immediately to designated school leadership

TIS ensures that staff receive regular safeguarding awareness guidance and understand their duty to act. Staff members are required to follow school protocols and may not investigate concerns independently.

REPORTING CONCERNS

Any member of the school community who has a concern about the safety or wellbeing of a student is expected to report it promptly.

Students may report concerns to:

- A trusted teacher
- A School Counselor
- The Principal or other school leader

Parents may report concerns by contacting:

- The Secondary Office
- A Counselor
- The Principal

Reports will be:

- Taken seriously
- Treated with discretion and sensitivity
- Reviewed promptly by school leadership

The school will determine appropriate next steps, which may include internal support measures or referral to external professionals where necessary.

CONFIDENTIALITY

TIS respects the privacy of students and families. Information related to safeguarding concerns will be shared only with those who need to know in order to protect the student. However, confidentiality cannot be guaranteed where:

- There is a risk of harm to the student or others
- The situation requires further action to ensure safety

In such cases, the school has a duty to act in the best interest of the child.

RESPONSE AND SUPPORT

When a safeguarding concern is identified, the school will:

- Prioritize the immediate safety of the student
- Provide appropriate emotional and academic support
- Communicate with parents when appropriate and in the best interest of the student

- Develop follow-up plans, which may include monitoring, counseling, or external referral

In serious cases, the school may require documentation, professional evaluation, or specific conditions for continued attendance, in line with existing policies.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

Students are expected to:

- Treat others with respect and uphold school values
- Report unsafe situations or behaviors
- Seek help if they feel at risk or concerned about another student
- Act responsibly in both physical and digital environments

PARENT PARTNERSHIP

Parents play an essential role in safeguarding. TIS asks parents to:

- Maintain open communication with their child about safety and wellbeing
- Inform the school of any concerns that may affect their child
- Respect school procedures when concerns arise
- Work collaboratively with the school to support student wellbeing

SAFER ENVIRONMENT

TIS is committed to maintaining a secure campus through:

- Controlled access to school facilities
- Supervision during school activities
- Clear expectations for visitors
- Safe practices during all school-sponsored events
- Ongoing training for all TIS faculty and staff

Safeguarding is an ongoing responsibility and an essential part of the school's mission to support the holistic development of every student.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

AIR QUALITY INDEX (AQI)

TIS has established procedures to follow on days when the Air Quality Index (AQI) is at an unhealthy level. On days when AQI readings are above 200, outdoor play will be restricted, and all physical activity will be moved indoors (communicated via email). If readings reach more hazardous levels of 300 or above, outdoor play will be prohibited, and rigorous physical activity will be strictly limited. These procedures are designed to protect student health and are consistent with the established procedures at other international schools in Tianjin and Beijing.

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS - LOCKDOWN

In the event of an imminent threat on or near campus, TEDA International School has lockdown procedures in place to ensure the safety of all students and staff. During a lockdown, movement around the campus is restricted and students remain in secure locations under the supervision of staff until it is safe to resume normal activities.

To prepare for this type of emergency, lockdown drills are conducted periodically throughout the school year. These drills help students and teachers become familiar with the necessary procedures and allow staff to respond quickly and effectively in a real situation.

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS – SCHOOL EVACUATION

In cases such as fire, earthquake, or other emergencies requiring the school buildings to be vacated, TEDA International School follows a well-established evacuation plan. During an evacuation, students are led by staff to designated safe areas away from buildings and accounted for through attendance procedures.

Evacuation drills are conducted periodically throughout the year to help ensure that students know what to do and where to go in an emergency. Practicing these routines contributes to a calm and orderly response should a real evacuation ever be necessary.

HEALTH AND HYGIENE

Upon admission, every student who attends TIS must complete a health questionnaire. Any chronic illness or condition which may impact learning must be disclosed. Any changes (e.g. new allergies, surgery or illness) should be reported to the school. Students are expected to follow healthy habits of eating, sleep and exercise in order to have the necessary energy for study. Students who have not had sufficient sleep and are unable to pay attention in class may be sent home. General norms of cleanliness, paying particular attention to hair, nails and clothes are required. Students are expected to maintain an appropriate level of hygiene. Bad hygiene can affect other students, and lead to illness. Teachers, the Counselor or the administration may talk with students who struggle with maintaining good hygiene to find strategies that the student can implement.

For student well-being, TIS recommends that all students have an annual physical exam performed by their physician for eyesight, hearing and TB skin test for exposure to Tuberculosis. Admission to TIS is not dependent on student immunization history but the school does recommend that students be immunized for Hepatitis A, Hepatitis B, Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis, Polio, Measles, Mumps, Rubella, Varicella (chicken pox), Meningococcal, and Encephalitis.

STUDENT ILLNESS

To protect the health of all students and staff, children must stay home if they exhibit any of the following symptoms:

- Fever over 37.3°C

- Suspicious rash or spots
- Symptoms such as sneezing, coughing, runny nose, and/or diarrhea

Students showing these symptoms at school will be sent to the nurse, and parents will be contacted.

Students should also remain at home if they are not well enough to fully participate in the day's activities, including P.E. and outdoor play.

Return-to-School Guidelines:

- Students must be symptom-free and fever-free (temperature at or below 37°C) for at least 24 hours without medication before returning.
- Students taking antibiotics for an infection may return only after 24 hours from the first dose.

Please notify the school administration immediately if your child is staying home due to a contagious illness, or for any other reason.

STUDENT SAFETY

The safety of students takes precedence over all else. Teachers are responsible for the safety and well-being of the students from the time they enter the school, until they leave, unless otherwise arranged with the administration. Occasionally non-teaching chaperones and adult volunteers will be given limited responsibility for a particular event. Parents will be informed of any injury which occurs at school.

Duty rosters are arranged for arrival, recess, lunch and dismissal supervision. All staff members are expected to work together to maintain school discipline at all times on the school grounds. A nurse is available in the school Clinic throughout the day. Suggestions or comments regarding safety issues are most welcome and can be directed to the Logistics Manager or the Headmaster.

Access to the school campus will be strictly controlled. While TIS will work to provide parents with easy access to their child's classroom and teacher(s), access by drivers, "ayis", visitors, etc. will be strictly limited. Visitors must wear a visitor's tag while on school grounds.

Antibiotics and other long-term medications will be administered only by the school nurse. Parents are required to provide a doctor's note to the school nurse beforehand. If a child requires other types of medicine during school hours, it is suggested that they do not attend school until they have recovered fully. Special cases need to be referred to the Secondary Office.

Students are not permitted to bring to school or to self-administer any medications. The school nurse is the only person who can administer medication on campus. Emergency medications, such as asthma pumps and EpiPens are allowed to be kept with the student. Students who might require the use of an EpiPen should keep an emergency one with the school nurse or the Secondary Office.

SCHOOL LIABILITY / INSURANCE

TEDA International School does not assume financial responsibility for a student's medical emergencies

and/or accidents. Parents should be aware that through the regular course of school business and activities, children do become ill and unavoidably accidents do occasionally occur. Financial responsibility for such occurrences does not rest with TEDA International School.

Every parent should have a signed Assumption of Medical Responsibility Form on file with the school. In the absence of a signed Assumption of Medical Responsibility Form, TIS will assume that it has parent permission to take an injured and/or sick child to the TEDA Hospital to receive needed treatment.

AREAS THAT ARE “OFF LIMITS”

It is important that TIS is a safe environment for all students, and high priority is given to supervising students for the entire time they are on campus. For this reason, certain areas are “off-limits”:

- the roofs of each building
- the area behind the primary buildings, pump house or any other building
- the pump house and the building accessed by entrance #1
- the gym, unless a supervising adult is present
- the indoor play structure in the cafeteria and any play equipment designated for PK or Primary students only
- any area outside the perimeter fence other than the delineated pedestrian zones in front of the school gates, unless getting into or out of a vehicle

INCLEMENT WEATHER AND SCHOOL CLOSING

In cases of extreme weather during school hours students will be kept inside for recess and/or lunchtime. If the school needs to be closed for weather-related reasons or for any other reason, the school will communicate through various means.

INDOOR AND OUTDOOR PLAY AREA RULES

Balls borrowed from the gym must be signed out and returned at the end of recess or lunch. Charges may be levied for equipment which is lost or damaged. All equipment must be used in the way it was intended. No rough or aggressive play is permitted.

Students may only play in designated play areas and should not play where they cannot be seen. Students who are misbehaving or playing in a way that endangers others will face disciplinary action. There is a blue box with balls for students to use in the gym. These balls should not go outside. If students want a soccer ball for outside, they should see the Athletic Director. If students remain to play on the field, after school clubs/sports practices, without an adult present, they are assuming their own risk. Supervision cannot be provided for situations such as this.

GYM RULES

In the gym, students may dribble or juggle balls with their feet, but no balls should be passed or kicked. Playing soccer in the gym is prohibited except during PE classes or team trainings. Students playing in a

way that endangers the safety of others will face disciplinary action.

- No kicking of any kind and at any objects
- No running on the stairs (bleachers) in the gym except during PE classes or team trainings
- No playing in the storerooms or bathroom/change rooms
- Play safely. Show consideration for others
- Balls or other equipment which is being taken outdoors must be signed out
- No food, or drinks (except water) are permitted
- No students in the gym without adult supervision
- No electrical items will be allowed except with permission from a duty teacher