



QSI International School of Shenzhen

Admissions Policy

QSI International School of Shenzhen opened in 2001 in Shenzhen to serve the children of expatriate families who were living as foreigners due to their work assignments, primarily in the manufacturing industry. Over the years, the industrial face of Shenzhen has changed to other sectors, but QSI Shenzhen remains to provide an American-accredited, mastery learning style of education to children aged 2-18 years old who have come to Shenzhen as foreigners.

Nationality Requirement:

The Chinese government prohibits Chinese nationals from attending international schools and regulates that only foreigner children may attend international schools. The Chinese government does not stipulate the nationality of the child's parents. QSI Shenzhen follows the government and education bureau's guidelines of what defines a foreigner child, which is one who has entered the country as a foreigner. This is shown by the passport and entry visa of the child. In lieu of a visa, similar travel permits issued to those from Hong Kong, Macau, and Taiwan prove the child's foreigner status. Permanent resident (or "green card") status from a foreign country does not constitute foreigner status. QSI Shenzhen regularly provides a report to the government showing all students' identification and proof of foreigner status.

Space Available:

Space available in an age level must be determined before admission can be offered to a student. If space is not currently available, a family may choose to be placed on the waiting list. In the case of siblings, space is offered to each child individually.

Admissions Timeframe:

QSI Shenzhen recognizes that a change of work location for a child's parents does not always follow the traditional school year. For this reason, QSI Shenzhen has rolling admissions throughout the school year.

Potential to Be Successful:

During the admissions process, a child's potential to be successful at QSI Shenzhen is determined through the admission of a placement test (for children applying to the 5 year-old class and above) using the NWEA MAP screening test. For children who are still gaining English fluency, a speaking test may be given using the IPT proficiency test. An interview with the Director of Instruction for the child's age division will be conducted for all children applying, with their parents present. The purpose of the interview is to get to know the child, to make a connection with the family in person, to provide information about the academic program, and to allow the family to ask any questions they have. The determination of acceptance may or may not be offered during the interview.

QSI believes that, within the mastery learning framework, most children can find success in our academic program. Special consideration is made for children with identified or suspected learning or behavior special needs; these are evaluated on an individual basis to determine if the academic

standards can be met with accommodations and the learning support services that QSI Shenzhen can offer. If it is determined that modifications to the curriculum must be made, it is possible that a child will not be offered acceptance. In some cases, a family may be asked to provide the necessary tools or personnel to provide a child's needed accommodations, which may also include getting an up to date educational evaluation done by an outside professional.

English Language Requirements and the Intensive English Program:

QSI Shenzhen accepts students with no previous experience with English and varying levels of English fluency from preschool through the 13 year-old (Grade 8) class. The Intensive English program will be required for students who are not yet age-level fluent in English. Students in the Intensive English program will have specialized classes during the Literacy block of lessons, plus the possibility of an additional lesson in English during the Additional Language lesson time.

Secondary students must demonstrate a level of English fluency during the admissions testing that is needed for success at the Secondary level (see below):

Students with a low level of English fluency applying to the middle school will be carefully counseled about the amount of growth that is needed before qualifying for the Secondary school (see below).

Additional age-specific considerations during the admissions evaluation:

At the Secondary level, a child must show a certain level of English language fluency, including reading, language usage, and writing through the placement testing before an interview will be offered. The Secondary program does not offer Intensive English support. Before or during the interview, the guidance counselor will conduct a transcript review for any child applying to the Secondary program, to determine the graduation plan.

At the middle school level, attention will be paid to the level of English fluency of the child and the remaining time they have to prepare for the Secondary program. A family may be asked to sign a waiver if the child will enter the Intensive English program.

At the preschool level, the family must understand the independent toileting expectations and agree to support them at home and at school.

Placement by Age

For the majority of students entering QSI Shenzhen, the age level placement will be based on the child's birth date, with October 31st being the cut-off date. In the case where a Director of Instruction agrees with the family of any alternate age placement, a letter will be signed during the interview indicating the agreement.

School Denied Admission

If the school denies a child admission, the child can re-apply (and re-test, if necessary) after a 6-month period. At that time, the family will need to provide updated school records and attend another interview.

In the preschool ages, a family may be invited back after a shorter time frame to have a second interview if the child was not able to tolerate or participate in the interview.

No refund of the registration fee is given for school denied admission or family declined admission. The registration fee does not need to be paid again if the child re-applies or re-tests.

Re-Applying

Children who withdraw from QSI Shenzhen and want to return should follow the same admissions process. No registration fee is collected if it was paid in the first admissions process.

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