

Admissions Policy

2022 - 2023

Vision

Inspiring kind and joyful learning communities who use innovative thinking to build a mindful and sustainable world.

Mission

Verita ensures that kindness is the centre of everything we do. Deeply committed to international and intercultural understanding, Verita provides an academically engaging, inquiry-based educational approach.

Our responsibility is to whole-heartedly assist our students to develop the social-emotional and academic skills necessary to live meaningful, fulfilled, and happy lives.



Class Size:

The average class size is 18.

The school may exceed this class size in exceptional circumstances.

Admission

Admission is non-discriminatory and open to students without regard to race, sex, religion, physical ability, sexual orientation, or national or ethnic origin. We invite applications from students who can benefit from a creative, inquiry-based international English language education. While Verita will at all times try to accommodate students with needs or disabilities, the school may not be able to adequately support students with severe challenges and will therefore advise parents of alternative services/schools if the need arises.

Admission and continued enrolment in Verita are determined by the School Principal/Assistant Principal and the Student Support Team (SST) based on the following criteria:

- The potential of the applicant to access and benefit from Verita's educational program;
- The ability of the school to meet the educational needs of the applicant;
- The ability of the applicant to meet the attendance and behavioural expectations of the school;
- Fulfilment of the school's financial and medical requirements;
- The suitability of the applicant within the classroom environment.

Admission Priorities

Students who have been admitted to the school will always be given priority for progression to the next class/year over students who are seeking admission for the first time.

Whenever it is not possible to accommodate all qualified applicants, the following admission priorities will apply:

1. Siblings of currently enrolled students;
2. The degree to which Verita can meet the child's educational needs.

A waiting pool of applications will be created if a class is full. Verita will draw from this pool based on these priority guidelines and on a review of all applications to determine those students we feel can best benefit from a Verita education.

Admissions Procedure

Early Years and, Y1 Applications: Student applications to Verita will be based on a student/parent interview and an assessment of basic literacy and numeracy knowledge, corresponding to the age, as well as school readiness (e.g motor skills related to pencil grip, using a scissors). Students may spend some time in the classroom, as part of the assessment process, which can be on a different day than the student/parents interview.



Year 2 - Year 13 Applications: Student applications will only be considered if all relevant former report card(s) from previous schools are submitted in addition to the application form. **The application form will be considered incomplete and will not move forward in the admission process if the required documents are not provided.**

**At the time of admission, to any year group full disclosure of an applicant's academic and conduct record as well as medical history and family circumstances is required. If at a later date it is revealed that inaccurate or incomplete information has been provided; Verita reserves the right to review applicants access to the school and its programmes.*

1. **For Year 2 - Year 10**, admission to Verita will be based on an assessment of English literacy, including reading, writing, speaking and listening and Mathematics, as well as a trial day in school. Students applying for this age group will need to come to Verita for the assessment and, on a separate occasion, for a half or full trial day.
2. **For Year 11-13**, admission to Verita will only be considered based on an assessment of English (literary/ non-literary writing) and Mathematics, as well as a trial day in school. The academic and behavioural standing from the previous school's report card as well as the curriculum they have studied are also critical components for consideration in the admissions process.

Students will ordinarily be admitted to the class/year group in the same age-group as they are, at the time of admission.

**In exceptional circumstances, including where students are seeking admission to the school from an educational system where children ordinarily start school at an older / younger age than at Verita School, the Principal may admit at their discretion a student to a class/year group where the age-group is younger or older than the student. This will always be done to better match the prior educational experience, and/or standard achieved by the student, with that of the class/year group in which s/he is being placed.*

Students will be admitted mid-year where there are places available and subject to satisfactory performance on the Admissions Assessment.

Year 11: Admission into Year 11, the second year of the two-year Edexcel International GCSE programme, will only be considered if the following conditions are met:

- The student is already studying the Edexcel International GCSE programme, or an equivalent IGCSE programme, at their current school.
- The majority of International GCSE subjects taken by the student at their current school are offered at Verita.
- The student has achieved a minimum of a 4/ C on the Edexcel International GCSE 9-1 scale at their current school for all subjects.
- The student is in good standing behaviourally at their current school.



Year 12 (IB DP): Admission into the first year (DP1) of the IB DP will only be considered if the following conditions are met:

- The student has studied a curriculum in Year 11 that is or similar to the IB MYP, or IGCSE/ GCSE, or AP.
- The student's IB DP course selections are offered for their cohort at Verita.
- The student has achieved a minimum of a 4 or C (IGCSE scale) or 3 (IB Scale) or in Year 11 for the subjects they are planning to take at Standard Level (SL) in Year 12.
- The student has achieved a minimum of a 6 or B (IGCSE scale) or 5 (IB Scale) for the IB or Edexcel IGCSE scale in Year 11 for the subjects they are planning to take at Higher Level (HL) in Year 12.
- The student is in good academic and behavioural standing at their current school.

Year 13 (IB DP): Admission into the second year (DP2) of the IB DP will only be considered if the following conditions are met:

- The student is already studying the IB DP programme at their current school.
- The majority of the student's IB DP courses are offered at Verita and or/ can be taken on Pamoja
- The student has a predicted grade (PG) of 3 for their SL subjects and 4 for their HL subjects.
- The student is in good academic and behavioural standing at their current school.
- A reference or contact from the IB DP Coordinator at their current school will be required.

Year 12-13 (Verita High School Diploma): Admission into the last two years of high school for the Verita High School diploma programme will be considered if the following conditions are met:

- The student has a foundational knowledge at the Year 11 level for Maths, English, one Science subject of their choice, and one language subject of their choice.
- The student is in good academic and behavioural standing at their current school.
- The student will need to pass a preliminary entrance examination on the Year 11 curriculum for Maths, English, their chosen subject for Science and Languages.

Expected ages of children in each year group:

Year level	Nursery	Rec	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6	Y7	Y8	Y9	Y10	Y11	Y12	Y13
Age Before Sep 1 st	2/3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17

**Note: see exceptional circumstances above*



Special Educational Needs

Verita admits students with a broad range of educational, social, and emotional needs provided that the school has the resources to meet those needs, and where necessary, parents pay for additional 1-1 shadow teacher support. Some students may need additional services or therapies outside of the normal school day, which parents must pay for and show proof of for the educational contract to continue.

Normally:

1. The school will accept students with mild to moderate special educational and/or social-emotional needs.
2. Students with special educational needs should not exceed 10% of students in the school or 15% of children in any particular year group.
3. Verita will only admit children for whom appropriate support—including that of specialist teachers if needed, is available.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNER PROFICIENCY AND ADMISSIONS

At Verita International School, we believe that, as a school serving both a local and an international community, it is our duty to support our English language learners to enable them to have full access to our rich curriculum.

Since most English language learners take between five and seven years to develop native or near-native proficiency in English, it is important that our school determines which students we can serve and at which levels.

Primary School Assessment (Reception to Year 6)

Primary-aged children will be assessed using a variety of age-appropriate tools including oral interviews and oral reading as well as reading comprehension tests and writing samples where appropriate. The purpose of this testing is to help determine the nature of the support needed rather than entry to the school.

According to the Admissions Assessment and trial days, where applicable, parents will be informed of the outcome:

1. Successfully admitted.
2. Admitted with conditions (they will be communicated to the parents after the assessment and the trial day and admission will depend on the successful completion of the conditions).
3. No admission.

SUPPORT

In the Primary School, pull-out (and push in where necessary) ELL support will be provided for beginning level English language learners (A1 and A2) from Year 2 and beyond to help them learn



the basics of English. Support at the Year 1 level will be decided on a case-by-case basis for absolute beginners only (Level A1).

Intermediate and Advanced level learners (Levels B1 to C1) will receive support in the form of differentiated instruction from their classroom teachers.

Secondary School Assessment (Years 7 to 13)

In the Secondary School children must have an increasing level of English proficiency to access the curriculum and to graduate successfully. Therefore, Verita has increasing expectations for English proficiency with each year of Secondary School.

Verita presently enrol students in Years 7, 8 and 9; for these year groups, they must test as at least advanced beginners (Level A2). Students at the A2 and B1 levels will be provided with pull-out support. More advanced learners will be supported via differentiation by the subject teachers.

Clearly with each year that goes by, learners have less time to acquire a sufficient level of English to graduate in a university-preparatory program. Therefore, Verita has established minimum English levels of increasing rigour for entry into the Secondary School.

Assessment

Secondary School students will be assessed in the following areas:

- Reading comprehension
- Oral skills
- Grammar
- Written English

The tools chosen for evaluation will vary over time based on developments in the field of ELL assessment and instruction. Writing samples will be assessed according to the current rubrics of the Six Traits program.

Secondary English Language Proficiency

Years 7 and 8: Students must test as at least lower-intermediate (Level B1). Students at the B1 levels will be provided with pull-out support. More advanced learners will be supported via differentiation by the subject teachers.

Years 9 and 10: Students must test as at least intermediate (Level B2). Students testing at the bottom of the B2 level may be denied entry to Year 9. Students at the B1 and B2 levels will be provided with pull-out support. More advanced learners will be supported via differentiation by the subject teacher.

Year 10: Students must test as at least upper-intermediate (Level B2). Students at the B2 level will be provided with pull-out support. More advanced learners will be supported via differentiation by the subject teacher.



Years 11 -13: To be admitted to Years 11 -13, Students must be at the advanced level (C1 and C2) to cope with curriculum demands. ELL support will not normally be provided in these years.

Note: Students' ELL levels will be determined by Verita's ELL specialist(s).

NB: Careful consideration will be given when accepting students still acquiring in English from Key Stage One on. Normally, no more than 20% of students in any class should require intensive ELL support.

10.2 Placement, promotion, retention, readmission, non-readmission

Placement: the school reserves the right to place children at a grade level, or within a specially designed programme, deemed appropriate by the School Principal/Assistant Principal and the Student Support Team (SST) provided this placement is within the guidelines established in the Admissions Policy.

Promotion and Retention/Readmission and Non-Readmission: the School Principal/Assistant Principal and the Student Support Team (SST), working with the professional teaching staff, shall make promotion, retention and non-readmission (for the following school year) decisions, based on children's academic ability, social maturity, the ability and willingness of the student to benefit from the school programme and, in the event that the student has missed 20 days or more for non-medical reasons.

The School Principal/Assistant Principal and the Student Support Team (SST) is responsible for ensuring that policies concerning retention are clearly outlined in the school's parent-student handbook.

Monitoring and Review

The Dean and Principals/ Assistant Principals will monitor the implementation of the policy and will report to the Advisory Board.

The Advisory Board will review this policy annually and assess its implementation and effectiveness. The policy will be promoted and implemented throughout the school.

Created and Reviewed by: Senior Leadership Team

Policy Category: Admissions

Next Review: Aug 2023

