



SCHOOL PHILOSOPHY

At WIS, we are early childhood bilingual education pioneers, helping young children develop emotional stability and a well-rounded set of foundational life skills through an engaging curriculum.

We are well-versed in popular educational and developmental theories by Montessori, Erikson, Piaget, Vygotsky, Dewey, and others. These important frameworks built the foundation for early childhood education, but were developed decades ago. They do not account for the global nature of today's modern society, or the other unique challenges our children will face.

Our goal at WIS is to prepare children to meet the challenges of tomorrow and to position them for success in an ever-changing world. While our approach is informed by the theories of prior generations, we have found that strictly adhering to any single theory does not achieve optimal results, particularly for children with above-average intellectual abilities. Instead, our approach at WIS combines the strengths of these theories to achieve excellence in the following areas:

- English-Chinese bilingual education
- Advanced academic learning
- Leadership and social skills development

For example, in comparison to the Montessori method (one of the better-known educational models of early childhood education), the WIS approach is different from in the following ways:

1. We prioritize the development of **social skills**. We do not believe in separating children and requiring them to work independently during school hours. Like any other set of skills, the only way to gain proficiency in social skills is to practice. While having children work independently makes it easier for teachers to supervise large groups, it takes away opportunities for children to sharpen their social skills through interactions with their peers. We provide opportunities for our children to play together and work together on school projects. Meanwhile, our teachers provide close supervision, helping to facilitate friendships and prevent conflicts. When conflicts do inevitably occur, we guide our children to express themselves and work through issues in a productive manner. This problem-solving process helps children naturally develop leadership and social skills.
2. We provide **fun yet structured lessons**. The Montessori method de-emphasizes direct instruction, but we believe that children benefit from lesson guidance, especially when the teaching is age-appropriate and the lessons are presented in a fun and appealing way.
3. We focus on education for children of **above-average intellectual ability**. The Montessori method was originally developed for children with intellectual and developmental disabilities. By contrast, WIS specializes in providing education to gifted children. We ensure that our children's minds are always stimulated, and that they are constantly pushing the boundaries of what they can achieve.

We work hard to prepare lessons that are both attractive and appropriately challenging for our students. Our goal is not to teach our students a certain number of letters or characters, nor to reach a certain level in math. Rather, we aim to foster enthusiasm for learning, establish healthy study habits, and build strong self-confidence in our children - qualities that we believe are instrumental to our students' future success.

