



**Stamford American**  
INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL



# EARLY YEARS

Set The Foundation For Lifelong Learning With Our  
Early Learning Village

INFANT CARE TO KINDERGARTEN 2

A photograph of children playing with water in a sensory bin. In the foreground, a young boy with dark hair and a girl with blonde hair are looking up and smiling. In the background, another child is visible. The scene is brightly lit, and water is splashing around them.

# GIVE YOUR CHILD A HEAD-START IN LIFE

## A QUALITY EDUCATION FOR THE EARLY YEARS

Early Years education forms the foundation for learning. Children need to feel safe, secure, and happy in a nurturing environment in order to develop a positive attitude and thrive as lifelong learners. With trust and security, developed through an open partnership between home and school, vital to each child's success.

An early childhood education at the Stamford American Early Learning Village is specially designed for the preschool years, from Infant Care to Kindergarten 2, and welcomes children aged 2 months to 6 years.

Guided by the USA Head Start Early Learning Outcomes Framework: Ages Birth to Five and The Creative Curriculum®, our Early Years Curriculum is supported by teacher-initiated experiences planned by highly skilled staff with expertise in child development.

Inspired by the Reggio Emilia philosophy, the Early Learning Village built environment is designed for safe, experiential learning. Natural wood structures and open spaces give children the freedom to explore and discover, and to express themselves.

**“At Stamford American Early Years, we believe that children learn best through hands on experiences, in a play-based environment, where they are viewed as active participants in their learning.”**

[Find out more](#)





# WELCOME FROM THE PRINCIPAL OF EARLY YEARS

We are so pleased that you are interested in joining the Early Learning Village (ELV) at Stamford American. At the ELV we believe in the profound wisdom contained in the proverb that it takes a village to raise a child. We hold that children learn and grow best in a nurturing environment where they are surrounded by a community of like minded adults who want the very best for them. Our state of the art campus is purpose built to ensure that the learning environment is safe, healthy and captivating. Our staff are experienced passionate and caring educators who are committed to the social, emotional and educational welfare of each child. Our curriculum draws on best practice from around the globe and empowers each child to explore and discover what makes their heart sing.

## Our Campus

The Early Learning Village was built on the simple truth: the environment nurtures the child. Inspired by Reggio Emilia philosophy, our early years' architectural experts have created an extraordinary space for sensorial learning at every turn. Every detail is designed to ensure each child is happy, involved and engaged.

The early learning campus offers an exceptional environment with all the facilities and resources needed to stimulate young minds and foster learning and happy families including a state of the art classroom, swimming pool, library, multi-purpose hall, playgrounds and parent cafe. We encourage you to see our incredible facilities in person.

## Our Staff

We recruit qualified and experienced early childhood teachers from around the world. All of our educators share a love of working with children and nurturing young learners. They appreciate each child's unique personality and learning style and through creative and flexible approaches strive to nurture the whole child including learning how to manage their emotions and empathize with those around them.

Our staff seek to build home-school partnerships built on authentic relationships. We value family participation and open and timely communication. We view parents and caregivers as valuable partners and honour their role in supporting child learning and success.

## Our Curriculum

Children at the ELV are discovering the world. Our curriculum gives them the opportunity to develop their numeracy, literacy and motor skills. It inspires them to express themselves and it allows them to practice the social and emotional skills that are so important to a successful and happy life. We believe that children learn best when they are given the chance to nurture their curiosity through play, through a wide range of experiences and through experimentation and exploration.

Students at the ELV participate in specialist art, general and suzuki music, physical education and language lessons. We believe in fostering children's confidence and competence so that they are willing to try new things and take risks when learning.

At Stamford American's ELV, our campus, staff and curriculum work together to support the whole child and their parents and caregivers on their learning journey. We look forward to welcoming your family to our village soon.

**Michael Day**  
Principal, Early Years

Watch Michael's  
personal welcome





# PURPOSE-BUILT CHILD-SCALE FACILITIES

## WHERE FUN IS AT THE HEART OF THE CAMPUS

Stamford American's dedicated Early Learning Village campus is educational by design and purposely built for pre-school children. Every thoughtful detail is intended to ensure each child is happy, engaged and constantly learning. This extraordinary campus facility is built on the simple truth that the environment nurtures the child.

Inspired by the principles of the Reggio Emilia teaching philosophy, the Village celebrates the outdoor environment being integrated as the 'third teacher'. Our early years campus' architectural experts have translated that into an exceptional space for sensorial learning at every turn. Families enjoy the warmth of natural timbers and bright airy open spaces, providing endless opportunities to learn, connect and belong.




**12**  
specialist  
spaces




**6**  
discovery  
play areas



**2**  
water depths  
for waders to  
learn to swim



Teaching  
kitchen  
science lab  
with child  
friendly set-up  
work bench



Mini library  
resource  
center



UV  
protective  
roof



# OUR BEST-IN-CLASS FACILITIES

## 6 Outdoor Playgrounds For Discovery & Play

Active children need room to explore. With 6 dedicated outside play areas, each age group is thoughtfully catered for with different “zones” which encourage self-directed exploration and sensory inspiration. These include:

- The Shipyard
- Discovery Cove
- Sky Park
- Forest Deck
- Village Green
- Sports Pitch

## Undercover 20m Swimming Pool

Never has water safety been more important than in the perpetual Singapore summer. Throughout the year, watch your little ones cool off as they learn water confidence and safety in the 20-meter swimming pool with in-water resting benches.

## “The Hive” Indoor Air-Conditioned Gymnasium Arena

Our arena is a ‘HIVE’ of activity with a wide-open space to run, dance, tumble and turn. Children happily join in the many varied activities in this fun expanse, which is perfect for school-wide celebrations and co-curricular enrichment opportunities like gymnastics and ball games.

## Fully Covered Discovery Spaces

Attached to each classroom is a 40m<sup>2</sup> Discovery Space tailored to the different grade levels, allowing children to extend their learning as they venture through their own pint-sized door.

- Toddlers (Ages 18 months - 2 years): Sand Pit
- Explorers (Ages 3 - 5 years): Sensory & Nature
- Creators (Ages 5 - 6 years): Maker Space

## 12 Stunning Specialist Rooms

Children are spoiled for choice at the Village. Specialist multi-functional spaces inside and outside provide the perfect environment for music, languages, art, innovation and enrichment.



Take a virtual campus tour of our Early Learning Village



# STATE OF THE HEART CURRICULUM







## HOW CHILDREN LEARN IS AS IMPORTANT AS WHAT THEY LEARN

Stamford American's early learning preschool curriculum at The Early Learning Village is guided by the USA Head Start Early Learning Outcomes Framework, which outlines the skills, behaviors and developmentally-appropriate milestones to foster the growth of young learners from birth.

Teacher-initiated experiences are planned by highly skilled staff with extensive expertise in child development. Children are given opportunities to express themselves through exploratory, investigative, and imaginative play, which can be enjoyed either cooperatively or independently. Child-initiated and teacher guided experiences enhance language development, social competence, creativity, imagination, and thinking skills.

Pre-Nursery and Nursery curriculum (for children 18 months to 2 years old) draws on the Creative Curriculum® from Teaching Strategies Gold. This program supports active learning and developmentally appropriate goals and objectives for children across domains of learning including social/emotional, physical, cognitive and language

Pre-K and KG2 curriculum (for children aged 3 to 6 years old) is grounded in the International Baccalaureate Primary Years Program (IB PYP) integrated with new Units of Inquiry. The early year's PYP is a holistic learning experience that integrates socio-emotional, physical and cognitive development and takes place in dynamic environments that promote play, discovery and exploration.

 <p><b>Science</b> How does the world work?</p>	 <p><b>Technology</b> What tools will I use?</p>	 <p><b>Engineering</b> How can it work better?</p>
 <p><b>Arts</b> How can I express myself?</p>	 <p><b>Mathematics</b> Can I use math to explore &amp; communicate?</p>	 <p><b>Innovation</b> What can I imagine?</p>

Our education model incorporates the six subject investigations as a way to ensure every day moments are aligned to essential discovery and learning, and are woven into the Units of Inquiry as they progress through their years of early learning.

## GIVE YOUR CHILD THE GIFT OF PERSONALIZED CARE

### Infant Care:

FROM 2 TO 18 MONTHS

Following the principles of the RIE philosophy, our Infant Care program supports the development of an authentic child who feels secure, autonomous, competent, and connected.

### Pre-Nursery:

FROM 18 MONTHS TO 2 YEARS

Creating a seamless transition into your child's first schooling experience, sensitively separating them from their primary caregiver.

### Nursery:

FROM 2 TO 3 YEARS

Gradual encouragement to make independent play choices and enjoy uninterrupted opportunities to explore new things. Teachers guide important language development through modelling.

### Pre-Kindergarten:

FROM 3 TO 4 YEARS

Introduction to the Primary Years Program with the Units of Inquiry to stimulate the developing intellect. Suzuki music emphasis with the aim of nurturing musical aptitude and developing fine motor skills.

### Kindergarten 1:

FROM 4 TO 5 YEARS

Consolidate learning in preparation for Elementary, through carefully planned Inquiry Learning Centers which tap into the conceptual gains of this age.

### Kindergarten 2:

FROM 5 TO 6 YEARS

Sets the standards and expectations of Elementary, where students transition from play-based learning into more structured learning. Increase in the Units of Inquiry, specialist time, and rigor throughout all subjects.

## SCHEDULE OF SCHOOL UPDATES

<b>1</b> weekly blog from each of your child's teacher	<b>1</b> weekly newsletter	<b>2</b> semesterly reports	<b>2</b> parent teacher conferences
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## FLEXIBLE HOURS

### The Freedom Of A Tailored Schedule

Our flexible daily and weekly options give you the opportunity to design the early years school week to suit your family's needs. Friendly early learners staff will greet your child when they arrive on your chosen days, at your chosen times.

Options offered vary across Infant Care to Kindergarten 1 in line with demand. Kindergarten 2 is required to attend 5 full days per week to access the elementary curriculum.

Find out more about our Early Years Curriculum



# SPECIALIST PROGRAMS

## ENSURING ACADEMIC SUCCESS

We recognize the importance of allowing children to be children. To that end, a range of specialist programs are offered with Stamford American's Early Years curriculum, designed to enhance language development, social competence, creativity, imagination, and thinking skills.

### LANGUAGES

Emboldening our future citizens of the world

#### DAILY MANDARIN OR SPANISH FROM 18 MONTHS

Being multilingual delivers key advantages for global citizenship. Starting in Pre-Nursery, we offer daily Mandarin or Spanish instruction taught by native speaking education specialists in a dedicated language learning environment.

#### BILINGUAL MANDARIN/ENGLISH FROM AGE 3

For families seeking more comprehensive Mandarin instruction for their children, we offer the Mandarin/English Bilingual Program commencing in Pre-Kindergarten. It's the same curriculum as that taught in the monolingual classes, with the only difference being the language in which it's taught, with the Bilingual Program dividing learning time between Mandarin and English.

#### ENGLISH AS AN ADDITIONAL LANGUAGE (EAL) FROM AGE 5

English as an Additional Language (EAL) is a language program designed to encourage greater confidence in students' English language ability. As children complete Kindergarten 1 at age 4 to 5 they are individually assessed for their English proficiency prior to entering Kindergarten 2, and are encouraged to join the program if there is an identified need.

### THE ARTS (MUSIC AND VISUAL ARTS)

Communication beyond the spoken word

Visual arts at the Village supports the development of creative skills, verbal and nonverbal expression and awareness of the perspectives of others, as well as aesthetic appreciation.

Music in Nursery consists of singing, movement and un-tuned percussion instrument play. This foundation stage leads to more a formalized Pre-K to KG2 music curriculum, where students participate in PYP music classes and study the Suzuki Violin method.

*"A wonderful environment coupled with a dedicated team of infant care teachers give Elisha the perfect conditions to grow up. She has settled in so well since she arrived at the center at the age of 5 months much to the efforts by all the teachers. Heartfelt appreciation for all the love and care showered on our little angel."*

- Joshua Wong





## SPECIALIST PHYSICAL EDUCATION

### A child in motion is a child learning

Movement is at the core of how children’s brains develop, which is why physical education is an important part of the Village school curriculum.

#### 'SMART STEPS' FROM 18 MONTHS

The SMART Steps program, built into our curriculum from Pre-Nursery and designed by well-known educator Ms. Gill Connell, enhances key movement patterns essential for successful body and brain development.

#### PERCEPTUAL MOTOR PROGRAM (PMP)

At age 5 children progress to the Perceptual Motor Program (PMP), which further develops fundamental skills essential to classroom success. PMP assesses each child’s skill development on a weekly basis, working to build ability that supports reading, writing, focus, perceptual awareness and attention development.

#### PHYSICAL, SOCIAL AND PERSONAL EDUCATION (PSPE)

PSPE at Stamford American is centered around the development of the whole student. Our diverse curriculum promotes students’ understanding of how to maintain healthy and meaningful relationships with others, allows them to develop an understanding of who they are, and encourages participation and active lifestyles.

## CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

### Nurturing interests and abilities beyond academia

True to our ethos of providing holistic education from the heart, we offer varied co-curricular activities (CCA) for playful fun and stimulation, as well as allowing young children to discover a new sport or hobby to enjoy from their early years.

With a dedicated 40-minute block daily, activities are conducted on a single campus with 12 specialist multi-functional spaces both indoor and out, with features including a child height ballet barre, timber floors and large round viewing windows. There’s even an outdoors sports turf and safe rubber surfaced square for endless enrichment fun.



## BEYOND THE CLASSROOM LEARNING

### Excursions & incursions for real life lessons

In the Early Years, each grade extends classroom learning with both excursions and incursions, where special guests and activities are brought into the classroom learning experience. Through these well-thought-out experiences, students make real world connections to ideas and concepts explored in the classroom.

Find out more about our Specialist Programs



# LIFE AT THE EARLY LEARNING VILLAGE





## Innovation

### DELIVERING DIGITAL FAMILIARITY

The integration of Innovation as a concept early on gives Stamford American students a distinctive advantage in life. Every grade level has an "innovation kit" used to engage students in learning experiences across the curriculum. Students use tools such as Virtual Reality Kits, BeeBot robots and Makey Makeys to learn about Math, Language Arts and UOI topics, among others. This is supported with 1:1 iPad Program for children from Kindergarten 2 onwards.

## Early Years Library

### FOR THE LOVE OF READING

The focus of Stamford American's Early Learning Library is to develop a love of reading, to promote wide-ranging literacy skills, and to support the classroom curriculum. Weekly lessons with the Librarian incorporate essential components of early childhood literacy through the sharing of and interaction with quality literature.

## Mealtime

### FAMILY-STYLE LUNCHES

With its communal setting, children are taught table manners as well as mindfulness, whilst exploring different cultures through food. A dedicated dietician helps with planning the weekly menu and meals are prepared within a fully equipped allergen kitchen. Meals are nutritionally balanced for all children's individual needs.

## Assessment & Reporting

### BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF YOUR CHILD'S PROGRESS

Assessment plays a vital role in nurturing and teaching young children. Our teachers carefully monitor children's learning using the GOLD™ Assessment system, which is an authentic, ongoing observational system for monitoring children's progress and development. Teachers purposefully record these observations in order to understand each child and make decisions about how to best support his or her development and learning. In the Primary Years Program, teachers conduct ongoing formative and summative assessment to challenge and exhibit students' learning.

Report Cards for Early Years students are issued at the end of each semester and provide a detailed summary of students' achievements along with teachers' comments. Conferences (student led with Parent & Teacher) occur throughout the year for more detailed discussions on the progress each child is making. Parents can expect to be invited to meet their respective teachers or may request a meeting at their discretion.

**"School facilities such as the on campus swimming pools and the state of the art gymnastics facilities have been really beneficial to them. Beatrice also spent two years at ELV where everything is tailored for young kids, such as the swimming pool for beginner swimmers, small toilets and even small doors!"**

**– Charlotta Bjorn**



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**EARLY LEARNING VILLAGE:**

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