



CONNECTED

Connecting Navy & DoD Affiliated Families and Education

A quick guide to education options for Military and DoD Families in
Chinhae and Busan, South Korea

Version 7 - June 2025

Disclaimer Statement

**Commander Navy Region Korea's "Connected"
School Liaison Officer Magazine
is an informational and resource publication.
Inclusion of any International
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endorsement or sponsorship by the US Navy,
nor any portion of the US Federal
Government.**

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MEET YOUR school liaison officer

LaChelle Carr

CYP Director | School Liaison Officer

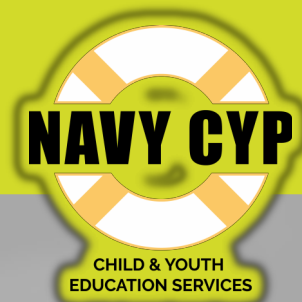
Hello and welcome to Korea! My name is **LaChelle Carr** and I am the School Liaison Officer assigned to **Chinhae and Busan**! I started my career working with Navy Child and Youth Programs in 2010 as a CYP Lead at Command Fleet Activities Chinhae. I worked at Naval Air Station Sigonella as the Teen Coordinator before returning back to Korea in 2020. My experiences working with CYP has given me the opportunity to become familiar with the military lifestyles and changes families undergo on a daily basis.

Now, in my current role as the **CYP Director and School Liaison Officer**, I have the opportunity to help provide an environment that promotes positive growth and development & influences the overall health of children in military families. I am grateful to have been able to combine both through building a firm foundation based on the high standards and values of Navy CYP.

Whether you and your family are moving to metropolitan Busan or scenic & peaceful Chinhae, you are never too far from our Navy community. The process of moving your children and spouse across the world is tough enough as it is, so the goal of this guide is to help relieve some of that stress and to provide some tools to promote a smooth, seamless transition to Korea.

This publication contains information on all of the education options currently a part of the Non-DoD School Program (NDSP). Your children will have the opportunity to attend any one of these education options and each option has something different to offer. I hope that you will find this guide useful in selecting the best education option to support your children's needs.

LaChelle Carr



Frequently Asked Questions

Some responses taken from the NDSP FAQ Section

Q: What is the Non DoD Schools Program (NDSP)?*summarized*

The Non DoD Schools Program (NDSP) provides academic support and funding for the education of authorized command sponsored dependents of the U.S. Department of Defense military members and civilian employees assigned to overseas areas where no U.S. Department of Defense Education Activity School (DoDEA) is available. The program currently serves approximately 3800 students in 131 countries.

Q: Must I select a school and indicate that choice when registering using the NDSP Student Online?

No, you are not required to select a school. If you are not sure which school option is best for your child, it is best to leave this field blank. After eligibility is established, you may email NDSP.Management@hq.dodea.edu once you have selected a school. A new Registration Notification email will be sent to you.

Q: Is Universal Preschool paid by NDSP and at what age does it start?

Yes. As of 18 March 2024 NDSP has stated that preschoolers who are age four by September 30 of the enrollment year meet the Universal Pre-K eligibility criteria.

Q: Can NDSP pay for the school application fee before we arrive in country?

No, you must be in country before NDSP can fund any school fees. If you have to pay an application fee or any other start-up fees prior to arriving at your new location, save your receipts. NDSP can refund you those costs once you arrive in location.

Q: My tour has been extended. What should I do?

To extend with NDSP, acceptable documentation listed below must be provided.

Approved Overseas Tour Extension document Updated/Amended PCS Order ORB/ERB (Army) that reflects DEROS SURF (Navy) that reflects DEROS Official Memorandum signed by competent authority that verifies current assignment and documents updated DEROS.

Due to COVID-19 stop movements, if tour extension documents are not available, then a memo from the Command documenting the sponsor's continued status at the Duty Station (and proposed PCS date) will suffice until extension orders are available.

Q: What steps do I take to withdrawal from a school?

The sponsor must notify three offices:

1. The school the student is attending
2. The School Liaison Officer (who can also assist with transition to next location)
3. The NDSP Invoice Processing Office at DoDEA NDSP Headquarters

Ensure that the transportation office is notified. Request any applicable refunds and notify NDSP Invoices.

NOTE: If withdrawing and changing schools, review **Change of School procedures**.
<https://www.dodea.edu/nonDoD/procedures/ndspCoS.cfm>

Q: I live in Busan with no installation. Where can I send my CDC aged child?

Contact the School Liaison Officer navykorea.slo@us.navy.mil for a Busan Child Care Resource List or the FFSC Busan Work & Family Life Specialist for a Family Resource List.

Many of the schools within the guide also have early years programs that siblings of enrolled students may attend if the school has availability. Parents should inquire with their Administration Office to discuss any grants or the cost of their tuition payments. These payments are paid by the military member.

What is the Non-DoD School Program?

The **Non-DoD school program (NDSP)** is in place to help maintain the continuity of education for children when families are stationed at international locations where DoDEA schools are not available. The goal of the NDSP is to help with the cost of education in international locations as well as support for making the transition back to education in the United States as seamless as possible.

The NDSP helps cover costs that would not normally be expenses for families in the states such as fees for tuition and enrollment, textbooks and transportation. These expenses that are covered by the NDSP are known as **allowable expenses**. Any expenses that will be the responsibility of the families are known as **non-allowable expenses**. These are expenses that would be covered by the parents if their children were attending school in the United States or at a Department of Defense Education Activities (DoDEA) school. These non-allowable expenses would include fees for meals, camps, field trips and uniforms amongst others.

The **NDSP does not endorse any specific school**. Families have the opportunity to choose any school that they would like to send their children to based on the needs of their children. This gives families the chance to send their children to international schools that utilize varying curriculums and offer a number of extra-curricular activities and programs.

All families will be allotted an education allowance to send their children to the international school of their choosing. Any fees, regardless of whether or not they are allowable or non-allowable expenses that exceed that annual education allowance will be the financial responsibility of the parents. Payment arrangements for any fees in excess of the education allowance will be arranged between the families and the schools.

All parents must take the **NDSP online orientation** *prior to registering* with the NDSP. After registering with the NDSP and receiving confirmation for the funds that you have been authorized, families can enroll at the international school of their choice.

Visit <https://www.dodea.edu/nonDoD/index.cfm> for more detailed information.

FAQ:

My Child is going from a U.S. traditional Curriculum to an I.B. Curriculum. I'm worried about the transition.

What should I do?

Contact your NDSP Education Specialist to discuss your options.

As your child starts the new program, he/she may be eligible for some transition funding assistance to support the change in curriculum.

Your Education Specialist can help.

Curriculum Guide and Education Standards

Confused about the different type of curriculums offered?
Contact our Acting Regional Education Specialist for support:
Shauna Federico at Shauna.Federico@DODEA.EDU

Here are descriptions of the curriculums and education standards utilized at the currently available education options.

American Common Core State Standards

Common Core will probably be recognized by most Americans. These standards were developed as a means to break the stagnant increase in performance levels of children in the United States. These standards outline what children should know by the end of each grade level in Mathematics & Language Arts/Literacy.

For more detailed information on the Common Core State Standards, please visit:

<http://www.corestandards.org/about-the-standards/>

American Education Reaches Out (AERO)

AERO is a project set up by the US Department of State in order to help schools overseas that are implementing curricula based on American education standards. The AERO project strives to set standards in English/Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies, Art, Music & World Languages.

For more detailed information on AERO, please visit:

<http://www.projectaero.org/>

Alberta Curriculum

A Canadian based curriculum in which, according to the Program for International Student Assessment (PISA), is said to be one of the best education curriculums for children. The Alberta curriculum was developed with the whole child in mind. Educators work to educate children based on their individual levels rather than requiring all of the children in the class to perform on the same level. This approach allows children to learn at their own pace.

For more detailed information on the Alberta curriculum, please visit: <http://education.alberta.ca>

Curriculum Guide and Education Standards

International Baccalaureate

The International Baccalaureate Program (IB) was developed to help children become lifetime learners, who are able to think critically and independently. This curriculum has been in use for the last fifty years in more than 150 countries. The IB Program is comprised of four programs:

- Primary Years Program (PYP) for Kindergarten-5th Grade
- Middle Years Program (MYP) for grades 6th-10th
- Diploma Program (DP) for grades 11th-12th
- Career Related Program (CP) for students ages 16-19.

Three of the four programs PYP, MYP and DP are currently offered in the international schools.

For more detailed information on the International Baccalaureate Program, please visit: <http://www.ibo.org>

Fieldwork Education's International Curriculum

This international curriculum is comprised of three programs:

- International Early Years Curriculum (IEYC)
- International Primary Curriculum (IPC)
- International Middle Years Curriculum (IMYC)

The curriculums are all designed around eight learning principles that are essential to children's learning, growth and development. Each of the curriculums features learning units that aim to capture children's interest by teaching them subjects in a way that exhibits the interdisciplinary and holistic nature of subjects.

For more detailed information about Fieldwork Education's International Curriculums, please visit: <http://fieldworkeducation.com>

Cambridge international Curriculum

The Cambridge International Curriculum uses a learner-centered, inquiry-based approach to learning and presents students with a broad range of subjects. One of the goals of this curriculum is develop students' skills in problem solving, creative thinking and inquiry and also strives to help students transition into advanced studies. Schools have the ability to structure the curriculum based on the specific needs of their students as there are 70 subjects in 30 different languages offered.

For more detailed information about the Cambridge International Curriculum, please visit: <http://www.cambridgeinternational.org/>



British International Academy Yulha

British International Academy Yulha offers a British National Curriculum education to learners from the **ages of 3 to 9**. Childhood at the British International Academy is treasured. In addition to providing a rigorous curriculum, your child's happiness is paramount.



BIA YULHA Programs

We use the IB Primary Years Programs, supported by the English National Curriculum for Early Years.

- Pre-Kindy: Age 3 to 5
- Kindergarten: Age 5 to 6
- Grade 1: Age 6 to 7
- Grade 2: Age 7 to 8
- Grade 3: Age 8 to 9

Early Years Program

Early Years at BIA is an exciting world of discovery – a time to grow through play and inquiry; to begin to make sense of the world around them, both inside and outside the classroom. Through play and exploration, learners build and test theories to help make sense of the world around them.

Primary Years Program

Primary Years at BIA is a time to ask questions, and find answers and solutions to problems through inquiry. It is a time to develop passions and friendships as our students begin to take ownership of their education.

Curriculum: British National Curriculum

Current Attendance: 50

Current Number of Military/DoD Students: 9

Contact Information

Address: Taejeong 2 gil-1, Gimhae, Gyeongnam

Approximate Distance from CFAC: 25 mins

Approximate Distance from Busan: 20 mins

Email: admin@biakorea.org

Contact (Korean): 055.312.5154

Contact (English): 010.5038.7966

Website: www.biakorea.org





British International Academy Geoje

The British International Academy (**BIA**) offers an International Baccalaureate education to learners from the **ages of 3 to 18**. BIA has a multicultural, multilingual community in which students from diverse nations learn and grow together. It's a friendly school with each child receiving lots of teacher support and attention, in order to optimize their progress.

BIA's IB Programs

Primary Years Program: Pre-K to Grade 5

Middle Years Program: Grades 6 to 10

Diploma Program: Grades 11 & 12

- BIA High Schoolers prepare SAT and AP subjects from Grade 10.
- They also receive university counseling and mentoring from Grade 10.

BIA enjoys a rural setting in Deokpo, with its own garden, just a 5 minute drive from central Okpo. We are lucky enough to have the mountains and beach on our doorstep, giving us unlimited access to Geoje's beautiful nature and extending our learning environment beyond the classroom walls.

Our goal is to provide an excellent, balanced and child-centered education that is both enjoyable and meaningful. Beyond the classroom, we offer an imaginative program of creative, sporting, cultural and social activities that offers further challenges and experiences.

Above all, we offer the environment, care and positive encouragement that children need in order to develop into confident and caring global citizens, who will be able to thrive and solve problems in an ever changing world.

Curriculum: International Baccalaureate Program

Current Attendance: 50

Current Number of Military/DoD Students: 0



CIS Member (Council of International Schools)

CIS - one of the largest international education accreditation organizations in the world



Teaching & Learning

Students learn best when their learning experiences have context and are connected to their lives and their experience of the world. Concepts are big ideas that have relevance within specific disciplines and across subject areas. BIA students use concepts as a vehicle to inquire into issues and ideas of personal, local and global significance and examine knowledge holistically.

Approaches to Learning (ATLs)

A unifying thread throughout all subject groups is our Approaches to Learning (ATL) that provide the foundation for independent learning and encourage the application of knowledge and skills to unfamiliar contexts. Developing and applying the 5 key ATL skills (Social, Thinking, Research, Communication and Self-Management skills) helps students learn how best to learn.

Community Service

Action and service have always been shared values of the BIA community. Students take action when they apply what they are learning in the classroom and beyond. IB learners strive to be caring members of the community who demonstrate a commitment to service— making a positive difference to the lives of others and to the environment.

Parents

We understand that education is constantly changing and that you want the best for your child. We aim to inform parents about our Programs and their development so that you can better understand your child's progress and feel a part of it.



Contact Information

Address: 25 Deokpo 3-gil, Geoje, Gyeongnam

Approximate Distance from CFAC: 55 mins

Approximate Distance from Busan: 30 mins

Email: admin@biakorea.org

Contact Phone: +82(0)55.688.5154

Mobile: 010.5038.7966

Website: www.biakorea.org

British International Academy



Hillside Collegiate (HCIS)



Hillside Collegiate IS (HCIS) offers a nurturing learning environment where academic excellence meets personal growth. Nestled on a tranquil hill overlooking a picturesque bay, HCIS serves students from KG to Grade 12, encouraging curiosity, creativity, and critical thinking. Our innovative curriculum blends high academic standards with outdoor learning, promoting environmental awareness and sustainability. With a focus on developing ethical citizens and future leaders, our dedicated staff guides students to achieve their full potential. At HCIS, we empower students to thrive in a rapidly changing world while fostering values that last a lifetime.

- **Admissions** students of all nationalities
- **Accreditation:** MSA, NCPSA and Ai (by USA)
- **Curriculum:** A globally focused education enriched by the rigor of the Common Core Standards
- **Grades offered:** KG – G12
- **Academic Year:** September - July (August: 3 weeks summer camp - optional)
- **School Hours:** 9:15 - 3:40
- Certified and trained teachers in an **English Environment**

Fully accredited by



Middle States Association
Commissions on Elementary
and Secondary Schools



Current Attendance: 70

Current Number of Military/DoD Students: 0

At HCIS, our pathway to success supports students from Kindergarten to Grade 12, ensuring growth at every stage. Our small class sizes allow for personalized attention, enabling teachers to support each student's unique learning journey. As students progress, they engage in outdoor experiences and leadership opportunities that build character and resilience. By the time they enter senior high, they have developed essential skills in independent learning, critical thinking, and global awareness, ensuring they are well-prepared for college preparation and future success. Each step empowers students to graduate as confident, well-rounded individuals ready to excel in higher education and beyond.



Our Motto

"Head, Hands and Heart, Passion and Potential"

Our Vision

Where children grow into ethical citizens with an entrepreneurial spirit, through education that engages them in innovative thinking.

Our Mission

- Leadership
- Emotional Intelligence
- Growth Mindset
- Digital Citizenship

Extracurricular Activities

HCIS offers a range of extracurricular activities that have been selected to add value to our student's education program. These activities also assist our students in identifying potential career paths. Some of these include:

- Violin
- Dance
- Music
- Drama
- Fencing
- Swimming
- Sports Club



Contact Information

Address: 99, Jisepo 3-gil, Irun-myeon, Geoje-si, Gyeongsangnam-do
Approximate Distance from CFAC: 1 Hour 10 Minutes
Approximate Distance from Busan: 1 Hour
Point of Contact: Shania Huh
Point of Contact Number: 055.682.5500
Email Address: admissions@hcis.or.kr

***Finding Your Future
and Inspiring the
World!***



BUSAN FOREIGN SCHOOL

Embracing diversity, striving for excellence.



ABOUT US

Busan Foreign School (BFS), founded in 1996 by U.S. Air Force veteran James Haddon and Amy Haddon, is the only international school in Busan offering a high-quality American education from early childhood through 12th grade. Accredited by WASC, BFS follows a rigorous Common Core curriculum aligned with DODEA standards, ensuring smooth transitions for students, including military families. With a close-knit community representing 20+ nationalities, dedicated teachers, and strong parent support, BFS prepares graduates for top universities worldwide.

- Curriculum: American Common Core & Advanced Placement (AP)
- Grades offered: PK to Grade 12
- Accreditation: Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC)
- Nationalities: 22
- Established: 1996
- Teachers: Certified U.S. Teachers
- PSAT & SAT Test Center

MILITARY BENEFITS

- Lunch fee waived
- Bus provided from base to BFS
- 400,000 KRW credit for school uniforms
- PK3 tuition waived
- High School Senior Fee waived
- Laptop assistance for G6+



95%

ATTEND POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION

97%

OF ALL BFS STUDENTS SCORED 3+ ON AT LEAST 1 AP EXAM

The only international school in Busan with over 20 years of sending graduates to top universities worldwide!

Address: 45, Daechon-ro 67 beon-gil, Haeundae-gu, 48084 Busan, South Korea
Distance from CFAC: 1hr
Contact: Mr. Glenn Saunders
Distance from Busan: 10 minutes
Email: admissions@bfs.or.kr
Website: busanforeignschool.org



Curriculum: US Common Core, AP (16 courses)
Student Body: 250
Number of military families: 30% military families



BUSAN FOREIGN SCHOOL



OUR GRADUATES

We take immense pride in our exceptional college preparatory program and the remarkable success of our graduates. Over 95% of BFS students pursue higher education, with many gaining acceptance into some of the world's top-ranking universities, particularly in the United States.

OUR AP & SAT RESULTS

AP TEST RESULTS:

	2024	2023	2022
NO. TEST TAKERS	31	39	51
SCORES 3 OR HIGHER	30	38	48
% SCORES 3 OR HIGHER	97%	97%	94%

3-YEAR AVERAGE SAT SCORES:

EBRW	BFS	658
	USA	521
MATH	BFS	694
	USA	529

COLLEGE ACCEPTANCES

Our graduates have been accepted into a wide array of prestigious universities worldwide.

Ivy League

- Brown University
- Columbia University
- Dartmouth
- Cornell

Global Acceptances

- University of Toronto (CAN)
- University of College London (UK)
- Seoul National University (Korea)
- University of Auckland (NZ)

Multiple Acceptances

- Boston University
- NYU
- UCLA
- Northwestern
- University of Michigan

STEM Excellence

- Carnegie Mellon
- Rice University
- Cornell
- UC Berkeley

Creative Colleges

- Berklee College of Music
- Parsons School of Design
- Fashion Institute of Technology
- School of Visual Arts

Accredited by



International School of Busan



ISB is an English-medium, non-profit making **IB World School**, that has been serving the international community of Busan since 1983. More than **38 nationalities** are represented in the diverse school community of students aged 3-18. The school is **fully accredited by the US School Accreditation Agency - WASC** and it is authorized to offer all three **IB Program - the PYP, the MYP and the Diploma Program**.

The school offers a happy, safe and supportive atmosphere, with a strong commitment to helping all children succeed, whatever their background or abilities. Learners develop socially and emotionally so that they take pride in their learning and want to do well. A carefully selected team of talented **international educators** provide a school experience that is designed to bring out the very best in every child. Families describe ISB as a caring, warm and welcoming community where **every child is valued, respected and provided with the opportunity to thrive**.

Our impressive, state-of-the-art, purpose-built campus includes a full-sized soccer field, gymnasium, tennis and basketball courts, playgrounds, science labs, design and technology labs, well-resourced libraries and a cafeteria serving a range of healthy and nutritious food options.

The school has an **extensive after school program** that allows students to follow their passions, whether that be participating in a drama production, learning a musical instrument or training with the soccer squad to prepare for an upcoming tournament. The after school elective program operates five days a week and a late bus is provided for participating students.



Average IB Diploma grades are consistently above world average and ISB graduates go on to attend **prestigious universities across the world**. Recent graduates have attended universities which include Berkley, Cornell, NYU, Pennsylvania State, Purdue, Texas A&M and UCLA.



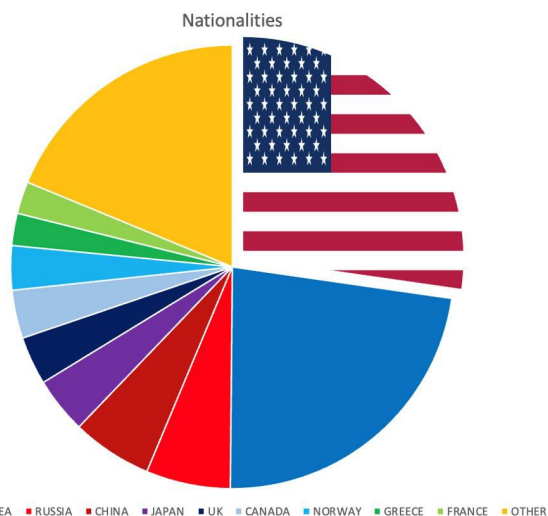
Curriculum: International Baccalaureate Program

Current Attendance: 350

Current Number of Military/DoD Students: 45

"High standards of teaching and learning were evidenced during lesson observations, demonstrating the school's prioritisation of active student engagement, both inside and outside the classroom. It was evident that there was very much a culture of care and a strong commitment to student learning and well-being from all staff, the governing body representatives, students and parents. The teachers are commended for their passion for teaching and learning which promotes effective learning environments and relationships that are conducive to student learning and well-being."

WASC/CIS School Evaluation Report



Contact Information

Address: 50 Gijang-daero Gijang-eup, Gijang-gun
Busan, South Korea 46081

Approximate Distance from CFAC: 1 Hour 10

Approximate Distance from Busan: 15 Minutes

Point of Contact: Seung Mi Hong

Point of Contact Number: 82.51.720.1100 / 1101

Email: admissions@isbusan.org

Website: <http://www.isbusan.org>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/isblearning>



Gyeongnam International Foreign School



GIFS is an international day school located in the city of Sacheon in a coastal area on the south-central tip of South Korea. GIFS serves students from countries around the world from Pre-kindergarten through Grade 12. We provide a challenging and innovative educational program in a modern purpose-built facility. In the fall of 2015, GIFS became an International Baccalaureate World School offering the Diploma Programme (IB DP) to its 11th and 12th grade students. In July of 2021, we received authorization for the International Baccalaureate Primary Years Programme (IB PYP) for pre-kindergarten through grade 5. In March of 2022, we received authorization for the International Baccalaureate Middle Years Programme (IB MYP) for grades 6 through grade 10. The MYP authorization made GIFS an **IB Continuum School** ensuring that we will deliver a cohesive, valuable, and relevant international education to all of our students. GIFS is accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC).



Curriculum: GIFS is an IB Continuum School following the International Baccalaureate PYP, MYP, and DP standards and practices for grades PreK-12. The IB Continuum prepares students to become creative problem-solvers and life-long independent thinkers, equipped to succeed in a rapidly changing and increasingly global society.

Current Attendance: 70

Current Number of Military/DoD Students: 0



GIFS opened its doors in 2004 with sixteen students and now welcomes **an average of 80 students per year**. It is located in the city of Sacheon, a medium-sized city in a coastal area on the south central tip of South Korea. We offer an excellent educational environment in a modern purpose-built facility.

GIFS is a **truly international school** made up of students and staff from around the globe. At any given time, it is normal for us to serve as many as **twenty nationalities**

among our student population. The GIFS faculty and support staff is also a diverse one made up of many nationalities, ages, genders, and religious affiliations.

Currently, the GIFS staff at GIFS is comprised of American, Canadian, South African, Colombian, Venezuelan, Filipino, Indian, and Korean teachers.



Contact Information

Address: 49-22 Jodong-gil, Sanam-myeon, Sacheon-si, Gyeongnam, Korea 664-942

Approximate Distance from CFAC: 1 Hour 15 Minutes

Approximate Distance from Busan: 2 Hours

Phone Number: 82.55.853.5125

Email: gifs@gifs.or.kr

Website: <http://www.gifs.or.kr>

"GIFS is a school that is flexible to and in touch with student's needs. Students come first at GIFS."



Gyeongnam International Foreign School

Inspiring Excellence in an International Community of Learners



Home Based Education

The NDSP offers an education allowance for families that opt to provide their children with education at home. Currently there is an allowance of \$10,500 for elementary aged students and \$21,500 for MS and HS aged students. Parents are able to choose the at home curriculum that is best suited for the needs of their children and the NDSP will cover the costs of allowable expenses after submission of the Home Study Education Plan.

<https://www.dodea.edu/nonDoD/upload/ndsp-home-study-plan-part-one.pdf>

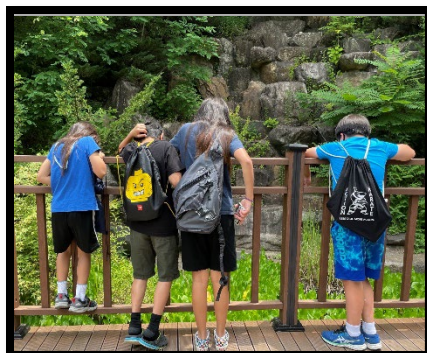
For children that are stationed in Chinhae or Busan the **Child & Youth Educational Services** provides a *Home School Road Map* and additional Resources for Home School. (pages 23-26 are excerpts from the Road Map)

Child and Youth Programs (CYP) provides activities to enrich the children's home education as well as to give them a break from studying at home. CYP may offer activities such as cooking club, fitness, art and gardening amongst others at no cost to the families.

CYP Professionals utilize curricula from the **Boys and Girls Clubs of America (BGCA)** and **4-H** to develop new experiences for our youth in home based education. Both organizations offer curricula that helps CYP professionals to develop the whole youth—mind, body and soul. It is important that we maintain a strong connection with the youth in our programs and give them a place where they can come together and experience the social interactions that they may be missing out on from not being in a school.



BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS
OF AMERICA



Number of Children Currently Homeschooled: 0

THINKING OF HOMESCHOOLING IN CHINHAE OR BUSAN?



What is homeschooling?

Homeschooling is the practice of opting to teach your own children at home via parents, tutors or virtual programs instead (or in lieu) of sending them to school.¹

How do I homeschool?

1. Connect with parents who are already homeschooling.
2. Understand your area's homeschool law.
3. Learn about teaching styles, learning styles and educational approaches.
4. Choose curriculum.
5. Decided where you will homeschool and create a schedule.
6. Enjoy the learning process. Re-evaluate. Change what isn't working.
7. Celebrate and highlight your students' growth & achievements.

For further details from this checklist, see <https://hslida.org/get-started>.



Is school attendance required?

Military and the Department of Defense civilian families are turning to homeschooling because of frequent transfers between bases within and outside the United States. Mandatory school attendance is required in the U.S., and military families must follow the compulsory attendance laws of the state in which they reside. However, children of U.S. military and DOD civilian personnel overseas are not subject to U.S. state mandatory attendance statutes while in another country; and dependents may or may not be subject to the school laws in their country depending on the host country requirements for military families.²

DoDEA encourages DoDEA-eligible sponsors who choose homeschool as their dependent's educational option to communicate this through their chain of command to determine whether there are any command policies or other guidelines that ensure homeschool practices meet host nation, state, commonwealth, possession or territory requirements.³

¹ <https://www.dodea.edu/parents/homeschooling.cfm>

² <https://hslida.org/post/military-homeschooling-overseas>

³ <https://www.dodea.edu/Offices/PolicyAndLegislation/upload/DoDEA-AI-1375-01-Home-School-Students-Change-1.pdf>

How much does homeschooling cost?

Budget-friendly ways to source your curriculum:

- Look for opportunities to borrow or rent curriculum
- Discover the library
- Watch for used book sales
- Don't forget about online used book sources
- Consider reusable or multi-level curriculum
- Check out free curriculum



Estimate your budget:

Cheapest Approach: \$50-100 per student

- Consider finding these services for free or can exchange your services with someone else.

Moderate Approach: \$300-500 per student

- Includes a few paid extras like co-ops, tutors, online courses or extracurricular classes like art or music.

Most Expensive Approach: \$500 or more

- Includes paying for tutors, online classes, video courses, correspondence schools or all-inclusive curriculum packages.¹

TIP: Look for separate Facebook group (i.e., “Patriotic Homeschool Group” vs. “Patriotic Homeschool Resale Group”)

What curriculum is available?

- Complete curriculum packages (“boxed curriculum”)
- Online courses
- Subject-based curriculum
- Integrated studies/unit studies

How do I compare curriculum?

- Student-paced or program-paced curriculum
- Comprehensive curriculum or supplemental curriculum
- Independent learning or teacher-led curriculum
- Online curriculum or textbook/workbook
- Automated grading or manual grading

When you find a homeschool curriculum provider that you think may work, find out if you can access the material on a trial basis.

What does “accreditation” mean?

Accreditation means that the homeschool has been inspected by an outside, independent agency who has determined it to meet accepted standards for schools. These standards include the seriousness of the course of studies, the managing of academic records, accounting practices and business practices.²

TIP: Check to see if your state requires curriculum to be accredited and if that curriculum is accredited in that state.

¹ <https://hslida.org/post/homeschooling-on-a-budget-or-no-budget>

² <https://www.homeschool.com/articles/Overseas/>

Can I access academic and extracurricular classes through DoDEA?

1. Dependent students who would be eligible to enroll in a DoDEA school on a space-required, tuition-paying status would be entitled to use or receive the specified auxiliary services offered by that DoDEA school on a tuition-paying basis.
2. Dependent students who would be eligible to enroll in a DoDEA school on a space-available, tuition-free status would be entitled to use or receive the specified auxiliary services offered by that DoDEA school, if space is available and on a tuition-free basis.
3. Dependent students who would be eligible to enroll in a DoDEA school on space-available, tuition-paying status would be entitled to use or receive the specified auxiliary services offered by that DoDEA school, if space is available and on a tuition-paying basis.

Allow eligible home-school students who meet eligibility requirements to enroll in a DoDEA school to enroll in one class, but no more than three (3) classes and/or receive special education or related services.

See full DoDI at <https://www.dodea.edu/Offices/PolicyAndLegislation/upload/DoDEA-AI-1375-01-Home-School-Students-Change-1.pdf>

DoDEA Virtual School resources

DoDEA Virtual High School (grades 9-12) <https://www.dodea.edu/dvhs/index.cfm>

DoDEA Virtual School (grades K-8) <https://www.dodea.edu/DVSK8/index.cfm>

What are learning groups?

- Informal co-ops
- Formal co-ops or resource centers
- Hybrid, cottage or university-model schools
- Online courses
 - Live classes
 - Self-paced classes¹

What is an umbrella school?

An umbrella school is an alternative education school that serves to oversee the homeschooling of children to fulfill government educational requirements.

Umbrella schools vary greatly in what they offer and cost. Some offer group classes, a defined curriculum, sports, fieldtrips, standardized testing. Others exist only to meet the minimum legal requirements, allowing parents choose their curriculum and methods of teaching as well as freedom from an annual evaluation or testing requirement. Additionally, some umbrella schools follow a specific faith, while others are secular.²

Educational approach

There are roughly seven main approaches to homeschooling: Classical, Charlotte Mason, Montessori, Unschooling, School-at-Home, Unit studies and Eclectic education methods.

Read more details, including the benefits and drawbacks of each, at <https://thebestschools.org/magazine/homeschool-style-right/#:~:text=best%20suits%20you.,Overview,of%20the%20benefits%20and%20drawbacks>.

¹ <https://hslda.org/post/what-are-homeschool-learning-groups>

² https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Umbrella_school

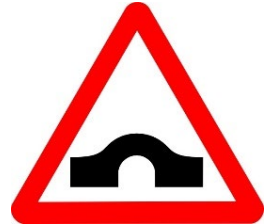
Chinhae & Busan- support

Chinhae and Busan currently do not have a Homeschooling Group. Incoming Navy families can reach out to the following Facebook Pages if they wish to connect:

- Area 4 (Daegu) Homeschool Community Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/groups/ArealVHC/>
- Humphreys Area Homeschool Co-op Facebook Page <https://www.facebook.com/groups/thehahc>
- Humphreys Homeschool Group (for Camp Humphrey, Osan Air Base, and Yongsan areas) <https://www.facebook.com/groups/191600224218275/>

What if I want short-term homeschooling?

- Focus on the four major subjects: Math, Language Arts, Science and Social Studies
- Look for local homeschool groups/co-ops
- Look for short-term curriculum websites
- Consider a boxed curriculum
- Research public schools online
- Purchase workbooks
- Download pintables
- Take advantage of enrichment websites
- Ask the local librarian about local groups, resources, events and activities
- Ask for current and upcoming school lesson plan calendars from teachers
- Review DoDEA curriculum standards and course sequencing (<https://www.dodea.edu/Curriculum/index.cfm>)
- Review grade level curriculum and standards on state education websites
- Review state learning benchmarks on State education websites
- Review Common Core standards (www.corestandards.org)
- Research reading level benchmarks through comparison charts (<https://www.readinga-z.com/learninga-z-levels/level-correlation-chart/>)
- Reach out to the local military branch School Liaison Officer for local and current insight (<https://www.dodea.edu/Partnership/SLO.cfm>)



TIP: If you believe you will be returning to a classroom setting, consider choosing options with “standards-based curriculum” to stay on target with current learning objectives and timelines.

What if I have a child with special education needs?

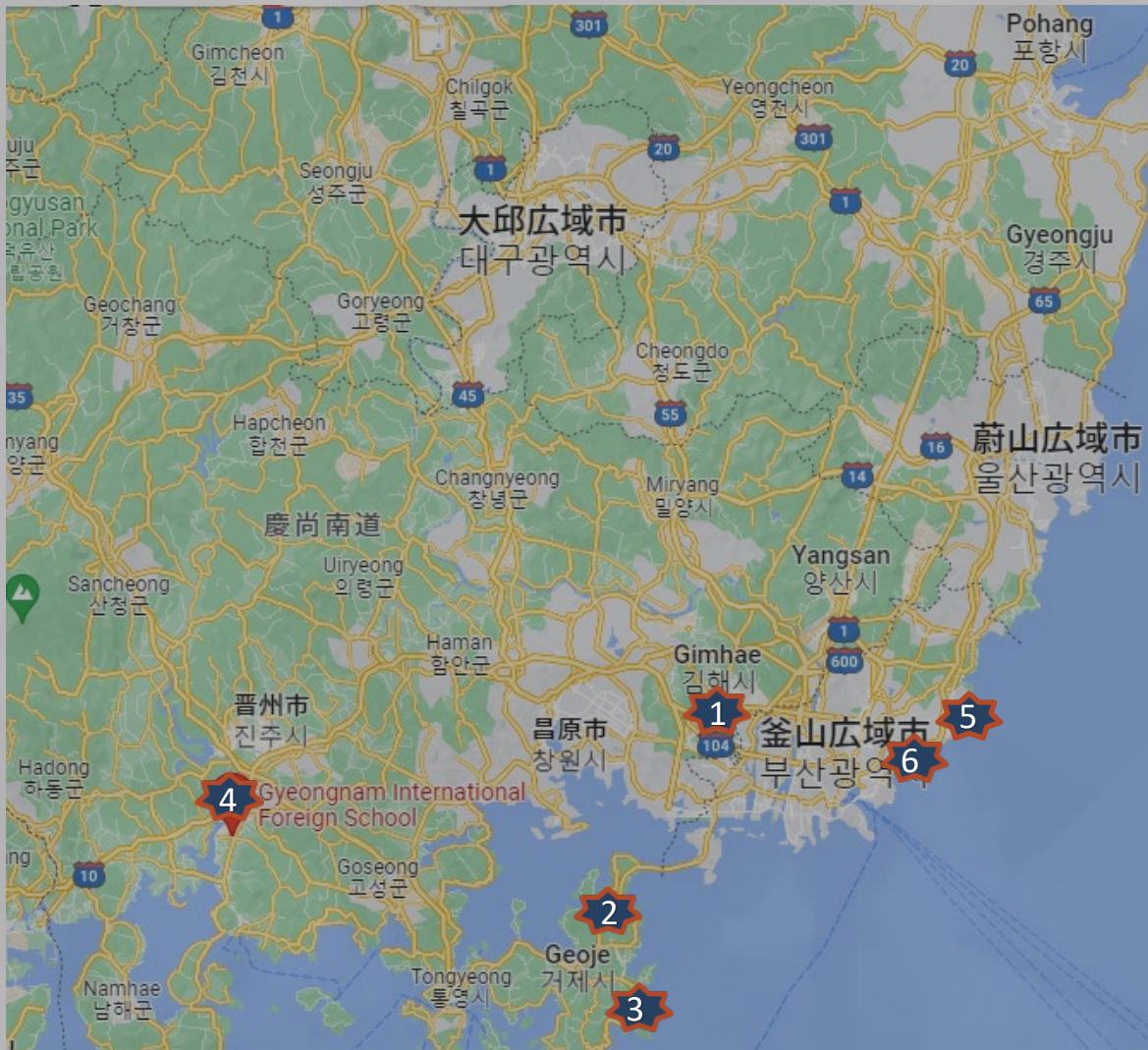
Consider asking the following questions when reviewing and comparing your opportunities:

- How are special education services provided?
- How do teachers/learning coaches/parents contribute to the Individual Education Plan (IEP) or 504 process?
- How is it determined that a student is eligible to receive special education?
- Does the charter/academy belong to Special Education Local Plan Area (SELPA)? Do the charter SELPA partners develop policies and procedures, distribute federal and state special education funds and provide a range of professional development relating to special education?
- Will I need to find my own local Special Education Professional?
- Will I need to create my own Student Education Plan (SEP)?
- Are activities clearly organized?
- Are concepts repeated, reviewed and summarized?
- Can a student work at their own pace in the assessment tests and in the learning activities?
- Do activities teach concepts through songs, graphics and videos?
- Are there visual enhancements for contrast (i.e., font, font size, spacing or color)?
- Are graphics and pictures added to practice sheets and tests?
- Do activities use different intelligences?
- Are activities broken up into manageable units?

Disclaimers

- **Hyperlinks do not imply Navy endorsement.**
- Resource lists may not be fully inclusive.
- Parents/guardians are responsible for the education of their child.

NDSP School Locations



- 1 **British International Academy (BIA)- Gimhae/ Yulha**
- 2 **British International Academy- Geoje**
- 3 **Hillside Collegiate**
- 4 **Gyeongnam International Foreign School (GIFS)**
- 5 **International School of Busan (ISB)**
- 6 **Busan Foreign School (BFS)**

school liaison officer

If you have any questions, please contact your
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