



# Banjul American International School

## 2021-2022 Fact Sheet

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**Banjul American International School (BAIS)** was founded in 1984. It is an independent, coeducational day school for English-speaking students of all nationalities from pre-Kindergarten (age 2+) through Grade 12 (age 18). The school year extends from late August/early September to mid/late June with approximately 180 days of instruction. Official Gambian holidays are recognized, and long breaks are taken for the December/New Year and spring break.

**Organization:** The Board of Directors consists of six members, each serving a two-year term. The BAIS Association members (parents/guardians and teachers) elect five board members, and one member is appointed by the U.S. Embassy Chief of Mission or her/his delegate.

**Curriculum:** Instruction is in English. The core subjects: English, mathematics, science, and social studies, are supplemented with specialty instruction in art, French, technology, music, and physical education. The curriculum from kindergarten through 12th grade is aligned with AERO standards (including NGSS standards for science), and the PK curriculum is aligned with the New York State Early Learning Guidelines. Eureka math materials and Amplify CKLA/English Language Arts materials are used alongside hands-on manipulatives, RAZKids, Seesaw and a variety of other resources to ensure AERO Standards (aligned with CCSS standards) are being delivered.

**Faculty:** In the 2021-2022 school year, BAIS has 27 total staff, 13 full-time teachers, 6 of whom are U.S. citizens, 3 host-country nationals, and 4 third-country nationals from Sweden, Belgium, India, Sierra Leone. BAIS teachers hold a relevant degree (many at a post-graduate level) and teaching certification.

**Enrollment:** At the start of the 2021-2022 school year, enrollment is 63 students (PK-Grade 5: 32; Grades 6-8: 14; Grades 9-12: 17), including 17 U.S. citizens, 17 host-country nationals, and 41 third-country nationals. Of the U.S. enrollment, 0 students are dependents of U.S. government direct-hire or contract employees, and 17 are dependents of private U.S. citizens.

**Facilities:** The current rented campus is a converted family compound and consists of four buildings which serve as 'bookends' to the outdoor recreation area, soccer field and basketball court. At the front of the campus, the administrative building contains the reception office, director's office, library, computer lab, teacher collaboration areas and safe haven 1. The elementary building houses grades K-5 and Music classes. At the other end of campus, the middle school/high school wing with its science lab, humanities and math rooms faces the Early Childhood building which houses PK, Art, French & Wolof learning spaces.

**Finances:** Approximately 90% of the school's income comes from tuition and fees.

- Annual tuition rates:
- PK Half Day: \$ 6,257
  - PK Full Day: \$8,230
  - K-grade 5: \$20,446
  - Grades 6-8: \$23,433
  - Grades 9-12: \$25,287

The tuition fee covers the cost of after-school activities, school social events, the yearbook, and other student activities.

A \$200 application fee and a one-time only nonrefundable school development fee of \$4,500 for all new students are payable upon enrollment. (All fees are quoted in U.S. dollars.) A hot lunch service is available from an outside provider for an additional cost.

**Uniforms:** BAIS polo shirts are available, but no uniform is required.

*This Fact Sheet is intended to provide general information. Prospective users of the schools may wish to inquire further of A/OPR/OS or contact the school directly for more specific and up-to-the-minute information. Information and statistics are current as of September 2021 and are provided by the school.*