
Our Mission

At Milan World School (MWS), we believe education is the first step toward building a better future. Our unique curriculum thoughtfully blends elements of the British, Ontario, and Italian educational systems, creating a well-rounded, globally informed learning experience from Early Childhood through Primary School.

English is the primary language of instruction at MWS. Italian and French are integrated into the curriculum to foster multilingualism, cultural awareness, and global citizenship.

We place great importance on experiential learning and on helping our students connect with the history, culture, and identity of Milan and Italy. For Italian students, this means rediscovering and appreciating their roots; for international students, it offers a meaningful opportunity to engage with a rich cultural heritage that supports both academic and personal growth.

Guided by innovation, inclusivity, and a strong sense of belonging, MWS is a place where every child can explore their individuality, discover their talents, and reach their full potential.

Rationale

The MWS Admission Policy is designed to welcome a diverse community of learners and ensure that each child admitted can benefit from our educational model. Our integrated curriculum is best suited for students who thrive in a dynamic, inquiry-based, and inclusive learning environment.

We recognize that every child is unique, and not every school is the right fit for every learner. Our admission process helps families and the School determine whether MWS is the right match for a child's academic, social, and personal needs.

Admission Criteria

MWS welcomes applications from students of all backgrounds, cultures, and nationalities. Each application is considered individually, **with the goal of ensuring that we can provide the right support for the student's success.**

Early Childhood (Ages 2–5)

- Readiness is assessed through developmental milestones, curiosity, and ability to engage with peers in English.
- Observations and a brief evaluation are administered.

Primary School (Grades 1–5)

- School report cards, a reference from the current school teacher/principal and internal assessments in English and Mathematics are required.
- Students are expected to demonstrate:
 - A high level of English.
 - Motivation and responsibility in their learning journey.
 - Openness to learning additional languages within our multilingual environment.

Grade Placement

Grade Placement is primarily based on year of birth, with December 31st as the cut-off date. As a general principle, Milan World School does not place students in a grade above their chronological age.

In some cases, a student may be placed in a lower grade if it is considered that this placement would better support their academic progress and personal development.

It is important to note that school calendars and year structures vary internationally. As such, careful consideration will be given to ensure that each student is placed in the grade most appropriate for their ongoing learning and overall well-being.

Language Support

As **English is the primary language of instruction at MWS**, students are supported in developing their English language skills at all levels. For students entering Primary School, a strong foundation in English is important to ensure they can fully access the curriculum and thrive in the classroom.

Students for whom English is an Additional Language (EAL)

Students with little or no prior exposure to English will be assessed to ensure their needs can be effectively supported before admission to Primary.

Special Learning Needs (SLN)

At MWS, we are committed to inclusion and to supporting every child in reaching their full potential. We welcome applications from students with a wide range of learning needs and carefully review each application to ensure we can provide the right academic, social, and emotional support.

We also recognize that, in some cases, a student's needs may be beyond what the School can reasonably and effectively support. We are committed to identifying and addressing additional learning needs as early as possible. To achieve this, we will collaborate closely with parents and external professionals to guide each student through their early education and into Primary. This process may involve developing tailored programs of resources and interventions to secure the best possible outcomes for students moving from Early Childhood into Primary.

Where concerns arise about a student's progress, homeroom teachers will share these with the Principals. Parents will be informed at the earliest opportunity so that concerns can be openly discussed, and age-appropriate assessments agreed upon. Following a suitable monitoring period, external assessment may be recommended. Together with parents, the School will agree on the most effective way to support the student. This may include recommending additional support from external professionals such as Speech and Language Therapists, Occupational Therapists, Psychologists or Educational Assistants. Families are responsible for incurring any additional costs.

Please note, some forms of additional provision may incur an extra cost to parents. If parents are unable or unwilling to support the agreed plan, the School may not be able to guarantee continued placement.

Admission Process

1. Schedule a Campus Tour or Meeting

Families are invited to visit MWS through a campus tour or one-to-one meeting with our admissions team. This provides the opportunity to explore our facilities and better understand our curriculum and philosophy.

2. Complete the Application Form

Following your visit, families will receive a link to complete the official student application form, which gathers essential background information.

3. Interview and Evaluation

- **Early Childhood applicants** may participate in a play-based session with teachers to observe developmental readiness.

- **Primary applicants (Grade 1 and above)** will complete assessments in English and Mathematics, followed by an interview to understand their learning style and readiness. The School may contact the student's previous teacher/principal.
4. **Follow-Up Meeting with Parents**
After the evaluation, parents will meet with the admissions team to receive feedback, discuss the child's needs, and clarify mutual expectations.
 5. **Placement Confirmation**
Final placement is confirmed by the School Management Team, based on the full evaluation process.

Equal Opportunities

MWS admits students regardless of gender, nationality, religion, or background. We value diversity and believe it enriches the School community.

Waitlist Policy

If a class is full, students may be placed on a waitlist and offered admission when a space becomes available. Priority is given to siblings of current students and to families transferring from abroad.

Policy Review

This policy is reviewed annually to ensure alignment with best practices.

Reviewed and Updated: August 2025