# Top 10 reasons to choose Bishkek International School

1. **International Accreditation Leader**
   As the first International Baccalaureate World School in the Kyrgyz Republic, we meet the top standards for truly international education and offer the prestigious IB Diploma for students age 11-18. IB students develop strong academic, social and emotional skills and are more likely to enrol at top universities than students from other programmes. BIS was also the first school in Bishkek to offer accreditation with Cambridge International Examinations for Kyrgyz citizens and we hold Cambridge accreditation and offer the IGCSE programme and exams for students age 14-16.

2. **Inspirational Learning Environment**
   Students enjoy the happy, safe and supportive environment at BIS. As the Korooluev family told us before they moved to USA: “For us, the best thing about the school was that our kids were happy there. They integrated well and absolutely loved the school, teachers and fellow students.” Our whole approach to learning is to create a great place for students to learn, where everyone is encouraged to achieve their best potential. Within this happy environment we focus on providing excellent education. Students want to come to school and learn!

3. **Exceptional Teachers**
   Our teachers from USA, Canada, Colombia, Japan, UK, Belgium, France, Poland and Kyrgyzstan, bring a wealth of international teaching experience. Many have Masters Degrees and some have PhDs, to provide education based around academic excellence. Specialist teachers provide excellent programmes for Math, Science, Humanities, ICT, PE, Dance, Music, Art and Languages. With the very best teachers and low student-teacher ratio, all students receive individual attention to help them achieve much more than they could elsewhere.

4. **Extra-Curricular Activities**
   At BIS the classroom is just one of many opportunities for learning. Since the school was opened, parents have praised the extracurricular programme including wushu, chess, rock-climbing, soccer, basketball, baseball, tennis, film-making, cooking, crafts, and more! In the words of the Lee family: “students have many chances to present their works, doing scientific experiments, building teamwork. Through this learning process, my kids gained confidence and were not afraid of performing in front of others.”

5. **Truly International**
   Students from America, Europe, Japan, China, Korea, and over 30 countries world-wide, provide a culturally diverse and creative learning environment. English is the main language of communication and instruction so that students have opportunities to join the world’s best universities and multinational companies in future. For English learners we have a strong programme of “English as an Additional Language” with one-on-one support at the early stages, leading up to full immersion of learning in English.

6. **Multilingual Students**
   We place great emphasis on language learning for all students, and those already proficient in English are encouraged to study at least two more languages. As well as supporting students in developing their own native languages we provide opportunity to learn Kyrgyz, Russian, French and Mandarin, and we add new language options as the school grows. Additional languages not only ease communication but they help students develop insights into the craft of language and influence of culture, and to realize that there are diverse ways of living, viewing and behaving in the world.

7. **The Power of Community**
   Our school was established by the community for the community and we never lose sight of the benefits of working together. Our Parents Committee is actively engaged in school governance and we practice a strong culture of open parent and school communication. Everything that we have achieved with the school is because of our joint commitment to success, so even when the going is tough, we always believe that “together, we can do this!”

8. **Fully Non-Profit**
   BIS is a liberal secular non-profit school with transparent governance and operations. Providing excellent education is the only reason for BIS to exist! School Fees pay for education costs or are invested in improving the school or to help provide scholarships. The Governing Board is fully elected by parents, staff and the BIS Advisory Council. The Board is responsible for overall school policy, strategy and financial sustainability. Our strict ethics policy means that we do not pay bribes and we pay all taxes, and this provides funds for government for education in state schools.

9. **Quiet Central Location**
   While being within central Bishkek, not far from the Bishkek Humanitarian University on Manas Avenue, the school campus is in a quiet residential area well away from the traffic fumes and other dangers of major roads. This is very safe place for students to spend the day. The school has the largest outdoor play area of any international school in Bishkek, including a full size basketball court and a real grass soccer field.

10. **Constant Improvement**
    We encourage a culture of constant improvement for all students and for all aspects of school facilities and operations. For the school, this culture is clearly visible in the annual improvements to school facilities. In 2015 we added 5 new classrooms, 2 libraries, ICT room and science lab. In 2016 we will complete a new multi-purpose hall for indoor sports and school performances; two new large library/media/ICT resource rooms, two new science laboratories, and six new classrooms. We never sit still and rest on our achievements. We always work hard to be even better in future!