



**COUNCIL OF INTERNATIONAL SCHOOLS  
ACCREDITATION SERVICE**

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23 October 2007

Deidre Fischer, Director  
International School of Ulaanbaatar  
PO Box 49/564  
Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia

Dear Deidre

*Extension of CIS Accreditation to Additional Grades  
Grades 11 and 12*

The Board of Trustees of the Council of International Schools has now completed its study of your school's Additional Grades Report and the report arising from the subsequent visit by Margaret Alvarez and Kenneth Imperato in April 2007. Board Members have also considered the recommendation of the Visitors, and that of the CIS Accreditation Service and its Advisors, with regard to the status of these additional grades.

I am pleased to inform you that the CIS Trustees' decision was that accreditation should be extended to cover Grades 11 and 12 at your school. Warmest congratulations to you, your staff, and the entire school community on this achievement.

CIS was impressed by a number of points, including:

- The investment in professional development to ensure that teachers have the skills necessary to deliver the 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade courses.
- The school's impressive IB results.
- The teachers' dedication and willingness to give students extra support when necessary.
- The school's obvious commitment to supporting the additional grades programme.

However, the school will need to pay particular attention to the critical comments concerning:

- The need to continue to develop resources for this area. This includes library, ICT and classroom resources.
- The need to develop systems to use student achievement data to improve teaching and learning.
- Policies need to be developed which govern the 11th and 12th grades; for example policies relating to instruction and assessment.

- The need to continually analyse the extent to which course offerings meet the needs of the student body.
- The need to fully implement the school's plan to create a structure for students studying their mother tongue on a self- taught basis.
- The need to finalise the construction of student records from inherited data and to ensure that these records are adequately protected from fire, theft or other eventualities.

The Extension of CIS Accreditation, therefore, comes with the understanding that the issues identified for follow up after the Five Year Visit in a Special Report to be submitted by 31<sup>st</sup> December 2008 (see my letter of 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2007) will include information relating to Grades 11 and 12. The Special Issues tend to apply school-wide.

All further reports and visits in your school's accreditation cycle will now include the above mentioned Additional Grades as an integral part of the institution. I would remind you that the next stage after the Special Report, due in December 2008, will be the Preparatory Visit in the second half of 2010.

You may now publish the fact that the above-mentioned Additional Grades are accredited by the Council of International Schools.

Please do not hesitate to contact the Accreditation Officer for your school Margaret Alvarez [MargaretAlvarez@cois.org](mailto:MargaretAlvarez@cois.org) or me if there is any point that is unclear or on which you would like further advice.

With my best wishes.

Yours sincerely,

Dr. Gerry Percy  
 Director of Accreditation Services  
 Council of International Schools (CIS)

c.c. Rev. Pete Woodward, NEASC

*Please note: You should have already received the Additional Grades Visitors' Report to which this letter refers. If this is not the case, please contact Sue Collins at the CIS Madrid Office [suecollins@cois.org](mailto:suecollins@cois.org) so that she can re-send you a copy.*

*Please also note:*

- i. *CIS considers reports on a rolling basis, but NEASC makes decisions on specific meeting days during the year. Therefore decisions may be communicated to schools on quite widely differing dates.*
- ii. *While CIS and NEASC are normally in contact and agreement, the two agencies do make independent decisions on the accreditation status of schools which they jointly evaluate. If the outcomes and follow-up dates you receive from the two agencies differ considerably, please do not hesitate to contact us immediately to discuss possible synchronisation procedures.*

