



 **RAMALLAH
FRIENDS SCHOOL**

Join our social
community online:

   @FriendsRamallah

   @RamallahFriendsSchool

DONATE NOW @ www.rfs.edu.ps

 Ramallah Friends School

PO Box 66
Ramallah, Palestine

 Contact us:

Head of School Office +972-2-2952286

Upper Campus +972-2-295623

upperschool@rfs.edu.ps

Lower Campus +972-2-2956240

lowerschool@rfs.edu.ps


**RAMALLAH
FRIENDS SCHOOL**

Leaders in Quality Palestinian
Education since 1869
IB World School

Our Mission

Guided by Quaker principles and values, enriched by being in Palestine, and strengthened by collaboration within the school community and with external partnerships, Ramallah Friends School (RFS) offers children and youth with an academically rigorous, balanced, engaging and inclusive learning environment of the highest quality standard, every day.

We inspire our students to become a living expression of a spiritual life, and be in constant search for God in all human situations. By doing so, we nurture confidence and intellectual curiosity through experiential learning and innovative application of knowledge and skills, enabling our students to become independent, adaptable but principled, socially responsible, and internationally-minded citizens.

Living our Quaker Values

SIMPLICITY - Friends believe that the most important things in life aren't things.

PEACE - Friends believe that there is always a path that brings peace, justice, dignity and respect.

INTEGRITY - Friends believe that our words and actions must reflect our truest selves.

COMMUNITY - Friends believe that we need each other, since each and every one of us is precious to our community.

EQUALITY - Friends believe that every person is equally beloved by God, no matter what.

STEWARDSHIP - Friends believe that all God's gifts are entrusted to us for the sake of future generations.

"The RFS not only trained outstanding leaders of national and global standing, but more importantly, they have provided generations of Palestinians with the knowledge, skills and values enabling them to become better humans."

Hanan Mikhail-Ashrawi
Class of 1964

Palestinian Legislator,
activist and scholar.

Innovative Education

At RFS, we believe deeply in the power of experiential learning, both in and out of the classroom, and seek to offer students ongoing opportunities to explore, investigate, research and discover by themselves the world in which they live.

Academics

In 1999, RFS became accredited by the International Baccalaureate Organization (IBO), offering students in Palestine for the first time an IB Diploma Program. After receiving the IB authorization to offer the Middle Years Program (MYP) in 2012, and the Primary Years Program (PYP) in 2018, the Ramallah Friends School has become a recognized IB Word School.

IB Primary Years Program (PYP) for Grades LKG – 5th

PYP is a curriculum framework for international primary schools aimed at developing the intellectual, emotional and physical potential of each child within a secure and stimulating environment.

IB Middle Years Program (MYP) for Grades 6th – 10th

MYP provides a framework of learning that encourages students to become creative, critical and reflective thinkers. MYP emphasizes intellectual challenge and encourages students to make connections between their studies in the real world.

IB Diploma Program (DP) for Grades 11th and 12th

The DP is an internationally renowned program offering a world class university preparatory curriculum. Students study subjects across a range of disciplines and complete three core requirements.

IB Learner Profile

Our Quaker mission compliments the IB Mission & Learner Profile in the sense that we approach students holistically, encouraging them to be academically excellent and to develop compassion, social responsibility & a commitment to volunteer work. Students are urged to become critical thinkers, risk takers, researchers, communicators & caring open-minded learners.

Learning Support Program (LSP)

RFS' LEARNING SUPPORT PROGRAM (LSP) IS THE FIRST AND ONLY INCLUSIVE EDUCATION PROGRAM in Palestine. Our aim is to care for each child's specific needs, these include educational, physical, behavioral, emotional and social needs. Stemming from our full determination and belief to provide opportunities of success and achievement for children with challenges in our school, we continue to develop this program.



College Matriculation

98% of RFS graduates enter four-year colleges and universities in Palestine and around the world. With the assistance of our college counselor, RFS graduates enter top North American, Middle Eastern, and European universities, including American Ivy League Universities. Most RFS graduates receive scholarships or financial aid packages at the universities they enroll in.

Campus Location

Our two coeducational campuses are located in the twin cities of Ramallah and El-Bireh, approximately 16 km north of Jerusalem. The Lower and Upper Campuses are located on beautifully shaded green landscapes.

Governance

RFS is governed by a local Board of Trustees in partnership with the Friends United Meeting (FUM). The FUM appoints the Head of School and an Executive Board of Trustees members. RFS is under the care of the FUM, based in Indiana USA.

Student Profile

We strive to have a diverse student body representative of Palestinian society in its different social, religious, and economic backgrounds. Each campus is home to more than 700 students of whom almost 49% are females.

Friends in Residence Program

Volunteers are welcomed into the RFS community and given the opportunity to experience many aspects of Palestinian life. Volunteers both contribute greatly to the work and mission of RFS and have the opportunity for tremendous personal growth.

Community Service Program (CSP)

RFS students are educated to realize and explore their responsibility towards the community. Quaker values of equality and service, are taught through the weekly Ethics program and practiced through the community service. Children learn from and support those who are less fortunate than themselves. The White Gifts Program aids more than 100 families every year from donations from our students and their families.





Faculty & Staff Profile

We currently employ over 183 highly-qualified faculty and staff members, mostly from the local community along with a number of international teachers. Along with our school principals, a number of Department Heads are responsible for the development of the curricula and encouraging teachers to use innovative teaching methods. Training programs are an essential part of the professional development of all teachers; IB, MYP, and PYP teachers are required to attend official IBO training conferences. The teacher to student ratio is 14:1.

Environmental Stewardship

As the receiver of Ramallah Municipality's Green School and Sustainability awards, we believe in the responsible use and protection of the natural environment through conservation and sustainable practices. These practices include the installation of photovoltaic cells on rooftops, organic gardens, rainwater harvesting systems and water wells.

Financial Facts

As a nonprofit organization, RFS supports itself mainly through tuition fees (85%). The remainder is received largely through donations, endowments and auxiliary programs. We critically rely on the support of the international Quaker community RFS alumni, and other friends to sustain our educational programs, student financial aid fund, and endowment.

Large infrastructure projects are normally funded by ASHA/USAID and other international development assistance agencies, including our alumni community.

Summer Programs

Go Palestine Summer Camp offers an opportunity to Palestinian youth in the Diaspora, aged 14-17, to experience and explore Palestine. www.summerinpalestine.org

I Know I Can Summer Academies offer English enrichment and SAT Prep courses for students in UKG through 11th grade in three separate programs, in cooperation with the Teach For America teachers. www.iknowican.net

