

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.

LEARNING SUPPORT PROGRAM (LSP)

LSP is the first and only inclusive education program in Palestine, serving almost 100 students every year. Our aim is to care for each child's specific needs, including educational, physical, behavioral, emotional and social needs. LSP has changed lives and instilled a school-wide culture of empathy since its adoption in 1995.

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.

GOVERNANCE

RFS operates under the care of the Friends United Meeting (FUM), which is based in Indiana, USA. It is also governed by a Board of Trustees consisting of local and US members who are Friends of Ramallah Friends School and Friends United Meeting.

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.

STAFF PROFILE

We employ almost 200 highly-qualified faculty and staff members. Approximately 10% of RFS faculty and staff are international. The teacher to student ratio is 14:1. Local and international training programs are an essential part of the professional development program for our staff.

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.

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.ikic.live

DONATE NOW

www.rfs.edu.ps/en/page/make-a-gift

JOIN OUR COMMUNITY

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RAMALLAH FRIENDS SCHOOL 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, in grades Pre-K to 12th, 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.

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.

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.

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 50% are females.

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.

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 (for grades 6 through 10), and the Primary Years Program (PYP) in 2018 (for grades LKG through 5th), the Ramallah Friends School has become a recognized IB World School.

IB PRIMARY YEARS PROGRAMME (PYP) FOR GRADES LKG – 5TH

PYP is 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 PROGRAMME (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 PROGRAMME (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 and Learner Profile in the sense that we approach students holistically, encouraging them to be academically excellent and to develop compassion, social responsibility and a commitment to volunteer work. Students are urged to become critical thinkers, risk takers, researchers, communicators and caring open-minded learners.

