

# **MAYFLOWER® CHRISTIAN ACADEMY**

Denominational public school of the free churches in Austria

# Fontanastrasse 8 A-1100 Vienna

Info folder PRIMARY STAGE



**Dear Parents!** 

We are pleased about your interest in the *Mayflower Christian Academy* and would like to give you an overview of our educational offer, our teaching objectives and our Christian background below.

Our most important goal is the comprehensive education of our students. This includes a curriculum that teaches more than knowledge. We want to help our children develop their personalities and social skills to become a valuable part of our society.

For this, we offer an inspiring bilingual environment and a pleasant atmosphere that enables all children to enjoy learning.

For all questions that we could not answer in this brochure, we are of course at your disposal by phone (0043 1 641 94 95) or at a personal appointment. Please also visit our website www.mayflower-christian-academy.at.

Your Mayflower Team



# MCA® - Introducing our school

Every step we take takes us in a certain direction. You now have the difficult task of making the right school choice for your child. This decision will have a lasting impact on both their future educational path and their personal development. The gradual shift towards a successful school career is not only a challenge for the pupil, but also affects the whole family life.

If you are looking for a small, personal school for your child with dedicated, competent and highly motivated teachers, then you will make a good choice with *Mayflower Christian Academy*!

The *Mayflower Christian Academy* (MCA®) is a *public school*, consisting of primary and lower secondary school, which was founded in 2002 and has been run as a denominational school of the free churches in Austria since February 2014.

The MCA® is a continuation of the International Private Kindergarten Arche Noah. There, the concept of bilingual and Christian education has already been successfully implemented with over 1,000 children since 1998. Since September 2019, the kindergarten and school have been run together at the International Campus Vienna, ICV, at Fontanastraße 8, 1100 Vienna, in a new modern building on 20,000m² of floor space. In Oberlaa, the continuation of the MCA® up to the Matura is also planned in a few years.

The school is run by a non-profit association.

### **Our offer**

At the *Mayflower Christian Academy*, lessons are combined with leisure-time educational activities and afternoon care is offered until 6 pm. The teaching day begins between 8:00 and 8:30 a.m. and ends between 3:30 p.m. (Mon - Thurs) and 1 p.m. (Friday). Saturdays are free of lessons. Holidays are based on the school year of public schools in Austria.

Our pupils can be looked after in the afternoon care (NaMiBet) from as early as 7:00 a.m. and after school until 6:00 p.m. (see price sheet).



## Our teaching objectives

The MCA<sup>®</sup> aims at the **comprehensive school education of** our pupils according to the "Austrian Framework Curriculum" as well as the teaching of **intensive English skills** and education according to **Christian values**.

Our teaching goals go beyond imparting knowledge. We place value on:

#### Personality development

Perceiving and recognising God's work in history and in our own lives. We want our children to become strong personalities who can cope with themselves and the environment, live their lives with confidence and develop their own Achieving goals.

#### The promotion of talents

Every person has talents and abilities. We want to help our children discover their own talents and bring them to full development.

#### Learning how to learn

Learning is the starting point of all understanding. Learning how to learn is a skill that helps us throughout life to grasp and master new things.

#### Self-motivation

Joy in learning is the best self-motivation. We offer our students a creative and inspiring environment where learning is fun.

#### Social competence

We are all part of a community. Our children should learn to be considerate and tolerant in their dealings with others and, as part of this community, to take responsibility for themselves and others.

#### Cosmopolitanism

The world is characterised by diversity. We want our students to know and understand their own roots as well as to experience and appreciate the traditions of other cultures.

A motivated and committed team of German-speaking primary school teachers and experienced English teachers works towards achieving these goals, with native speakers being preferred but not always available.

Our teachers see themselves as mentors of the students, whose development they want to encourage and accompany. They regularly take part in further training courses in order to keep their own level of knowledge at the highest level.



### Multi-level classes

At MCA® Primary School, multi-level teaching has been carried out in smaller learning groups since the beginning. This makes individual attention to our students possible. The flexible school entry phase is also a fixed component of the concept. In the Arche Noah kindergarten, which is located on the same campus, an open pedagogical concept is already in place. Many of the children attend the 1st grade of the MCA® after the Arche Noah kindergarten. They are already familiar with free learning and bring personal responsibility as well as the willingness and basic skills to work with partners or in small groups.

At the beginning of the school year, depending on the number of available classes and the distribution of pupils according to school levels, 4 - 8 first graders are newly admitted to the class group of the multi-grade class and work on the learning goals adapted to them. The lessons take place in class, sometimes in small learning and support groups or individually adapted to the different needs of the children.

Children in the fourth grade are prepared to attend a secondary general school (MS or AHS). More and more students are transferring to MCA® -secondary I (AHS curriculum, lower secondary school) at the same campus location.

#### Multi-level teaching at MCA primary level

Children from all four school levels (or 5 including pre-school level) are taught together in one class.

In the course of the four school years, each child goes through certain phases which result from the age-specific position within the class group. This form of year mix is primarily intended to promote a child's social competence. It matures from a "small, new" classmate to a "big, experienced" schoolchild. Older children thus take on social responsibility for younger ones and younger ones later become older "buddies" themselves. Older pupils have opportunities to play childishly during the free time phases, younger ones often pick up knowledge input in advance. High-performing children can occasionally work with the next higher learning year; lower-performing children can consolidate basics with the previous learning year.

Through this form of teaching, individual children may gain all the experiences that they are deprived of in the traditional family setting. This creates a beneficial exchange between children of different years and a more natural social climate. Older pupils also pass on learning skills, work techniques, tips on time management and concentrated work, etc. to the younger ones in a natural way.

The classroom and the marketplace (corridor) are available for lessons in the multi-level class. The pupils work both in the classroom (regular place) and by arrangement in the marketplace (various group tables, learning carpets, ...).



### German in the classroom

Literacy for all students at MCA® takes place in German. Therefore, it is necessary that all pupils acquire knowledge of the German language. For children whose mother tongue is not German, the level of proficiency in the use of German is determined during the intake interview. Children with insufficient or still inadequate German language skills then have the opportunity to acquire these language skills within a maximum of two years as extraordinary pupils. During this time, they are not yet graded, but in addition to intensive German lessons, they take part in all subjects. This integration into a group of pupils who communicate equally in German and English ensures that they learn both languages quickly.

# English in the classroom

Children learn languages particularly easily. It is therefore all the more important to familiarise them with them at an early age. At MCA®, English is therefore taught alongside German - from the first grade onwards. English is offered as a compulsory subject as well as a non-binding exercise and is also used in numerous other subjects.

From Year 2 (Semester 2), we teach written expression in addition to spoken language, if the children's capacity and language skills allow. In science and mathematics, the children are introduced to the use of English terminology. Learning content for the compulsory subject English is based on the content of the compulsory exercise "English as a living foreign language" according to the primary school curriculum. English as a compulsory exercise represents a deepening of the contents of the compulsory subject English. It focuses in particular on practising correct pronunciation and communication in English.

Our pupils have a very good knowledge of both languages - German and English - after completing grade 4 and can easily transfer to secondary, Austrian or international schools.

**French** is taught at the MCA<sup>®</sup> secondary school from the 5th grade onwards. Therefore, it is possible - on a voluntary basis - to take part in a "French Club" (an additional course offered in the afternoon) as early as 3rd grade. A fee is charged for this per semester.

## Digital technology in the classroom

Since 2014, our classrooms have been equipped with tablets. These are used in the various subjects for research, papers and presentations. Furthermore, the children have access to a wide range of learning software.

Above all, teaching safe use of the internet is very important to us. Parents' evenings and discussion groups are also offered on this topic.



### **Christian Education**

Our Christian faith obliges us to treat people with respect and charity. Every person is unique and should be able to develop the qualities given to him or her. To this end, we want to offer our students the necessary environment.

Christian education is the basis of all learning for us and is integrated into the daily lessons. Each teaching day begins with a morning circle and songs. We also want to take God's thoughts into the day.

The compulsory exercise "Christian Education" as well as our devotional times, school services and festivals are a compulsory part of everyday school life for all our pupils and teachers.

Through the **compulsory exercise Christian Education**, **the** following competences are ostensibly strengthened:

#### Self-competence:

The trust in being created and loved by God enables an attitude of gratitude and confidence. From this experience, appreciation of others succeeds.

#### (Biblical) literacy:

The Bible is to be got to know as the Word of God and brought into relation with one's own life as well as with social challenges.

#### Faith competence:

Man, as a creature of God, is invited to a personal relationship with God. This relationship is offered to man by grace, regardless of his merits and origin, and man can accept this gift according to his free will. From this can arise a lifestyle of prayer, dialogue with God and the desire for spiritual growth and personal development.

#### **Conscience competence**

Faith is a personal decision of the human being, which is expressed in an individual experience. This experience is to be reflected, which is why reason has an important role to play. This is also a prerequisite for human freedom of will and the associated decisions of conscience, which can express themselves in concrete commitment to the observance of human rights.

Since personal faith is always in a process, is subject to change and manifests itself differently depending on the life situation, it is also about dealing with one's own doubts and questions.

#### Social competence:

The relationship with other people is characterised by respect, appreciation and charity. In view of the diversity of human beings, especially

equal opportunities and mutual solidarity are emphasised. Knowledge of other religions, traditions and beliefs is an important basic prerequisite for this.



# Religious education

Denominational religious education is anchored in the Religion Act and is a compulsory subject unless parents withdraw their child from it within the first week of school.

Pupils without a religious confession (o.B.) CAN be registered for religious education at MCA®. Should the Protestant, Catholic, Free Church or Orthodox school authorities not be able to offer their own lessons at our location in a school year, there is also the possibility of offering dialogue-based religious instruction with the agreement of the parents and school authorities. Decisions are made at the beginning of each school year.

### Performance assessment

MCA® Primary pupils are assessed twice a year (school report/annual report) on the basis of a learning objectives log. From Grade 3 onwards, a numerical mark is also added.

It is important to us that our students understand grades as intermediate results. For us, a lower grade simply means that not everything has been achieved in this area yet. That is why we want to give students special support in such a case. Together we can make it!

# **School clothing**

The pupils of the MCA wear uniform school clothing. In this way, we want to make differences - especially of a social nature - fade into the background, promote community among the pupils and guide the children to focus on the essentials.

You can also find the current collection in the MCA® Office "Shop". Currently, the school uniform is composed of the following parts:

- Dark blue trousers or dark blue skirt
- Polo shirt long and short sleeved (coloured, without pattern) with
   MCA® emblem sewn on
- Dark blue jumper or hooded jumper
   with *MCA*® emblem on the front and Mayflower lettering on the back (embroidered)





# Faculty & Administration

#### **School managements**

Lisa Assmann, BEd Pedagogical Head of Primary School

Primary school teacher, class teacher

Simona Bratosin, Lic. Pedagogical Head of Secondary School

English, Music, German as a Second Language

A now international team of teachers is competently led by our head teachers. Joint further training, planning and close cooperation within the team ensure that Mayflower Christian Academy is always developing and can react promptly to new demands in the field of education as a unified team of teachers.

The teaching work of the class and subject teachers is supported by other teachers (gifted support, learning coach, DaZ, English teacher...) and assistants.

#### **Campus Leadership Team**

Marcus Assmann, MBA Managing Director, School Board, Finance

Michaela Kröss Managing Director, School Board, Personnel, Finance

Sylvia Assmann, MA Campus Concept, Team, School Development

Office

Mrs. Liane John office@mayflower-christian-academy.at

0043 1 641 94 95 (fax -23)



### School fees

#### **One-Time Fees**

Security Deposit € 310,- refunded at withdrawal from school (see contract article VI (2))

Registration Fee € 490,-

School Readiness Test, Taster Days € 100,- will be deducted in the first school month

School medical certificates € 50.-

#### **Tuition**

Primary School (0<sup>th</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> Grade)

School year 2023/2024 € 7.680,- p.a. € 640,- p.m. (12 x September–August)

Estimated tuition (see contract article VI Tuition):

 School year 2024/2025
  $\in$  7.920,- p.a.
  $\in$  660,- p.m. (12 x September–August)

 School year 2025/2026
  $\in$  8.160,- p.a.
  $\in$  680,- p.m. (12 x September–August)

 School year 2026/2027
  $\in$  8.400,- p.a.
  $\in$  700,- p.m. (12 x September–August)

*Middle School (5<sup>th</sup>–8<sup>th</sup> Grade)* 

Estimated tuition (see contract article VI Tuition):

 School year 2024/2025
 € 8.400,- p.a.
 € 700,- p.m. (12 x September–August)

 School year 2025/2026
 € 8.520,- p.a.
 € 710,- p.m. (12 x September–August)

 School year 2026/2027
 € 8.640,- p.a.
 € 720,- p.m. (12 x September–August)

- Sibling discount: 2nd child on campus: -15% 3rd child on campus: -25%.
- 2% discount on tuition if annual tuition is paid within 4 weeks of the start of school.

#### **Campus Model:** (for all children transferring from Noah's Ark Kindergarten to MCA):

- 15% discount on the "school fees" listed above.
- Sibling discount (from the reduced school fees): 2nd child on campus: 5%

3rd child on campus: -10%

€ 25,- / p.m.

2% Discount (from reduced tuition) if annual tuition is paid within 4 weeks of school start date.

#### **Optional**

 Early Birds Childcare at school from 7:00am until classes start at 8:00am

Flexible arrival: Mo – Fr 8:00am to 8:30am Primary- and Secondary level

School start/-end: Mo – Thu 8:30am to 3:15pm Primary level

Fr 8:30am to 12:50pm Primary level

Mo – Fr according to the timetable Secondary level

#### **Registered After-School-Care**

End of school 5 pm  $\in$  85,- / month. Late shift 5 pm - 6 pm  $\in$  15,- / hour

School free/ vacations days 8am - 5 pm; incl. breakfast, lunch, afternoon snack, € 30 / day, €130,-/ week



# Registration and school enrolment

### We are pleased that you are interested in the MCA!

#### The following overview should make the registration process easier for you:

1.)	Open days
	take place in October, November, January and May

- 2.) Dates
  - Determination of school readiness (first graders) or trial lessons (2nd
    - 8th grade)

Delivery of copies of your documents to the office

Birth certificate of the child

Proof of citizenship or passport

Registration form

Social security card or private health insurance policy

Invitation from the Directorate of Education with matriculation number (if available)

Baptismal certificate, if available

a small photo of your child

Any available certificates from therapists, psychologists, paediatricians.

2nd - 8th grade: the last 2 report cards, examples of school work especially German, English and mathematics.

Payment of registration fees:

Registration fee 490,00 Euro

School readiness or trial lessons 100,00 Euro (will be credited to the first school fee).

School medical certificates 50,00 Euro

- Appointment with the school doctor
- Feedback discussion with parents on school readiness
- 3.) Confirmation from the MCA principal about the admission of your child
- 4.) Important information before the summer for a successful start in the new school year!
- 5.) MCA® Graduation ceremony at the end of June
- 6.) Parents' breakfast in the last holiday week in August