



Mar Qardakh International School

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Located in the heart of the Middle East, Mar Qardakh School strives to perpetuate a great and ancient heritage.

Iraq is often thought of as the Cradle of Civilization, the land where some of the first and greatest ancient civilizations and cultures – Babylon, Mesopotamia and Assyria – began. The beginning of multiple languages, the beginning of writing and the beginning of education have often been associated with this region. Today, Mar Qardakh School is building upon this ancient heritage and carrying it forward by providing a comprehensive, rigorous education, centered on the holistic development of the entire person, in order to invest in the well-being of each individual and of the community as a whole.

Mar Qardakh International School (MQS) (مدرسة مار قرداغ) is a private, Catholic co-educational day school in Ankawa, Erbil. An IB World School, it offers the PYP and MYP programmes since 2011 as well as the CASTA (Chesterton Programme) in the High School. From the moment of its inception, Mar Qardakh School was determined to become an IB World School in order to provide its students with the multiple benefits of the IB PYP and MYP and complementing these with the Chesterton Secondary School.

MQS Mission

Our mission is to empower students for life in the 21st century by providing them with a holistic, international education encompassing academic, social, spiritual and personal development.

MQS Values

Academic excellence

Mar Qardakh School implements a challenging college preparatory curriculum, designed to meet the developmental needs of each age group. The curriculum engages students, utilizing a variety of teaching methods to effectively help different types of learners, and using the latest information technology and resources to support and further its interactive educational goals.

ETHICAL AND MORAL VALUES

Mar Qardakh School strives to help its students develop values, such as honesty, sincerity, respect, appreciation, friendship and generosity.

LOVE OF LEARNING

Mar Qardakh School provides its students with inquiry based learning opportunities, fostering the desire to constantly deepen in the quest for learning, with the goal of helping the students become lifelong learners who are able to learn inside and outside the classroom.

INTERNATIONAL MINDEDNESS

Mar Qardakh School offers an international education. It teaches the students about their own history and identity, and about the reality of the world around them. It teaches them to observe, value and dialogue with different cultures and world views, in order to learn from them and share with them. The Mar Qardakh student body, faculty and staff is comprised of multiple nationalities, thus enriching the school community, and providing daily opportunities for interchange and dialogue.

RESPONSIBILITY

Mar Qardakh School expects all students to develop personal and communal responsibility in their studies, community service projects, social relationships, and other dealings.

WELL ROUNDEDNESS

Students are expected to participate in extracurricular activities to strengthen their character and social values, as well as to experientially enrich their education. To this end, Mar Qardakh School provides a physical education program, as well as a variety of after school activities, and community service projects.

MQS Academic Leadership

School Governor Archbishop Bashar Matti Warda

Head of School Ms Hala Warda
PYP Coordinator Ms Yvette Saleh
MYP Coordinator Ms Madeleine Post

MQS Faculty and Staff

41 of which:

- 75% are native to Iraq and have gained their educational qualifications and work experience here in the region,
- 3% are native to Iraq, but also has an international background by residing in a different country for a period of time and/or obtaining their educational qualifications and work experience abroad, and,
- 22% are foreigners, who have come to Ankawa-Erbil in order to become part of the administrative or teaching faculty at Mar Qardakh.

MQS Student Body (2022-2023)

PYP: Grades 1-5 184 students

MYP: Grades 6-10 123 students

MQS Community

Everyone at Mar Qardakh School is part of a learning community. Parents, students, teachers and staff all form part of this community, and mutually help and support each other by fulfilling their respective roles in the school. All constituents are expected to learn from each other and continue their own personal development. Mar Qardakh School also fosters interchange with the greater community, involving members of the community in school events, and helping the community through its service projects.