

INTERNATIONAL FRIENDS SCHOOL —early childhood— 早教中心

THE REGGIO EMILIA APPROACH

The Reggio Emilia philosophy of early education places great value on the child as a strong, capable, resilient learner. IFS firmly believes that every child brings with them a deep curiosity to construct further understanding and sense making of the world and it is the job of educators to guide the youngest of learners on their exploration. This chaperoning occurs throughout the school day in studio art, music, creative movement, and all exposure to early literacy, numeracy, and scientific exploration in Mandarin and English.

There are several profound understandings that guide IFS's adoption of Reggio Emilia learning.

- Children are capable of constructing their own learning. They are driven by their interest in understanding more of the world around them.
- Children form an understanding of themselves and their place in the world through their interactions with others. This is a social and collaborative, and continual process. New information forces the child to reconstruct old truths and to form new important meanings.
- The environment is a third teacher. At IFS, the environment is filled with natural light, order, and beauty. Every area offers the child an invitation to explore and to take their learning deeper and deeper. It is equally the job of the teacher and the environment to inspire children.
- Documentation of children's thoughts and ideas. Documentation of a child's progression of thinking and ideas is the backbone of the curriculum. IFS carefully

documents each child's thoughts and musings through photographs, transcriptions, visual representations, videos, and anecdotal records.

- These are proudly displayed in early education classrooms, and serve as an important link between learning and self, and are utilized in discussions between parents and school.

Reggio Alliance North America

National Association for the Education of Young Children

Education Online