HARROW
INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL
哈罗国际学校
SHENZHEN QIANHAI 深圳前海

INFORMATION FOR PROSPECTIVE CANDIDATES





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Thank you for your interest in Harrow International School Shenzhen. We hope you find the following information helpful and look forward to receiving your application.



ASIA INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL LIMITED

The Leading Provider of World Class British International Education

ASIA INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL LIMITED
亚洲国际学校有限公司

Inspiring Future Generations
十年树木 百年树人

Asia International School Limited (AISL) Group is a leading provider of education services in Asia. The AISL Harrow family of schools comprises Harrow International Schools, Harrow LiDe Schools, Harrow Hong Kong Children School and Harrow Little Lions Early Years Centres, which proudly draw on the 450-year heritage of Harrow School in the UK, embracing the Harrow Values of Courage, Honour, Humility, and Fellowship. AISL is committed to the highest standards and quality of education for all students, delivering educational excellence for life and leadership.

Harrow – 450 Years of Heritage

Harrow School was founded in London in 1572 under a Royal Charter granted by Elizabeth I. Over the four centuries since its inception, it has developed into one of the world's most successful private schools, renowned for its traditions, academic rigour, holistic education, and commitment to service learning.

Harrow has educated renowned world leaders including Sir Winston Churchill, 'the Greatest Britain', Jawaharlal Nehru, the first Prime Minister of independent India, the poet Lord Byron and numerous Nobel laureates. It is these illustrious Old Harrovian's and the values they cherished - Courage, Honour, Humility and Fellowship – that have established Harrow School's global reputation and shaped the celebrated institution it is today.



HARROW INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL SHENZHEN

Located in the Qianhai Co-operation Zone, Harrow International School, Shenzhen Qianhai (HIS Shenzhen) covers an area of 14,700 sqm, providing world class international curriculum.

HIS Shenzhen is designed to cater to a capacity of over 900 students with outstanding facilities for Early Years to the Sixth Form with boarding. The campus connects Harrow School's Values with Qianhai's spirit.

The campus provides a holistic approach to education, with sports and leisure areas, library and break out spaces, and canteens and lecture halls, allowing students to flow easily between the various teaching and activities areas, in order to learn, collaborate and socialise freely.

The campus will connect Harrow's values with Qianhai's spirit. As an inner-city site, the school will adopt the concept of 'land sharing', with a lawn area where the main sports grounds and outdoor activity spaces are located, ensuring the whole campus will have a vibrant atmosphere. The British garden landscaping is inspired by the setting of 'Harrow on the Hill'.

HIS Shenzhen has started in September 2020, accepting students from Early Years to The Sixth Form (age sixteen to eighteen).

MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD MASTER

At Harrow Shenzhen, our mission is to equip every student with the knowledge, skills, and character to thrive in an ever-changing world. Guided by our vision of educational excellence and our core values of Courage, Honour, Humility, and Fellowship, we are committed to nurturing both academic achievement and personal growth in a diverse, international community.

Our staff are at the heart of this mission. Every teacher, leader, and colleague contributes not only to the success of our students, but also to the spirit of our community. Whether it is through inspiring lessons, innovative programmes, or the care shown beyond the classroom, our people bring our values to life each day.

We believe that when staff are supported, challenged, and inspired, they in turn empower students to reach their fullest potential. At Harrow Shenzhen, we invest in professional growth, collaboration, and wellbeing, ensuring that every member of staff feels valued and able to make a meaningful impact.

If you are passionate about shaping the future of young people, eager to grow professionally, and ready to contribute to a vibrant and purposeful community, we warmly invite you to join us.

Head Master, Harrow Shenzhen



HARROW INTERNATIONAL SCHOOLS

Educational Excellence for Life and Leadership

The motto of the Harrow International Schools is *Educational Excellence for Life and Leadership.*

Successful leadership requires the desire, skills and resilience to make a difference; whether leading from the front or influencing from within as an effective team player.

In educating 'Leaders for a better world' we work with our young people to develop six attributes as habits of behaviour:

- Contributing positively to community
- Applying knowledge with compassion
- Solving problems collaboratively
- Solving problems creatively
- Making just choices
- Facing challenges with determination

It is the intention of the Harrow International Schools to reinforce these behaviours throughout the school life of our students in a number of ways.

Academic Progression

Early Years (age two to five)

Blending the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) Curriculum of England and a strong Chinese language and culture component, children are inspired to develop creative thinking and teamwork through a dynamic, progressive curriculum that recognises the individuality of each learner.

It is at this stage too, within the enabling environments of our Little Lions Centre, that the Harrow Values of Courage, Honour, Humility and Fellowship are introduced.

Pre-Prep Phase (age five to eleven)

At Harrow International School Shenzhen, our Lower School's curriculum stands out for its unique approach. It has been meticulously developed to provide the strongest foundation for every child to thrive, enabling them to reach their fullest potential as individuals and future leaders. We recognise the uniqueness and capability of each child at Harrow. Our curriculum blends the English National Curriculum and other innovative approaches, creating a bespoke, challenging, and knowledge-rich program ideally suited for our diverse local and international context.

Our evidence-informed approach to teaching, learning and assessment is designed to shape Shenzhen Harrovians into well-rounded individuals. We believe that academic excellence is just one aspect of success. Our curriculum is structured to foster strong character and resilience, ensuring that our students are equipped for future challenges and successes.





Prep Phase (age eleven to thirteen)

Modelled on the best practices of British preparatory schools and international middle schools, our Prep Phase is a blend of specialist-taught core subjects such as English, Mandarin, Mathematics and Science, with additional subjects taught including Art, Computing, Drama, Geography, History, Music and Physical Education.

Pupils in the Prep Phase enjoy the benefit of specialist teaching and learning with a full range of academic challenge and opportunity as they begin to assume greater independence, responsibility and scholarly approaches that equip them with the essential skills and academic rigour required in the Senior Phase.

The Senior Phase (age thirteen to sixteen)

Designed to build on the knowledge and skills developed in the Prep Phase, our Senior School curriculum is increasingly academically demanding, focusing students on international public examinations. Building towards their iGCSE examinations (usually taken in Year 11), students are intellectually stretched. Subjects taught include: Art, Biology, Chemistry, Computer Science, Economics, Business Studies, Drama, English, Geography, History, Mandarin, Mathematics, Music, Physics and Physical Education. Faculties create educational programs that inspire subject passion and that seek to challenge and stimulate students whilst providing the skills and knowledge base to take subjects beyond traditional confines. Our curriculum provides the platform for our students to flourish and find their pathway into Sixth Form.



The Sixth Form (age sixteen to eighteen)

Following iGCSE examinations, students move into the 'Sixth Form' phase of the School and prepare themselves for success at University. They complete a two-year suite of A-Level courses, that are regarded as the gold standard of the British education system and recognised worldwide for university entrance.

The Sixth Form years are both challenging and exciting. Students have the opportunity to specialise in subjects they excel and are passionate about and study these areas to an advanced academic level. Many students complete an 'Extended Project Qualification' (EPQ) which allows for the development of research skills and the exploration of a topic of special interest in even greater depth. Students also have an opportunity to contribute to the school and wider community through active leadership by taking on key student positions of responsibility such as School Captains, Prefect Monitors, academic societies, and student organisations such as our Student Council. Students play an essential role in supporting our vibrant campus life.

The Upper School provides academic rigour and challenge, students think deeply and critically, developing independence, understanding of alternate perspectives and metacognition. Students are empowered to take risks and act creatively to solve problems. Our curriculum is amplified by modern facilities providing opportunitics for pupils to research, explore, experiment and learn; designed to stimulate the mind courses are structured around learning rather than assessment, yet in a manner that enables them to thrive and achieve the best possible examination results. The HDA programme is an intrinsic part of life in the Upper School and all students are expected to partake in a full.

Boarding

Our carefully designed boarding houses provide the 'full Harrow experience': 24/7 engagement in school, resulting in more individualised academic and pastoral support and deep friendships. The networks Harrow students develop last a lifetime and span the globe. Our boarders swiftly grow in independence and, for EAL learners, quickly develop their English language skills.



HOUSE SYSTEM

A key strength of the House system is the vertical integration of different aged students. This creates a 'family' unit within which responsibilities are assigned to older students to care for and support their younger peers.

The House system is the most distinctive characteristic of a Harrow-branded education and is central to the School's culture and success. The development of House communities is characterised by strong bonds and support networks within each House. The Head of House and Form Tutor know each member of the House extremely well, allowing for close monitoring of academic performance as well as pastoral support. Through fostering supportive relationships, the Tutor focus is on ensuring the fulfilment of every tutee so that, if and when they face obstacles in their learning the student will swiftly receive well judged, individualised and effective wraparound care and support to get back on track.





THE BENEFITS OF WORKING WITH THE HARROW FAMILY IN ASIA

The Harrow family is dynamic. We have been operating international schools for over 20 years and are one of the longest established UK independent school groups operating in Asia. We have taken our time to be ready for further expansion. Our evolution has been cautious and successful.

With high levels of teacher retention, strong investment in talent management and a commitment to the development of leadership capacity, our family is now well placed to expand further. Teachers joining us will benefit from the capabilities already available within our schools whilst, at the same time, bringing fresh ideas and expertise from previous professional lives.

Becoming part of the Harrow family offers real benefits for teachers. Professional development links are flourishing and there are established pathways for career progression within the family.

Binding Links

Each Harrow international school has its own Harrow Agreement, a legally binding relationship that outlines the roles and responsibilities of the Harrow Foundation (London), AISL and the individual school.

Each Harrow Agreement has important appendices that define the accountabilities for the operation of the individual school. AISL is the operating company for the Harrow International Schools, providing strategic oversight, co-ordination and quality assurance for the existing schools and establishing new Harrow International and bilingual schools.

Functional Ties

There is significant interaction between the schools within the Harrow family; for instance:

1. Old Harrovians sit on the Governing Boards of all our schools.

2. At one time a former Head of one of the Harrow Foundation's London institutions, The John Lyon School, was Head of Harrow Bangkok.

3. A former Deputy Head of Harrow School (London), was the founding Head of Harrow Hong Kong and returned to London as Head Master of Harrow School (London).

4. A Master (Beak) taught mathematics at Harrow School for 16 years before going on to teach at all but one of the Harrow International Schools.

5. Graduating students from both Harrow School and The John Lyon School have worked in Harrow international schools as gap students.

6. At Speech Day each year, teachers win travel awards and may travel to Harrow School for a week to experience 'the mother ship'.

7. A Year 9 student exchange takes place between Harrow International schools.

8. Selected students from all schools in the family attend Harrow School's, 'Family Fifth Form Conference' each June; there is also an annual Family Ski Camp.

9. There are several annual inter-Harrow school student competitions (e.g. Coding, Mathematics, Swimming).

10. All newly appointed international Heads of School are inducted at Harrow School.

11. AISL senior management and all Harrow International school Head's work closely with the Harrow Foundation (London) throughout the year.

12. Several managers in schools in our family will move to senior management posts in our new schools in the summer of 2020, including the founding Heads of Harrow Shenzhen and Harrow Haikou.



WHAT WE ARE LOOKING FOR

We are seeking teachers who genuinely love working with young people, who care about their attainment, who sincerely want to spend time with children and who will go the extra mile, seeing teaching as a vocation.

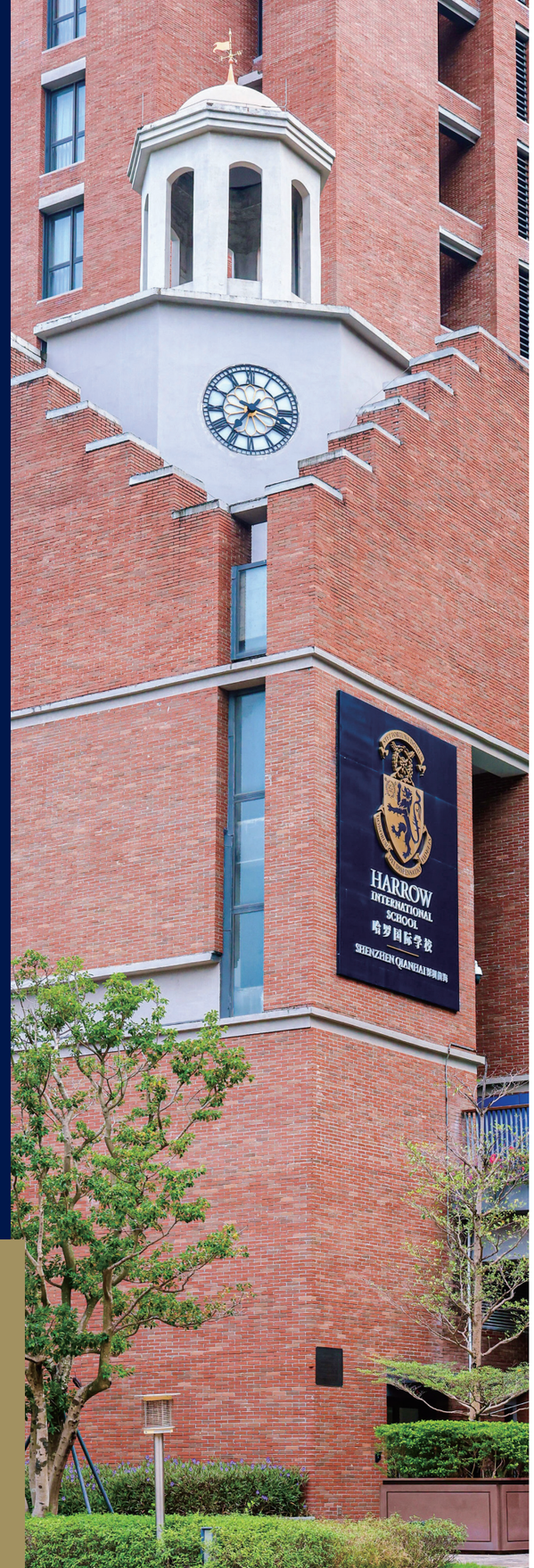
We wish to appoint teachers who embrace a high degree of integration between their personal and professional lives; teachers who young people like being with and who enjoy the fellowship of colleagues. Those we appoint relish being part of the wider school community and give generously and willingly of their time.

Successful Harrow Shenzhen teachers will have a passion for the craft of teaching. They are reflective and are risk takers, willing to try new ideas if they think it will benefit their students.

They have all-round abilities and interests that support excellence both in the classroom and our Leadership and Service (extra-curricular) programmes. They will be confident users of digital technologies.

Many of our teachers have an understanding of the independent and/or international sectors and have been involved in boarding schools, though these are not prerequisites.

We are looking for experienced, dynamic teachers who believe in an education that ensures each child reaches their academic potential through outstanding teaching and individualised pastoral support, a widely enriched school life and learning through service – and, in particular, teachers who passionately want to work and live in this kind of environment.



LIVING AND WORKING IN SHENZHEN

Located in the Qianhai Cooperation Zone of Nanshan District, the school has obvious transportation advantages by its excellent location. We hope you find the following guidance useful in gaining a better understanding of life in Shenzhen.

Shenzhen is the youngest first-tier city in China with the average age of the population under thirty.

Rated as having the best air quality of all first-tier cities in China, Shenzhen is home to many tech companies like Tencent, DJI, Huawei and ZTE. As part of the larger Pearl River Delta, Shenzhen is within an hour of Hong Kong (45 minutes to our HIS), Dongguan, Foshan, Guangzhou, Zhuhai and Macao.

Cost of living

Transportation

Service	Average Price
Taxi Fare (Minimum Fare, First 2 km)	10.00 CNY (13.00 CNY at night)
Taxi Fare (Fare per km)	2.70 CNY
Taxi Fare (Night Fare per km)	3.51 CNY
Subway Ticket (Minimum Fare)	2.00 CNY
Bus Ticket (Minimum Fare)	2.00 CNY
Subway Ticket to Airport (from City Centre)	9.00 CNY
Bus to Airport (Airport Express)	20.00 CNY

Monthly bills

Service	Average Price
Internet Home Connection (China Telecom, 300 MB)	239.00 CNY
Smartphone Plan (China Mobile, 20 GB)	99.00 CNY
Smartphone Price per Minute (China Mobile, 700 MB Plan)	0.19 CNY
Electricity, Water, Gas, Heating (1 Person)	350.00 CNY
VPN Service (For a Yearly Subscription)	200.00 CNY

Monthly rent

Service	Average Price
Single Room Apartment, near school	5,000.00 CNY
2 Rooms International Apartment, near school	10,000.00 CNY
3 Rooms International Apartment, near school	13,000.00 CNY



Sports and Entertainment

Service	Average Price
Massage in a Luxury Spa	330.00 CNY
Massage in a Small Spa	158.00 CNY
Gym Monthly Fee	362.00 CNY
Cinema (International Release)	86.00 CNY

Restaurants, Bars and Nightclubs

Service	Average Price
Meal Inexpensive Restaurant	48.91 CNY
Meal Expensive Chinese Restaurant	172.27 CNY
Meal Expat Restaurant	249.55 CNY
Meal at McDonalds	42.22 CNY
Domestic Beer in a “Student” Bar	13.25 CNY
Imported Beer in a Night Club / High End Venue	52.00 CNY
Cocktail in a Night Club / High End Venue	99.00 CNY
Starbucks Coffee	36.00 CNY

Markets

ITEM	Average Price
Regular Milk (1 Litre)	18.00 CNY
Baguette	13.00 CNY
White Rice (500 g)	5.78 CNY
Eggs (6)	12.20 CNY
Chicken Breasts (500 g)	18.60 CNY
Apples (500 g)	9.14 CNY
Oranges (500 g)	9.36 CNY
Tomatoes (500 g)	7.00 CNY
Potatoes (500 g)	5.73 CNY
Lettuce (1 Head)	2.94 CNY
Water (Bottle of 1.5 Litre)	3.79 CNY
Bottle of Wine (Mid-Range)	106.60 CNY
Domestic Beer (Bottle of 0.66 Litre)	4.66 CNY
Imported Beer (Bottle of 0.33 Litre)	13.88 CNY

Clothing

ITEM	Average Price
Jeans (Levi’s or similar)	598.89 CNY
Summer Dress (H&M or similar)	231.17 CNY
Sport Shoes (Nike or similar)	569.82 CNY
Leather Shoes	643.55 CNY

The Transport System

Shenzhen Airport

The Shenzhen Bao'an International Airport is located 20 kilometres northwest of the school site. The easiest way to get there is to take Line 11 of the metro to Jichang Station (Shenzhen Bao'an International Airport).

Train Stations in Shenzhen

In Shenzhen there are four principal train stations:

- Shenzhen Railway Station

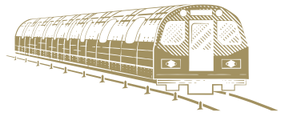
Shenzhen Railway Station located at Luohu, on the border with Hong Kong, and you get there using Line 1 of the metro (Luohu Station).

- Shenzhen East Railway Station

Shenzhen East Railway Station located in Buji and you can get there by either Line 3 or Line 5 of the metro (Buji Station).

- Shenzhen West Railway Station
- Shenzhen North Railway Station

Shenzhen North Railway Station located in the Long Hua District and can be reached by Line 4 and 5 of the metro (North Railway Station).



Shenzhen Metro

The Shenzhen metro system is modern and in continual expansion (Shenzhen Metro consists of an extensive network of multiple lines and continues to expand).

Here you'll find an interactive map that will let you choose your departure and arrival stations, telling you how much the ticket will cost and how long it will take to get to your destination. Qianwan Gongyuan (Qianwan Park) is the nearest MRT stop to the school site, being a 5-10-minute walk away.

Shenzhen Public Transport Card

If you are planning to regularly travel by train then it is worth getting the Shenzhen Tong Pass, a contactless card that can be purchased and/or recharged in the service centres of metro stations, post offices or convenience stores (such as 7-Eleven) in Shenzhen.

The card works like the Oyster Card in London or the Octopus Card of Hong Kong: at the time of purchase you will have to put 20 Yuan on deposit (which will be refunded when you return the card) and, other than avoiding the long lines at the automatic counters to buy a token each time, it will also grant you a 5% discount on the cost of the trip.





Buses in Shenzhen

With almost 500 lines and nearly 10,000 bus stations, Shenzhen has an excellent city bus system.

More guidance can be found on this website here along with a guide on how to cross the border between Hong Kong and Shenzhen.



Weather

Shenzhen is located near the Tropic of Cancer and has a humid, sub-tropical climate influenced by monsoons. Winters are dry and mild (it never goes below zero), while the rainy season lasts from April to October. The monsoons reach their peak during the summer, when the climate is humid and reaches temperatures of up to 35 degrees.

Living in Shenzhen

Shenzhen is part of the Pearl River megalopolis. To give an idea of the size, taking the direct metro line from Luohu (situated in the city centre, to the border of Hong Kong) to the airport, which is located in the Bao'An district, will take about 90 minutes. The 'expat' areas in Shenzhen are mainly in Shekou, situated in the Nanshan district where the school site is. If considering offsite accommodation, the most important factor is to live near to a metro station as the network is excellent.

Nanshan

The Shekou quarter, which hosts about 40% of Shenzhen's expatriate residents, is located to the south of the Nanshan district, which among other things holds a good number of the city's tourist attractions.

Shekou, originally the only area where foreigners could live, teems with restaurants, bars, clubs and "western-style" residential complexes. Aside from this, the majority of international schools and city universities are found here.

From Shekou you can take a ferry to Hong Kong, Zhuhai or Macao. It is also possible to get to Hong Kong by bus (leaving from Shenzhen Bay Port).

Tourism

To learn more about the main tourist attractions of Shenzhen this article provides some useful benchmarks.

In addition, the following links give tourist information about the surrounding cities of Hong Kong, Macao, Guangzhou and Zhuhai.

Finally there are quite a range of luxury and budget hotel brands and resorts in Shenzhen. You may find them and book on Agoda or Booking.com

Hospitals and Clinics

In the event that you have a health issue, please refer to the guidance on hospital and clinic care here and your Harrow medical insurance policy documentation.

For international staff, not fluent in Mandarin Chinese, we recommend using an international clinic. Below is a list of recommendations:

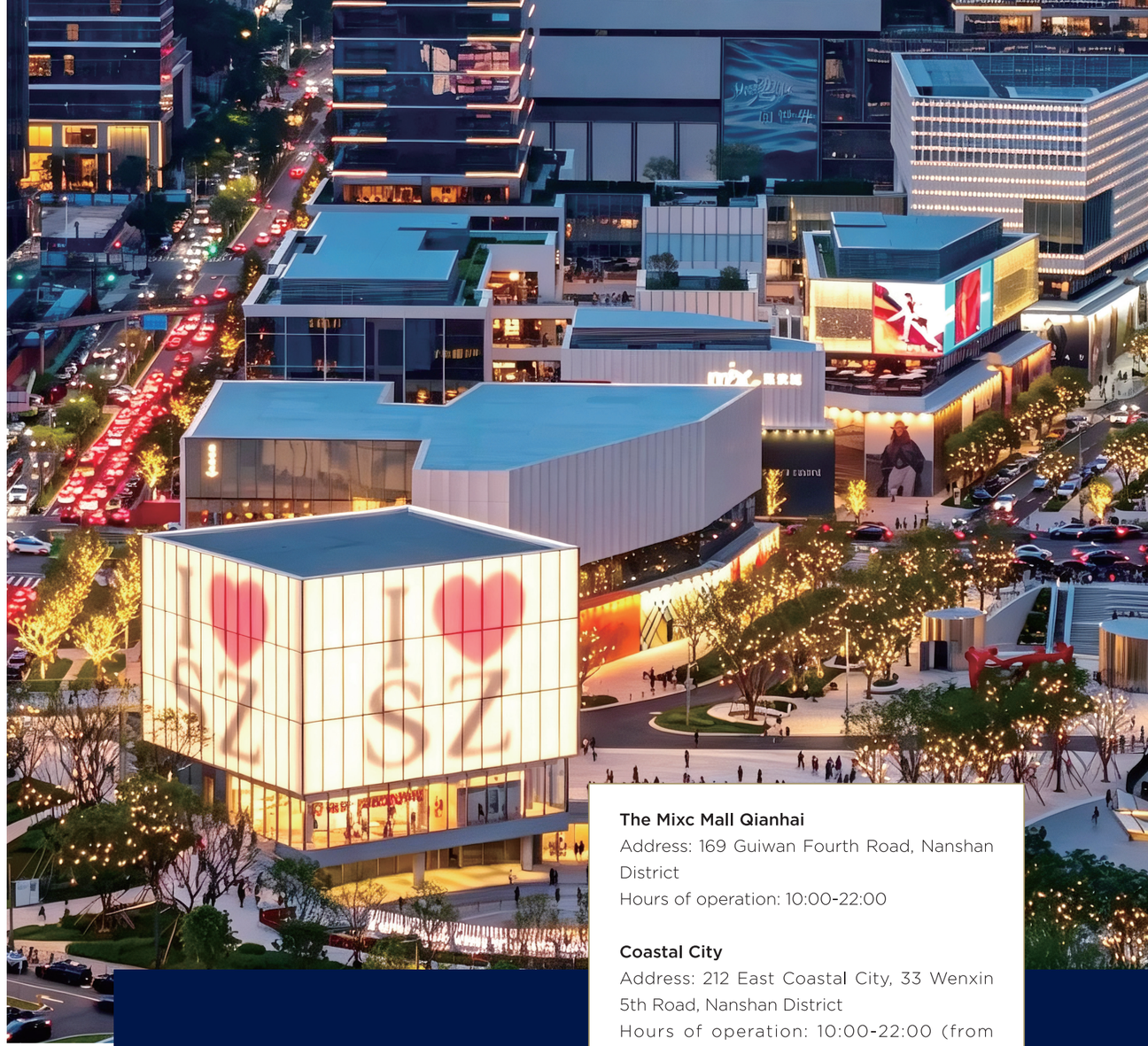
International SOS Shenzhen Clinic
Address: CMIT Building, 9 Gongye South Road, Shekou
Telephone: +86075526693667

Shenzhen Vista Clinic
Address: 4F, Building 4, Software Industry Base, Keyuan Road, Nanshan District
Telephone: +86075536899688

Distinct Health Care
Address: 5F, Tower A, Wanrong Building, Gongye 4th Road, Nanshan District
Telephone: +86075588269919



• The districts of Shenzhen's city centre – Map by Wikipedia.org .



Shopping

If you'd like to buy western brand merchandise, Walmart is a popular choice. Here is a list of the Walmart locations throughout the city, including the addresses and directions of how to get there.

In addition, please find a list of the major shopping malls located in Shenzhen:

The Mixc Mall Qianhai
Address: 169 Guiwan Fourth Road, Nanshan District
Hours of operation: 10:00-22:00

Coastal City
Address: 212 East Coastal City, 33 Wenxin 5th Road, Nanshan District
Hours of operation: 10:00-22:00 (from Sunday to Thursday), 10:00-22:30 (Friday and Saturday)

O'Plaza
Address: 8 Baishi East Road, Nanshan District
Hours of operation: 10:00-22:00

Upper Hill
Address: Sungang West Road, Futian District
Hours of operation: 10:00-22:00

Forums and Directories

InterNations Shenzhen
InterNations is an excellent website for anyone hoping to meet people with similar interests, participate in events to meet other expatriates based in Shenzhen, or simply find specific information on the city.

MeetUp Shenzhen
MeetUp is a website for those looking to meet others with similar interests, from bowling to tango to chess.

eChina Cities (Shenzhen)
eChina Cities is a mix between a magazine, city resource directory and a forum, active in all major Chinese cities.



Frequently Asked Questions

Q1 How many foreigners live in Shenzhen?

Shenzhen hosts a large international community, including professionals, entrepreneurs and educators from around the world.

Q2 What languages are spoken in Shenzhen?

Since the establishment of the Special Economic Zone in Shenzhen, the government has enticed locals to speak Mandarin.

Nowadays, Mandarin is the most commonly used language, but many people can also speak Cantonese. As Shenzhen is a melting pot of different cultures and having people from many different places, you'll also find people speaking Hakka and Teochew, which are local dialects.

Q3 Do locals speak English?

In principle assume you won't get around easily by just speaking English. You shouldn't expect that taxi drivers, local restaurant staff, and hotel cleaners speak English, for example. That said, you will meet young educated people and other Chinese who have been doing business or lived abroad.

Q4 Is Shenzhen cheaper than Hong Kong?

According to Expatistan.com, Shenzhen is 52% cheaper than Hong Kong taking food, housing, transportation, and more into consideration. Having that said, we must remember that Hong Kong is one of the most expensive cities in the world. Rent and real estate prices are mainly to blame.

Q5 What is the weather like in Shenzhen?

Shenzhen is located on the same latitude as Hong Kong. The temperatures drops to 13-14 degrees Celsius on average in December and January in Shenzhen, while it can get as hot as 35 degrees Celsius during the summer months.

Q6 Is Shenzhen part of Hong Kong?

No. Despite being a Special Economic Zone, and having many similarities to Hong Kong, Shenzhen is a part of mainland China.

Thank you once again for taking an interest in our new school. In addition to the information provided you may find visiting the four existing HIS websites helpful in discovering more about the Harrow family and the wonderful students in our care.

September 2026

Educational Excellence *for* Life and Leadership

育以至善 • 卓以领航

Harrow International School, Shenzhen Qianhai

深圳前海哈罗外籍人员子女学校

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https://www.harrowshenzhen.cn

Official WeChat Account 微信官方公众号

WeChat Channels 微信视频号

Xiaohongshu Account 小红书官方账号

LinkedIn 领英

Facebook 脸书

Instagram IG分享