

MAKUHARI INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

Makuhari International School is the first international school in Japan conform to the educational guidelines by the Japanese Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology. The building is composed of three independent schoolhouses and the administration building. According to a proven concept for schools, the three grades (kindergarten, lower elementary school and upper elementary school), each of them corresponding to a “house”, are forming a “neighbourhood” together. The school has two main features. One is its unusual and purely horizontal layout: Interspersed single-story “houses” are connected with each other while keeping spacious distances at the same time. As this school does not require a space for large sports meetings, various sizes of playgrounds and courtyards are provided instead of one big sport field. The other feature is the school’s spatial composition: A ‘one-room-atmosphere’ is created by inserting media center and media corner (multipurpose space with books and computers) in the center of several roomy classrooms. This configuration reduces the children's travel distances and guarantees a rich choice of learning environments.