



Meiho Junior & Senior High School

明法中学・高等学校 Tokyo, Japan

Meiho Mission Statement

“To cultivate students who appreciate the life they’ve been given, and to help them develop their intellect and habits so that they will be able to contribute to world peace through service to society, nation, and humanity.”

Principal Shimojo



Meiho, a private school in western Tokyo, has graduated more than 7,000 students and continues to serve its local community by hosting cultural and sports events. It currently serves over 500 students from 7th to 12th grade.

Curriculum at Meiho focuses on the following four areas :

C reativity

Instilling students with a creativeness that is centered on strengthening human relationships

E xperiences

Providing students with experience-based learning opportunities to provide meaning to, and advance their studies

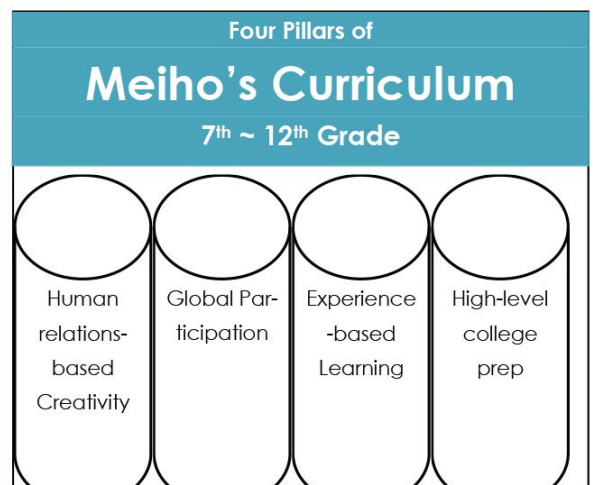
G lobal participation

Raising students’ awareness of the international community and ways to both benefit from and contribute to it

C ollege preparation

Delivering students with a premier preparatory experience that allows them to reach their ambitious academic goals

The four pillars reflect the school’s mission statement and are established throughout Meiho’s six-year curriculum. They also serve as the educational philosophy behind programs such as Science Global Endeavors (SGE) and Global Studies Program (GSP).



Department of 21st Century Learning

In order to advance the four pillars of Meiho's educational philosophy, the Department of 21st Century Learning was established in 2017. Teachers from across the academic departments work together to develop high quality learning activities, lessons, and curriculum with a focus on building 21st century skills. Due to these teachers' efforts and commitment, the "Four Cs" of *creativity*, *critical thinking*, *communication*, and *collaboration* can be found throughout the curriculum.



Mr. Kamakura,
Department Chief

The Department's Philosophy

Japanese education has traditionally focused on problems with one answer. To be successful in today's world, focusing on such problems is no longer sufficient. Our department helps the school as a whole move away from these one-answer questions and toward those with multiple answers. In short, we've gone from $[5 + 5 = X]$ to $[X + Y = 10]$. When students engage in such multi-answer questions, they develop the skills they need for academic success and also mature as humans.

Example Lessons from Academic Departments

Department	Lesson
Social Studies	Is that true? : Deductive and investigative reasoning for media literacy
Science	Is the earth really round? : Finding evidence of commonly held beliefs
English	Spicing up the text! : Adding original lines to model dialogues
P.E.	Speed up! : Learning the importance of collaborative planning through a dribbling relay race
Mathematics	Collaborate to equate! : Creating original multi-answer equations
Art	Our creations! : Learning creativity through a collaborative art project



Other programs headed up by the Department of 21st Century Learning

- ✓ ICT infrastructure and implementation (Google Chrome Books, Google Education, G Suite, etc.)
- ✓ Global Studies Program (GSP), including study abroad
- ✓ Homestay and language excursion programs
- ✓ Pathway to foreign universities
- ✓ Hawai'i-Japan 21st Century Education Alliance (membership pending)
- ✓ Volunteer and service opportunities



Science Global Endeavors (SGE)

SGE is a special science focus program that specializes in hands-on learning and collaborative projects. Students in SGE are self-motivated and eager to satisfy their curiosity of the world. The aim is an academically well-rounded student who will become a world leader in the sciences.

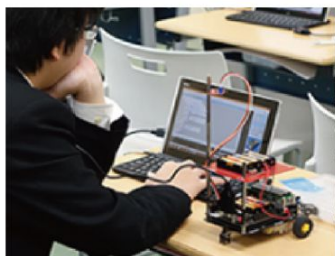
Fundamental Courses

- ✓ Robotics
- ✓ Numerical analysis (GPS, rocketry)
- ✓ Statistical processing & programming
- ✓ Presentation skills
- ✓ Blind communication skills

Special Courses

- ✓ Debate
- ✓ Medicine (by Dr. Nabuchi, heart surgeon)
- ✓ Rakugo (traditional Japanese comedic storytelling)
- ✓ Guitar
- ✓ Plastic bottle rockets by JAXA lecturer

SGE students travel throughout Japan to participate in robotics competitions, debate tournaments, and to do field work. In junior high, they visit peers in Taiwan and in senior high, they visit Singapore.



Programming



Cardiac Surgery Lesson



Robotics Competition

Global Studies Program (GSP)

To provide students with experience abroad, Meiho has a substantial short-term program. During the winter term of the 10th grade, participating students spend three months in Australia taking mainstream courses. Upon returning, students put together a written compilation of their experiences as well as give presentations in front of an audience of peers and parents.

Many students who participate in GSP go on to take our 21st Century elective course, which is a collaborative course between the English and Social Studies departments. In this course, students focus on current events and world issues, with an emphasis on developing critical thinking skills and win-win solutions to problems affecting the world. They interact with peers abroad and at debate and discussion events.



Study Abroad



Study Abroad Presentations



IT Cultural Exchange

Academic Year

Meiho starts its academic year in April and finishes in March. There are three terms and optional courses offered during summer, winter, and spring vacations. During vacations, there are events such as homestays abroad (Australia, New Zealand, U.S.A.), club camps, and debate tournaments. Meiho has 25 sports and culture clubs, which are active throughout the year.



Sports Festival



Fieldwork



Jr. High Orchestra

- Spring Term**
 - ✓ Academic year begins
 - ✓ Orientation camps
 - ✓ Sports Festival
 - ✓ Fieldwork (geography, etc.)
 - ✓ Okinawa trip (11th grade)
- Fall Term**
 - ✓ School Festival
 - ✓ Marathon
 - ✓ Kyoto trip (9th grade)
 - ✓ Taiwan trip (9th grade SGE)
- Winter Term**
 - ✓ Student government elections
 - ✓ GSP study abroad (10th graders)
 - ✓ Graduation

Campus & Facilities

Meiho is situated in a quiet neighborhood in western Tokyo and offers one of the largest campuses and playing fields in the area. Students can utilize the Olympic size swimming pool, perform with their band in the school auditorium, and enjoy the outdoor basketball or soccer field during lunch. Meiho also offers a new dormitory, Meiho House, that can house up to forty students.



School Library



Meiho House



Olympic-size Swimming Pool



Campus Map

Volunteer and Service Activities

To fulfill the mission statement, Meiho provides students with, and encourages them to take part in volunteer activities both in Japan and abroad. The student body government works with an NGO in Cambodia to deliver school supplies and Meiho students can spend a summer at a school there volunteering as a teacher.

Junior high school students visit seaside communities in the Tohoku region, which was devastated in the 2011 earthquake, and volunteer in cleanup and other support activities.



Meiho Student with Host Family



Local School Children



Classroom in Cambodia



School Bag Drive