

# A Holistic Education at Malvern College

We spoke with Duncan Grice, Headmaster of Malvern College Egypt, a new international school, which will open in August 2016. Located between Maadi and Katameya, it will offer expatriate and Egyptian children an outstanding holistic education here in Cairo.

## What can you tell us about Malvern College?

“Malvern College in England is a well known private boarding school offering the very best holistic education to its students. It focuses not only on academic excellence, but also music, drama, sport and the development of its students as mature, respectful, confident and polite human beings.”

## What is different about Malvern College Egypt compared to other international schools?

“I have just been recruiting teachers directly out of Malvern College UK. I am always impressed by the students I meet there, whether by impeccable manners or a humble intelligence. To have students greet you, initiate conversations with, ask genuine questions about the progress of the school in Egypt – of which they are fully informed – really is what a Malvern education is all about. This education will be replicated at Malvern College Egypt. Yes, learning is our core business, but it is also about the development of the whole child from supplying string instruments to every child in a year group, to offering sporting chances to all students of all levels. International schools will always have quality facilities, but Malvern College is about people; the well being, development and contentment of students, staff and parents.”

## You mention recruiting in the UK at Malvern College. Are there genuine links with Malvern College in England?

“Absolutely. Half the members of the Board of Governors of Malvern College Egypt are from Malvern College UK. We are inspected annually by a team from Malvern College UK to ensure that we are operating to the professional standards outlined by them. Additionally, we will have gap students who have just graduated from Malvern College UK helping in various areas of the school in Cairo. We also have links with two other Malvern Colleges in China and will do so

with our new school opening in Hong Kong in 2018.”

## What type of teacher are you looking for?

“Professionals who are obviously excellent in their field, but who are also flexible, fun and acutely aware of the learning needs of international students. The teachers we have hired so far are extremely passionate UK teachers who have impressed me greatly.”

## What curriculum do you offer?

“We offer an enhanced form of the English National Curriculum which is inquiry-based yet also maintains structure for academic rigour. The child is put at the centre of their learning. Student led, collaborative learning and a focus on key learning skills will prepare our students for later examination courses.”

“Our Egyptian students will have to study some subject areas in line with the Ministry of Education regulations. While they are studying in these areas, our non-Egyptian students will continue to focus on areas of learning particular to them as individuals. We offer a choice of academic pathways to suit each child, offering IGCSE, A Levels as well as the IBDP.”

## When do you plan to open and to what year groups?

We will open in August 2016 from Nursery to Year 8, possibly Year 9. There has been a lot of interest so far from families of many nationalities.

## What facilities do you have?

“For me, schools are not about buildings and facilities, they are always about people. From our administration staff, to security, catering, teachers and administrators, I believe in offering a five-star experience for our entire community. We are in the service industry; something that I feel is sometimes forgotten by the private education sector overseas.

Of course we have fabulous facilities as



well to help provide our students with a first class educational experience. We have a restaurant on site, preparing freshly-cooked meals using the finest produce. We have six science laboratories with state of the art equipment, a three-storey library and media centre, and three dedicated music studios with six peripatetic music practice rooms. We also have a dance studio, a 25m six-lane swimming pool, two netball courts, a basketball court, an AstroTurf football pitch, a 550-seat theatre, food technology and art/design technology rooms. The school building throughout will be of the finest quality.”

## You moved here recently, how are you finding life in Cairo?

My family and I are really enjoying living here. The people are so friendly, welcoming and helpful everywhere we go. My children are busy enjoying sports after school and at weekends as well as sleepovers – in fact my social calendar is based around theirs. My wife knows all the places to shop and eat in Maadi and is very happy. We intend to be here for many years to come.

For more information about Malvern College Egypt, visit [www.malverncollege.edu.eg](http://www.malverncollege.edu.eg) or contact Duncan Grice directly at [headmaster@malverncollege.edu.eg](mailto:headmaster@malverncollege.edu.eg)