




Strong Start Getting Ready Guide

K¹² International Academy  We encourage students and Learning Coaches to print and review this Getting Ready Guide together. You will have a top notch team of academic support personnel on point when school begins to ensure a successful experience and a **Strong Start!**

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Welcome from our Head of School, Miriam Rube



I'm delighted to introduce you to K¹² International

Academy—a fully accredited, U.S. diploma-granting, private online school for grades K–12. All around the world, we help students learn in the ways that are right for them, nurturing a joy for learning and a passion to pursue their interests.

The key is our individualized approach, which frees children to reach their personal potential. Our students are liberated from rigid schedules, classes that move too

fast or too slow, bullying, overcrowded classrooms, teaching to the test, and many other factors that typically stand in the way of success. It all starts with the award-winning curriculum from K¹², America's K–12 online education leader, which was developed by cognitive scientists and master educators based on decades of research into how children learn. So every lesson comes alive with interactive content and hands-on materials that keep kids engaged.

We also surround you and your child with an amazing support team, including online teachers

who have a true gift for inspiring young learners. Working with our academic leadership, guidance counselors, and other education specialists, they'll be with your family every step of the way. And you'll reap the advantages of our energetic school community—an international network of friends who assist, encourage, and learn from each other through online student clubs, parent roundtables, and much more.

On behalf of the entire school staff, we welcome you to the K¹² International Academy family!

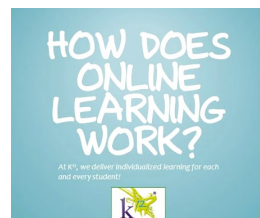


Admissions Services:

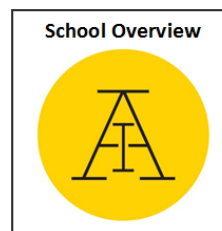
- * Help with Selecting Courses
- * Materials and Text Book Processing Help
- * Works with Registrar to Transfer Eligible Credits
- * Shares an Individualized Progression Plan (Gr 9-12)
- * Assists with Questions Until Orientation Week Begins

Direct #: 1-866-360-0166

Confirm your Understanding of what the School Year will Bring



[CLICK HERE](#)



[CLICK HERE](#)



[CLICK HERE](#)



All New Families Engage in the Strong Start Program

Great news! You are not alone in your online learning journey! During your first term with K¹² International Academy, you will engage in our [Strong Start Program](#). You will have a Homeroom Teacher (K-5) or Academic Coach (6-12) assigned to work with you, they will be your guide through Strong Start, ensure you are successfully orientated, and making progress during your first term with us. As you progress beyond the program, they will always be there to

support your success.

Through Strong Start, you will have resources at your finger tips, personnel monitoring and communicating your progress, and easy access to help when you need it.

To support your success, we have developed a [Strong Start](#) website to share tutorials, videos, and resources without needing special logins. As you prepare for the school year, we invite you to explore the Strong Start website. The week prior to your

school year beginning, you will have access to start the Online Learning Course and will hear from your Homeroom Teacher or Academic Coach. We are excited to offer you this support system on your path to learning success!



CARDS to Success

[Create Accounts](#)

[Assessment \(Scantron\)](#)

[Read Getting Started Guide](#)

[Discuss the Handbook](#)

[Strong Start Website](#)

I've Completed my CARDS to Success Task List...Now What?

- ◆ Check your internal Kmail in the Online School on a daily basis. The academic team will start sending communications the week leading up to the first day of school.
- ◆ Complete your Online Learning Course, available in the Online School 7 days prior to your start date. You will learn how to navigate and understand expectations. Parents are strongly encouraged to review the course.
- ◆ Take your required Scantron Assessment (grades 2-10). K-1 students will complete the AIMS assessment with their teacher after school begins. Read more on Page 3.
- ◆ Using your separate username and passwords, begin exploring and getting comfortable with the Online Learning System.
- ◆ Set up your work space in a quiet area of the home. Click [HERE](#) for a K¹² tutorial on this topic.
- ◆ Review your course materials by exploring the Course Overview links we sent to you via email. Make a [list of basic school supplies](#) you will want to purchase.
- ◆ Label your folders/binders according to your courses.
- ◆ Make sure all your technology works and clean up your computer folders.
- ◆ Check to ensure you have the [best browser](#) for our Online School.
- ◆ Visit the [K¹² Customer Support website](#) for help and additional tutorials.
- ◆ As a family, brainstorm what the new daily and household schedule will look like to manage schooling and personal/social life.

Watch the K¹² International Academy Introduction to [Strong Start Video](#) Now!

Required Scantron Assessment Information

What is it?

A Math and Reading assessment for Full-time students in grades 2-10. Used to assess skill levels and allow us to measure growth over time.

How is it done?

In your learning environment, students independently complete the un-timed computer based assessment.

What will it provide us with ?

- ◆ Beginning of the year and end of year National Percentile Rankings based on grade level (depending on start date) and aligned to National Standards of Learning.
- ◆ Breakdown of areas of strength and improvement areas.
- ◆ Suggested learning objectives and resources depending on grade level.
- ◆ Ability to measure individual gains over time and compare against a norm group.
- ◆ Expected gains data and quartile classifications for students based on a scaled score, subject, and grade level.
- ◆ **Want more information ?** www.edperformance.com

Instructions for Completing Scantron

View this [Scantron Help Document](#) and/or follow the directions below:

- 1) Visit www.edperformance.com, click on “student login.”
- 2) Enter your School Site ID:

K¹² International Academy (Private): 15-1671-0904
K¹² International Academy (INTL): 66-7510-2393
- 3) Choose either **Reading** or **Math**.
- 4) Enter your child’s individual ID found in the email from Admissions.
- 5) Verify your child’s name and follow the next set of directions.

*Your Homeroom Teacher or Academic Coach can help with questions during orientation week.

Scantron Tips & Tricks

- ◆ Take Scantron during your best “focusing” time of day.
- ◆ Don’t take it on an empty stomach or thirsty, take care of creature comforts beforehand.
- ◆ You only need to complete **1** Reading and **1** Math portion.
- ◆ Answer each question on your own to the best of your ability, you will not receive a grade.
- ◆ Complete it in chunks. Set a timer for 30 minutes, begin Scantron. When the buzzer goes off, pause the test and take a break. Scantron will remember where you left off. Repeat this process if needed.
- ◆ Continue with the Math and Reading portions until Scantron notifies you, “Congratulations, you’re finished.”
- ◆ Complete one subject fully and then move to the next.



What is my Role...What is your Role?

The Student

- ◆ Complete the Online Learning Course.
- ◆ Complete Scantron Math and Reading (Grades 2-10).
- ◆ Attend or watch a recording of the Getting Started Orientation Session, course orientations, and Policy and Procedures Meeting.
- ◆ Log in to your courses
- ◆ **daily** to work (around 1 hour per course/per day).
- ◆ Check Kmails and course announcements.
- ◆ Print off course calendars or pacing guides.
- ◆ Attend Study Halls and Class Connects.
- ◆ Check the gradebook daily for teacher feedback.
- ◆ Stay on pace with your courses and submit overdue assignments.
- ◆ Embrace your Learning Coach, openly discuss your progress.
- ◆ Contact your Teachers and Academic Coach for help when needed.
- ◆ Abide by the Student Code of Conduct.
- ◆ Engage, participate, and communicate.



“The price of greatness is responsibility” - Winston Churchill

The Learning Coach

- ◆ Ensure you and your student completes the Online Learning Course.
- ◆ Attend or watch a recording of the Learning Coach Getting Started Orientation Session and The Policy and Procedures Meeting.
- ◆ Monitor progress and
- ◆ pacing on a daily basis by reviewing grades, teacher feedback, and overdue assignments.
- ◆ Check Kmail daily and reach out for help with the Teachers and Academic Coach to communicate needs.
- ◆ Read and follow policies
- ◆ in the Student and Parent Handbook.
- ◆ Help your student with daily encouragement and general questions.
- ◆ Maintain a positive learning environment at home.
- ◆ Click [HERE](#) to learn more.

The Academic Coach (6-12) or Homeroom Teacher (K-5)



- ◆ Your Strong Start guide and main point of contact for non-instructional needs and requests.
- ◆ Leading students through the Online Learning Course and Scantron.
- ◆ Assisting students and Learning Coach with organizational skills, pacing
- ◆ and time management.
- ◆ Provided resources, support, guidance, encouragement through regular contact.
- ◆ Guides the Individualized Learning Plan (ILP) and Progression Plan.
- ◆ Facilitates next course selections.
- ◆ Monitors student engagement levels.
- ◆ Collaborates with teachers and school staff for student support planning.

How Can I Review Student Grades?

In all grade levels, Learning Coaches and students **can log in to the Online School 24/7 to access up-to-date grades and progress in every course.**

K-8: A progress report is distributed through Kmail on a quarterly basis to students and Learning Coaches. This is an unofficial report showing grades earned at the mid-semester point. An official report card is sent via Kmail at the completion

of the first semester and at the end of the school year.

The report cards displays all grades earned by the student within each semester.



9-12: Teachers send course-based progress reports via Kmail at the mid-semester

point to students and Learning Coaches.

Unofficial Transcripts are distributed through Kmail up to 2.5 weeks after the term end date. If an official transcript is needed, we partner with eScrip-Safe to provide fee-based safe and secure delivery. Click [HERE](#) to download additional information about official transcripts.

Who Do I Ask for Help at the School?

Admissions Advisor:

Your guide to registration. They can field all questions prior to the start of school.

Homeroom Teacher (K-5) or Academic Coach (6-12):

This Strong Start coach and ongoing advocate will be assigned 7 days prior to the start of school. They are your personal point of contact for

questions about your student's progress, pacing, requirements, and general academic performance. You may reach out to them whenever you need help or guidance. Homeroom Teachers (K-5) are assigned to teach all core courses in the Lower School.

Course Teacher (6-12):

Teachers are on point for all

instructional questions and help. They will grade and provide feedback on assignments and assessments. They will reach out to you through Kmail and other methods. They will offer live Class Connect sessions and Study Halls to support learning. You may contact them directly for help whenever needed.

School staff

members are a
Kmail, phone call,
or Skype chat
away.

How Does K¹² Customer Care Help?

Because we are a part of the K¹² family of schools, you may tap into the help and support resources from K¹²'s Customer Care team. Customer Care is available for general questions (technology help, materials, computer requirements).

You are invited to utilize our **customer care line** at **1.866.512.2273**. Or, visit [this link](#) for a series of comprehensive web tutorials on a variety of K¹² topics.



Customer Support

College and Career Counseling Program

All Full-time students in the Upper School are offered College and Career Counseling services and the option to purchase [premium services](#). The standard program includes:

- ◆ Individual student consultations through Skype, Blackboard or phone. ⇒ ***How to Apply to College, Requesting Transcripts, Letters of Recommendation, etc.***
- ◆ Access to National K¹² College and Career Workshops. ⇒ ***College Admissions Testing***
- ◆ Monthly College and Career Newsletter. ⇒ ***Crafting your Personal Statement/College Essay***
- ◆ **Live weekly sessions** hosted and recorded by our Professional College Counselors, topics include: ⇒ ***Financial Aid***
- ⇒ ***Introduction to the College Advising Program and Family Connection*** ⇒ ***Career Research and Planning***
- ◆ The world’s most widely adopted comprehensive college and career planning “Family Connection” platform from [Naviance](#).
- ◆ PrepMe, an adaptive ACT/SAT test prep solution. ⇒ ***Grade Specific Timelines and Lesson Plans***
- ◆ University of Maryland University College dual enrollment for eligible students.

Look for a Welcome Kmail from your assigned College and Career Counselor during the first week of school!

Meet Your College and Career Counselors

Joseph Berry, College Counselor



Mr. Berry has been in the School Counseling profession for 20 years. He was a school counselor in both the middle and high school levels for 13 years and served as a High School Department Chair. Before joining K¹² International Academy, he was a director of Professional Development for an education software company where he trained school counselors from across the country on ways to improve their college advising program through the use of technology and national standards. He earned his Master of Education degree from The University of Pittsburgh, is a member of NACAC and ASCA and a nationally certified counselor through NBCC.

Christine Pine, College Counselor



Mrs. Pine began her teaching career in a traditional school setting teaching fourth and fifth grades along with serving as the school’s gifted and talented education facilitator. She has been with K¹² for 11 years, 7 of them with the K¹² International Academy where she has worked with both middle school and high school students. Mrs. Pine holds a Masters Degree in Education, is a Certificated Counselor in College Admissions Counseling and a member of NACAC and RMACAC.

How will Family Connection help with the College and Career Process?

This is your “go to” online resource for college and career planning.

Course Planner: Create academic plans to assure satisfaction with graduation requirements, college entrance requirements, and appropriate course rigor



PrepMe: Plan for College Admissions Testing using the adaptive and included online test prep tool.

Build a Meaningful College List: Access extensive college and university data to re-search colleges, compare GPA, identify required test scores, and conduct financial planning activities.

Organize the College Application Process: Build a resume, complete on-line surveys, manage activities, and track your deadlines.

Additional Resources: Assistance with academic success, personal development, post high school planning, and NCAA eligibility help.

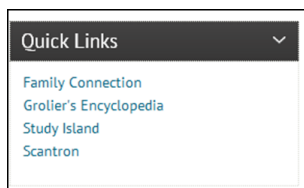
Access Family Connection

Begin exploring career and college planning resources even before school begins! This is how you do it:

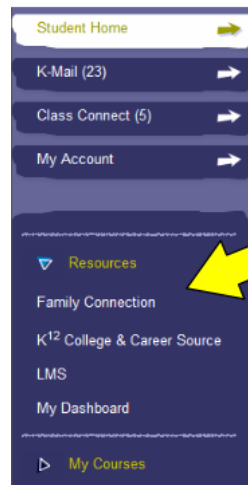
- 1) Student logs in to the [Online School](#).
- 2) Click on **Family Connection** under Resources for grades 6-8 or Quick Links for 9-12.

- 3) When prompted, use the same **student username and password** to log in to Family Connection.

Grades 9-12



Grades 6-8



Our school prepares students to be more independent, to learn how to learn, to take responsibility for their studies and to take charge of their own destiny!

Strong Start College and Career Counseling Tutorials and Videos

Why not begin the college and career planning process now?

Meet your College and Career Counselors and see Family Connection in action:

[Connecting with College Counseling](#)

Visit College and Career Counseling on our Strong Start website:

[Strong Start College and Career Counseling](#)



Resources for Learning Coaches and Parents

Below are some of our top **Strong Start** resources to help orientate you before school begins.

K¹² International Academy

- ◆ [Setting Up Your Online School Accounts](#)
- ◆ [Is Your Computer K¹² Ready](#)
- ◆ [Basic K-8 Overview](#)
- ◆ [Navigating the New Online High School](#)
- ◆ [The Role of the Learning Coach](#)
- ◆ [Setting Up the Learning Space](#)
- ◆ [5 Tips for Managing Kmail](#)
- ◆ [Bookmark Important Forms and Documents](#)
- ◆ [Weekly K¹² International Academy News and Events](#)
- ◆ [Archive of K¹² International Academy Parent Newsletters](#)

Bookmark our [School Website](#) and our [Strong Start](#) website!

Wishing you a Strong Start and a successful school year!

Remember, your Homeroom Teacher (K-5) or Academic Coach (9-12) will be in contact during the Strong Start Orientation Week (7 days prior to your start date). Visit our [Strong Start](#) website for up-to-date information, resources, and tutorials as you prepare to begin school.



K¹² International Academy



[Strong Start](#) [Lower School](#) [Middle School](#) [Upper School](#) [Parent Resources](#) [Student Life](#) [FAQs](#) [Contact](#)

JUN 26	K ¹² International Academy Graduation 2015 ▾
AUG 4	K12 International Academy Trip Abroad 2015 ▾

LEARNING UNLEASHED
We help students gain skills, mastery, confidence, and independence.