



Welcome!

SELA: The International Private School

SELA: The International Private School is the first and only Spanish-full immersion academy in Southeastern Massachusetts. SELA was initially established in 2004 in Cohasset, Massachusetts, as Su Escuela Language Academy, with the goal of preparing English-speaking children to excel linguistically, academically, and socially in our global society through instruction in a second and third language. In July of 2011, the school expanded and opened the doors to its current location in Hingham. Since opening the Hingham location, SELA has continued to grow and expand. In 2022, SELA opened its second location of its School of Early Global Education in Norwell. SELA provides programs for infants through five years old, as well as private elementary and middle school grades K-8.



MESSAGE FROM OUR FOUNDER

Welcome to SELA: The International Private School! At SELA, we treat every child that walks through our doors as an individual. Experience has taught me that every child has a unique learning style and absorbs information in a way that makes sense for him or her. We work with each student to help them succeed both academically and socially, as an individual and as part of a group.



Our immersion environment helps children to improve their cognitive and critical thinking skills while developing proficiency in their target language. Research shows that children learning a second language often surpass their peers who study the same content solely in their native language.

Not only do SELA students develop proficiency in a second language, but they grow to become global citizens—truly understanding the world around them and gaining an appreciation for all cultures through hands-on learning and exploration.

The best way to experience what sets SELA apart from other schools is to visit! I encourage you to schedule a time to see our school in action. Our door is always open.

Sincerely,

Sandra P. Baldeon Founder, Executive Director



WE'RE SELA, NICE TO MEET YOU!

OUR MISSION

At SELA, we provide each child with a unique and personal learning experience. Every student will receive a full-immersion education of the highest academic quality, through an engaging curriculum that inspires and motivates them to strive for knowledge and understanding and prepares them for challenging, higher-level work. SELA students will grow to be bilingual, globally competent citizens.

OUR VALUES

Multilingual

We immerse our students in a second and third language through play, research, and hands-on experimentation. We communicate confidently and creatively in more than one language.

Community

We build strong relationships between students, teachers, and parents, creating a genuine feeling of family. We value opinions and foster a warm and friendly environment.

Inquiry

We nurture curiosity, developing skills for exploration and research.

Caring

We show empathy, compassion, and respect. We have a commitment to service, and we act to make a positive difference.

Principled

We act with integrity and honesty, and we respect others. We take responsibility for our actions and their consequences.

Open-Minded

We appreciate our own culture as well as the values and traditions of others. We seek and evaluate a range of points of view and grow from the experience.

Balanced

We balance all aspects of our lives—intellectual, physical, social, and emotional—to achieve well-being for ourselves.

WE ARE GLOBAL CITIZENS

At SELA, we put emphasis on developing the whole child to establish a solid and broad foundation for lifelong learning and well-being. An emotional intelligence component is built into the SELA curriculum, which will help students identify and manage their own emotions and the emotions of others. Every month, our students are introduced to, understand, and practice the core values that make SELA a unique and strong academic community. Students are exposed to activities, literature, and songs to support these values.

SCHOOL OF EARLY GLOBAL EDUCATION



Global Education Infancy through Junior-K

Our school of Early Global Education offers a unique, nurturing, academically based program where children can explore, play, learn, grow, and feel loved each day, while developing skills in both their native and target language. We seek to nurture each child's natural cognitive, emotional, and physical growth, setting the stage for successful learning and social relationships in the future. Our School of Early Global Education is a full-immersion Spanish program, designed for students with no prior Spanish exposure. Students explore the world of literacy, numbers, and shapes at an early age, all while immersed in the Spanish language. By the age of 5, students are reading and writing in their target language and at 4 will begin exposure to a third language, Mandarin.

- Spanish immersion setting, designed for students with no prior Spanish exposure
- Infant, Toddler, Preschool, and Junior K programs
- Full time, part time and extended day programs available
- Highly credentialed teachers, holding Bachelor's degrees, many with advanced degrees in subject area specialties

INFANTS

Ages 3 months—14 months (by start of school)

2:7 Teacher/Student ratio

Children, while immersed in the Spanish language, develop a range of social skills and learn to play and work with others while exploring basic math, science, music, and art concepts. Teachers inspire the joy of learning and discovery each day!

Typically, students beginning at 12-14 months old are placed in the young toddler classrooms.

PRESCHOOL

Ages 2.9 (by start of school) —4 years old

1:10 Teacher/Student ratio

While in preschool at SELA, students continue to build on skills in reading, writing, mathematics, science, music, and art. Students gain a global perspective of the world around them as they explore other cultures and are immersed in a second language.

TODDLERS

Ages 12 months—2.8 years (by start of school)

2:9 Teacher/Student ratio

Toddlers at SELA acquire basic skills in reading, writing, science, math, music, and art. Our students continue to learn skills for playing and working with others and discover the joy of learning and discovery. Toddlers are fully immersed in Spanish during their school day.

Mixed age classrooms available as a transitional program for young toddlers ages 12 months and up.

JUNIORK

Age 4 (by September 1st)—5.5 years old

1:10 Teacher/Student ratio

A Kindergarten preparatory program:

JuniorK students are fully immersed in Spanish throughout their day, and full-time students are introduced to a third language, Mandarin. The curriculum provides an introduction to Kindergarten level reading, writing, and mathematics, focusing heavily on exploration and discovery through thematic units and is aligned with Massachusetts' Kindergarten Common Core standards. SELA uniforms are required at the JuniorK level for all students.

CURRICULUM AT SELA



Our curriculum is aligned with the MA Common Core Standards; it allows students to create knowledge, as opposed to passively receiving information, and encourages deep learning. SELA's curriculum gives our students a rich, broad, and balanced learning experience that enables them to grasp the intrinsic fascination of each subject and to understand and communicate this new knowledge in their daily lives. The outcome will reveal the cognitive development, self-awareness, self-regulation, internal motivation, empathy, and social skills of our students. Our curriculum is overseen by our Curriculum Director who meets with teachers to review lesson plans and helps ensure the curriculum is vertically aligned - what students learn in one lesson prepares them for the next. The curriculum is logically sequenced across levels so that students are always building on what they've already learned and acquiring skills to prepare them for work that is more challenging. Frequent assessments allow teachers to understand the areas in which our students need to work. The goal of the curriculum is to build a solid foundation for future learning.

The Learning Sectors of SELA's Curriculum include:

Language - Students learn words to express their needs and feelings; follow directions; stay on topic; answer relevant questions using words, phrases, and sentences, share information and ideas; expand their vocabulary; and use more precise language.

Mathematics and Cognition - Students develop their cognitive and mathematical skills according to their level of development. They begin to understand the relationship between numbers and quantities, measurements, and the geometry and resolution of everyday problems.

Science - Students discover the natural environment around them and begin to explore with curiosity, develop hypotheses, interpret possibilities, and solve problems in a group setting. Our students develop skills to relate to their natural environment, including living beings, matter, planets, or the movement of bodies.

Social Studies - Students develop skills to understand and relate to their socio-cultural environment, learning the identities of family, community, and culture, as well as spatial relations skills in the urban environment, time, and professions, among others.

Arrival and Dismissal - Students typically arrive from 8:30 -8:50 for drop off and are picked up at 2:50 -3:15. Our half-day students are picked up from 12:55 -1:15. AM extended allows for drop off from 7:00- 8:30 and PM extended allows for students to be picked up anytime between 3:00-6:00.

Lunch And Snack – Parents provide snacks and lunch for students. We are a peanut and tree nut free facility. Please keep this in mind while crafting your child's lunches and snacks for the day. Lunch is around 12:00 for students.

Nap Times – Students Nap from around 1:00 until 2:00. If students are no longer napping, this time is used as quiet free play, or a rest time.

Physical Development - Students develop movement skills, including gross motor skills, fine motor skills, visual motor coordination, physical activity skills, and collective play and recreation.

Art - Students not only develop artistic expression skills using different mediums but also develop their abilities in corporal expression and drama.

Music - Students develop an interest in music and musical expression through singing, playing instruments, or dancing. Through these activities, students begin to perceive the rhythm, volume, tone, and types of music.

Autonomy - Students develop self-help skills that allow your child to meet their own needs and strengthen the behaviors that eventually lead to independence.

Socio-Emotional Development - Students develop a sense of self and awareness of others through our values-based curriculum and learn to express their needs and feelings in both their native and target language.

BENEFITS OF FULL IMMERSION CURRICULUM

Develops critical thinking skills. Students learn to tap into their prior knowledge and experiences as they attempt to solve a problem.

Develops communication and social skills. Students must learn how to clearly articulate their ideas as well as how to collaborate on tasks effectively by sharing in group projects. Students exchange ideas, learn to "negotiate" with others, and evaluate their contributions in a socially acceptable manner.

Encourages alternative methods of assessment. Engaging the creative instincts develops a student's ability to express knowledge in a variety of ways, including transferring the new knowledge to real life.

Helps students transfer skills to the real world. Students adapt learning to the real world, gaining problem-solving skills and the ability to do a critical analysis of a given set of data. These skills enable the student to adapt to a constantly changing real-world environment.

Promotes intrinsic motivation to learn. Effective teaching recognizes and validates the student's point of view, so rather than being "wrong" or "right," the student reevaluates and readjusts his knowledge and understanding.

K-8 AT SELA

SELA's Elementary School offers a private, immersion education for students in Kindergarten – Grade 8.

- **Specialist subject teachers.** Daily, students have English, Spanish, Mandarin, Science & Math. Specials of P.E. & Art rotate through the week. STEM includes Scratch along with advanced hands-on mathematics for all grade levels.
- **Challenging curriculum** where within the 22-23 SY, on average students exceeded national average scores in 100% of the English, Social Studies, Science and 93% of Mathematics subtest categories in all testing grades. Students also graduated at least two full grade levels ahead of the current grade level that they resided in in all subject areas.
- **Progressive classrooms** with emphasis on small class sizes, with a max of 16 students per class, allowing for differentiation and a strong student achievement philosophy.
- **Lessons are project-based**, experiential, & inquiry-based, allowing students to master a rich curriculum, while acquiring the skills to communicate across multiple fields, disciplines and cultures.
- **Uniforms** begin in JuniorK and continue through Elementary grades. They are available through LandsEnd.com.



SUMMER & VACATION WEEK ACTIVITIES

SELA's Summer Program

SELA's award winning Summer Program is based on the STEAM approach to learning, grounded in Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Mathematics.

- Open to children from 3 months to 10 years old. Our Summer Program is open to our current or students brand new to Spanish!
- Each week children will learn, and play, guided by a weekly theme. The themes are the same for all ages, but the depth of the projects varies greatly by age groups.
- We offer full time, part time and extended day options, with flexible 2-5-day schedules
- Students enrolled in our Full-Year Program are automatically signed up for the Summer Program. Students enrolled in our Academic-Year Program can add on the Summer Program if wanted.



SELA's Vacation Week Program

SELA offers vacation week activities for children ages 3 months to 10 years old, with no prior language exposure.

- Programs offered during December, February and April school break
- Open to current students or students brand new to Spanish!
- Full time, part time and extended day schedules, with flexible 2-5-day schedules
- Students enrolled in our Full-Year Program are automatically signed up for the Vacation Week Programs. Students enrolled in our Academic-Year Program can add on the Vacation Week Programs if wanted.



[Learn more here!](#)

A guide to your visit.

SELA'S SCHOOL OF EARLY GLOBAL EDUCATION

Thanks for visiting SELA! We know there are so many things to consider when researching school for your child. Here are some questions to be used as a starting point as you make the best possible decision for your family.

Classroom Environment

What is the ratio of students to teachers?
How do you handle potty training?
Is there a process for preparing students and parents for their first day?
Do the children follow a daily routine?

Health & Safety

How are the classrooms cleaned? Toys?
Is there a school nurse on site?
What is the illness policy?
Do children share cots or cribs?
What is your check in/out/visitor procedure?

SELA Community

Is there a parent group (PTA)?
Is there opportunity for me to volunteer in my child's classroom?
Do you offer events, outside of school hours, for families to gather and meet?

Teachers & Staff

What level of education and training do the teachers have?
Are teachers trained and certified in CPR and First Aid?
Is there ongoing training for teachers?
Will my child have a consistent group of primary teachers?

Curriculum

Is there age specific curriculum?
How is my child's progress tracked?
Are there opportunities for enrichment activities?
How much outside play do the children have?

Communication

How will I get updates about my child's day?
How is my child's progress communicated?
Is there a School-wide newsletter?
Can I speak directly to my child's teacher, if need be?



How to Apply for 2024-2025

School of Early Global Education

At SELA: The International Private School

SELA is the first and only full-immersion Spanish Language Academy in southeastern MA that prepares English-speaking children to excel linguistically, academically, and socially in our global society, through instruction in a second language. Enrollment for Fall 2024 opens January 8, 2024 and rolling admissions is available through the year.

Attend a Tour and/or Open House

SELA offers a variety of opportunities for families to visit and learn about SELA.

- Tours are available to be scheduled M-F 9:30-12:00, click [HERE](#) to schedule one.
- Open House are available in October, November, December, and January. Visit our website to learn more.

Submit Application and Enroll Through TADS

Submit Application and \$65 Application Fee through the TADS program through this code → or through this link: [HERE](#) for Hingham or [HERE](#) for Norwell



Norwell

Hingham



Once Application is submitted, you will hear from the Admissions Department to confirm whether there is a spot available for your selected program and schedule, and your application is accepted, or if your child will be placed on a waitlist. Please allow for 48 business hours for applications to be reviewed.

If application is accepted, you will receive an email with details on the next step within TADS. In this Enrollment step, you will be prompted answer a number of additional student background questions and to submit a \$750 enrollment deposit. Application Fee, Deposits, and Tuition are non-refundable. The Deposit will be deducted from your total tuition and will officially hold your child's place until your payment plan begins.

If you are placed on the waitlist, you will be contacted as soon as possible if a spot becomes available. Spots are filled on a first come first serve basis.

Review Back to School Packet

Back to School Packets are emailed in July and contain important information such as: Student Supply List, How to Get Involved, Your child's program overview, School Calendar, Parent Association information, save the date for Orientation, and so much more.

Attend Orientation & Parent Info Night

Orientation is offered just before school begins and is a fun time for you and your child to see their classroom, meet their teacher, as well as their new classmates. Prior to Orientation you will receive a packet containing all of the remaining details for the school year such as: your child's class list, teacher welcome letter, arrival/dismissal procedures, etc.

Parent Info night is typically held that evening and is an opportunity for parents-only to meet with administration to review logistics for the school year such as arrival/dismissal, classroom rules, parent communication and any questions parents may have.

First Day of School!

Finally, it is the first day of school! This is a very exciting and nervous time for parents and students. Please help to prepare your child for this new experience by talking with them about learning a new language, meeting new friends, and how wonderful school will be! The first day of school is always just after Labor Day, and is schedule for Wednesday September 4, 2024.