



Settle. Seoul

TEACHING & EDUCATION · INDIVIDUAL ARTICLE PDF

# Choose the teaching system, not only the school name.

*Hagwons, public schools, international schools and universities offer very different working lives. The individual timetable and leadership team matter more than the label.*

Settle Seoul 2027 · Reviewed October 2026 · Read online: [www.settleseoul.com/articles/choose-the-teaching-system](http://www.settleseoul.com/articles/choose-the-teaching-system)

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Links in this PDF open the official source or the online guide. Opening hours, prices, programmes and access rules change — confirm with the responsible operator before you travel.

## THE ESSENTIALS

- Request a realistic whole-week timetable.
- Speak privately with a current or recent teacher.
- Confirm that visa permission matches the actual duties and workplace.

Adapted from the Settle Seoul 2027 digital edition, pages 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52.

Official routes: MOEL · HiKorea · Seoul Office of Education · MY SEOUL+.

## TEACHING PATHWAYS

### Compare the whole package

These are scouting tendencies, not guarantees of pay, eligibility or conditions.

#### Hagwon

- Private-academy work shaped by enrolment and parent expectations.
- Check teaching load, preparation, events, curriculum ownership and staff turnover.

#### Public school

- School calendar and an institutional setting.
- Check co-teaching, camps, placement, desk-warming, vacation expectations and renewal.

#### International school

- Often requires recognised teaching credentials and relevant experience.
- Check curriculum, safeguarding, assessment and extracurricular workload.

#### University or specialist role

- Can involve language teaching, research, testing, curriculum or corporate training.
- Check contact hours, split shifts, qualifications, benefits and renewal criteria.

## CHOOSING AN EMPLOYER

### Evidence is stronger than reassurance

A polished advert is not proof of a well-run school.

1. **Identify the employer** — Confirm the registered institution and every work location.
2. **Read the real timetable** — Include teaching, planning, breaks, meetings, events and travel.
3. **Check classroom support** — Ask about class sizes, ages, curriculum materials, assessment and behaviour procedures.
4. **Listen to staff** — Ask how recent departures, final pay, housing and documents were handled.

#### Warning pattern

Vague employer identity, conflicting salary or hours, requests to surrender documents, late pay and visa threats are reasons to pause. Do not start before permission is clear.

## JOB OFFERS

### Keep every version of the offer

Read the employer's original advert and confirm the final terms before accepting.

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## Collect the facts

- Employer, recruiter, workplace, age group, duties, salary, housing and start date.
- Verify why each sensitive document is needed and use the confirmed application route.

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## Before signing

- Resolve contradictions in writing and retain the original advert and final contract.
- Ask 1345 about permission or workplace reporting before starting or changing jobs.

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