



CLASS SIZE POLICY

CRIA understands the importance of providing an effective level of staffing for each classroom. Taking into consideration the best interest of all students and teaching staff concerned, and mindful of both educational and financial considerations, the Class Size Policy provides target guidelines for the administration to appropriately staff all classrooms.

In keeping with the CRIA vision to be a world-class international school with a culture of high expectations, high performance and accountability, this policy is designed to provide the administration with the agility to effectively staff each classroom without inhibiting the CRIA mission to serve a growing international community in Guanacaste.

CRIA strives to maintain our historical *average* class sizes of 18 from Toddler to Grade 12.

The overall baseline average class size for the 2021-22 school year = 15.5 students.

Parents and staff are expected to understand the complexities underlying target guidelines: the needs of a changing student population, the exigencies of a total school program, and all the uncertainties inherent in the operation of an international school. Because of these complexities, class size target figures may vary from one class to another at the discretion of the School Director with the following target guidelines in mind.

Target Guidelines

1. Toddler (2-3 years old). The maximum within the Toddler Center should not exceed 20 students, with teacher/teaching assistant (TA) to student ratio of approximately 1:6. (For example, 18 students are taught by one teacher and two TAs). Minimum class size of 12.
2. Pre-K and KG (4-5 years old). The Pre-K and KG classrooms should have a maximum of 24 each, with a teacher/TA to student ratio of 1:9. (For example, 18 students are taught by one teacher and one TA). Minimum class size of 12.
3. Grades 1-5. (6-11 years old). The Grades 1-5 classrooms should have a maximum of 24 students each for a full year, with partial or whole TA support added to larger classes above 22 students for grades 3-5. Grades 1-2 shall have partial or whole TA support with a minimum of 12 full-time students. Minimum class size of 12.



4. Grades 6-12 (11-18 years old). The Secondary Program should have a maximum of 24 students per class. Grades 10-12 have minimum class sizes of 5 for college preparatory AP courses, and 8 minimum per class for core courses and electives.
5. No class may run with a teacher / student ratio of more than 24 students for a period in excess of one year; classes will be split into two at the beginning of the next school year (or if feasible at the semester break) with 25 or more students enrolled for the grade level.
6. The normal minimum number of students for an instructional class must be full-year students.
7. All target guidelines are based upon full-year students enrolled per class.

Reviewed May 2019
Board Adopted: July 2019