

School Profile of Gymnasium 1505

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State Educational Budget Institution "Gymnasium 1505"

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Students & Faculty:

Being located in the Eastern Administrative District of Moscow, Gymnasium 1505 is part of a thriving urban community with students coming from all around the city. The institution includes a middle school and a high school. It currently enrolls 518 students divided into classes, each consisting of about 30 students. The faculty consists of 53 teachers. 20% of faculty members combine teaching with work in their respective fields. Many of them have PhD's and teach courses at universities.

School:

Gymnasium 1505 was founded in 1936 as School 388, which included grades from 1 to 11. ¹However in 1994 the name was changed to Gymnasium 1505, since then, the institution enrolls students into grades from 5 to 11 only.

The school admits students on a selective base as each of the applicants hoping to enroll in the school in 5th grade must take two exams (Russian language and math) and complete a psychological test.

¹ Please note that the school educational system in the Russian Federation consists of 11 grades total

Starting Fall 2014 Gymnasium 1505 will start offering courses as part of the IB Diploma Programme and is currently in the process of being accredited.

Awards & Distinctions

Gymnasium 1505 has been ranked as one of the top 100 schools in Russia four times. In 2007 the school has been ranked as the top educational institution in the country for the broad introduction of innovative educational programs. In years 2012 and 2013, Gymnasium 1505 has been awarded with The Mayors Grant for the exceptional results it's students have shown on their final state examinations.

Curriculum

Gymnasium 1505 offers unique opportunities for students as part of its curriculum which is detailed below:

- Group projects - Students from grades 6 to 8 are required to divide into groups and choose a topic for a research project which they will be working on for a semester. Each group is assigned a project counselor (one of the teachers) in the appropriate field. The results of every project are presented to a committee of high schoolers and faculty for grading.
- Individualized Educational Trajectories - Upon finishing 8th grade every student is required to select 3 subjects for more thorough studying in the remaining three years of high school. During grades 9 through 11, the students are offered advanced classes in the subjects of their own choosing. It should be noted that although the school does have a few preset recommended combinations of courses (based on how the courses are related to one another, such as biology-chemistry-physics; or literature-history-social studies) students have the opportunity to choose any combination of courses they are interested in. In grade 10 a student may choose to remove one of the courses from his or her advanced course list if he or she wishes to focus more on the others. The same can be repeated in grade 11. However, this choice is purely optional.

- Introduction into research work - In grade 9 every student is required to choose a topic and produce an abstract basing the paper on the sources of information, suggested by his research work counselor (one of the faculty members). At the end of the year students present their work to a committee of faculty for grading.
- Research papers - In grade 10 every student is required to write a research paper on any topic of his or her own choosing. Students are given the option to either use the abstracts from grade 9 as a basis and continue exploring the same topic or choose an entirely new topic in a different field. At the end of the year the research paper is presented to a committee of faculty and graded. Additionally, as one of the graduation requirements, the paper must be reviewed positively by an independent specialist, competent in the paper's respective field. Usually that role is filled by a university professor or the jury of a state organized research paper contest.

To graduate every student must complete the following requirements:

1. Finish grades 5 through 11 without any of the final grades being lower than 3 (out of 5).
2. Take the Unified State Exam in during the senior year.
3. Present his or her research paper to a competent third party and receive a positive review.

Grading

Gymnasium 1505 uses a 5 point grading system, 2 being the lowest and 5 being the highest grade.

2 - unsatisfactory

3 - satisfactory

4 - good

5 - excellent

Standardized Test Scores

Because most students choose to attend higher education institutions inside the country, most do not take the SAT or the ACT exams. However, every student takes the USE (Unified State Exam) in the final months of his or her senior year. It is mandatory to take the Russian language and math USEs. Other subject USEs (e.g. History, Biology, Chemistry, Social Studies) are taken based on the requirements of the university the student is planning to attend.

The table below compares the average USE exam grade in Gymnasium 1505 versus the average USE exam grade in the country.

	Average Grade for Gymnasium 1505 (out of 100)	Average Grade for the Russian Federation (out of 100)
Russian Language	86.9	63.4
Math	63.8	48.7
History	69.4	54.8
Biology	92.7	58.6
Computer Science	81.7	63.1
English Language	91.7	72.4
Physics	66.0	53.5
Chemistry	91.4	67.8
Social Studies	77.6	59.5

On average, the USE results for Gymnasium 1505 are 30% higher than the average results for Russia.

College Attendance History

100 % of graduates from Gymnasium 1505 attend higher education institutions after their graduation. Most of the universities are located in Russia, however, every year about 1 or 2 of the graduates enroll into universities abroad. Alumni of Gymnasium 1505 are annually accepted into top ranked colleges and universities.

List of Colleges Attended by Graduates of Gymnasium 1505 (2009-2013)

In State Universities

- Moscow State University
- I. M. Sechenov First Moscow State Medical University
- Higher School of Economics
- Russian Presidential Academy of National Economy and Public Administration
- Plekhanov Russian University of Economics
- Moscow State Pedagogical University
- Moscow State University of Railway Engineering
- Moscow Finances & Law University
- Moscow State University of Geodesy and Cartography
- Bauman Moscow State Technical University
- Moscow State University of Instrument Engineering and Computer Science
- Moscow Power Engineering Institute
- Moscow State University of Food Production
- Moscow State Linguistic University
- Russian State Technological University
- K. I. Skryabin Moscow State Academy of Veterinary Medicine and Biotechnology
- Russian State Social University
- Moscow State Institute for the Industry of Tourism n. a. Yuri Senkevich
- State University of Management
- Russian State University for the Humanities
- Moscow State Institute of International Relations
- Moscow State University of Law
- State Academic University of Humanitarian Sciences
- Russian-American University
- N. I. Pirogov Russian National Research Medical University
- Moscow Technical University of Communications and Informatics
- Moscow State Institute of Radio Engineering, Electronics and Automation
- Moscow State University of Medicine and Dentistry
- D. Mendeleev University of Chemical Technology of Russia

- Moscow Aviation Institute
- Moscow Institute of Foreign Languages
- Russian Foreign Trade Academy
- Russian State University of Physical Education, Sport, Youth and Tourism
- International Academy of Business and Management
- Moscow State Institute of Electronics and Mathematics
- Saint Petersburg State University
- College of Foreign Affairs
- Gerasimov Institute of Cinematography

Out of State Universities

- Massachusetts Institute of Technology (Boston MA, USA)
- Charles University (Prague, Czech Republic)

Extracurricular Activities

Over time Gymnasium 1505 has developed a unique and rich system of extracurricular activities which involves all students and faculty members in different capacities. These activities can be divided into three groups:

1. Clubs
2. Out of school events
3. In school events

The clubs offered at Gymnasium 1505 include:

- Volleyball Club
- Football Club
- Theater Club
- English Theater Club

Members of the sports clubs comprise the school's volleyball and football teams which have both won prizes in city wide competitions.

Each year between 10 and 20 events are organized by the school. They include themed field trips, camping trips, various summer camps and the annual School wide Pedagogical Workshop. All these events share several common qualities.

- All activities and events are planned by high school students of Gymnasium 1505.
- All grades participate and interact not only with their peers, but with students from grades both below them and above them.
- Every activity or event is designed around the idea of encouraging teamwork in the participating students.
- All trips last for at least 2 days.

In school events include various team building and educational exercises in the form of games or workshops. They follow the same common principles as the out of school activities, except for the duration.