



## HeadStart

International School, Phuket



# Inspiring a love of learning

### Let us extend a very warm welcome to our school.

Now in our 20th year, HeadStart International School, Phuket, is a well-established, community-focused school where the successes of our students are built not just around the high academic standards our children reach, but also the opportunities they have inside and outside of the classroom. Whether they are academically gifted, a keen sports person or whether they have artistic flair or performing talent, our students excel in all aspects of school life.

The opportunities created at HeadStart are the result of our highly-qualified and inspiring teachers and coaches and the support that our parents give to our staff and their children on a daily basis. One of the greatest assets of HeadStart is the

community body that has come together to ensure that the successes we often speak about are commonplace in our school.

HeadStart has been on an incredible journey over the past ten years, having witnessed many changes and significant expansion, both in terms of student numbers and also physical resources, not least with the addition of our second, purpose-built campus in the north of Phuket. With these changes have come significant developments to our facilities, and even now we are making further improvements to both campuses, including a move to 3-form entry at our Cherngtalay campus, and planning out the next five years of growth. In spite of all these changes, examination results and outcomes for students at all levels continue to be excellent

with high attainment at IGCSE, AS/A Level and BTEC and a number of our students being recognised by Cambridge as achieving the highest marks not just in Thailand, but across Asia and the whole of the world.

Whether you are an existing member of the HeadStart community, a potential teacher or are a prospective parent or student deciding on where best to enrol, we welcome you to browse through our website and see everything that we have to offer. Of course a website can only give you a glimpse into our programmes. There is so much more to experience so come and visit and see our school for yourself! We welcome all of the Phuket community to get a taste for what HeadStart is all about and we look forward to seeing and meeting with you in the future.



HeadStart  
International School, Phuket

### Chaofah City Campus

39/99 Moo 4, Vichitsongkram Rd., Soi Na Seau 1, Vichit, Muang, Phuket | +66-7661-2875, +66-88-765-5878

### Cherngtalay Campus

9/2 Srisoonthorn Rd., Cherngtalay, Thalang, Phuket | +66-7651-0623, +66-81-678-6466

🌐 <https://headstartphuket.com/>



**1<sup>ST</sup> PLACE IN THAILAND  
BEST ACROSS  
8 SUBJECTS**



**CONOR BOWENS**



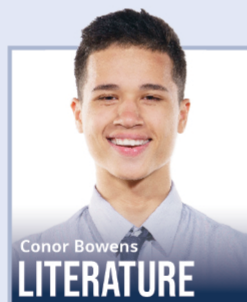
**YICHEN MA**

**TOP IN  
WORLD  
MATHEMATICS**

## HIGHEST GRADES IN THAILAND



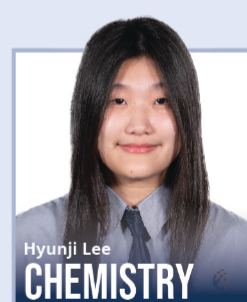
**TOP  
IN THAILAND**



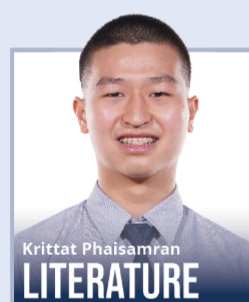
Conor Bowens  
**LITERATURE**



Kirill Kochetkov  
**MATHEMATICS**



Hyunji Lee  
**CHEMISTRY**



Krittat Phaisamran  
**LITERATURE**

**HIGH  
ACHIEVEMENT**



**BERTA PALOP ROCA**

**PEARSON EDEXCEL  
GCSE ART & DESIGN  
HIGHEST  
MARK IN ASIA**

### We are delighted to announce the results of our 2024 IGCSE, AS/A Level and BTEC cohorts!

HeadStart International School, Phuket, continues to set the standard for academic excellence, with remarkable achievements in both IGCSE and A Level results. Our school's commitment to fostering a rigorous and supportive learning environment has enabled students to excel in these globally recognized qualifications.

The Outstanding Learner Awards celebrate top international students in Cambridge and Pearson exams. In the 2024 IGCSE exam series, HeadStart students achieved outstanding results, with many securing top grades across a range of subjects; however, three students stood out - not just at HeadStart, but throughout the whole of Thailand, Asia and the world!

Conor Bowens ranked 1st in Thailand across 8 subjects, including Top in English Literature; Berta Palop Roca earned the highest mark in Asia for GCSE Art & Design; and Yichen Ma (Daniel) was recognized as Top in the World for IGCSE Mathematics.

## CONGRATULATIONS to our students on outstanding Academic Results 2024

**37%  
A\*-A  
AT IGCSE**

**87% A\*-C AT A/AS  
LEVEL**

**99.6% PASS RATE  
AT IGCSE**

**72% OF STUDENTS IN YEAR 13 AWARDED  
DISTINCTION OR DISTINCTION\* IN BTEC**



In the 2023-24 AS and A Level exams, 32% of HeadStart students achieved A\* or A grades. Notable achievers included Head Boy, Krit (Krittat Phaisamran), and Selly (Hyunji Lee), who received High Achievement Awards in AS English Literature and A Level Chemistry, respectively. Kirill Kochetkov was ranked Top in Thailand in A Level Mathematics.

These accomplishments reflect not only individual student talent but also the effectiveness of HeadStart's comprehensive curriculum, which emphasizes critical thinking, creativity, and global citizenship. The school's tailored approach to education ensures that each student receives the support they need to thrive academically. With a dedicated team of educators and a stimulating academic environment, HeadStart prepares students not just for exams but for lifelong success.

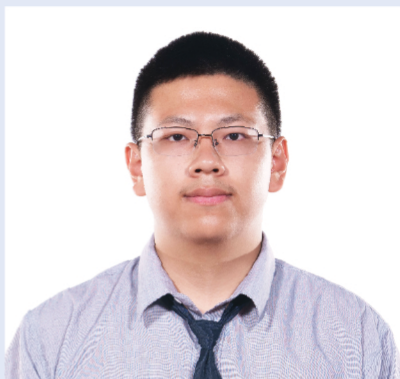
HeadStart International School is not only the outstanding school on the island of Phuket but is now a leading institution in the region, offering students a pathway to exceptional academic and personal achievement, and inspiring a love of learning.



**CONOR BOWENS**

Conor Bowens, Deputy Head Boy, who was awarded Top in Thailand 'Best Across 8 Subjects' as well as for IGCSE English Literature, told us, "I have intellectual goals and philanthropic goals," explaining that his passion for natural sciences fuels his dream of studying Physics at a prestigious university. "I'm really fascinated by the subject, and I hope that will lead me to study Physics at a top university. That's the dream right now." Teachers at HeadStart, particularly in maths and the sciences, have played a crucial role in nurturing Conor's intellectual curiosity. "Miss Bekker has enthusiasm — she's bubbly, loud, and excited to teach maths. That passion is contagious," he said, highlighting how a teacher's energy and focus on going beyond the curriculum can enhance the learning experience.

Enrolled at HeadStart since Year 8



**YICHEN MA**

Having been recognised as Top in the World in IGCSE Mathematics, Daniel attributes his success not only to his own hard work but also to the support of his family and the inspiring teaching at his school. Daniel explained that his parents played a key role in his academic journey. "I'd like to thank my parents for encouraging me to achieve this result," he said. While his family emphasised effort over perfection, his passion for learning was also nurtured by his teachers at HeadStart. "In maths class, there isn't really a lot of pressure, so we aren't pushed to get that level," he said, explaining how the supportive, low-pressure environment allowed him to thrive. For Daniel, the combination of family support, passionate teachers, and a stimulating academic environment has been key to his success.

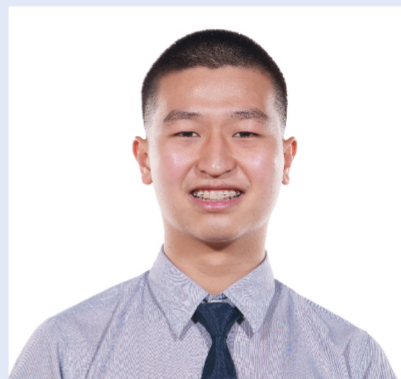
Enrolled at HeadStart since Year 9



**BERTA PALOP ROCA**

Reflecting on her successful journey, Berta, who achieved the Highest Mark in Asia for GCSE Art & Design, explained that much of her drive comes from within. "It's more like a pressure I put on myself," she shared, emphasising that she didn't feel external pressure from her parents to excel. "My parents have never forced me to get good grades. It's just something I thought might be possible, so why not?" Berta credits her teachers for providing invaluable guidance, particularly in art, where understanding the deeper meaning of her work was a key focus. "What I think most people miss is the deeper meaning behind your work," she explained. This thoughtful approach was something her teachers encouraged, helping her focus on the aspects that examiners look for when grading coursework.

Enrolled at HeadStart since Year 6



**KRITTAT PHAISAMRAN**

Krit, our Head Boy, credits his High Achievement in English Literature to the supportive environment at HeadStart, where small class sizes encourage discussion and critical thinking. "The process of thinking, analysing, breaking down texts, and linking ideas is the most important thing," Krit explained, highlighting the importance of discourse in refining his ideas. He also noted that his teachers challenge students' opinions, fostering a learning environment where both students and teachers are open to changing their perspectives. "The support from teachers, with the most personalised feedback, has allowed me to develop both academically and personally," he said. This supportive, nurturing environment, Krit believes, has been key to his success.

Enrolled at HeadStart since Preschool

### The Power of Play-based Learning

HeadStart's Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) curriculum focuses on play-based learning and continuous provision to support holistic child development. These strategies create an engaging environment where children can explore, experiment, and learn at their own pace. Play-based learning fosters creativity, problem-solving, and social skills, helping children understand the world around them. Through hands-on activities, students develop communication, teamwork, and critical thinking. Continuous provision provides access to a variety of resources, encouraging independence and self-directed learning. Together, these approaches cater to individual needs, ensuring every child at HeadStart builds a strong foundation for lifelong learning.



### A Balance of Academic and Extracurricular Opportunities

We believe in developing well-rounded individuals through a diverse range of extra-curricular activities (ECAs) and sports academies. Our program includes over 200 options in sports, clubs, creative and performing arts, STEM, and academic boosters, allowing students to explore passions and develop new skills. These activities foster creativity, confidence, and leadership, encouraging progression from beginner to advanced levels. Expert coaches guide our academies in football, swimming, and basketball, helping students build fitness, teamwork, and discipline. By offering a balance of academic and extra-curricular opportunities, we ensure students grow holistically, preparing them for success in both studies and future careers. At HeadStart, every student has the opportunity to thrive beyond academics.



### Creating a Socially and Environmentally Responsible Community

Our school is dedicated to promoting sustainability both within our two campuses and the wider community. Our school's gardens serve as living classrooms, where students engage in hands-on learning about organic gardening, biodiversity, and environmental responsibility. These two green spaces not only beautify each campus but also contribute to reducing the school's carbon footprint. Through our dedicated school Eco Committee, we also actively organise community beach clean-up events, encouraging students, staff and families to take part in preserving Phuket's coastal ecosystems.



### Learning Languages to Open Doors

At HeadStart, we recognize the importance of learning a second language in today's globalized world. Bilingualism enhances cognitive development, problem-solving skills, and cultural awareness. Our school offers first and second language options in Mandarin, Russian, Thai, and French, catering to diverse student needs. These languages are integrated into the curriculum, helping students develop proficiency and appreciate cultural contexts. By prioritizing second-language acquisition, we equip our students with valuable communication skills for their academic journey and future careers. At HeadStart, we believe learning a second language opens doors to new opportunities and helps students become global citizens.

### Encouraging Students to Explore their Passions

Our Creative and Performing Arts (CAPA) department offers a platform for students to express their talents through annual junior and senior productions, enhancing creativity and confidence. The Dance Academy provides specialized training in various styles, including ballet, jazz, and hip-hop, allowing students to explore dance as both an art form and a physical discipline, with opportunities to compete in international competitions. From theatre productions to dynamic dance showcases, the department fosters teamwork, discipline, and artistic excellence. With guidance from dedicated teachers and a supportive environment, students are encouraged to explore their passions and develop skills for future success in the arts.



# WHAT OUR COMMUNITY HAS TO SAY ABOUT US



We are thrilled with the experience our daughters have had at HeadStart. The dedicated and caring staff create a nurturing environment that fosters both academic and personal growth. The curriculum is engaging and challenging, encouraging students to think critically and creatively. Extracurricular activities are diverse, ensuring that every child can find something they enjoy. We couldn't be happier with our choice and highly recommend HeadStart to other parents!

- Children in Reception and Year 6



The communication between school and parents has been exceptional from email communications, newsletters and the presence and approachability of staff on site daily. In a short space of time, the school has created a wonderful and positive community through its well organised events. Our children love coming to school and all the staff excel at making this a happy environment where children not only learn but love learning.

- Children in Year 1 and Year 5



HeadStart is the best international school in Phuket! Cherngtalay is a beautiful area to live and the school has such a friendly parent community. There are children from many different countries learning every day with native English teachers. We are so happy with the culture and sense of community generated by the teachers and staff. Most importantly, our kids are very happy here!

- Children in Year 1 and Year 5

Our school boasts a diverse, multicultural student body, with children and their families representing over 60 different nationalities from across the globe. This international community is not only reflected in the dynamic and inclusive learning environment where students share perspectives and experiences but also in the array of community events that celebrate global cultures, foster inclusivity, and promote collaboration among students, parents, and staff alike.



Our teaching staff of over 220 internationally qualified educators across both campuses represent a variety of countries and cultural backgrounds, as well as a range of qualifications and experiences, from Early Career Teachers to holders of PhDs in their respective fields. This rich mix of perspectives enhances the learning experience, allowing students to benefit from a broad range of teaching styles and global viewpoints.



ONE SCHOOL TWO CAMPUSES