

The Philippines



Many of our school communities welcome families and staff from the Philippines. Here are a few bits of information about Filipino culture.


- The national language is **Filipino**, which is based on the language of Tagalog. There are several dialects spoken in every region. **English** is used throughout the country as well as Hokkien, Cantonese, and Mandarin. Not all students from the Philippines speak Tagalog, nor are they able to communicate in fluent Tagalog (sometimes it's half half, **Tagalog + a dialect**). So, technically there are three main languages spoken.
- Currently the Philippines is the third-largest English speaking country in the world.

USEFUL PHRASES:

1. **Tagalog:** Please – Pah-kee, Thank you – Sahlah-mat, Hello – Kuh-moos-tah, Good bye – Paalam-na po, Yes – Ooh, No – Hin-dee, Do you speak English? – Mah-roo nohng ho kay-yong mahg-Ing-glehs?

2. **Hiligaynon** (Also known as Ilongo): Untat (stop), Huo (yes), Indi (no), Ambot (I don't know), Lihog (please)


3. **Visaya:** (also known as bisaya or Cebuano): Maayong buntag (good morning), Unsa imong ngalan (what is your name), Dili (no), Unsa (what)



4. Ilocono: Taga ano ana nga probinsiya (which province are you from), wen (yes), han(no), Agyamanak (awan anyaman)

- The family is the center of the social structure and includes the nuclear family, aunts, uncles, grandparents, cousins and honorary relations such as godparents, sponsors, and close family friends.
- Gifts are not opened when received.

Please note: Each of the families attending your school are unique. While it is so important to educate ourselves about cultures other than our own, it is equally important to avoid grouping students into a single category or make assumptions about a student based on what you know to be true of his or her culture. Learning the history and background of students is just one piece of understanding your students. If you would like to learn more about the Filipino culture, please connect with your families at your school and take a look at the attached websites.



<https://sites.sandiego.edu/esl/filipino/>

<https://culturalatlas.sbs.com.au/filipino-culture/filipino-culture-communication#filipino-culture-communication>

<https://www.commisceo-global.com/resources/country-guides/phillippines-guide>

