



### **ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

An inquiry-based, integrated Elementary curriculum that makes learning relevant and meaningful to each child

**GRADE 1 TO GRADE 5** 





# WELCOME FROM OUR ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

What makes Elementary at Stamford American International School great?

From the moment families walk into the elementary school, they can feel our positive school climate. Everyone at Stamford American feels valued, accepted and safe. This is essential to us, as happy students will reach their potential.

Our teachers, are the magicians that bring our Elementary School to life and at Stamford American, we have great teachers. They are passionate about ensuring every child in their classroom is having a great learning journey and they do everything they can to ensure each student's success. In Elementary School, we switch on that love of learning that is essential for all students to be successful, and this is something we, here at Stamford American, do really well. This is where students begin to develop that growth mindset that will stand them in good stead for the remainder of their lives.

Stamford American is an IB World School and so our curriculum is based on inquiry, which enables our students to be fully engaged in their learning process as active learners. Being an active participant in learning helps our students learn the skill set they will require to be prepared for their future. We use every resource and opportunity we have to grow our students.

Watch the Elementary School video



What makes Stamford American great? It's the students we produce. Yes, we produce students who are strong academically. However, we also produce students who simply are really good people who will be able to find their way in an international world. Our education fosters the elements that are critical to students' overall success. These include social and emotional development, creativity, innovation and positive attitudes to learning. This means our students can empathize, critique, design, create and find a way to learn and understand anything that their own unique future may hold.

Clare Johnstone Elementary School Principal

# PRIMARY YEARS PROGRAMME

# CHALLENGING STUDENTS TO INTELLECTUALLY ENGAGE

At Stamford American we encourage students to be open-minded, reflective inquirers and thinkers, whether it be in terms of their academics, interests, or the world around them. We challenge students to intellectually engage, equipping them for excellence within and beyond Stamford American.

The Stamford American Elementary School curriculum is based on the International Baccalaureate (IB) Primary Years Programme (PYP), integrated with American Education Reaches Out (AERO) standards.

These overarching frameworks bring the best of American and International curricula together in a unique blend of guaranteed and responsive education. Through our American standards, students are ensured of vertically aligned, connected learning within discipline areas. Through the IB Programme, our students involve themselves as inquirers within disciplinary and interdisciplinary learning in order to construct and personalize their learning - much like the real world demands of all learners.

All this in a balanced interweaving of teaching, learning and multiple assessment methods, where each informs the other as learning unfolds.



#### PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE:

A language arts program that arms students with the tools to speak and write fluently, and to process information effectively through reading and listening.

Building number sense and mathematical reasoning using rich and engaging tasks.

An emphasis on foreign language with daily Mandarin and Spanish lessons.

Cultural and social development through art, music, dance and physical education programs.

Critical thinking, reasoning, and problem-solving methods.

Inspiring confidence and building presentation skills.

Our Elementary School curriculum also includes instruction in Foreign Language, Social Studies, Science, Art, Music, Dance, Physical Education and Library Skills with a focus on integrated technology.

"We were looking for a school that "had it all," so to speak, providing a wide spectrum of academic levels and SAIS was nothing short of meeting all our criteria. One factor that attracted us to SAIS, specifically, was its bilingual track option. While many other schools also offer a bilingual track, entry is often capped after 1st grade, but SAIS uniquely allows it up to 3rd grade - this opened a whole new world for our 3rd grader!"

- Brigitta, Parent of a 1st and 3rd Grader in Stamford American





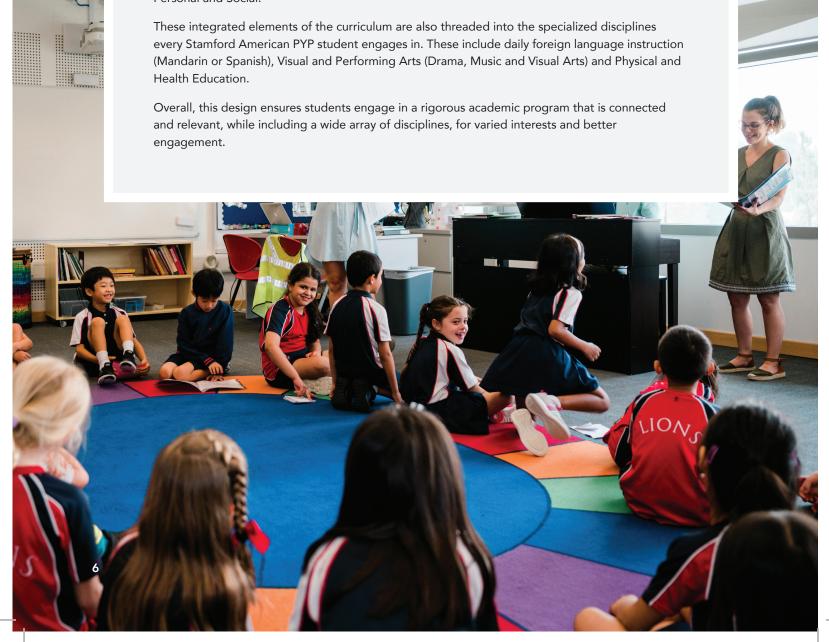


# CORE INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAM

# A VARIETY OF DISCIPLINES FOR GREATER CONNECTION AND RELEVANCE

The transdisciplinary framework of the Stamford American curriculum and the approaches to teaching and learning in PYP allow students to gain in ways that enriches their experiences. Students learn in the context of what is significant and relevant to them by asking questions and making connections to their previous knowledge, experiences, and their readiness and interest level.

At the core of our curriculum are the traditional subjects of Language Arts, Mathematics, Science and Social Studies. Woven within all of these subjects areas are explicit teaching and learning opportunities in Digital Learning, important Library Skills and Knowledge, and the development of Personal and Social.



#### Language Arts

Language is fundamental to learning and permeates through our curriculum. By learning about and through languages, students develop an appreciation of the richness of language and a love of literature. Literacy learning is supported by the AERO Standards in Language Arts, a rich classroom literacy environment including classroom libraries, and an extensive collection of quality texts.

#### **Mathematics**

At Stamford American, mathematics is viewed as a way of thinking and a language for exploration and understanding. To study mathematics is to inquire into this language and to learn to think in a way that is balanced. This balance includes the development of deep conceptual understanding, to know how and when to apply appropriate strategies and algorithms, and to be able to apply these skills and understandings to dynamic real-world problems.

#### Science and Social Studies

Our science curriculum is anchored by the 3 dimensions of the American Education Reaches Out (AERO)/ Next GenerationScience Standards (NGSS): Cross-Cutting Concepts, Disciplinary Core Ideas, and Science and Engineering Practices. While our social studies curriculum allows students to gain an overall understanding of human commonality, diversity, and how multiple perspectives can be applied to the human condition.

#### ASSESSMENT AND REPORTING

Students at Stamford American Elementary are comprehensively assessed across academic knowledge, practical skills, learning ability and attitude, project portfolios and social relationships. Our focus is on helping your child develop into a well-rounded individual, and we keep you involved in that journey through quarterly reports and regular parent–teacher conferences.

Student achievement is benchmarked to American standards each Fall and Spring in an external assessment called Measures of Academic Progress (MAP).







# A HOLISTIC EDUCATION

# FOSTERING A LOVE FOR THE ARTS, ATHLETICS & TECHNOLOGY

#### Music

From improved concentration, to better emotional awareness, to faster creative development, music enhances your child's education.

In Grades 1-3 students continue to build the foundation of theory and practical music through the PYP. Students play a variety of instruments and use their iPads to enhance their understanding of theory.

The music program for Grades 4-5 combine the study of varied instrumental play, theoretical study and music history as students prepare for the transition to the MYP at the end of Grade 5.

#### Drama

Drama at Stamford American focuses on the development of communication and social skills, while encouraging students to think creatively and expand their imaginations. Students are encouraged to become risktakers and problem solvers, while immersing themselves in the creative process.

Elementary drama intertwines a mixture of skills-based lessons and teacher-led process drama, to create a variety of characters and situations through a series of role-play scenarios. Throughout the program, students create a variety of in-depth characters by changing their physicality, facial expressions, voice and persona.

#### Visual Arts

Designed to foster creativity and self-discovery, Art in the PYP at Stamford American develops students' ability to relate the aesthetics and beauty through creating and responding to artwork.

Visual arts enables students to communicate in powerful ways that go beyond their spoken language. Students can construct an understanding of their community, their environment, their own feelings and emotions. Assessment is done using various tools and strategies and are a part of the assessment process through self and peer assessments and reflections.

### Physical, Social And Personal Education (PSPE)

PSPE at Stamford American is centered around the development of the whole student, through units that challenge them physically, emotionally and socially. Our curriculum, through its diversity, allows students to develop an understanding of who they are, promotes students' understanding of how to maintain healthy and meaningful relationships with others, and encourages participation and active lifestyles.

At Stamford American, we have two distinct strands which make up the PSPE: Physical Education (PE) and Personal and Social Education (PSE).

We see PE as more than just playing games and sports, and instead view it as a vehicle to develop and apply transdisciplinary skills that will ultimately allow students to make informed choices regarding their lifelong health and well-being.

PSE identifies some of the central ideas considered significant in the PYP and our curriculum. It provides the models, processes and values for handling social and personal issues and ensuring health and wellbeing. PSE is included throughout the curriculum.

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### Information And Communication Technology (ICT)

ICT is an integral part of school life at Stamford American, and elementary students are encouraged to explore technology and apply it to their learning journey. Students from Grade 1 to Grade 5 are given increasingly challenging problems to tackle, and the 1-to-1 iPad Program gives them access to additional resources. Our aim is to prepare your child in becoming a knowledgeable and responsible citizen of the digital world.













# EXCURSIONS AND ACADEMIC FIELD STUDIES

## TAKING LEARNING OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM

Not only do students aim high within Stamford American, but they also explore the world through excursions, both physically and virtually. The goal is to help students understand that what they are learning in school is deeply connected to people, places and communities outside of school.

Physical excursions range from visiting a local farm to learning more about how the food we eat ends up on our tables, to sitting along the waterfront and imagining what Singapore was like when much of the area they are sitting on was still under water.

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Academic Field Studies are viewed as an integral and necessary part in the delivery of a balanced curriculum. Time spent away from home on grade-level expeditions contributes to building the values and behaviors expected of our students in their quest to become internationally-minded global citizens.

#### A selection of past field studies



**Grade 3**Singapore Zoo,
Singapore



**Grade 4**Pulau Bintan,
Indonesia



Grade 5
Phuket,
Thailand

# UNIQUE FACILITIES

# BECAUSE THE ENVIRONMENT NURTURES THE CHILD

#### Library, Resource, Media Center (LRMC)

Stamford American's LRMC supports the curriculum, promotes wideranging literacy skills and develops a love of literature within students.

We believe it is crucial for students to develop a strong foundation of traditional literacy, as well as emerging skills relevant to success in the 21st century. To that end, our students learn to harness the power of technology and successfully integrate the use of a variety of tools and skills to enhance the breadth and depth of their understanding.

#### Makerspace

Virtual Reality (VR) kits, 3-D printers, robots! Our Makerspace has these and an array of equipment to encourage innovative learning. All our students are given the freedom to design, tinker and create using the latest learning technologies. Whether their interests are in electronics, fashion, art or craft, students have the materials and guidance of skilled technicians to realize their innovative visions.

#### Jefferson Arena

Indoor multipurpose hall where PE and gymnastic classes take place. The Arena is also used to host events such as the International Fiesta, Deepavali and Lunar New Year celebrations.



Swimming Pool -Full length pool with a smaller pool for younger children



Cafeteria designed for younger kids, nutritious menu



Playground

Scan the QR code to view our latest fees











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**COGNITA** 



Stamford American International School CPE Registration Number: 200823594D Period of registration: August 9, 2022 to August 8, 2026