

Head of Primary School Candidate Pack



DUBAI INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY

DREAM  INSPIRE  ACHIEVE



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Welcome from the CEO

Dear Applicant

Welcome to a delightful organisation comprising nearly 8,000 lifelong learners from over 100 countries; mentored and supported by over 1,100 academic and administrative staff from all over the world. Innoventures Education offers a truly international environment, focused in a city that is constantly seeing tomorrow, today: Dubai.

Our mission is to empower students with a holistic, rigorous and international education for success in an ever-changing world. What differentiates us is our student-centric approach where we judge our success by that of our students in achieving their personal goals. We strive to be innovative and at the cutting edge of not only the latest developments in education, but also those in system leadership. Distributed and collaborative models are in place that ensure all staff feel empowered, valued and developed professionally. The traditional, hierarchical approach to leadership and management has been somewhat eschewed in favour of a structure of professional accountability. I personally feel that this encourages innovation and provides the vibrant learning environment that maximises success for all – students and staff alike!

As Head of Primary, your role will involve leading the school on our journey towards excellence; delivering an even more enriching pedagogic experience to secure the best possible outcomes for our students. You will be joining our group at an exciting time. All of our schools consistently receive at least a Good inspection rating



from the Dubai Schools Inspection Bureau, and Dubai International Academy (Emirates Hills) has been judged as Outstanding! We are in no way complacent about this and know that we must continuously strive to improve in all areas to provide the best for our students.

Over the next pages we have tried to provide a sense of our constituents as well as define your key attributes and deliverables. For me personally, three attributes are critical:

1. that you have to believe in collaboration;
2. that you must be self-driven, ready to take on fresh and uncharted paths literally everyday!
3. that you are willing to go the extra mile to achieve excellence.

If this is what you are, and would like to spend the next few years of your academic life with us.

Ahlan wa Sahlan!

Poonam Bhojani

About Us

Innoventures Education was established in 2004 with the vision of providing world-class education. The first under its umbrella of schools was Dubai International Academy (Emirates Hills), which opened in 2005, and within a few years it has been established as one of the premier international schools in Dubai.

In 2010, Innoventures Education took over the management of the Raffles Schools and Nurseries in Dubai. Collegiate American School, a premium international school that offers the best of American education with a curriculum based on the American Common Core Standards, was added to the portfolio in 2011.

Innoventures Education also manages Burj Daycare Nursery that opened in 2012 and is located in the prestigious Burj Khalifa complex.

Today, nearly 8,000 pupils from over 100 countries, ranging in age from 18 months to 18 years, study in schools and nurseries managed by Innoventures Education, making it a significant stakeholder in the education sector in Dubai.



As Dubai builds on its social and economic development, the provision of quality education will continue to be a key ingredient in achieving its goals. The new branch of Dubai International Academy in the Al Barsha area of the city, will provide world-class IB education to the local community and beyond. Building on the success of the DIA Emirates Hills branch, it will further establish Innoventures Education as the leading provider of IB education in Dubai and the wider MENA region.

Sister Schools & Nurseries

Dubai International Academy (Emirates Hills)



DIA was the first IB school in Dubai to receive Outstanding status from the Dubai School Inspection Bureau. It is also accredited by the Council of International School (CIS) and NEASC (New England Association of Schools and Colleges). DIA is a member of MEIBA (Middle East IB Association), Dubai Private Schools Group (DPSG), THIMUN (The Hague International Model United Nations) and NESAC (Near East South Asia Council of Overseas Schools). It is one of the first schools in the UAE to be awarded the prestigious Green Flag by Eco-Schools UAE.

Established in September 2005, Dubai International Academy (DIA) is the first school in the UAE to be authorised by the Geneva based international Baccalaureate to offer the full continuum of the (IB) programmes - Primary Years Programme (PYP), Middle Years Programme (MYP) and Diploma Programme (DP). It is an IB World School that has a student population of over 2250 students from over 85 countries.

The IB programmes are designed to challenge students to meet internationally recognised standards in academic achievement as students prepare for higher education and the knowledge economy. We take pride in our students' university placements that have been to the top-ranking universities in the US, the UK and around the world.



Raffles International School



Raffles International School (RIS) offers the full continuum of the UK-based, globally recognised, Cambridge curriculum leading up to IGCSE and A-levels. With over 1800 students, RIS is the first school in the UAE to offer a unique combination of Montessori Pre-school and an enriched Cambridge International curriculum enhanced by a well-developed language studies programme,

which includes Arabic, French, Mandarin and English Language Support (ELS).

The Montessori Programme is offered in Kindergarten, the Cambridge Primary Programme (CPP) in Years 2 to 6 and Cambridge Secondary 1 (CS1) for the Secondary School in Years 7 to 9. Students in Year 10 follow a full range of IGCSE courses.

RIS works towards securing the foundations of a child's education in a secure learning environment while helping them develop capabilities to succeed. Established in 2007, the school has more than 1960 pupils from more than 78 nationalities. RIS is a regular member of the Council of International Schools (CIS) and working towards accreditation. It is a full member of the BSO (British Schools Overseas) and a Cambridge International Examinations Centre (CIE).



Collegiate American School

Collegiate American School (CAS) offers an American educational programme based on the American Common Core Standards that emphasises the use of the best practices in curriculum, assessment and instruction.

Open from PKG to Grade 10, CAS offers a technology-enabled learning environment that focuses on a digital learning curriculum. Next year the school is expanding into Grade 11, offering the IB Diploma Programme to students. CAS provides a framework that prepares our students for the expectations of universities and careers. These standards include benchmarking against the US state standards as well as international sources.

At CAS we take our responsibility for the education, care and welfare of each child very seriously. It helps us establish the cornerstones that support the growth of lifelong learners, and helps them mature into positive and productive contributors to the communities they live in.



Established in 2011 CAS, is fully accredited by the Council of International Schools (CIS) and awaiting formal authorisation from NEASC (New England Association of Schools and Colleges), and to offer the IB Diploma Programme from August 2016. CAS has more than 800 students from over 70 countries. All our academic staff members are vastly experienced, highly qualified and extensively trained.

Raffles World Academy

Raffles World Academy (RWA) is committed to imparting excellence in education by striving to provide each student with opportunities to reach their full potential as lifelong learners in a holistic, challenging and supportive learning environment. RWA is an IB World School that offers a combination of International Baccalaureate (IB) and Cambridge International curriculum from KG 1 to Grade 12.

The IB Primary Years Programme (PYP) is offered from KG 1 to Grade 5, the Cambridge Secondary 1 Programme (CS1) in Grades 6 to 8, the International General Certificate of Secondary Education (IGCSE) in Grades 9 and 10 and the IB Diploma Programme (DP) is offered in Grades 11 and 12. The school has an international population of over 2000 students from more than 85 nationalities and an equally diverse academic and administrative team.

RWA is an IB World School, fully accredited by the Council of International Schools (CIS) and a Cambridge International Examination Board



Centre (CIE). It is a member of the Middle East IB Association (MEIBA) and one of the first schools to receive the prestigious Green Flag from Eco-Schools UAE. The rigour of the Cambridge IGCSE and IB Diploma Programme challenges students to meet internationally recognised standards in academic achievement while preparing them for higher education and the knowledge economy. Students graduate from RWA with a broadened world-view and the mental agility to pursue their dreams in an ever-changing global landscape.

Raffles International School Nurseries



Raffles International School Nurseries (RISN) in Dubai strive to provide each student with opportunities to reach their full potential as lifelong learners in a holistic, challenging and supportive learning environment.

The Nursery encourages children to become independent, enquiring and enthusiastic learners by providing them with a learning environment that is based on their needs, interests and skills.

RISN operates nine nurseries at various locations in Dubai and offers a choice of two curriculums: the United Kingdom Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) programme which focuses on each child's individual needs, interests and stage of development; and the Montessori Programme. RISN is accredited and certified by the Pre- School Learning Alliance (U.K.). RISN in Dubai have close to 850 pupils of more than 85 nationalities and an equally diverse academic and administrative team of over 145 members from 22 countries.



Burj Daycare Nursery

The Burj Daycare Nursery is the newest addition to our growing portfolio of nurseries, located within the prestigious Burj Khalifa. The curriculum followed at the Burj Daycare Nursery is based on the United Kingdom's Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) programme which focuses on each child's individual needs, interests and stage of development. The purpose-built facility has been carefully designed, taking into consideration a safe and secure environment which is the foremost priority of every parent.

We welcome children from the age of 18 months to 4. To facilitate the various needs of working parents and at-home mothers, we offer semester sessions as well as a choice of hourly, daily and weekly sessions.



We strongly uphold the belief that education and care are inseparable in the important early years as they form the basis for a child's social, emotional and intellectual development.



The Role

School: Dubai International Academy
(Al Barsha)

Job Title: Head of Primary School

Reports to: School Principal

Core Purpose

The core purpose of this role is to provide professional leadership and management of the school in line with the Innoventures Education mission to empower students with a holistic, rigorous and international education for success in an ever-changing world. The Primary/Secondary Head of Section will promote our core values of Achievement, Collaboration, Integrity, Respect and Responsibility, building a secure foundation from which to achieve high standards in all area of the school's work.

To achieve success, the Head will:

- Provide vision, leadership and direction
- Effectively manage teaching and learning
- Promote excellence, equality and high expectations of all pupils and staff
- Deploy resources to achieve the school's aims
- Evaluate school performance and identify priorities for continuous improvement
- Carry out day-to-day management, organisation and administration
- Secure the commitment of the wider community
- Create a safe and productive learning environment that is engaging and fulfilling for all pupils.
- Collaborate with all teams for the effective functioning of the school.





Main Responsibilities

The main responsibilities for the Head of Section are outlined below:

Leadership & Strategic Direction

- Provide leadership that secures the delivery of high standards of achievement and personal development for all pupils and staff.
- Provide leadership in the development of innovative teaching and learning and extended community activities.
- Develop a clear and compelling vision for the school, which takes account of the diversity, values, culture and experience of the school and community.
- Translate the vision into coherent objectives and operational plans that promote continuous school improvement.
- Inspire, challenge, motivate and empower others to carry the vision forward.
- Foster an open, fair, positive, equitable culture and manage conflict effectively to maintain this and secure organisational goals.
- Develop and foster good working relationships within the school and wider community to build a collaborative learning culture at all levels (within the staff, between staff and pupils, staff and families, and amongst all families using the school).
- Collaborate with other school and education professionals to share expertise.
- Regularly review own practice, set personal targets and take responsibility for own personal development by participating positively in the arrangements made for the appraisal of Head of Section performance.





Standards & Educational Excellence

- Develop and implement a broad and relevant curriculum which embraces innovative approaches to teaching and learning, and is at the forefront of best practice, to meet the needs of all pupils. Monitor and evaluate the curriculum for both quality and value for money.
- Ensure outstanding teaching and learning, whether curricular or extra-curricular, is at the core of strategic planning, resource management and effective delivery.
- Embed data and benchmarking systems to monitor progress, raise standards, record and report assessment data, and ensure a continuous and consistent school wide focus on pupils' achievement which engages the support of parents/carers.
- Demonstrate and articulate high expectations and set stretching targets for the whole school community.
- Ensure that differentiated learning opportunities and strategies are in place to support those pupils with additional needs (including the Gifted & Talented, those with English as an Additional Language, children with learning difficulties and those with emotional and behavioural challenges).
- Monitor, evaluate and review classroom practice and collaboratively develop improvement strategies.
- Challenge underperformance at all levels (within the staff team but also by pupils) and ensure effective corrective action.
- Ensure that a broad range of extra-curricular activities flourishes at the school in order to support a diversity of challenge and stimulation for all.
- Ensure that high standards of behaviour and attendance of the pupils is maintained.





Managing the Organisation & Accountability

- Establish and sustain a clear organisational structure which enables the efficient and effective management of the school on a day-to-day basis.
- Combine the outcomes of regular school self-review with external evaluations in order to develop clear, evidence-based improvement plans for the development of the school and its facilities.
- In collaboration with HR, lead the selection, appointment, deployment and management of high-quality staff to ensure that effective learning takes place throughout the school.
- Develop and maintain effective strategies and procedures for staff induction, professional development, staff retention and succession planning.
- Develop and maintain a culture of high expectations for self and others, holding staff accountable for their performance through the agreed appraisal system and taking action where necessary in the best

interests of the students.

- Monitor and evaluate the overall provision and use of resources to secure value for money.
- Manage and organise accommodation efficiently and effectively to ensure it meets the needs of the curriculum, extended use, health and safety requirements and promotes a positive learning environment for all.
- Ensure that parents/carers and pupils are well informed about all aspects of the school and, in particular, about attainment, progress and targets for further improvement.
- Ensure that there is due regard for the safeguarding of children.

This is in no way an exhaustive list and the Head of Section will be required to undertake additional duties in order to ensure the smooth day-to-day running of the school. They are also required to undertake any other duty as assigned to them by the School Principal.





Person Specification

Attributes	Essential	Desirable	How identified
Education and Qualifications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A good honours degree, PGCE/BEd and QTS. NPQH or equivalent qualification for headship Evidence of further professional study e.g. MA, NPQH, PhD. 		Application form. References.
Relevant experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Successful experience at Headship level or as a member of a regional/national school improvement team (or equivalent) Recent experience of having led, or significantly contributed to the success of a school through its leadership, ethos, teaching and results Demonstrable experience of significantly raising standards, in challenging/complex environments Experience of leading and managing innovation and change Proven ability to improve performance and build capacity through coaching, challenge and support Experience of developing a philosophy of high aspiration and expectation for every student, including those who have special educational needs and those who are more able Experience of dealing with and analysing data and broader information whilst under pressure Sound track record of performance managing professional staff; driving morale, raising standards and promoting a team ethos, particularly with regard to a multi-site organisation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Successful headship experience in more than one school 	Application form. References.





Person Specification (continued)

<p>Special knowledge and skills</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ability to support as well as challenge underperformance • Ability to meet the demands of competing and challenging priorities with a drive to make the highest possible impact in terms of improving outcomes • Able to demonstrate a range of leadership styles used effectively according to context • Articulate, confident communicator and influencer able to connect with a range of audiences using a sophisticated range of well-developed presentation skills • High levels of emotional intelligence responding to subtle clues and demonstrating situational awareness • Extensive knowledge of the innovative deployment of technology in improving learning outcomes • Ability to work autonomously and yet contribute significantly to the team dynamic within a fast paced senior leadership team as a strong team player and knowledge sharer • Creative solution-focused thinker with an ability to generate new ideas, think ahead, pre-empt and offer solutions whilst keeping the end goal always in mind • Resilient and resourceful with a tenacity to unpick the most complex of situations • Effective leader who can build a positive organisational culture, encourage reflection, delegate responsibility, build teams, strive for continuous improvement and inspire staff to achieve their full potential 		<p>Application form. At interview. References.</p>
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Person Specification (continued)

Personal qualities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Determination to secure the sustained improvement of the whole school • Highly approachable, very grounded and makes sensible judgments • A deep sense of purpose that things can change and be transformed • Outwardly focused and innovative coupled with the highest standards of personal integrity • Significant personal presence; inspires confidence with a wide range of audiences • Relishes accountability and takes personal responsibility for their own actions • Excellent critical thinking skills; has intellectual curiosity and rigor • Able to build trust and mutual respect between pupils, families and staff • Strong interpersonal written and oral communication skills 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enthusiasm for a wide range of sport and other extra-curricular activities. 	At interview. References.
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Head of Primary School

We are looking for an experienced, dynamic and collaborative Head of Primary for our new IB school in Dubai which will offer the full range of International Baccalaureate programmes*. The Head of School will lead the Primary team to provide the best learning experience and holistic, personal development for our PYP students. In so doing, they will use their honed educational leadership ability to create a vibrant and innovative teaching and learning environment that secures excellence for all.

The Head of Primary School will work with existing leaders to develop cutting-edge practice. The successful candidate will have:

- ☐ Significant and demonstrable educational expertise
- ☐ Successful Primary leadership experience of at least 3 years, preferably in an international school
- ☐ A proven track record of developing and sustaining the highest academic standards
- ☐ The ability to lead strategically as part of the School Senior Leadership Team
- ☐ A cultural understanding and ethos to motivate staff and students to continually strive for excellence

We are proud to offer:

- ☐ A world class, state of the art learning environment with impressive facilities and resources
- ☐ The opportunity to have a substantial impact at a strategic level
- ☐ Highly engaged learners and supportive parents
- ☐ A competitive package

About Innoventures Education

Dubai International Academy, Raffles World Academy, Raffles International School, Raffles International Nurseries and Collegiate American School are leading international schools managed by **Innoventures Education** (www.innoventureseducation.com); a company committed to bringing world-class education to Dubai. All our schools and nurseries are renowned for their high-quality curricula, inspiring learning environments and commitment to academic excellence. Together we have a total enrolment of more than 7000 students from over 100 countries, with a dedicated and inspirational team of educators and administrators from virtually every corner of the globe.

If this opportunity excites you, please send your CV with a photograph and letter of application to: sip@innoventureseducation.com. The closing date for applications is 6 April 2018, but early applications are strongly encouraged.

*(subject to authorisation and permissions from the IBO and KHDA)

How to Apply

Completed applications should be sent by email to sip@innoventureseducation.com

Please enclose with your application:

- A full CV
- A covering letter outlining your interest in the position and why you feel you are suited to the role
- Details of two referees, one of whom must be your current or most recent employer (references will not be taken up without the prior consent of candidates)
- day-time, evening and/or mobile telephone numbers (to be used with discretion).



The closing date for applications is midday
Friday 6th April 2018

www.diadubai.com



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