

JOB DESCRIPTION: SPECIALIST TEACHER

Nexus International School (Singapore)

Purchased by Taylor's Education Group in July 2011, NISS meets the educational needs of students from approximately 50 different countries. The school's main constituency is expat families in Singapore, but it also accepts Singaporean students (subject to government approval) and Student Pass holders from a range of countries. Staff are recruited from Singapore, other national systems and international schools from around the world. Almost 20 different nationalities are represented.

The spacious 470,000 sq ft campus at 201 Ulu Pandan Road, just 2km from Holland Village, has excellent facilities to support all academic and co-curricular programmes for up to 1,200 students. These include swimming pools, gymnasiums, sports fields and recently renovated academic areas. NISS is committed to the integration of innovative learning technologies in the classroom and implemented a 1:1 Apple laptop scheme in the Secondary School in 2013. This was extended to Year 6 in 2014. The Primary School has a 1:2 ratio of MacBooks to learners and other technologies are integrated across the curriculum, including iPads and a range of the latest tools to aid learning.

NISS is an authorised International Baccalaureate (IB) World School for the Primary Years Programme (PYP) and Diploma Programme (DP). It is a member of the Council of International Schools (CIS), and an approved Cambridge Assessment International Education (CAIE) Centre. NISS is EduTrust certified and has been awarded CIS/WASC accreditation.

NISS is a member of Taylor's Education Group and the second Nexus International School (NIS) campus in the region. The first NIS is located in Putrajaya, Malaysia.

Purpose/Vision Statement

To educate the youth of the world to take their productive place as leaders in the global community.

Mission

Nexus International School (Singapore) will be an internationally minded learning community that nurtures and supports every child's emotional, physical, creative and intellectual needs in order that they can achieve academic success and become globally responsible citizens. We will accomplish this by celebrating diversity and challenging minds.

Core Values

- R**especting and caring for each other
- Being dedicated to a culture of **E**xcellence
- Openness in **C**ommunication
- Acting with **I**ntegrity
- Being **P**assionate in what we do
- Creating **E**njoyable environments

Desired Culture/Our Promise

- Treat everyone as gifted and talented individuals and foster those talents and gifts through careful mentorship and guidance that is based on respect for all.
- Provide an environment that allows these talents to flourish; one that is innovative, progressive and grounded in trust, compassion and respect.

Key Objectives Of The Position

To carry out the professional duties of a teacher as circumstances may require and in accordance with the school's policies under the direction of the Principal. A specialist teacher is an informed, reflective practitioner who uses inquiry teaching strategies to create positive learning environments which motivate and challenge all learners to become self-regulated, life-long learners and leaders. A specialist teacher will teach a specific subject or discipline to classes from Nursery to Year 13.

Role

Pedagogy

- Employing effective pedagogy that enables children to become successful and self regulated learners who achieve personal excellence by:
 - Building learning focused relationships
 - Empowering children to become independent learners
 - Being clear about what is to be learnt
 - Using assessment information to plan progression
 - Using appropriate assessment tools for formative and summative assessment
 - Providing high quality scaffolding and feedback to learners
 - Encouraging children to reflect on their learning
 - Engaging children in the co-construction of their learning progression
 - Involving parents in their children's learning through learner-led conferences and regular parent – teacher dialogue.
 - Employing and integrating ICT as a tool that improves children's learning and assists learners to solve authentic problems related to "real-world" problems or issues.

Curriculum

- Demonstrating a high level of relevant curriculum knowledge
- Contributing to pastoral programme as required
- Incorporating relevant thinking and reflective skills into the curriculum
- Undertaking assessment of students as required by school procedures
- Preparing and presenting informative reports to parents and other stakeholders as required
- Taking lead responsibility for a subject or aspect of the school's work and develop plans which identify clear targets and success criteria for its development and / or maintenance
- Contributing to whole school planning activities.
- When teaching Primary School classes
 - Ensuring that there is appropriate linkage between the PYP curriculum and the specialist subject
- When teaching Secondary School classes
 - Undertaking assessment of students as required by examination bodies

Promoting and participating in teacher learning and development

- Actively engaging in teacher learning and development
- Continually seeking to improve learning and teaching strategies
- Engaging in opportunities to improve personal IT skills in order to provide deeper integration of IT in the classroom
- Developing knowledge and skills related to curriculum content and assessment
- Actively engaging in the school's appraisal procedures

Ensuring an orderly and supportive environment

- Employing positive behaviour strategies
- Developing and maintaining a learning focussed classroom

Co-curricular activities

- Offering at least one Co-Curricular Activity per term
- Being involved in Extra Curricular Activities to enhance the school experience for learners
- Participating in Residential excursions as required by subject or Grade level
- Undertaking grounds duties as required

Other Projects, Duties and Responsibilities

- Having a working knowledge of teachers' professional duties and legal liabilities
- Operating at all times within the stated policies and practices of the school
- Establishing effective working relationships with colleagues and parents
- Setting a good example through presentation and personal and professional conduct
- Co-operating with other staff to ensure a sharing and effective usage of resources to the benefit of the school and learners
- Contributing to the corporate life of the school through effective participation in meetings and management systems necessary to coordinate the management of the school
- Taking part in marketing and liaison activities such as Open Days and events with other schools

Whilst every effort has been made to explain the main duties and responsibilities of the post, each individual task undertaken may not be identified. Employees will be expected to comply with any reasonable request from a manager to undertake work of a similar level that is not specified in this job description.

This job description may be amended at any time following discussion between the principal and member of staff, to be reviewed annually.

Expenditure Authority

Up to budget allocations consistent with school policies

Key Relationships

Specialist teachers report to the Head of Services via the relevant line manager. In addition teachers develop and maintain effective working relationships with:

- Learners
- Parents
- Other academic staff
- Administration staff
- Senior Leadership Team (SLT)

Personal Specification

Qualifications and Training

- A relevant degree plus teaching qualification (or equivalent)
- Higher degree or recognised professional qualification (preferred)
- Evidence of continued relevant professional development

Experience

- Experience in teaching learners with diverse needs
- Experience in an international school environment (preferred)
- Relevant curriculum experience

Knowledge and Understanding

- Practical understanding of effective teaching and learning strategies
- Theoretical understanding of effective teaching and learning strategies
- Relevant curriculum knowledge
- Understanding and knowledge of principles and practice of inclusion

Person Qualities

- A demonstrated and genuine liking and appreciation of children
- Attention to detail
- Inclusive
- Resilient, flexible and adaptable
- Sense of humour
- High standards and expectations
- Motivated

Core Competencies

We are looking for someone who can

- Establish and maintain good relationships with colleagues, learners and parents
- Communicate effectively in Standard English both orally and in writing
- Deal effectively and non confrontationally with learners and staff
- Positively influence others
- Listen actively
- Motivate and engage with colleagues