

It is essential for any school to develop and maintain well-understood guiding statements in order to develop a cohesive philosophy on which actions and operations are based. All subsequent policy and procedure put this philosophy into action. These shared and agreed beliefs regarding our vision for the future, our mission to achieve this and our values which underpin day to day practice at the British School of Ulaanbaatar are the foundation from which all else we do here is derived.

## **Guiding Statements**

Our vision for the School is a short but aspirational statement outlining what we as a community aim to achieve at BSU. This is put simply as the provision of 'an Education for the **world**.' This statement places education and learning at the core of School operations, and as such, the following definition of learning was formulated and agreed through discussion with all staff in 2020. This must be at the heart of all that we do and aspire to be.

## 'Learning is the acquisition and application of knowledge and skills through discovery and challenge, leading to sustained adaptability and intellectual development.'

Our Mission statement describes the essential functions and culture of the School, the standards and aspirations we seek to maintain or improve and what we must do to continue moving towards our vision.

The British School of Ulaanbaatar aims to be a leading school in Central Asia dedicated to educating confident, innovative and brave children to their highest academic and creative potential. This will be achieved through a challenging and appropriate academic curriculum which encourages all students to strive for academic excellence and individual personal development for life. This process takes place in a safe environment with dedicated staff focused on student learning and well-being.

## Our core values

The following six statements are simple philosophical points which all colleagues are required to apply to their role, tasks and conduct around the School. These 'six C's' are day to day aspirations and targets which, in effect, supports our vision, shapes the culture and reflects our mission moving forward.

- Curiosity
- Creativity
- Commitment
- Compassion
- Confidence
- Contribution

Keeping these principles in mind in terms of our pedagogy, behavior and expectations helps us work cohesively to implement the vision and mission.

## Philosophy

A child's time at school must be a period of growth for each individual to explore their mind's full potential. BSU provides this opportunity to acquire an excellent international education through diverse and in-depth learning experiences. Students must be guided to understand the importance of intellectual, physical and emotional balance to achieve personal well-being for themselves and others. They will be active participants in a wide range of aspects of School life, as well as focusing on their academic development. As part of this process, students will give thoughtful consideration to their own learning journey and experience. They will be able to assess and understand their strengths and limitations to support their development and develop the vision to see solutions rather than barriers.

Education is an on-going nurturing process, and we encourage students to embrace the ever-changing global challenges of the future. BSU brings children together from many nations to learn and grow together; tolerance and respect are required both towards the culture and society of Mongolia, and all members of our community regardless of background. Each individual must accept responsibility for his own or her own actions and must relate to others with sensitivity. The School must act in open and honest partnership with families. Effective communication, tolerance and mutual respect are at the heart of this. All members of our community must be able to expect to live and work in a safe and secure environment.

We wish to stand proud as a beacon of academic excellence; but also, a community where students also learn the lessons of lasting impact and true worth: self-discipline, integrity of character, care for others, and a sense of values. We encourage the fullest development of each individual's personality and talents and recognize that not all learning takes place in the classroom. Emphasis is placed on cultural, creative and sporting activity, requiring us to foster a culture of embracing rather than avoiding risk. These elements combine to provide our pupils with the knowledge and skills to thrive in a globally mobile, competitive world. We aim to see all our pupils confident to take their rightful place amongst the best and the brightest, able to work at any level in any part of the world.