



ISS Optimize

ISS School Start Up, Management, and Operations

Introducing ISS Optimize, everything you need to optimize your school's management and operations, brought to you by ISS experts.

Starting a School

ISS applies its deep expertise and hands-on experience to help you achieve your goal of opening a strong, vibrant school.

Managing a School

Our specialized support helps your school leaders, educators, and operations professionals provide a safe and successful learning environment.

Supporting Skills and Networking

Stay up-to-date with best practices, and take advantage of collaboration and career development opportunities.



Around the world, ISS has started
120+ international schools

ISS schools and services span
6 continents

25+ ISS schools
(international schools currently owned,
operated, or managed by ISS)



Starting a School

Through every step, ISS supports you with personalized guidance and real-world, practical experience in running successful, sustainable international schools.

Comprehensive, Customized ISS School Start Up

Vision to Launch and Beyond

ISS experts offer visioning, planning, implementation, and management of your new school, which will be opened under your personalized brand name or an ISS brand.

We delve into the project purpose and goals, anticipated student population, local factors, and more – all to create your customized plan for starting and managing a high-quality school.

Execute the Action Plan

We begin with site evaluation and campus planning. From there, architectural plans are vetted to align with international-style education and modern-day learning environments.

The proven ISS process thoughtfully addresses major action steps and crystallizes key decision points, potential pitfalls and recommendations to keep your project on time and on budget.

ISS school start up services typically include:

- Financial planning
- Campus design
- Fixtures/furniture equipment
- Technology planning
- Curriculum development
- School policy documents
- Staffing school leaders and teachers
- Creating effective teaching and learning plans; professional development, operational staff training;
- US accreditation support; and quality assurance



SISU Schools®

Pre-bundled Solutions with the SISU Schools

Don't need a customized school solution, but still require expertise in key areas of the startup process? With the pre-bundled **SISU Schools®** model, you are provided with essential organizational tools and the renowned school pedagogical practices of Finland and the United States. The SISU franchise model covers the entire K-12 educational continuum and can be used in any country and in any language.

SISU Schools is made possible through the collaboration of educational leaders ISS and Lumo Education Ltd.

Explore [all ISS Schools and SISU Schools here >>](#)

Creating Safe School Environments

As a founding member of the **International Taskforce on Child Protection (ITCP)**, ISS is deeply committed to children's safety and well-being.

See how we support you in creating safe environments for your students and school community.

Learn more **at ISS.edu >>**



Managing a School

Whether you have just launched an international school, or you are looking to improve and enhance your school's operations, ISS offers solutions to meet your needs.

ISS OPTimize Consultancies

OPTimize consultancies are conducted virtually or on-site by recognized international educational and operational leaders committed to helping you optimize your school.

OPTimize Educational Program Audit: Improve your school's academic performance and reputation in the region.

OPTimize Architectural Design Services: As you consider new construction or renovation, find support in developing your school's building program.

OPTimize Operational Audit: Perfect for schools securing operational improvements, financial sustainability, and risk mitigation.

OPTimize Strategic Planning: With ISS's expert approach, create a manageable and results oriented 2-3 year strategic plan.



Customer Comments:

"While ISD has been the leading IB school in Bangladesh, ISS's leadership of ISD has transformed the institution from good to great.

ISS has led from the front in ensuring that ISD's senior leadership and other staff not only understand global benchmarks, but are well trained and supported to achieve them. While the biggest benefit from ISS has been the remarkable improvement in academic orientation of both ISD teachers and students, the STS Group has also benefited from ISS's full bouquet of services – especially in sourcing school supplies (a bane for IB schools in this part of the continent). With world class professionals who understand how to operate world class institutions, ISS stands far above the rest without missing a step through all their years of association with our group."

-Dr. Sandeep Ananthanarayanan, CEO, STS Group, Higher Education

Transformational Services

For schools seeking to reach a new level of achievement, ISS experts offer support in:

- Foundational guidance
- Board and leadership training
- Curriculum and professional/staff development
- Program development
- HR management
- Recruitment
- Benchmarking results
- Facility management
- Financial planning
- Technology



Skills and Networking

To support leaders and support staff who deal with the unique issues of school operations and business management, ISS has created targeted professional development programs and professional societies.



ISS Professional Societies

ISS is proud to offer the first dedicated international school professional societies of their kind: The **ISS Human Resources Society** and the **ISS Facilities Management Society**.

In collaboration with the **Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM)** and **APPA – Leadership in Educational Facilities**, these societies offer international school professionals:

- Expert information from industry leaders
- Specialty resources
- On-call assistance,
- Networking opportunities
- A world of support with easy learning and collaboration
- Professional certifications opportunities



ISS Society Member Reflections:

"Joining the ISS HR Society has been so helpful to me – especially the self-service resources through SHRM and the ability to connect with peers around the world. Looking forward to PD sessions [ahead]."

-Jenny Whitaker, Human Resources Director, International School of Beijing, China

From a PD Participant:

"Unlike some workshops in which you may only learn theory, the information and resources provided in these workshops were very useful and applicable for real implementation."

-Past ISS School Operations PD participant



ISS EDUlearn

Professional Development

ISS School Operations Workshops range from a single to multiple sessions and delve into issues that face school operations professional today. ISS's PD programs improve the performance of school leadership and operational teams with topics like:

- Human Resources
- Facilities Management
- Budget and Finance
- Marketing and Admissions
- School Operations and Leadership

Quick Case Studies

Full studies and more at ISS.edu >>



The United Lisbon International School

Lisbon, Portugal

The United Lisbon International School (ULIS) is a modern, innovative international school whose owners partnered with ISS for architectural design, curriculum development, faculty recruitment and training, procurement, and opening and management. The school was planned, marketed, staffed, and opened with an initial enrollment of over 120 students in approximately 20 months -- during a pandemic!

Cayman International School

Grand Cayman, Cayman Islands

ISS has been managing and governing Cayman International School (CIS) in cooperation with the Dart Corporation for over 17 years. Purchased in 2002 with fewer than 250 students enrolled, CIS's enrollment has grown to over 1,200 students from around the world. The CIS campus is currently undergoing extensive expansion to accommodate the school's growth and popularity.

Achieve Xiamen International School

Xiamen, China

Achieve Xiamen International School (AXIS) is partially-owned and operated by ISS in a joint venture with a committed local investor. Opening in 2021, AXIS will serve the expatriate and international community of the Xiamen region, offering bilingual and international curriculum. With more than 26,000 sqm of purpose-built educational space, the campus is located in a prime position on the island.



**INTERNATIONAL
SCHOOLS SERVICES**

Making a world of difference

Learn more at
ISS.edu/Optimize



ABOUT ISS: As a nonprofit organization, International Schools Services (ISS) works with more than 800 international schools and tens of thousands of educators each year across its suite of services, creating the largest global footprint in international education support. Since its inception in 1955, ISS has promoted innovative best practices for global education. Core services include starting and operating student-centered, future-oriented schools; recruiting world-class educators and leaders; providing cutting-edge professional learning opportunities; sourcing essential school supplies; administering school foundations; and encouraging more diverse leadership in international schools. With offices in Princeton, NJ USA and Shenzhen, China and staff located across the globe, ISS invites all to join in making a world of difference. For more information, visit ISS.edu