

Leadership Posting

Middle School Principal American International School Chennai *Chennai, India*

Application Deadline: October 30, 2020
Start Date: July 2021



**School Vacancy – Chennai, India
Effective from July 2021**

**THE AMERICAN INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL CHENNAI
Middle School Principal**

THE SCHOOL

The American International School Chennai is an EY3-G12 independent day school that serves approximately 600 students representing more than 25 nationalities. The school was founded in 1995 to serve the educational needs of international and expatriate families. The school is associated with the Consulate of the United States of America and is supported by the Office of Overseas Schools, U.S. Department of State. AISC is recognized with full accreditation from the Council of International Schools and the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools. AISC offers Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma options for high school students and we subscribe to an array of North American and international academic subject area standards. AISC is a member or affiliate of the following organizations: Near East South Asia Council of Overseas Schools; National Association of Independent Schools; National Association for College Admission Counselor; Council of International Schools; The International Baccalaureate Organization; and The College Board.

MISSION-DRIVEN LEARNING COMMUNITY

AISC engages relevant educational programs aimed to support all students on their quest to self-awareness, autonomy, and ultimately self-fulfillment to make their unique contribution in a diverse and dynamic world. While AISC embraces U.S.-style and progressive pedagogies and curriculum approaches, our South Indian context and international community provide a rich and stimulating learning environment in which our students thrive and strive to reach their potential. Our current three-year Futures Plan, informed by our Mission, Core Values, and Vision for the AISC Learner, and designed around four Strategies (Community, Resources, Talent, and Learning), guides school-wide improvement efforts.

AISC Mission

Together we inspire a love of learning, empowering all students with the courage, confidence, creativity and compassion to make their unique contribution in a diverse and dynamic world.

AISC Core Values

Responsibility | Excellence | Integrity | Respect | Diversity

Our Core Values are the foundation of our community's beliefs in each other and our students. Our values are the building blocks of our interpersonal relationships and inform all aspects of life on campus.

We believe that...

1. Each person has equal intrinsic value, worthy of dignity and respect.
2. We are responsible for our choices and their effect on ourselves, others and the environment.
3. Being open to new ideas and challenging experiences enriches our lives.
4. Mutual respect, trust and caring foster healthy interpersonal relationships.
5. Embracing our diversity makes us a stronger community.

6. In an interconnected world, our positive contributions to the community and the environment are essential.
7. Individuals thrive in a nurturing environment that provides for their physical and emotional safety.

Vision for the Learner

At AISC, successful learners are...

Leaders

We show courage by taking action and inspiring others to serve and contribute positively to our interconnected world. Leaders develop a vision, plan appropriately, and work collaboratively to achieve results.

Collaborators

We develop a deeper understanding by listening carefully to others' perspectives and confidently articulating personal viewpoints in the pursuit of common goals.

Innovators

We approach uncertainty with confidence, designing novel solutions in the face of challenges or change. Innovators are creative, resourceful, open-minded and resilient, seeking new perspectives through inquiry, trial, error and feedback.

Explorers

We investigate new interests with curiosity, inquiring with purpose, and seeking deeper understanding and fulfillment through independent pursuits.

Thinkers

We use critical and creative thinking skills to analyze and take responsible action on complex problems. We exercise initiative in making reasoned, ethical, data-informed decisions.

Ethical

We show responsibility for our choices and consider their effects on ourselves, others, and the environment. We act on our principles and ideals because we value the dignity of others.

Versatile

We adapt to changing circumstances, balancing our commitments and showing courage as we take on new challenges. We seek new opportunities for learning, growth, and renewal.

Empathetic

We appreciate our own cultures and personal histories while respecting the values and traditions of others, believing each person has equal intrinsic value. We are sensitive to the needs of others and show compassion by making positive contributions to our local and global communities and the environment.

Resilient

We demonstrate on-going commitment to our endeavors by learning from our successes and failures in the positive pursuit of our objectives, goals, aspirations, and dreams. We practice patience and persistence in all situations, especially when they are challenging or uncomfortable.

Reflective



We pause to think about our goals, learning, and growth in order to develop and sustain our creativity and lifelong learning. We review and examine our own ideas and experiences in relation to the world and consider our interdependence and impact on others.

FACULTY AND STAFF

People come first at AISC and our exceptional international faculty and staff are the dynamic core of all programs at the school. Our team of 105 instructional professionals strives to provide authentic and relevant academic and co-curricular programs to help each of our students learn and grow.

We are first and foremost committed to living our Mission, Values, and Vision. We strive to model a dynamic and balanced learning life for our students. We are committed to professional development, which aligns with school-wide and personal learning aspirations. We embrace the Adaptive Schools framework and the Seven Norms of Collaboration.

OUR PROGRAM

We recognize that every child is special and will make unique contributions to the world. We embrace the five realms of a balanced learning life: Academics, Arts, Athletics, Service, and Play. Each student can flourish through our commitment to core subjects: math, science, language arts, social studies (humanities); and to encore areas like: world languages, theater, band, choir, strings, design technology, art, physical education (PE) and technology across all grade levels.

We are committed to providing curricular and co-curricular experiences, pastoral care for every student, and voice and choice to our diverse student body. We see parents as partners on our journey toward our Mission.

AISC has been a committed Advanced Placement school since 2003 and a fully accredited and recognized International Baccalaureate (IB) School since 2008. Our curriculum, K-12, is designed from a backward design unit approach as we seek to become an inquiry-based learning organization. Likewise, our Middle School (Grades 6-8) and Pre IB/AP Programs (Grades 9-10) promote strong academics and higher level thinking skills that prepare students for the rigors of our AP/IB programs.

We believe that English language learners are a hallmark of the school's diversity and we have a comprehensive program in English as an Additional Language (EAL). The Middle School accepts beginning level EAL students.

We are committed to ensuring all students access to the general education program and we do that principally by providing an inclusive structure through co-teaching at virtually all levels. The core subject-EAL co-teacher partnership is the core organizational structure in our Middle School. In addition to EAL, AISC has a comprehensive Student Support Services (LRC) Program, which support students with mild to moderate learning difficulties and a supportive and aligned counseling program.

Technology is central to the operation and learning processes at the school. Teachers have ample access to digital resources and the school supports wireless access throughout the campus. We are in our fourth year with a 1:1 Bring Your Own Technology (BYOT) in grades 3-12. Our Student Information System is PowerSchool, our Learning Management System is PowerSchool Learning, and our Communication Management System is Google.



A MIDDLE SCHOOL ON THE MOVE

“Together we inspire a love of learning” is an aspirational goal from our Mission. In the Middle School, we understand that “a love of learning” extends beyond academics encompassing athletics, activities and the social emotional needs of all students. We are a progressive school where we teach concepts, skills, and knowledge. We evaluate and report student progress through standards-based criteria. We offer a plethora of activities for students and teachers and just as many professional learning opportunities for our faculty. The faculty is committed and makes AISC’s Middle School a warm and welcome place for each other and the students from all over the globe.

LOCATION AND CAMPUS

Chennai, formerly known as Madras, is the capital of the Indian state of Tamil Nadu. Tucked along the Indian Ocean and the Bay of Bengal, Chennai is one India’s largest cities at close to 10 million. The city supports one of the longest beaches in the world and is an Indian arts and education center.

In the 2003-2004 academic year, AISC moved onto its roomy 13 acre campus, which has evolved into a state of the art facility complete with 122 large, well-resourced classrooms, indoor and outdoor multi-use spaces throughout campus, 3 libraries (one for each section), a literacy library, a secondary design technology suite, science labs, 2 cafeterias (and café), 2 gymnasiums, full-size soccer field, a half-size astro-turf field, six tennis courts, an auxiliary gymnasium, a fitness room, swimming pool, a dance/rehearsal studio, a black box theater, band and choir rooms, art studios, and a recently constructed Fine Arts Center complete with a 800 seat auditorium.

We are wirelessly enabled, with LCD projectors in every classroom. All computers on campus are wirelessly connected to the internet. All community members use Smart Access Cards, which they use instead of carrying cash on campus. The SmartCard can be used to purchase food, school supplies and items from the cafeterias and school store.

THE POSITION

The Principal provides leadership and management necessary to ensure the success of the school in fulfilling the Mission of the American International School Chennai. The Principal is the learning leader and administrative head of the Middle School. S/he is responsible for optimizing the learning of all students and for the on-going improvement of the section. The Principal works collaboratively with the Leadership Team of the school to live our Mission, model our Core Values, prioritize our Vision, and develop a holistic teaching and learning program relevant to the challenges of the 21st century. The Middle School has approximately 140 students and 25 faculty members, and a full-time counselor.

Preferred Academic and Professional Qualifications

- Is a Mission- and Values-driven team player committed to his/her own personal, as well as student and faculty learning, achievement and well-being;
- Demonstrates a vision for the future of education, particularly in the middle school, and how independent international schools can innovate to be more relevant;
- Demonstrates the talent, knowledge, and skills to lead (with others) through change;
- Is committed to ensuring the highest standards of collaboration, teaching, and learning;
- Demonstrates instructional leadership experience at the middle school level;
- Demonstrates savvy with relationships, communication, public speaking, and data;



- Is organized, efficient, and clear in thought and action;
- Demonstrates fluency with curriculum documentation, UBD unit planning, project-based learning, advisory systems and service learning;
- Demonstrates experience in technology integration and a commitment to digital citizenship;
- Maintains a desire to live, work, and learn in India;
- Has a strong background in balanced literacy, inquiry- and standards-based education, differentiated and personalized systems of teaching and learning, EAL, and/or willingness to learn;
- Has a minimum of five (5) years experience as a teacher;
- Has a minimum of three (3) years experience as a school administrator;
- Holds a relevant M.A./M.Ed./M.Sc. or equivalent advanced degree;
- Has life experiences that demonstrate, among other things, a growth mindset, versatility, adaptability, and resilience.

Appointment Detail

An initial, three-year, renewable contract offers a competitive compensation and benefits package, which is commensurate with the responsibilities of the position. The school operates on an August to June School Calendar.

THE SEARCH PROCESS

If you are interested in this exciting opportunity, please visit AISC's "[Career Opportunities](#)" webpage and our website www.aischennai.org for more information.

Applications

All applications and enquiries should be directed to: executiveassistant@aischennai.org.

Please send a single pdf document, which includes the following: cover letter, resume, statement of education philosophy and practice, and list of references with complete contact details. If applying with a partner as a team, please send a separate single pdf document including a cover letter, resume, and list of references with complete contact details for partner.

Process Details

- *Candidates are asked to apply as early as possible.*
- Application Deadline: October 30, 2020
- Appointment Deadline: Friday, November 20, 2020.
- Semi-finalist interviews to be conducted by Zoom before November 6.
- Finalist candidates interviews to be conducted before November 13.
- In the event of an outstanding applicant, AISC reserves the right to make an appointment in advance our deadlines/schedules described here. The head of school at AISC also reserves the right to contact references for confidential statements.

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Instructions

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ISS is pleased to announce this leadership vacancy.

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