

Leadership Posting

Director of Teaching and Learning Branksome Hall Asia

Jeju Island, South Korea

Application Deadline: September 20, 2024

Start Date: July 21, 2025

Branksome Hall Asia
Director of Teaching and
Learning

Job Description
June 2024

Introduction

Overview

Branksome Hall Asia is dedicated to promoting values of innovative thinking, global social awareness, and self-sufficiency, helping students push the limits of what they can achieve. A sister school of the renowned Branksome Hall in Toronto, Canada, Branksome Hall Asia empowers over 1100 students in grades JK-12 to be the leaders of tomorrow.

Branksome Hall Asia, opened in 2012 on Jeju Island, South Korea, builds upon the strong, established traditions of Branksome Hall Canada, founded in 1903, and its exemplary reputation for a liberal arts curriculum and approach to education that prepares students to be lifelong learners and leaders.

Situated on a remarkable modern campus, Branksome Hall Asia enrolls both boarding and day students who follow the full International Baccalaureate (IB) curriculum JK-12 and have the opportunity to experience a wide range of programs in the arts, athletics, technology, and community service. The strength of the IB program, combined with the school's commitment to empowering students, makes Branksome Hall Asia a truly remarkable place to live, learn and work. As a testament to its excellence, Branksome Hall Asia was awarded the highest honor presented by the ISC Research International School Awards receiving the distinction of International School of the Year Award for 2021.

MISSION

Each day, we challenge and inspire students to love learning and to shape a better world.

VISION

To be the pre-eminent educational community of globally minded learners and leaders.

CORE VALUES

Care, Collaboration, Excellence

The School

Situated on the beautiful island of Jeju, South Korea (a UNESCO World Heritage site), Branksome Hall Asia, offers the same exemplary educational program as its sister school. Recognized as one of the world's top 10 girls boarding schools, Branksome Hall Toronto offers students an academically excellent program in tandem with unmatched commitments to global engagement and well-being. At Branksome, students are taught the skills they need to thrive in our changing world, learning how to find their own strong voices and developing as lifelong learners.

Branksome Hall Asia, Jeju's only fully IB international school, offers this same exemplary educational program led by highly qualified and committed teachers recruited from around the world. Students learn and live together in a state-of-the-art, world-class facility that embodies and encourages the values of intellectual inquiry, collaboration, effective communication, and strength of character.

Both Branksome Hall in Toronto and Branksome Hall Asia share an educational philosophy based on leadership through service. Students develop the intellectual capacity and courage to lead, while cultivating a sense of empathy and understanding for others. Each fall the entire

Grade 9 class from Branksome Hall Asia embarks on a three-week learning experience to its sister school, which enables all students to live and learn with their peers in Toronto. Teacher professional development and exchanges are also important elements of this global study abroad program.

Academics

The benefits of a Branksome Hall Asia education begin in the Junior School with the IB Primary Years Program. In this division, faculty implement an international curriculum framework and are dedicated to ensuring the best possible development of each child's total well-being. Teachers focus on creating an environment that is both academically rigorous and emotionally supportive. Through an inquiry-based approach to learning and teaching, students gain international perspectives, benefit from technology-supported instruction, and focus on their physical and emotional as well as academic and intellectual development. All courses are taught in English, with additional language studies in Korean or Chinese.

Middle School students at Branksome Hall Asia are inspired to think reflectively as they explore a growing sense of confidence and independence, while developing critical skills as globally-minded learners and leaders. Students follow the IB Middle Years Program, which prepares them for the challenges of the Diploma Program in the Senior School. Through this program, students develop effective communication skills, intercultural understanding, and global engagement. They explore and reflect upon the complexities of the world through an interconnected program that offers expansive co-curricular and study abroad options. At this level, the program also offers robust pastoral and counseling resources. As students progress through the Middle School, they grow in confidence and independence to be curious, creative, and ethical students.

The Senior School is currently an all-girls school and provides one of the strongest western-style college preparatory programs in Korea. In this division, the focus is on students becoming confident, capable women who are inspired to meet life's challenges with intelligence, sensitivity, and courage. Three facets of the Senior School differentiate it from its peers: the IB advantage, a keen focus on empowering women, and the residential program. Students also meet in multi-grade council groups to reinforce relationships, promote the leadership of older students, and provide a source of peer support throughout the middle and upper school journey of each student.

The IB Diploma Program, recognized for its excellence by colleges and universities worldwide, offers a coherent program including English, a second language, social sciences, science, math, and the arts. Technology is integrated into all areas of the curriculum and, at Branksome Hall Asia, Korean, social studies, and history are also taught in all programs. Students are encouraged to identify and pursue their passions, and they can select from a variety of elective offerings, including digital design, drama, business, psychology, and Chinese, among many others. The environment at the Senior School—and throughout Branksome Hall Asia—reinforces the development of self-esteem in young students, encouraging growth of analytical skills and teamwork, inspiring students toward self-confidence, promoting STEM subjects, and celebrating diversity. Students also have some voice in their learning, helping to create robust after school program offerings.

Student Life

Branksome Hall Asia celebrates the enthusiasm of the faculty, parents, and students whose contributions make Branksome Hall Asia a remarkable place of learning and living. Both day and boarding students enjoy a warm, welcoming community and lively campus with opportunities to explore, grow, and make new friends.

The school's innovative co-curricular program, CASE (Community, Action, Service, and Enrichment Activities), provides myriad opportunities to explore areas of interest in the arts, athletics, community service, and other enrichment clubs and activities. Students may participate in such artistic endeavors as ballet, Korean calligraphy, digital storytelling, symphony orchestra, and much more. They develop athletic and sportsmanship skills via a host of team sports, including badminton, volleyball, tennis, basketball, soccer, golf, swimming, cross country, track and field, and equestrian. Students develop leadership skills and become actively engaged citizens with a global outlook through various experiential service opportunities. They develop and pursue their passions and interests through clubs such as yearbook, public speaking, Environmental Protections, Red Cross Youth, and creative writing, among many others.

As boarding students, each student gains a new family when he or she arrives at the school. Branksome Hall Asia's purpose-built residence is designed to enable students from around the world to live together and thrive. The program provides opportunities for students to build self-efficacy, and a strong sense of family and community are paramount. Support and guidance from Teacher Dons create a safe, supportive, and enjoyable environment for students to develop and strengthen leadership skills. There is a high expectation of personal responsibility, and students and faculty alike value internationalism. A high percentage of students are Korean, with approximately 15% coming from China or from expat families of other nationalities.

The Campus

Our Facilities

The School's award-winning campus is surrounded by natural beauty and culture. The intentional design of the campus embodies the school's ethos and provides a landscape for learning where the environment reflects the integration of structure and landscape. The school's facilities include an Olympic-sized pool and ice rink, fitness center, tennis courts, golf green, and fields. Eight fully outfitted science labs and four spacious art studios are housed in the STEM-V Center with design studios and adjacent breakout spaces. The state-of-the-art Performing Arts Center includes a 370-seat theater, spacious studios, practice rooms, TV and recording studios, and a Black Box theater.

Jeju Island

One of the nine provinces of South Korea, Jeju Island is known for its natural beauty and miles of seashore. A popular vacation destination, the island welcomes over 10 million visitors

annually. Much of the island is a designated national park, and attracts many looking to explore its natural attractions and hike its dormant volcano. A UNESCO World Heritage site, the 700 square miles of island features extensive hiking and riding trails, as well as “the finest lava tube system of caves anywhere.”

The island is a unique and beautiful place to work and live. At once rural and somewhat remote, Jeju is a 50-minute flight from Seoul and other major Asian cities. The air route from Seoul to Jeju is the most frequently traveled domestic route, bringing many visitors and a busy island economy for its half-million residents. Branksome Hall Asia’s modern campus blends technology with appreciation for nature, celebrating both tradition and innovation on Jeju Island.

The Position

Title: Director of Teaching and Learning

Reports to: Deputy Head of School

Functional relationships: Divisional Principals, Director of Student Support Services, IB Coordinators, CAS Coordinator, Heads of Department, Junior School Literacy Instructional Coach, Junior School Math and Science Instructional Coach, Faculty, and Staff

Length of Initial Term: 2-year initial contract

Position Summary

Under the direction of the Deputy Head of School, and in collaboration with the Principals and IB Coordinators, the Director of Teaching and Learning is responsible for coordinating and guiding the full academic program from JK-Prep to Grade 12. The Director of Teaching and Learning will foster a holistic, forward-thinking, dynamic learning environment by providing visionary leadership in a collaborative manner.

The Director of Teaching and Learning is responsible for all matters relating to the quality of the academic program offered at the school, especially as this relates to maintaining high standards of achievement, the curriculum, and the quality of teaching and learning.

Duties and Responsibilities

Curriculum Leadership

- Provide strategic direction for the development, implementation, and evaluation of the PYP, MYP, and DP curricular programs
- Ensure vertical and horizontal articulation of the curriculum
- Lead the curriculum review process and ensure effective implementation cycles
- Promote inquiry-based learning and transdisciplinary/interdisciplinary learning across the school
- Foster international mindedness and intercultural understanding, including an appreciation for Korean and local Jeju culture

Leadership

- Collaborate with Divisional Principals for whole-school coherence and continuity
- Lead IB authorization, WASC accreditation, and Quality Annual Review processes
- Provide guidance to IB Coordinators and Heads of Academic Departments
- Lead liaison activities with partner schools locally and globally
- Support the development of schedules and timetables within the school
- Stay updated on educational research and best practices

Standards of Achievement

- Translate BHA's aims and values into high standards of achievement
- Develop and oversee effective use of data to monitor progress and facilitate early interventions
- Review and evaluate tools used for data collection
- Create high expectations for teachers and learners

Teaching and Learning

- Model high-quality teaching
- Support teachers in their professional growth and development
- Facilitate creative and rigorous approaches to teaching and learning
- Develop learners with an ethos to pursue lifelong learning
- Create a learning community in which all members have a desire to inquire, evaluate, and challenge thinking
- Support parent education regarding the approaches to teaching and learning being implemented

Management

- Oversee the Professional Development Program and budget for all faculty
- Foster a spirit of collaboration within the staff
- Manage teams for short- and long-term planning
- Develop effective systems to ensure staff focus on educational priorities

Wider Role

- Collaborate in the implementation of strategic initiatives
- Participate in educational policy development and support policy implementation
- Take a leading role in the development of our learning community
- Promote action research in international education
- Commit to one's own professional development as a leader
- Perform other duties as assigned by the Deputy Head of School

Experience and Qualifications

The Director of Teaching and Learning will have proven school leadership experience, and be able to lead a globally-minded school.

The ideal candidate will possess the following attributes and qualifications:

- Share the vision, mission and core values of Branksome Hall Asia
- Hold a Master's degree and/or Administrative Qualifications (preferred)
- Have experience in international education and a demonstrated understanding and commitment to the IB
- Experience in an educational leadership role (preferred)
- Have passion, energy, optimism, and a genuine interest in and commitment to inspire and serve colleagues, students, parents, and the wider community
- Have a high tolerance of frustration, flexibility, grace, and humility
- Possess superior communication skills as a speaker, writer, and listener
- Demonstrate an ability to multitask with attention to detail and organization
- Exhibit outstanding listening skills, with the ability to ask the "right" questions to gain understanding in depth
- Function effectively in a challenging, high-pressure environment

*In addition to the above qualifications and experience, we are seeking a leader that is
HUMBLE, GRACIOUS AND KIND.*

Compensation

Compensation for this position will be commensurate with the responsibilities of the position and is competitive globally. Benefits include furnished housing, annual travel, and health care.

If you enjoy:

golfing, hiking, running, biking, swimming, surfing, kite surfing,
windsurfing, snorkeling, scuba diving, camping, and fishing
watching beautiful sunsets and sunrises
eating fresh seafood and delicious Korean BBQ
discovering quirky coffee shops and microbreweries
experiencing four distinct seasons
lounging on pristine beaches
visiting museums/cultural activities/art galleries
exploring geological formations including lava tubes, oreums, hexagonal
columns, mountains, and volcanic cones
receiving excellent medical care
travelling with ease throughout East Asia
living in a low crime, extremely safe community
saving money while enjoying a high standard of living

...then consider a career at Branksome Hall Asia

How to Apply

Interested and qualified candidates should submit ONE electronic .pdf file to recruitment@branksome.asia, by September 20, 2024 with the following materials included:

- Formal cover letter for the position, no longer than 1 page
- Current resume
- Statement of educational and leadership philosophy, no longer than 1 page
- List of 3-5 references with name, title, phone number and email address

Applicants are encouraged to apply as early as possible, as Branksome Hall Asia reserves the right to close the selection process at any time.

School Address and Contact Information

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