To burst the bubble, we will:

Develop social entrepreneurship skillsets and mindsets in all our students

School should not just prepare students for the future, but get them inventing it. A key strategy to turn this into action, is to steep student experience in social entrepreneurship, so that every child makes a dent in the universe, before they leave through the gates for good.

Create off-campus learning opportunities for all

Most international schools sell themselves on their campus: expansive sports grounds, impressive arts venues, bright airy classrooms. At Nanjing International School, we want to sell ourselves on China being the campus.

Reach out more to our local, regional and national community in China

Outreach is about more than just opening our doors a few days a year. A fully-developed community outreach programme, centred around respect for local staff, and involving local schools, takes our definition of "inclusion" and broadens it exponentially.

To achieve both our goals, we will:

Take environmental action, for a better planet, for a sustainable school

Our students might be working towards futures that are hard to predict, but the state of the planet they'll live that future in is in no dispute: it'll be very different from the one in which their parents grew up. We want to move beyond specific sessions or projects: we want environmental action to become a daily routine.

Get involved

If you have an idea that can work with our strategy, you only need to find three people who share your passion, to get that idea off the ground. You need:

1. A Project Champion

You need to get one of the school leaders to champion your idea. Your Champion will sell it to everyone else, leaving you to get on with making great stuff happen.

2. A Prototyping Team

Not many great things on this planet were created by lone geniuses. Find a team who share your passion and want to give your idea a go. The prototype will be an idea that you can deliver within about six or seven weeks. It doesn't have to be perfect: it just has to be good enough to get some quality feedback from those who might find it useful.

3. A Perfector Team

This might be one or more critical friends whose sole job is to critique your prototypes. They only provide kind, specific and useful critique that helps move prototype number one onto prototype number two, and so on.



Strategy in a nutshell Nanjing International School



Two Goals. Eight Projects to get us there.



To put student voice and choice at the centre of things, we will:

Analyse what we already do

Most teachers live in the 'urgent and important' world of school. It's down to us to get rid of things that don't fit our work, in order to free up headspace for the ambitious task ahead.

"[In the Passion Project] I felt like I could make decisions that mattered." Conor Newell, Grade 7

Define inclusion

Inclusion is making the best learning accessible to *everyone*.

"Freedom in the structure gave me a chance to grow my organization and time-management skills." Hyelyn Hwangbo, Grade 7

"[Stress-busting activities around exam time] reduced the pressure, so I could be better." Joy Chang, Grade 8

Question what blended learning looks like for all of our students

Learning online to bolster what you learn in a classroom is not just the stuff of high school and university. We're going to define what quality blended learning might look like for our most senior students and for our youngest learners.

Create a culture of trial and error

When you're doing well, the easiest thing is to play it safe, keep the status quo. At Nanjing, if it fails, we'll change it and try it again. We want to define NIS's very own "trial and error culture", which includes risk taking, learning from failure and developing a 'have a go' attitude.

"Freedom to study at my own pace [in mathematics] helped me learn without restriction." Eliza Felton, Grade 9



Let's Put Student Voice and Choice at the Centre of Things

Nanjing International School will be one of the best schools in Asia, where each and every student creates their own learning plan.



Let's Burst the Bubble

Nanjing International School will create opportunities so every student has the confidence to engage with China beyond the walls of the school.



Download the full story of the strategy.

Available in iBooks, Kindle or PDF versions: http://www.nischina.org/