

Elementary

Curriculum Highlights

2019 - 2020





Jakarta Intercultural School

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Introduction

Elementary School Curriculum Overview Grades 1-5



Our Elementary program at JIS immerses children in an atmosphere of wonder, care, exploration, and growth, and it isn't long until their love of learning grows from the inside out. The Elementary Program further builds each child to become a competent learner in a caring community – a thinker, creator, feeler, problem solver and doer.

All curricular programs at JIS aim to fulfill the vision and values expressed in our JIS core documents for learning. As we care for students and collaborate to continuously strengthen their learning, all of us – our youngest learners, our teachers and our parents – will be equipped to thoughtfully engage the world with skills, knowledge, deep and enduring understandings, and clearer purpose. To us, this is what it means for each student to “achieve personal excellence to be the best *for* the world.”



The Learner

We believe that elementary education must foster the intellectual, social, physical and emotional development of each child.

We encourage each child to reach his or her full potential within a challenging inquiry-based curriculum based on high expectations.

We recognize that children have individual needs, and that their learning styles and rates of development vary.

We encourage each child to think critically and independently and to develop a love of learning and self-motivation, by attaining academic and personal goals.



The Program

We believe that the most effective program is a well defined, balanced curriculum that involves students in purposeful, relevant, and challenging activities.

We believe an inquiry approach to all curriculum programs best meets the needs of all learners.

We place strong emphasis on language arts and mathematics. To ensure a balanced curriculum, we provide programs in science and technology, social studies, modern language, health and physical development, visual and performing arts.

We believe that children must be prepared to function successfully in a changing world.

We believe that instructional programs and processes should be based on widely accepted research about how and what children learn. Our inquiry approach to learning is grounded in research.

We believe that there must be clearly stated goals and objectives established collaboratively and supported by teachers, administrators and parents.

We believe in the ongoing assessment of students and evaluation of programs.



The Core of JIS

Passionate, inquisitive, and creative – learning in Indonesia to be best for the world.

- **Passionate:** By discovering and channeling connections with our gifts and talents, our passions guide and fuel our learning to achieve personal excellence.
- **Inquisitive:** Our natural curiosity about the world and the hunger to learn by asking questions is nurtured and developed.
- **Creative:** We learn by imagining possibilities, designing potential solutions, and crafting original outcomes.
- **Learning:** Through engaging in diverse, relevant experiences and reflection, we become: responsible world citizens, critical thinkers, effective communicators, collaborative workers, problem solvers, creative individuals, and self-directed, positive and adaptable learners.
- **Best for the world:** Recognizing that we need to be generous, humane, and compassionate stewards of our planet and all that rely on it, we expect active, reflective service from all members of our community.

We will inspire joyful, rigorous learning and foster wellness as a pioneering, inclusive and collaborative community.

- **Joyful Learning:** Providing those life-changing moments that sustain a sense of wonderment and a passion for inquiry.
- **Rigorous Learning:** Achieving personal academic excellence requires hard work, dedication, and striving for lofty standards.
- **Foster Wellness:** Developing resilience through value-driven healthy choices and wise decisions to achieve physical, intellectual and emotional harmony.
- **Pioneering, collaborative community:** Taking thoughtful risks and becoming innovative educational leaders in order to prepare our children for success in our rapidly changing world.



Perseverance, Integrity, Responsibility, Respect, Compassion, Balance, Fun.

- **Perseverance:** Continually striving for personal excellence despite challenges along the way
- **Integrity:** Acting ethically, honestly, and equitably
- **Responsibility:** Owning our actions to earn trust and confidence
- **Respect:** Exhibiting good manners – showing consideration and appreciation in all our interactions with others
- **Compassion:** Acting with care and empathy to positively impact others and our environment
- **Balance:** Striving to achieve physical, intellectual, and emotional harmony in our lives and our decisions
- **Fun:** Making what we do exciting and enjoyable, lest we take ourselves too seriously

We learn by reflecting and relating, by being resourceful and resilient.



Jakarta Intercultural School

We are passionate, inquisitive and creative – learning in Indonesia to be best *for* the world.

We value perseverance, integrity, responsibility, respect, compassion, balance and fun.

We will inspire joyful, rigorous learning and foster wellness as a pioneering, inclusive, and collaborative community.

We learn by reflecting and relating, by being resourceful and resilient.



The Curriculum

Building Learning Power

Building Learning Power is about helping children to become better learners, both in school and out. It is about creating a culture in classrooms that systematically cultivates habits and attitudes that enable students to learn effectively and solve problems confidently, calmly and creatively. In particular, Building Learning Power helps children become Resilient, Resourceful, Relating, and Reflective. Children learn how to be tenacious and open-minded, imaginative and logical, self-disciplined and self-aware, collaborative and inquisitive. These dispositions and skills are explicitly taught across all areas of the curriculum to support student learning and growth.

Literacy

JIS adopts curricular models that demonstrate the best international standards. The school currently draws its overarching standards for English Language Arts from the Ontario, Canada curriculum. The strands of oral communication, reading, writing and media literacy have within them the requirement to reflect on learning and to use this reflection to enhance further learning.

Ten stages of development describe the journey children undergo as they become independent readers and writers. Since children grow and develop at differing rates, we have developed clear targets and milestones as well as multiple assessments along the way to better monitor and support each child's progress.

While literacy instruction is direct and explicit within the English Language Arts program, it is essential that the skills and knowledge gained will empower understandings, habits of mind, and communication skills in all content areas.

On a practical level, daily explicit instruction occurs within a workshop model that entails:

- large group lessons that may include shared reading and writing, interactive read alouds and focus lessons;
- small group instruction that may include guided reading and writing, strategy lessons, and literature circles or reading clubs; and
- independent reading and writing.

Mathematics

The elementary Mathematics curriculum is based upon the standards of the Common Core from the United States. The standards describe the conceptual

mathematical understanding, knowledge, and skills that students should acquire throughout their school experience.

The following conceptual strands are used to organize our mathematics curriculum: Number and Operation, Measurement, Algebra, Geometry, Data and Representation.

Mathematics instruction in the elementary school:

- investigates problems set in real-life contexts,
- fosters deep conceptual understanding and procedural fluency,
- balances whole-class, small group, and individual instruction as well as self-directed learning,
- emphasizes reasoning,
- facilitates communication and collaboration,
- introduces appropriate technology for learning.

Through this conceptual approach to mathematics, students make progress towards identified developmental landmarks. Daily engagements, whole-class discussions, small group work, and individual conferences offer students opportunities to become confident and competent mathematicians.

Social Studies, Science & Health

Through a process of inquiry, students explore social studies, science and health concepts and understandings. At each grade level, Transdisciplinary Units of Study provide the opportunity for students to learn more about their world by posing questions, exploring concepts, and engaging in developmentally appropriate research and projects. Where it is relevant and appropriate, direct connections and actions are linked to issues of global significance.

Specialist Classes

Committed to educating the whole child, alongside core subjects JIS provides instruction by subject area professionals in the visual and performing arts, physical education, and world languages within the school day.



Visual & Performing Arts

The Arts are essential to each child's development as a whole person and we embrace each expression from early scribbles to skilled artistic performances.

Through the arts, students express themselves verbally, visually, kinesthetically and musically. Within our visual and performing arts educational environment, learning activities provide students with a first-hand opportunity to grow through participation in creative experiences and expressions. Throughout the year, students are provided with multiple opportunities to practice presentation and performance skills in public and in-class performances and sharings; as well as school-wide assemblies.

Within Visual Art classes, students explore the sequential themes of Learning to See; Building Ideas; Ideas for Expression and Art in Everyday Life. Through these themes students learn the principles of design and the elements of art.

The Music program is developmental in sequence and instills a love of musical appreciation and participation. The strands of the general elementary music program comprise Movement & Dance; Singing; Tuned and Untuned Percussion; Indonesian Gamelan; Recorder. An elective, after school Strings Program broadens the opportunities for students to pursue their musical talents by participating in a string ensemble from beginning to intermediate levels.



In the Drama program, children from the Early Years through Grade 5 are introduced to the fundamentals of dramatic play and expression through ensemble devising, collaboration, playwriting, and performance.

In Dance, students explore their own creativity, develop movement pieces with others, and learn from a wide range of traditional and contemporary dance styles. Students develop a large movement vocabulary, spatial and body awareness, and an ability to collaborate with others. Dance also allows students to make their learning visible from other subject areas.

Physical Education

Physical Education provides opportunities for students to learn about, and practice ways of, adopting and maintaining a healthy, productive and active lifestyle. The PE program is designed to promote physical skills and strategies as well as develop habits leading to a healthy lifestyle.

Swimming pools, grass and covered play areas, gymnasias, as well as court sports and soccer fields are all used within the PE program. They provide places for elementary students to become healthy, fit and skillful in their approach to physical health and wellness.



Modern Language - Bahasa Indonesia

Beginning in Early Years 3, all students in the elementary school take lessons in the host country language of Bahasa Indonesia, which is an accessible language for beginners to learn at any age. Proficiency levels are established and the students access the language through speaking, listening, reading and writing. As a school, we believe that learning the host country language promotes international mindedness and opens children's minds to other perspectives. By learning the host language in the context of living in Indonesia students are able to use the language in real life situations; this creates a sound foundational base on which to build additional languages in Middle School.

Technology/ Library Media Services

At JIS, technology and print media play an important role in our dynamic learning community. At every grade, we aim to expand learning opportunities that empower students to be critical consumers and creative producers of knowledge and media in both digital and print form. Our Library and Technology Integration Specialists play a key supportive role at each campus.





Student Support Services

English as an Additional Language

JIS offers English as an Additional Language (EAL) support for English language learners in Grades 1-5. The goal is to help each learner acquire English language proficiency in order to become successful in all areas of the curriculum.

Learning Support

Students with diverse learning needs will find a caring, individualized approach and support structure that helps them access the JIS Curriculum. Services available to students include Learning Support, Speech and Language Therapy and Intervention.

Counseling

Each elementary campus has on-site counseling to assist students, parents and teachers in support of the social and emotional needs of our young learners.



Service Learning

In order to develop and demonstrate the skills necessary to be effective global citizens, environmental stewards, and to serve others, the Elementary School has adopted service-learning as the current, best practice approach. Service Learning in the elementary school provides an opportunity for students to build relationships with the local community through organizations like XS Project, Kampung Kids, Sekolah Mexico, Sekolah Kami, Vega Project and GK. Students are also encouraged to be advocates for local issues, such as saving the Orangutans and taking care of our environment with “Clean Up Jakarta.”



Co-Curricular Program

Care for the whole child inspires JIS to offer a variety of activities that appeal to a child's sense of adventure, fun, competition, learning and exploration. We see these opportunities as an essential part of a holistic education which allows children to understand unique aspects of their personalities, aptitudes and interests. They also offer diverse social experiences through which children learn to work, share, plan, collaborate, make friends, solve differences and pursue goals alongside others with common passions and interests.

In childhood, time spent doing what one wants to do – playing, thinking and dreaming – can be time well spent. At JIS, a broad range of activities are available after school for students via teacher led activities and JIS Academy program offerings. Children can explore interests and sharpen skills through elementary choirs, other music activities, sports, dance, art, swimming instruction, competitive swimming and many more options.

Offerings in our After School Activity (ASA) Program vary from year to year, depending on student interest and JIS Academy offerings. Offerings are plentiful and rarely do we hear feedback asking for an activity that we do not offer.

We feel strongly that adult guidance is necessary in the planning of after school activities in order to give the appropriate balance for your child's overall development. At times, children's days are filled with structured activities, allowing them little or no time remaining to amuse themselves productively. Childhood is a special time of life. We suggest that families carefully look at the time commitments required for interests and routines, home-learning, recreational reading and adequate rest, when making commitments to any other activities.

For more information please visit JIS Academy website:

<https://www.jisedu.or.id/learning/academy>





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