1. What kind of CPD events do FOBISIA Member Schools offer?

FOBISIA Member Schools host a number of Job-Alike Workshops (JAWS) and CPD conferences over the course of the Academic Year.

FOBISIA also holds an annual CPD Leaders Conference and a biennial Teaching Community Conference, which are hosted by FOBISIA Member Schools. Both conferences offer opportunities for teachers to meet, collaborate and progress professionally.

2. What kind of recognised external CPD does FOBISIA provide?

FOBISIA’s offers National Professional Qualification (NPQ) courses for Heads, Senior Leaders and Middle Leaders. (We currently partner with the UCL, Institute of Education)

We are able to connect staff with providers that support NQT for newly graduated teachers with QTS. We also work closely with the UK’s DfE in providing greater recognition for international teachers who wish to return to work in the UK.

3. What is a JAWS event?

Job-Alike Workshops (JAWS) are hosted by Member Schools and provide an opportunity for professionals in similar fields to share good practice and knowledge in a cost-effective and practical way. The host school ensures all participants are actively involved in the planning of the agenda and are asked to contribute by presenting workshops within a specific area. All sessions are led or facilitated by the host and a continuing professional dialogue is encouraged. JAWS can be conducted face-to-face (1.5 days) or online (3-6 hours) as an eJAWS.

4. How can I find out more about FOBISIA CPD Events?

All details of CPD Events can be found on the FOBISIA website - www.fobisia.org. You’ll also find the latest information in our monthly CPD Digest magazine, which is circulated by FOBISIA within Member Schools and can also be found on the FOBISIA website, under Member Support/Publications.

5. What is a CPD Leader?

A CPD Leader is a designated lead in a Member School on all things CPD. They are also a key liaison between FOBISIA HQ and school colleagues. A CPD Leader is required to attend the FOBISIA CPD Leaders Conference and other relevant meetings. A CPD Leader from a Member School with full membership has voting rights for the FOBISIA CPD Committee and is eligible to hold office on the CPD Committee.
6. What is the CPD Committee and what do they do?

The CPD Committee is made up of seven members which includes a Chair, Vice-chair, Board Liaison and CPD Regional Representatives. The CPD Committee works with school CPD Leaders to represent regional and individual school needs, agree and formulate the CPD calendar, provide a level of quality assurance and lead innovation and development in CPD practices.

7. I am interested in hosting a CPD Event with FOBISIA. How do I go about this?

In order to host a CPD Event, schools enter a bidding process for the next academic year. Bid forms are circulated in January of each year and collected in February, before being consolidated into a CPD Events Calendar for the following Academic Year. For more information on this, please visit our CPD Handbook, which can be found in the 'Member Support' section on the FOBISIA website.

8. What are CPD regions?

In order to allow for more tailored CPD support when needed, FOBISIA Member Schools are designated among three regions based on their geographical location:

Region A: India, Sri Lanka, Laos, Myanmar, Nepal, Thailand, Vietnam
Region B: Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore
Region C: P.R. China, Hong Kong, Kazakhstan, Mongolia, Philippines, South Korea, Taiwan

9. What support is available for Teaching Assistants?

FOBISIA Member Schools host a biennial Teaching Community Conference which provides opportunities for TAs in Member Schools to share amongst each other and connect with leading educational practitioners. FOBISIA is committed to improving the level professional collaboration and support available to TAs working in the international context, and is working closely with other associations to this end.

10. What opportunities exist to allow for collaboration with other schools and organisations?

By belonging to the Federation, Member Schools are able to work together to deliver CPD through regional meetings, JAWS, eJAWS, Conferences and more. These gatherings invite different schools to share their strategies, resources and ideas. In addition, schools that organise and invite their own keynote speakers may either invite other member schools to participate, or share presenters with other Member Schools in the same area to save costs. Member Schools are also supported by FOBISIA’s Affiliate Members, who can offer expertise and CPD tools, resources and platforms. For more information on Affiliate Members, please visit the FOBISIA website, under Our Members.

FOBISIA also works closely with other British international schools associations, such as BSME, LAHC, NABSS, AoBSO, COBIS in sharing professional development.
11. Who can I contact to ask questions related to FOBISIA CPD Events?

Please contact Fariha Ebrahim, FOBISIA’s CPD Executive at fariha.ebrahim@fobisia.org. You can also contact your school’s CPD Leader and refer to the CPD Handbook, which can be found in the ‘Member Support’ section on the FOBISIA website, under Publications.