

STAMFORD AMERICAN | HONG
SCHOOL | KONG

CANDIDATE BRIEF

SPECIALIST SUBJECT TEACHER (PRE-PRIMARY – GRADE 8)



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Welcome from the Superintendent

Thank you for your interest in Stamford American School – Hong Kong.



In 2009, Stamford American International School was started in Singapore, following on from a Referral For Interest program, introduced by the Economic Development Board. The school started with 75 students and has now grown to 3,000 students enrolled on a state of the art campus in Upper Serangoon, Singapore. It has a program of studies underpinned by US education standards, including American Education Reaches Out / Common Core Plus, the International Baccalaureate programs of study, the offering of language study for all students at the school and the use of technology responsibly to support inquiry based learning.

It has featured on the “Today Tonight” program as the “Super School” of the future and was awarded first in category in education in 2014 by the British Chamber of Commerce.

It has achieved accreditation from the Council of International Schools and the Western Association of Schools and Colleges and authorization from the International Baccalaureate Office. As well as local Edutrust certification.

In its first graduating class of 2016, 90% of its students achieved their first choice of university including admission to prestigious universities in the US such as Northwestern.

Stamford American is now starting its second exciting project in South East Asia. In August 2017, Stamford American School, Hong Kong will open its campus in Kowloon, Hong Kong and the programs it will offer will be based on the successes of the Singapore school.

As Superintendent of the Hong Kong School and having led the development of the Singapore campus as Superintendent between 2011 and 2016 it is my pleasure to invite interested teachers to submit their applications to what will be an exciting new and prestigious development in education.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Malcolm Kay". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Malcolm Kay
Superintendent

School Vision and Guiding Statements

As a school community we will continually strive to provide the best in teaching and learning for all so that each individual achieves more than they believe they can.

We will celebrate our academic, sports and service accomplishments so that individuals and groups are recognized locally, nationally and globally.

Become a leader in American international education in Hong Kong and achieve a global recognition for excellence and academic rigor.

At Stamford American School – Hong Kong we will:

- Maintain high standards of academic progress, achievement and performance including preparation for admission to competitive universities in the US and worldwide.
- Develop students as distinguished learners in Science, Technology, Engineering, Math and Innovation.
- Guide all to be inquirers, knowledgeable, thinkers, communicators, principled, open-minded, risk-takers, balanced, caring, resilient, internationally minded and reflective.
- Create an environment in our schools where all feel safe and secure and can thrive.
- Instill in students, confidence and an enthusiasm for life-long learning.
- Develop future leaders with active and innovative minds.
- Develop internationally minded citizens by fostering multicultural and intercultural interaction.
- Encourage all to become responsible contributing citizens of the school and within a global context.
- Celebrate diversity and build an understanding of and respect for different value systems and cultures.
- Promote critical understanding and compassion for others and the courage to act based on one's beliefs.
- Address a variety of learning needs including English as an additional language, native language support, special needs education, enrichment and counseling so that each individual can achieve success.
- Recruit, retain and professionally develop leading American and international teachers and educators for our school.
- Be a reflective and thoughtful community seeking input from a variety of resources to successfully guide our progress.
- Continue to develop a welcoming community that supports happy and passionate staff, students and parents.
- Develop students who are fluent in the Chinese language or Spanish language as well as in English, the language of instruction.

Welcome to Cognita

Cognita was successfully launched in 2004. Since then, we have worked to build a great family of schools. Everyone in Cognita is connected.

Our Purpose

Inspiring and empowering children within a caring environment to achieve more than they believe possible.

Cognita Education has 4 key ingredients:

- Academic** Pursuing academic excellence for every child
- Character** Developing character
- Enrichment** Accessing enrichment beyond the classroom
- Global** Connecting with a global community

Cognita Way

Underpinning the Cognita Education is the Cognita Way, a simple way of operating.



Job Description

Title Specialist Subject Teacher (Pre-Primary - Grade 8)	Responsible to Team Leader	Reports to Superintendent/Divisional Principal.	Start Date August 2017
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The Specialist Subject Teacher (Pre-Primary - Grade 8) will be responsible for the education of students across grades in the specialist subject area, ensuring that the education they receive is aligned with the school vision.

“ Achieving more than they believe they can. ”

They will work as part of a grade team and a wider divisional team in ensuring that the curriculum design and delivery is consistent and of high quality.

They will recognize and be able to account for the growth and progress of individual children within the class and will have agreed methods of assessment that will allow the growth and progress to be documented.

They will reflect on their practice in group discussion so as to constantly seek improvement in the education program for the students in their care.

They will recognize the importance of safeguarding of children and be pro-active in this regard.

Key accountabilities:

- Deliver child centered education within the standards based frameworks that underpin the school curriculum.
- Provide parents with regular (weekly), updates of the teaching and learning that has taken and will take place.
- Provide assessment details to their supervisor and team that will serve as a record of student performance and will improve the modification of teaching and learning.
- Be an active member of the School Development Team being pro-active in promoting and driving development in the new school
- Assume supervision duties as required to ensure the safeguarding and welfare of the children.
- Provide extra-curricular programs for children at the end of the academic day.
- Document the curriculum delivery.
- Promote excellence in academic work and in one or more of the following specified subject areas of Physical Education, Art, Music, Drama, EAL, Special Needs education, Chinese, Spanish.

Personal Specification

Qualifications:

- A higher degree in education or relevant professional qualifications.

Experience:

- Direct experience of elementary education based upon prescribed standards.
- Experience of international education and working in an environment that is “internationally minded”.
- Experience of working in an educational environment that is child-centered.
- A proven track record of using evidence based decision-making in support of children’s education
- A proven track record of adding value to the education of each child for whom they are responsible.
- Experience of leadership in curriculum development within a school team.
- A track record of professional growth that supports the delivery of high quality education.

Skills and Attributes:

- The ability to work with parents from a variety of different backgrounds and cultures.
- The ability to be pro-active in problem solving
- Experience or enthusiasm for new school starter projects.
- The ability to adapt to new cultures and international environments.
- Enthusiasm for building new concepts in education and extending the boundaries of educational thinking.
- Demonstrates honesty, loyalty and integrity.
- Has good communication and presentation skills.
- Works well as a contributing member within teams.

Overview of Compensation and Benefits

Base salaries

Stamford American School Hong Kong is delighted to offer highly competitive compensation and benefits to successful candidates. Base salaries range from Gross HKD 40,983 per month to Gross HKD 48,276 per month. Expatriate teachers arriving with 4 years previous teaching experience can expect a base salary of Gross HKD 42,855 per month whilst those with 8 years teaching experience would expect to start on a salary of Gross HKD 45,485 per month.

Housing allowance

The cost of housing rental is relatively high in Hong Kong and therefore the school supports its faculty with a generous housing allowance of HKD 12,500 per month for single teachers and HKD 18,300 per month for families.

Additional payments

The school offers a 6% bonus payment at the end of each year of completed service paid at the end of the academic year. In addition teachers are entitled to an end of contract payment provided that there is no less than 24 months under a continuous contract. This amounts to 2/3 of the lesser of monthly wage or HKD 22,500 x years of service (pro-rated for incomplete years), subject to a maximum of HKD 390,000.

Other benefits

The school will reimburse the actual cost of a one-way economy ticket flight from home country for staff and eligible dependents, subject to a maximum amount of HKD 10,000 per person.

The school will reimburse the actual cost of shipping personal effects subject to a maximum of HKD 25,000 for single and HKD 42,000 for families.

The school will provide 10 nights stay in a school-designated hotel from the day of arrival.

The school will provide mid contract return flight/s on economy class from Hong Kong to home country for staff and eligible dependents, subject to a maximum amount of HKD 10,000 per person.

The school also provides employee compensation insurance, group healthcare cover and personal accident insurance.

Full details of all benefits will be provided to the successful candidates.



Living in Hong Kong

Moving to Hong Kong is an exciting experience. The city is one of the safest in the world and home to roughly 7.2 million people. Hong Kong is comprised of Hong Kong Island, the Kowloon Peninsula, the New Territories and more than 200 outlying islands, with a total land and sea area of about 2,754 km². It is one of the world's most significant financial centers as well as an important trade and cultural hub, making it one of the world's most visited city.

Hong Kong is frequently described as a place where East meets West, characterized by a mix of the territory's Chinese roots and influences from its time as a British colony. Both local and western foods are readily available and often inexpensive. Hong Kong has always been a popular destination with people from all over the world, and has a significant expat population of approximately 100,000 people.

Language

The majority of locals speak Cantonese as their first language, but English remains a common language and is used as the official language of business.

Climate

Hong Kong is located just south of the Tropic of Cancer, and enjoys a warm subtropical climate. Summers will have occasional showers, with typhoons most often occurring during this season, making August the wettest month. Winters are usually mild, although the occasional cold front can bring strong, cool winds.

Average Monthly Temperatures in Hong Kong

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
°C	16	18	20	24	26	28	29	29	27	26	22	17
°F	61	64	68	75	79	82	84	84	81	79	72	63

Transportation

Hong Kong boasts the widest public transportation network in the world, used by over 90% of the population. There are a variety of options, including double-decker buses, trams, minibuses, taxis, inter-island ferries and an extensive MTR (Mass Transit Railway). It is advisable to purchase an Octopus Card, a smart card that can be used to pay for rides on any mode of public transportation, and can even be used for payment in supermarkets, convenient stores, fast-food outlets and retail stores.

Relocating to Hong Kong

Stamford American School – Hong Kong works with leading providers of international relocation solutions, including Allied Pickfords and Asian Tigers Mobility. Both companies specialize in relocation services and provide a reliable network of global partners for all your moving needs and concerns.

You will be assigned a designated move coordinator who will manage your move to ensure safe delivery of your items to you here in Hong Kong. They will be aware that you do not have a shipping address for delivery in Hong Kong and this is not necessary until the time that you have this information.

Once you make contact with the agencies, they will come to you to complete a quote for your move. The shipping amount is as stipulated on the contract. You then send quotes to Stamford American and we will manage the rest, including payment of the invoice.



Allied Pickfords

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Your To-Do List

- Contact Allied Pickfords and Asian Tigers Mobility and provide your shipping allowance as specified in your contract.
- The consultant/s will arrange a survey of the items you wish to ship to Hong Kong and provide you with a quotation.
- Email quotes to malcolm.kay@sais.edu.sg
- Once Stamford American confirms the quote is accepted by the school, contact the relevant agent to arrange packing date.

Good to Know

Most accommodation comes partially furnished – this generally means fridge, washing machine and dryer. The majority of people prefer to bring all furniture with them, however you can also find fully furnished apartments but these are generally more expensive.

There are many homeware stores where you can buy the items needed. However, feedback in the past has been that people wished they packed their teaching materials and household items/furniture.

How to Apply

We are delighted that you are interested in joining our Stamford American community in Hong Kong.

Stamford American School – Hong Kong welcomes applications from qualified, experienced teachers looking for a vibrant, challenging and rewarding teaching experience.

Teaching candidates are evaluated on four key areas: high quality teaching practice, contribution to learning area and curriculum development, relationships with students, staff and parents and contribution to the whole school.

To be considered for the role, please email your interest to apply to Mr. Malcolm Kay, Superintendent Emeritus, at malcolm.kay@sais.edu.sg along with:

- Your up-to-date curriculum vitae
- Copies of degree(s) and teaching certificate
- Email contacts for three (3) referees*

*Please note that one of your referees should be the current or latest person that you report to.

Stamford American School - Hong Kong

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COGNITA
TEACHING EXCELLENCE