



VISION

To be an educational institution of excellence from Kindergarten to University Foundation level combining Eastern Values with an International education to produce global citizens.

MISSION

To provide quality educational programmes in a creative and challenging learning environment, embracing innovative teaching pedagogies to empower every student to become a life-long learner.

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Mr. Birch Colby Criswell
Deputy Principal

Welcome To The New School Year

I am very excited to welcome all of our students and families to SIS@Van Phuc, and we look forward to a wonderful year of learning and working together.

There have been a number of changes around our school during the Summer break. All of our classes – both International and Integrated are housed in the one building now. The front school yard has been resurfaced providing a better surface for games and activities.

Welcome To Our New Deputy

Hello! My name is Birch Colby Criswell, but you can call me Mr. Colby. I am from the United States and though I have only been in Vietnam for a short time, I am loving Hanoi! So far at Van Phuc I have learned a great deal from the students, teachers, and Ms. Sue. All of this makes me very pleased and humbled to be a part of this great team. I have a BA in English, a MA in English, and a Master's of Education (Ed.S. - Executive Leadership). Prior to moving to SIS Van Phuc, I was the acting principal at an International School in Taiwan. I look forward to getting to know the students and parents over the course of the year and beyond.

Helping Students Prepare for School

Parents you can help your child develop the independence that they need for school with some small preparations at home.

Help them get their schoolbag and uniform prepared before they go to bed. Then they can easily get dressed and ready as soon as they wake.

Set an alarm with the child for when they need to leave for the bus or meet the driver. Make sure they arrive at school in time to join their class. Being late makes them feel unprepared.

Please make sure that they have plenty of sleep and go to bed by 9:00pm. Our school days are quite long and the children need to be able to pay attention and stay awake. Younger students in particular feel the longer days with no afternoon sleep.



Interesting After school activity

After School Activity Program

Our After School Activity program has already begun with favorites like Cookery, Badminton, Football and Chess all being extremely popular but also our new school Choir offering more choice to our keen and talented students.

Parent Nights

Many thanks to all the parents who came to school to talk with the teachers. We had lots of feedback from parents and many suggestions of what parents would like to see happening in our school. If you still have questions or suggestions we are happy to follow up. You may either speak to a teacher or email me directly.



Discovery and developing creativity

Meeting Parents

Mr Colby and I would like to hold a Coffee Date soon (14 September) to allow you to meet him and talk about school issues. Please hold this date 3:00-4:00.

In **early November** we will hold an Assessment Night to fully explain to parents about the structure of exams and how you can help prepare your students.

Assessment

Parents will receive a soft copy of the Table of Specifications (ToS) via email. This tells you all of the exam dates for the year, and the kinds of questions they will see on the exam papers.

Year 1 do NOT have an exam in Semester 1, however their results will be based on learning throughout the Semester eg review tests, knowledge of spelling, vocabulary, reading level, speaking and listening.

Formative testing like this will also be used to make up 10% of the result for English of all other students.

Please also **use the exams dates on the ToS to plan your holidays** so they do not clash with exams. The children will have exams as soon as they return from the Christmas vacation.

In some cases this has caused a problem as parents take a longer holiday that extends after the exams have begun.



The first day at school