

SHANGHAI AMERICAN SCHOOL

PUXI CAMPUS



OUR MISSION

Shanghai American School inspires in all students:  
 A lifelong passion for learning  
 A commitment to act with integrity and compassion  
 The courage to live their dreams

ABOUT SAS PUXI ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL ENROLLMENT

683

AVERAGE DIVISION FACULTY TENURE

4.7 YEARS

STUDENT PASSPORT COUNTRIES/REGIONS IN DIVISION

36

STUDENT-TO-FACULTY RATIO IN DIVISION

8.7:1



We are delighted you are interested in our Early Childhood and Elementary School. Spanning Pre-K through Grade 5, the elementary years represent rich developmental stages in a child's life and are marked by phenomenal brain development and unbridled enthusiasm for discovery and learning new skills. Our team of talented educators work to build warm and supportive relationships with students and employ curricular and evidence-based pedagogical approaches that facilitate the cognitive, physical, and social-emotional development of our students. These three areas comprise what we refer to as the whole child, and the whole child approach is what we do best at SAS.

Supported by world class facilities, resources and educators, SAS elementary students cannot help but blossom and grow. Parents find multiple opportunities to participate and build understanding of the educational process that nurtures the whole child at various stages. We look forward to welcoming you into our wonderfully vibrant community of learners here at Shanghai American School !!

Enthusiastically yours,

Julie Hunt

BEST 3 THINGS ABOUT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

3 Our academic approach is designed to meet the needs of all learners.

2 We focus on authentic problem-solving that builds long-term skills.

1 Our community-minded philosophy helps instill SAS Mission values such as acting with integrity and compassion.

“My children have very different learning styles and both have found much success at SAS. The elementary school does a wonderful job of supporting our children and helping them to flourish!”  
 —Lindsey, SAS Parent

## LEARNING GOALS

**A Shanghai American School education equips students to transfer their knowledge and skills beyond the classroom, in authentic settings, over a lifetime.**

### **SKILLFUL COMMUNICATORS**

**SAS learners are skillful communicators who advocate for self and others in more than one language by listening, responding, and articulating ideas through multiple media.**

At SAS, we frequently bring in visiting authors. But as it turns out, we have authors in our midst every day! Throughout elementary school, creating books is a continuous experience for students. Even before children write conventionally, they create simple books to communicate ideas and stories. In lower grades, students write personal stories, how-to books, and books of personal expertise. As they progress, they write informational books about learnings from social studies and science. By Grade 5, they're writing realistic fiction and even fantasy books. All books are celebrated in class – and some even make it to our library for all to enjoy!



### **CRITICAL THINKERS**

**SAS learners are critical thinkers who develop ideas and construct arguments by questioning, evaluating, synthesizing, and considering perspective.**

Every parent is familiar with this after school conversation with their child: “How was school today?” you’d ask. “Good...” says the child, and nothing more is offered. That’s one of the reasons we find Seesaw so valuable. Seesaw is a platform we use in elementary school that helps make student learning visible by capturing and sharing what students do during the day. Students love posting videos and pictures of schoolwork and recording audio reflections about their learning. Teachers love the interaction it sparks between students and parents. And parents love getting authentic peeks into what happens in school.

## EFFECTIVE COLLABORATORS

**SAS learners are effective collaborators who help teams innovate outcomes to achieve a goal by holding themselves and others accountable, contributing in productive ways, and sustaining respectful interactions.**

In elementary school, SAS students don't learn to collaborate with just their classmates and table groups. They also collaborate with students in middle school and high school. For example, a high school IB Biology unit requires students to partner with Grade 4 students. Using a real-world situation of an upcoming track meet, while IB students in Grade 11 learn about mechanisms and controls for ventilation, their partners in Grade 4 discover real-life applications of graphing and interpreting data and analyzing the breathing rates of student athletes. Cross-divisional collaboration is just one way our students are challenged in unique and impactful ways.



## ETHICAL GLOBAL CITIZENS

**SAS learners are ethical global citizens who take action based on informed decisions filtered through empathy, integrity, sustainability, and social justice.**

Don't let the name of this learning goal fool you – developing skills as ethical global citizens can sometimes mean creating service learning right at home. Take the annual First Grade Postal Service, for example. Each year before the holidays, our Grade 1 students take it upon themselves to open their own “postal service office” to deliver mail throughout the campus. The students place mailboxes outside the administration office, collect mail daily, sort, and distribute. It provides a rich opportunity for our students to gain life skills such as organizing, counting, reading, and problem-solving – all while providing a valuable community service.



## CREATIVE LEARNERS

**SAS learners are creative learners who engage their imaginations to generate novel ideas, demonstrate flexible thinking, evaluate approaches, and take action.**

Nothing demonstrates creative learning more than the story of our kindergarteners opening their own real restaurant. The KTK Restaurant was months in the making, and grew from time and autonomy being given to the students for development. Here, teachers played facilitators, artfully weaving in subject matter like math and literacy, and students developed collaboration, creativity, and problem-solving. While each student focused on mastering their roles and responsibilities, they also learned that each role was equally important and that they were all part of a bigger whole. KTK Restaurant opened for lunch hours on three different days to our community.



## A DAY IN THE LIFE

There is no average day at Shanghai American School. But here are a few moments your child is likely to experience on a regular basis when they attend elementary school at the Puxi campus of SAS.



7:55am

By 7:55, students are settled into their classes and preparing for the day. Of course, some students will say the day REALLY starts at 8:10 when their fellow students take turns delivering morning announcements, weather reports, and riddles over the school's sound system.



9:28am

Grade 4 students gather in the iHub, an age-appropriate maker space, as they dive into hands-on innovation. Here, they prepare to show the community their inventions that are designed to improve the community and demonstrate an understanding of concepts like circuitry.



10:17am

Our unmatched facilities include the elementary school's Eagle Park, with water features, trampolines, greenery, and a garden area among a plethora of other attractions. And the division is guided by the student-centric Reggio Emilia philosophy of experiential learning.



1:58pm

Thanks to the largest collection of English language books on mainland China, reading plays a prominent role at SAS. You can see that when Grade 3 selects books for themselves at the library and when fifth graders visit the classroom library to find books that are just perfect for them.



12:40pm

Students don't just learn in elementary school, they also lead. In daily class meetings, students create meeting agendas, review class agreements, solve community issues that may arise, and plan celebrations and major projects for the class.



11:24am

After a morning of learning, it's time to eat. The elementary school's dedicated cafeteria space in the heart of the campus features multiple food stations and up to 25 minutes for students to eat, reflect, laugh, and make plans for what lies ahead in the afternoon.



3:00pm

The school bell rings to signal the end of another school day – or so you think. While some students walk, hop on bikes, or take buses home, many pursue their passion through one of our many after school activities (ASAs) such as FLL Jr., our entry level robotics.



4:10pm

If you ever want to re-energize a child, tell them there's a pool nearby. At SAS, many of our elementary school students end the day by participating in swim club, where they practice everything from basic water safety to back strokes for the years ahead when they swim competitively.

**WANT TO GET THE FULL EXPERIENCE?**



Scan the code to watch  
One Day at SAS Elementary.