



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 MIDDLE SCHOOL

MIDDLE SCHOOL ENROLLMENT

471

AVERAGE DIVISION FACULTY TENURE

4.0 YEARS

STUDENT PASSPORT COUNTRIES/REGIONS IN DIVISION

33

STUDENT-TO-FACULTY RATIO IN DIVISION

89:1

BEST 3 THINGS ABOUT MIDDLE SCHOOL

3 Students engage in inquiry to develop a conceptual understanding of the world around them.

2 We offer a curriculum that supports all learners by creating accessibility as well as challenge.

1 Our approach celebrates the individual, giving students greater voice and choice.



Welcome to Puxi Middle School (PXMS), where we believe in providing a transformative educational experience for our students during this crucial stage of their lives. We are committed to upholding the mission of SAS by ensuring that our students become lifelong learners who embody qualities such as integrity, compassion, and the courage to pursue their dreams.

We firmly believe that every child learns best when they feel valued, challenged, and when their learning experiences are relevant to their individual styles and interests. Therefore, we have implemented an academically rigorous program and a personalized learning environment that caters to the diverse needs of all students.

In addition to academic excellence, we are deeply committed to supporting the holistic development of our students. Our interactive lessons during Advisory are designed to address the social-emotional needs of adolescent learners, providing them with essential skills and tools to navigate the complexities of their rapidly changing world.

At PXMS, we are dedicated to providing a comprehensive education that encompasses academic rigor, social-emotional learning, and inquiry-based approaches to equip our students with the necessary tools to make positive contributions to society.

“ My favorite thing about SAS is how the school involves parents and works with us as a collaborative team. It takes a village to raise a child, and SAS is an amazing community for our kids!

— Shirlene, SAS MS Parent

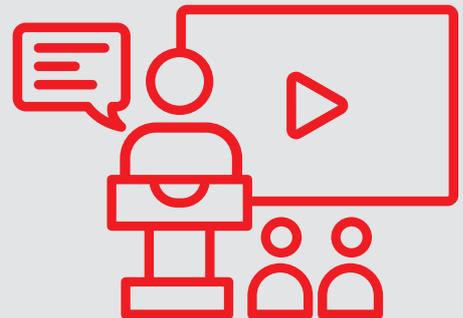
Erica Curry
Erica Curry

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.

Each year, we throw Grade 8 students into the Shark Tank. It starts early in the spring with a single question: “How do I make money and make the world better?” Shark Tank is project-based learning at its best. Interdisciplinary, collaborative, and with the design cycle embedded throughout, Shark Tank starts with individual pitches. Winners go on to recruit their classmates in an intense job fair. Teams then work to create a polished pitch of their business idea to a panel of SAS community members posing as critical investors. The experience leaves students poised to change the world!



CRITICAL THINKERS

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

If ever there were a place that would prompt students to question, evaluate, synthesize, and consider perspectives, it is Poland’s infamous Auschwitz concentration camp. Prior to Covid-19 restrictions, visits to Auschwitz formed part of a thoughtfully-designed learning experience aimed at deepening students’ understanding of World War II and beyond. The exploration also included time in Berlin, among other experiences. The students themselves were charged with planning and organizing learning activities at each step of the way. Upon their return to Shanghai, each student created an independent product that reflected their new understanding of the world.

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.

The sound of a marching band is perfectly acceptable on the campus of a college or university in the United States. But on the campus of a middle school in China? That's a lot more unique. The SAS middle school marching band is responsible for effecting change in a sporting event, bringing joy to a parade, or simply injecting a sense of community within the school. Most important are the skills developed to be part of a marching band: collaborating with other musicians, and coordinating musically and physically. And these are skills that are useful no matter where you go!



ETHICAL GLOBAL CITIZENS

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

Microcampus is one of our Signature Programs created by and exclusively for SAS. It has been recognized as one of the top 100 educational innovations by HundrED, a Finnish organization that spotlights ambitious international educational projects. Since 2012, groups of Grade 8 students have taken four-week journeys to the village of Xizhou in Southwest China's Yunnan Province to become immersed in a community of 2000 people, 2000 kilometers from home, at 2000 meters above sea level. Microcampus is designed with four goals in mind: experiential learning, personal growth, expanding intercultural understanding, and having a positive impact.



CREATIVE LEARNERS

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

The bulk of time during the Grade 8 Modern and Vocal Music class is spent on a year-long project of composing, performing, recording, and releasing original songs to the public. Students learn individually and in small groups and the creative process involves lyric writing, chord progression selection and writing, strum, arpeggiation or instrumentation arrangement, song structure, instrumental sections and solos. After recording, the students design the artwork of their album and market it through Spotify and iTunes. They also organize, prepare and rehearse for an album launch concert. Real world creative learning. Real world situations. Real world impact.



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 middle school at the Puxi campus of SAS.



8:05am

In middle school, the days are filled with energy and growth, challenges and accomplishments. To learn the life skills needed for high school and beyond, students start the day in Advisory, where they discuss lessons such as time management, self-advocacy, and conflict resolution.



8:36am

Learning at SAS is often real-world and hands-on. Built into our educational program are the flexibility and resources that “meet learners where they are.” This ensures every student gets both supported and challenged in order to maximize their progress.



10:13am

In middle school, our students are doing more than creating art. They're researching projects using a variety of media and styles. They're painting memories and experiences that define “home”. They're using stop motion to bring their stories to life.



1:28pm

It's math time, but this is different math than how parents learned it. Here, students engage in uncovering math concepts so they truly understand math, rather than memorize a set of steps to solve. The result is multiple pathways in the brain that leads to long-term retention of learning.



11:58am

Each grade level is assigned a lunch period where they are able to connect with peers. With the middle school's policy of tech for educational use only, students are more apt to connect with each other over conversation and games – many of their own making.



11:05am

Observe a language arts class in middle school at Puxi, and you may come away with the impression that the teachers don't have any answers. In fact, the methodology they're employing is Socratic seminar, which is based on using dialogue between students to stimulate critical thinking.



2:30pm

With a mission that calls for inspiring ‘the courage to live their dreams,’ how could we not carve out time in the year for students to explore outside the classroom? Field trips are designed for just that: a different environment that provides opportunities for team building, problem solving, and being challenged outside of your normal comfort zone.



3:10pm

The academic part of the school day ends at 3pm. Shortly after, the co-curricular part begins. Almost all middle school students participate in after school activities including CISSA, a non-competitive athletic conference co-founded by SAS, as well as clubs such as Model United Nations and robotics.

WANT TO GET THE FULL EXPERIENCE?



Scan the code to watch
One Day at SAS Middle School.