

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 MIDDLE SCHOOL

MIDDLE SCHOOL SCHOOL ENROLLMENT

461

AVERAGE FACULTY TENURE

5.2 YEARS

NUMBER OF PASSPORTS IN DIVISION

28

FACULTY-TO-STUDENT RATIO IN DIVISION

89:1

BEST 3 THINGS ABOUT MIDDLE SCHOOL

3 Each grade level combines well-rounded interdisciplinary academics with service learning.

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.



Middle School is a time of change, both physically and emotionally. It is a time to try new things, to experiment both in and out of the classroom. Some students discover a new interest through the exploratory program or find a new love for science. Some students try a sport for the first time, or push the boundaries of creativity in art or language arts class. Whatever path students take through middle school, we are here to support.

As you're likely aware, the SAS mission emphasizes our commitment to develop in our students a lifelong passion for learning, a commitment to act with integrity and compassion, and the courage to live their dreams. These are not hollow words. They are what guides our decision-making, and what we strive for every day both in and out of the classroom. Little doubt exists about the quality of our academic programs, and how we support our students to meet expectations. That is why we at SAS have moved beyond a focus on academics and have emphasized our commitment to develop outstanding people who will lead us into the next generation with integrity and compassion.

“My favorite thing about SAS is the faculty – truly world-class all around. I’ve also been impressed by the attention to the students’ personal development and social skills coaching.”

— Gena, SAS Parent

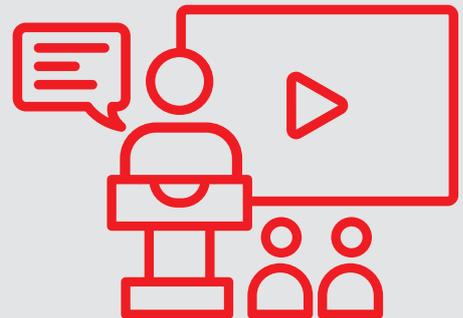
Erica Curry

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. Starting 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 and ready 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 was a place that would prompt students to question, evaluate, synthesize, and consider perspective, it is Poland's infamous Auschwitz concentration camp. Prior to Covid-19 restrictions, visits to Auschwitz formed part of a thoughtfully-designed learning experience to help deepen students' understanding of World War II and beyond. The exploration also included time in Berlin, among other experiences. The students themselves are 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 reflects 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 those are skills that are at home anywhere!



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 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. Learning both individually and in small groups, the creative process involves lyric writing, chord progression selection and writing, strum, arpeggiation or instrumentation arrangement, song structure, instrumental sections and solos. Once recorded, the students are charged with marketing and artwork design of their album 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.



AVERAGE DAY

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 Pudong campus of SAS.



8:05am

In middle school, the days are filled with energy and growth, challenges and accomplishments. But ironically, the days start quietly. In HomeBase, students reflect on the day ahead, check in with their HomeBase teacher, and assess what they need to have a successful day ahead.



8:36am

For most students, each academic day kicks off with "Specials." Built into our educational program is the flexibility and resources that assure every student is getting the support and challenge they need to, as we say, "meet learners where they are" in order to maximize their progress.



10:13am

In middle school, our students are doing more than creating art: They're telling stories about themselves using a variety of media and styles. They're painting memories and experiences that define "home"; they're digitally collaging dreams of travel; 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.



11:58pm

Each grade level has their own lunch period. 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 day for students to explore?" The Exploratory period is designed for just that: Exploratories for students to learn about topics of interest to them.



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.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Shanghai American School
Admissions
+86 (21) 6221 1445
admissions@saschina.org