

Integrity
Inquisitiveness
Caring

International Mindednes



## **GUIDING STATEMENTS**



To be an exceptional, forward-thinking international school community in every respect.



Through its challenging curriculum and strong staff-student relationships, IICS provides a caring environment that inspires each student to excel and to be inquisitive, creative, compassionate, balanced, and internationally-minded.









### **PHILOSOPHY**

#### We believe:

- the three IB programs are challenging to all learners, and we believe in the importance of the IB Learner Profile (inquirers, risk-takers, thinkers, communicators, principled, open-minded, caring, knowledgeable, balanced, reflective).
- healthy relationships and effective communication between all members of the community, especially between students and teachers, are the key to school success.
- IICS provides a caring environment where everyone involved with the school, including parents, the Board of Directors, staff and students, has an important role in making the school a community of learners.
- students learn best when they are happy at school and actively involved in their own learning.
- learning is personal, as each student is unique in his or her interests, aptitudes and learning styles.
- the needs of each individual ought to be met so that each student has opportunities to excel.
- internationally-minded people are those who strive to learn about the values and beliefs of their own culture so that they can better understand those found in their host country and elsewhere in the world. Internationally-minded people are world citizens who seek out commonalities and also appreciate differences between cultures so that they can bridge cultural divides and help create a more peaceful world.





# **CORE VALUES**

### Integrity

We act with a strong sense of fairness, honesty and respect towards ourselves, others and the world around us.

#### nquisitiveness

We nurture natural curiosity in our learning communities to better understand the world.

### Caring

We interact with compassion from a place of empathy assuming positive intent.

#### International MindednesS

We value our common humanity and believe in diversity.

### STRATEGIC PLANNING PROCESS

The IICS strategic plan is the product of two outside consultants contracted by the Head of school and the IICS Board of Trustees. During the early stages of the process a larger planning group was directly involved including staff representatives, leadership, students, parents and alumni. The planning group met during a Strategic Planning Workshop led by two separate external consultants. The participants confirmed the School's foundational documents and engaged in an overview of trends such as educational and economic opportunities and risks facing Istanbul and Turkey in the next 5 to 10 years. Then, following an analysis of Istanbul International Community School's strengths and needs in the school's programs, student performances and involvement, the group selected five strategic planning areas for the next five years.











A planning team, designated by the Board of Trustees and the Head of School, will convene on an annual basis to review the Strategic Plan. The purpose will be to monitor the plan's proposed goals, objectives and actions. The annual assessment will permit Istanbul International Community School to gauge the degree and effectiveness of the Strategic Plan and to make any needed modifications.



## STRATEGIC PLANNING PRINCIPLES

The Strategic Plan is guided by a framework of principles through which the School strives for excellence, achieves its mission and evaluates its progress. The principles, which also reflect policy parameters, relate the mission directly to the current and future needs of the School, and serve as criteria for assessing how well goals, objectives, and actions address those needs.

PRINCIPLE 1

A safe supportive environment that balances emotional, social and physical wellbeing.

PRINCIPLE 2

The lens used to develop our educational plans are based on what is best for our students and their learning.

PRINCIPLE 3

Our educational program continues to embrace the IB Philosophy and supports the IICS vision, mission and core values.

PRINCIPLE 4

The delivery of our educational program has become agile and adaptive to meet the needs of our community while adjusting to the limitations of the current context and the future.

PRINCIPLE 5

Of vital importance is the development of a Growth Mindset allowing our community to turn challenges into opportunities for learning.

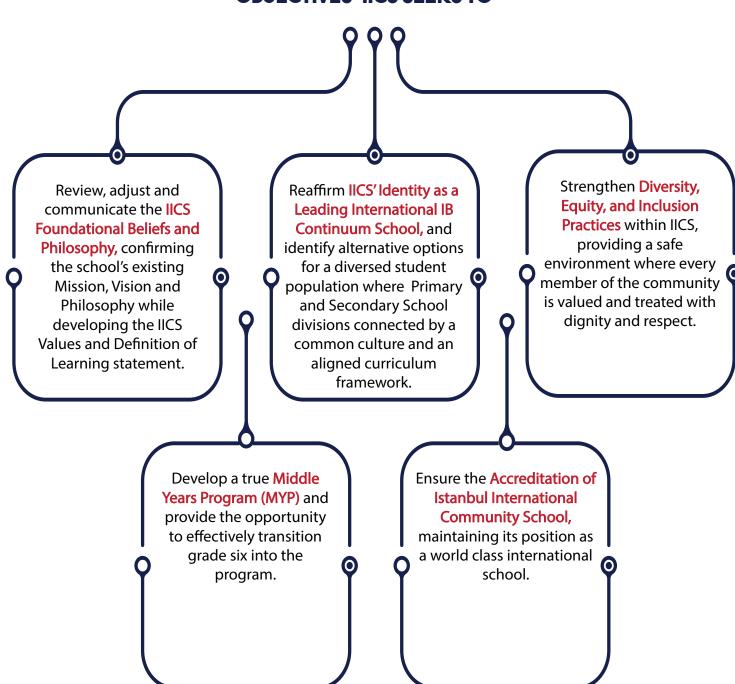
### **IICS IDENTITY**

Istanbul International Community School is an International Baccalaureate School in Istanbul with a century-long tradition of academic excellence. IICS is an independent, co-educational day school offering a full IB program from pre-kindergarten (ages 3) to grade 12 (ages 18) for international students in Istanbul, Turkey.

#### SCHOOL WIDE GOAL: (WHAT?)

Provide a high quality educational program based on academic excellence and a transformative student experience for our diverse student community.

#### **OBJECTIVES: IICS SEEKS TO**

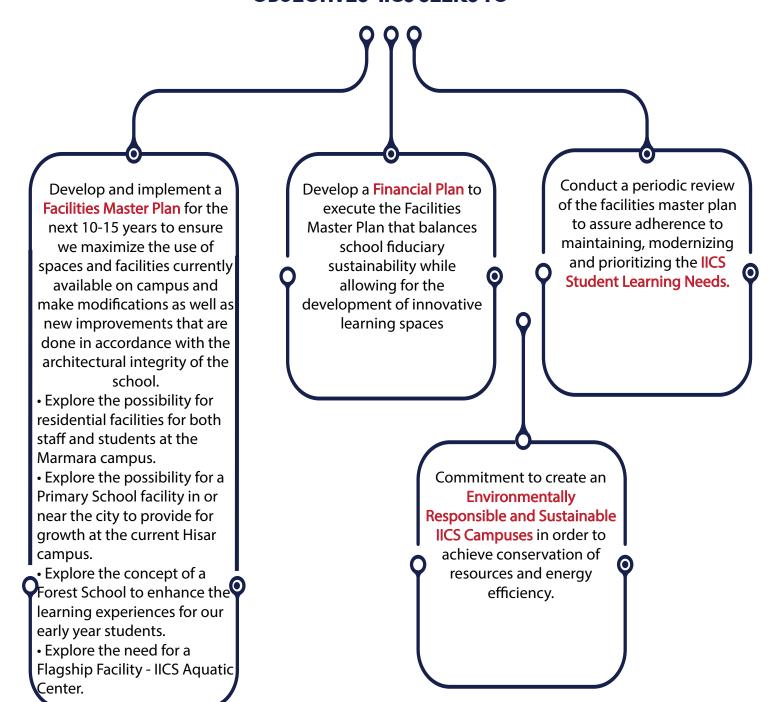


## **IICS FACILITIES**

#### **SCHOOL WIDE GOAL**

To ensure that the campuses and facilities are designed, built and improved with the students and community interests and needs in mind, creating a harmonious, future oriented, versatile, safe, sustainable, operationally efficient and integrated environment geared to enhance learning and play in Istanbul International Community School.

#### **OBJECTIVES: IICS SEEKS TO**

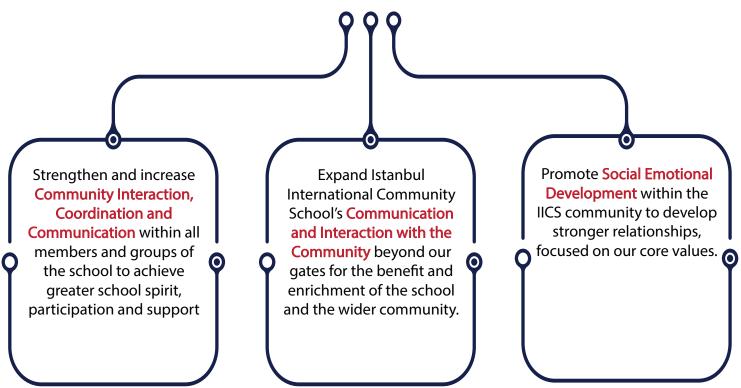


## **IICS COMMUNITY**

#### **SCHOOL WIDE GOAL**

To strengthen the IICS Community in order to further the growth of individuals in intellectual, creative, and leadership dimensions by strengthening the connections among the stakeholders: staff, students, parents, alumni and their respective families and surrounding institutions and communities.

### OBJECTIVES: IICS SEEKS TO



### **IICS TEACHING & LEARNING**

#### SCHOOL WIDE GOAL

Istanbul International School will create authentic, meaningful and relevant learning experiences that connect to real life, and result in the development of new understanding for all its students. Learning will be consistently monitored and celebrated as a learning community.

#### **OBJECTIVES: IICS SEEKS TO Professional Learning -**Develop an Learning Innovation -Empower educators with the knowledge, skills, and organizational **Definition** Development and resources to create engaging, of Learning that is aligned implementation of effective, and with Istanbul innovative approaches, student-centered learning **International Community** spaces, tools, and experiences that meet the diverse needs of all learners. School's core values, techniques that enhance Our program aims to foster a vision and mission deeper, relevant, and culture of collaboration, statements. meaningful learning. reflection, and innovation, to support continuous improvement and growth for both educators and students. Learning Engagement -Create an Assessment & Foster a positive and **Grading Philosophy** in all collaborative school culture that supports the divisions that aligns with continuous growth and the vision, mission and development of all philosophy of Istanbul stakeholders, including **International Community** students, teachers, staff, School. and parents, through targeted initiatives and programs that enhance

engagement, communication, and learning.

### **IICS TEACHER EXCELLENCE**

#### SCHOOL WIDE GOAL

To develop a shared understanding of, and a commitment to excellence in teaching and learning, and to identify systems and structures that would allow for the hiring, support, training, and retention of a teacher/learner that will enable us to continue and enrich the IICS experience.

#### **OBJECTIVES: IICS SEEKS TO** Clarify and share the IICS Review, prioritize, develop, **Orientation Process to** define and communicate Develop the "IICS Teacher ensure the community all aspects of the IICS Profile" and include clear **Recruiting Process to** understands and supports descriptions used to the best way to onboard include roles, define and measure new faculty and staff. responsibilities and quality expectations for optimal timeline to attract the teachers at the teachers who best fit the school. teacher profile as outlined in the profile of an excellent teacher at IICS. **Promote Continuous** Implement an Objective Improvement in Teaching **Professional Growth &** and Learning, ensuring **Evaluation Process to** that the structures are in ensure that each of its place to support the teachers is evaluated on a career development of its consistent basis, using faculty through internal formal procedures and collaboration, mentoring, that the evaluation process coaching, and professional is carried out with fidelity. development allowing for

teaching excellence at the school.



#### **Hisar Campus:**

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For all inquiries contact us at: communications@iics.k12.tr

Find out more online at:





IICS is the only Early Years 3 through Grade 12 international school in Istanbul fully authorized and globally accredited by the IB, CIS and NEASC. IICS is a full member of ECIS and CEESA.

