School Digital Strategy Leader

Join one of the most dynamic & innovative IB schools in the UAE

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The Swiss International Scientific School in Dubai (SISD) is a leading international day and boarding school where future generations are inspired to become confident and enthusiastic lifelong learners, ready to embrace the opportunities and challenges of a global world. Founded in 2015, our school currently welcomes more than 1800 students of more than 90 different nationalities on its cutting-edge campus, in the centre of Dubai. From Pre-KG to Grade 12, SISD follows the full continuum International Baccalaureate (IB) programme in three streams focusing on personalised learning and the development of 21st century skills. Students choose between the English with additional languages/STEAM stream or the bilingual English-French/German streams. We pride ourselves on being a fully accredited IB Continuum World School, offering the IB Primary Years Programme (PYP), IB Middle Years Programme (MYP), IB Careers Programme (IB CP) and IB Diploma Programme (DP). Our personalised international curriculum offers an engaging learning experience, the challenge of developing a real understanding of cultural diversity and the support of a thriving international community. Our state of the art, eco-friendly campus adjacent to Dubai creek, ensures that we can offer a wide range of sporting and after school activities tailored to the personal needs and preferences of every student.

Job Title	Digital Strategy Leader	Department	Whole School
Start Date	August 2023	Location	Dubai, UAE
Reports to	Deputy Head of School (Teaching & Learning)	Direct reports	

Job Scope	The School Digital Strategy Leader is a key member of the Academic School Leadership Team and will take responsibility for setting the strategic direction and implementation of Digital Technologies to support a 21st Century education for the academic development of all students through innovation and technology. He/she will take responsibility for overseeing the provision of high-quality digital learning and teaching protocol, assuming responsibility for the academic enrichment of students across the school. He/she will always conduct himself/herself in an appropriate professional manner to support and foster the aims and ethos of SISD.

Main Duties and Responsibilities	Main Duties and Responsibilities
	This not an exhaustive list of all duties/responsibilities:
	Leadership
	• Inspire and lead the development, communication, and implementation of a shared vision for the comprehensive use of technology to support education that includes information literacy, programming, design thinking, and innovative learning environments.
	• Define and implement a multi-year strategic plan to implement the school's vision for digital technology and innovation.
	• Oversee continued development of all digital teaching and learning (including writing and implementation of curriculum initiatives) through training, mentoring, classroom observation, professional development, departmental meetings, targeted sessions.
	• Work alongside the IT Department to ensure that the software and hardware infrastructure of the school can support the digital vision of the school and to secure the safety of students and digital tools used
	• Proactively research methods of enhancing teaching and learning to ensure that the school stays abreast of developments in 21st Century learning across the technology sector
	• Oversee online and blended learning, future-proofing the school in a context where transformational use of technology can accelerate student progress
	• Lead in representing the school externally, taking part in conferences and keeping up to date with digital trends, research, and transformational use of technology.
	Direction and School Culture
	To work with the PLT and SSLT to:
	• Lead on developing a whole school approach to digital learning and teaching tools
	• Provide staff with training and support so they can play a part in enhancing students' personal development, through innovation and technology
	• Ensure a culture of staff professionalism with digital tools
	• Lead on teacher development ensuring all teachers are supported and challenged with clear, measurable improvement objectives
	• Develop school improvement for school inspection and authorization processes such as KHDA, IBO, CIS
	• Develop and implement policies and practices reflecting the school's commitment to high standards
	• Share expertise and bring positive benefits to the school by working with outside agencies and stakeholders including other schools and organizations
	• Support the review and implementation of subject development
	Student Achievement
	To work with the PLT and SSLT as well as with Designated Safeguarding Lead to:
	• Lead on enhancing digital learning environment and its use as the additional adult
	• Create a culture where students experience a positive and enriching school life with digital support and assistive technology
	Assessment Support and Logistics
	• Work in collaboration with the leadership team to implement an assessment policy reflecting expectations of the Academic Digital Plan

	• Set KPIs (key performance indicators) for both long and short-term goals for the implementation of the Academic Digital Plan. • Support the effective procurement of digital aids reflecting expectations of the Academic Digital Plan • Seek user feedback from users, teaching staff and students and measure the impact and effectiveness of the strategies implemented **Teaching and Learning** Work with the PLT and SSLT teams to • Provide a model of very good teaching and learning practice according to the Academic Digital Plan with high standards of behaviour, work, and attainment, commensurate with each students' ability • Promote a positive ethos of high expectations of teaching and learning through innovation and technology • Undertake training and professional development as appropriate • Follow up on student performance data, paying particular attention to disadvantaged groups such as those with special educational needs, or who speak English, French or German as an additional language • To support and develop all elements of inclusion to ensure the learning needs of all students are met **Communication** • To assist in raising the profile of the whole school within the community, Dubai, GCC and internationally with the Academic Digital Plan • Promote student well-being, and curriculum knowledge and understanding with the Academic Digital Plan • To maintain a visible, approachable, and welcoming profile for teaching Staff • To actively promote constructive and professional working relationships with the teaching Staff
Key Relationships	
Internal	Students, Teachers, Curriculum Coordinators, Subject and Grade Learning Coordinators, Heads of Departments, PLT and SSLT, Head of Phases 1 and 2 and Secondary School, Curriculum Coordinators, Principal and Deputy Head of School (Teaching and Learning)
External	Parents, KHDA, IB, other IB schools

Position Requirements	
Education	• Bachelor of Science Degree Information Technology or related subjects • Professional Teaching Qualification • Relevant recent professional development that qualifies the candidate for this post
Experience	• Extensive international secondary teaching experience of at least 5 years • Leadership experience of at least 2 years • Experience of implementing and leading digital technology in a school environment • Proven track record of excellence and tangible outcomes • Evidence of outstanding teaching practice • Experience of working in an international environment is preferred, however not essential.

	• Experience in using technology in the classroom and online to maximize student learning experience.
Competencies	• A positive, flexible, 'can do' work ethic. • A commitment to ensuring high standards of teaching and learning • Project management Skills • Excellent communication skills as well as high written and oral capabilities • Respect for all members of a school • Strong collaboration skills to foster partnerships with teachers, students, and parents • A clear personal philosophy on digital education and how this informs practice • A genuine interest in progressive, inclusive student-centred approaches to pedagogy • An interest in social enterprise, charity, and service learning, and how these can be embedded formally into the curriculum. • A desire to be involved in the life of the school beyond the classroom and an understanding of the importance of this to student learning • Excellent standards of personal presentation. • Enjoyment of working in a positive, collaborative team environment with the values of honesty, integrity, and mutual support at the core. • An enthusiasm for engaging with diverse cultures tempered only with high levels of patience and adaptability • Inter-culturally aware with well-developed interpersonal skills. • The ability to think strategically and work collaboratively • Ability to drive and manage positive change in the community
Salary & Benefits	Competitive remuneration and benefits
Contract	Fixed Term contract
Application	**Candidates are requested to submit the following documents**: • Cover letter of one page, explaining your strengths as a candidate and why you are interested in this position • Current CV not to exceed two pages • 3 professional references with current contact details (position, phone number and e-mail address) not older than 5 years. One must be your current or last Line Manager Please send your application to: hr@sisd.ae Closing date: 1 December, 2022 Due to the expected volume of applications, we will only contact those applicants that are shortlisted for interview. We reserve the right to appoint before the closing date. We are committed to providing a safe and happy environment for all our employees and in which our students can thrive and learn. We are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all our employees and students. All employees are subject to appropriate vetting procedures including satisfactory criminal record checks from both country of residence/home country and any other country of residence.

> I have had the pleasure of working in both the Primary setting and the Secondary setting at SISD and feel privileged to get to do the work I do for such an outstanding

I have had the pleasure of experiencing first -hand, the development of the French/ English bilingual stream at SISD, which has grown and developed and is now fully embedded in students' daily lives. Students naturally speak both French and English in our classroom and it has been a joy to see students' progress in multiple languages. I have worked at SISD for 5 years as an English teacher, KG2 coordinator and now Grade 1 coordinator. I have had such a positive experience working in both the Early Years and Primary schools and have enjoyed co - teaching with some incredible teachers.

I think SISD has a vibrant faculty with outstanding facilities and infrastructure. The environment is an inspiring workplace with a warm community of staff, parents, and students alike.

- *Samantha Hodges, Deputy Head of Primary (Student Achievements)*