



Head of School Vacancy

August 2025 Start Date

The Lanna International School, Chiang Mai, Thailand, is seeking expressions of interest for the position of Head of School to lead a highly skilled and experienced collaborative staff for a start date of August 2025.





Vision Statement

We aim to provide academic excellence within a caring community.

Mission statement

We follow a broad British curriculum and seek to enable our students to achieve their full potential and become creative, responsible, and successful citizens.

Overview

Chiang Mai is nestled amongst a subtropical mountainous region of northern Thailand. It is Thailand's second largest city, and the old capital of the ancient kingdom of Lanna. It is an unusual mix of ancient and modern and attracts visitors and permanent residents from around the world. We are located an hour flight north of Bangkok and a three hours flight from Hong Kong. Lanna International School was established in 1993 and has grown into a fully accredited international school with over 950 students. It is commonly referred to as LANNA.

LANNA is an established examination centre for Cambridge Assessment International Examinations and Edexcel Pearson. The school offers a full range of Cambridge IGCSE and A-level courses, as well as a selection of Edexcel A-level courses. Lanna International School Thailand is licensed by the Thai Ministry of Education and it is accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges for Early Years (Kindergarten) through to Year 13 education. LANNA is also a member of the East Asia Regional Council of Overseas Schools (EARCOS), a member of the International School Association of Thailand (ISAT), and a candidate school with the Federation of British International Schools in Asia (FOBISIA).

Applications before May 25, 2024 by email to stefansjodin@lannaist.ac.th



LANNA INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL THAILAND
166 Moo 10, Baan Waen, Chiang Mai, 50230

School Website: <https://www.lannaist.ac.th>
+66 52000838



The Students

Our student body has grown rapidly over the past 5 years from 450 to 950 students. Our students are truly international with 41 different nationalities represented. Our top two nationalities are Thai and Chinese. Parents come from a diverse demographic and socio-economic spectrum. With the new campus nearly being completed, our target student enrolment is 1200+ students.

The Staff

LANNA currently employs around 100 highly qualified and experienced academic staff from 18 countries, including the UK, Canada, China, Australia, Hong Kong, Thailand, and the United States, and a range of administration and support staff. Through intentional and thoughtful recruitment, we have attracted a highly skilled staff from diverse backgrounds while maintaining the British education experience and expertise necessary to meet our curricular demands. All teachers must be suitably qualified and experienced, preferably with British Curriculum experience and a British PGCE. The recruitment process includes rigorous professional and security checks.

The Leadership Team

The LANNA Leadership Team consists of highly experienced administrators and school programme coordinators. The administration team includes the Head of School, Deputy Head of School / Primary Principal, Secondary Principal, Chief Operating Officer, and Director of School. Programme coordinators include the Head of High School, Head of Middle School, DP Primary, DP Early Years, Head of Departments, Student Support Leads, EAL Leads, STEAM Leads, Curriculum Coordinators (IPC, IEYC), and an Athletics Director.

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The Curriculum

Our innovative curriculum ensures students are best prepared for the future by cultivating skills and attitudes that enable lifelong learning and caring for the community. By aligning pedagogy, curriculum, and core values - our mission is to develop socially responsible lifelong learners who can problem-solve, think critically, and make positive changes in our global community within a safe and caring environment.

The Lanna International School offers the British curriculum based on key stages with the IEYC, IPC programmes as the cornerstone for Early Years to Year 6. Key stage 3 for Years 7-9 Middle School learning. IGCSE and A levels are offered to Years 10-13. In addition to core A-level studies, the school offers preparatory courses for SAT (USA College Board) and IELTS (UK alternative to TOEFL), and, optionally, a UK accredited Sports Leadership course and/or the opportunity to undertake the Duke of Edinburgh International Award, potentially all the way through to gold level.

The Professional Learning

The Professional Development Programme at LANNA provides opportunities for staff to improve their knowledge and skills. It is an integral part of assisting employees to pursue a passion for teaching and further develop their enthusiasm as lifelong learners. These valuable and diverse opportunities serve to empower staff to achieve their full potential and, ultimately, improve teaching, student learning, and student success. Teacher salaries and benefits are benchmarked and comparable to schools in the region.

The Campus

LANNA has experienced a high demand for places in recent years and has responded by expanding the school provision. Consequently, we moved our Primary school to a new campus in 2018, followed by Early Years in 2019, and the Secondary school in 2023. The new campus has allowed us to open new classes and new programmes to offer families the educational opportunity they are seeking for their children. The school boasts a new Gymnasium and Swimming Pool complex, allowing us to provide a great physical education experience as well as athletic teams and an after-school activity programme. The swimming pool is the first and only chemical free designed public swimming complex in Chiang Mai, leading the way with our sustainability goals at LANNA.

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The Early Years School

We were very pleased to open the new Early Years Centre next to the Primary School Campus in 2019. The campus is a wonderful learning environment with dedicated indoor and outdoor learning spaces that instill a love of learning in our students and encourage curiosity and student-centered learning. The facility includes modern teaching classrooms, a space for specialist classes, an assembly space, a play area, and a dining facility designed especially for our youngest learners. With a strong focus on the philosophy and practices of Reggio Emilia, the EY Centre has an outdoor experiential learning plan designed to engage children in a wide variety of outdoor play.

The Primary School

In 2018, our Primary students and teachers had the privilege of opening LANNA's new campus in Hang Dong, Chiang Mai. Several buildings comprise the Primary School and harmonize gracefully with the green scenery of rice fields in the surrounding area. Apart from classrooms, the three storey buildings contain specially designed spaces for music, drama, and STEAM lessons. The primary library is purpose-built and designed to be spacious and flexible. Moveable shelving means that furniture can be moved to adapt to different situations, and the book stock is professionally selected to support learning, reflect students' interests, and embed a culture of reading for pleasure. Several playgrounds and green areas surround the buildings. The site features a wide and elegant assembly hall, a football field, and basketball courts.

The Secondary School

This year we were able to fully transition all students to the Hang Dong Campus with the secondary moving into two fully purpose-built learning centres with science labs, music rooms, a black box theatre, a 6th Form common space, and general classrooms connected with TV monitors, digital devices and robust internet connectivity. There are plans to build one further building (the Innovation Building) that will permanently house the secondary library, STEAM labs, music studios, and 6th form common area, and multi-purpose professional development theatre.

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The Position

The Lanna International School seeks a new Head of School with the experience, skills, knowledge, and enthusiasm to lead the school through its next phase. The Head of School is expected to deepen the shared vision, which inspires and motivates students, staff, and other school community members. He or she must be forward-focused, committed to collaboration, resourceful, and resilient when challenges occur. The ability to direct the school's vision and maintain a strong leadership team is essential. He or she must be passionate about student learning and understand the unique needs of teaching, learning, and living abroad.

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Head of School Profile

Having developed into a very successful school with a caring community, we are seeking a visionary leader who can build on the current achievements, recognize the school's strong community belonging, and lead the school to become the top choice for parents in northern Thailand by aligning with the School Vision.

Education

- Academic qualifications in school administration through a Master's or Doctoral degree and leadership experience
- Valid teaching certificate required

Experience

- Previous experience in an international school as a senior administrator with preference given to Head of School experience (preference 5-10 years of leadership experience or more),
- Experience with the British curriculum and IGCSE/A-levels,
- Experience leading in two or more school levels (e.e., EY, Pri, Mid, Sec),
- International teaching experience is required, with preference given to experience in an Asian context.

Skills and Talents

- To understand the mechanisms which create empathy and kindness, and how this relates to building and sustaining a caring community,
- Strong educational leadership capacity - curriculum implementation, building, teacher capacity, implementing student services, and attaining high academic achievement,
- Management skills are essential – financial planning, budgeting, scheduling, curriculum mapping, program planning, developing policy, and implementing school structures,
- Strong organizational skills and orientation to optimise school resources,
- Commitment to building a learning community with all stakeholders and developing a strong team within the school,
- Excellent interpersonal and communication skills,

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Skills and Talents

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- Excellent interpersonal and communication skills,
- Ability to encourage professional debate and to consider multiple perspectives,
- Ability to work effectively and collaboratively with students, parents, staff, the community and the Board,
- Proven ability for school and program development,
- Proven ability to develop and implement school policies,
- A deep understanding of educational trends and innovative approaches to learning in PreNursery to Year 13.

Personal Characteristics

- Present, Being Visible, Being There,
- Active listener to students, staff, and parents,
- Passionate about student learning,
- Dynamic, resourceful, and visionary,
- Superior public speaking and communication skills,
- High capacity for working with technology,
- Receptive to new ideas and able to initiate, implement, and manage continuous development,
- High levels of integrity and professionalism,
- Capacity to develop and nurture students, staff, and other members of the school community,
- Able to manage conflict and make decisions,
- Able to problem solve and collaborate,
- Sense of empathy, warmth, and compassion,
- Understands the unique needs of teaching and living abroad.

How to Apply

Interested applicants should submit their curriculum vitae along with three references. Applications should be submitted by email to Stefan Sjodin, Deputy Director, at stefansjodin@lannaist.ac.th before May 25th, 2024. A multiple-stakeholder committee will review short-listed candidates, and interviews will be conducted until a suitable candidate is found. The school reserves the right to make an appointment before the deadline if the right candidate is found. Equally, the school will continue interviewing until a suitable candidate is found. For more information about LANNA, please review www.lannaist.ac.th or contact the HR department at hr@lannaist.ac.th.