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SISB
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PRACHA UTHIT

ALL-NEW
**BOARDING
SCHOOL**

With state-of-the-art facilities at
Singapore International School of Bangkok

- Secondary School • Boarding School
- Auditorium • Sports Complex

Singapore International School of Bangkok (SISB) offers a holistic approach to education

The Singapore and UK curricula provide a solid foundation for teaching and learning at this respected school, which now owns and manages four campuses in Thailand – including a secondary school with boarding facilities in Pracha Uthit

FOR the past 15 years the Singapore International School of Bangkok has been teaching its unique blend of Singapore and UK curricula at its well-equipped campus on Ekkamai Road. The formula has proved so successful that the school now owns and operates two more campuses – Pracha Uthit and Suvarnabhumi – with a fourth slated to open in Chiang Mai by the end of the year.



Through a broad-based and unique multi-lingual curriculum, SISB offers effective learning environments, opportunities and challenges to foster students as lifelong learners and future leaders. With more than 1,500 students of over 30 nationalities, and strong teaching and support staff hailing from over 20 countries, the SISB community is inspired by a global outlook and enriched by cultural diversity

SISB Pracha Uthit is the first International School in Thailand to be formally appointed by the Singapore Examinations and Assessment Board (SEAB) as the official examination centre for the Singapore International Primary School Examination (iPSLE).

The school is also an approved centre certified by Cambridge International Examinations (CIE) to conduct IGCSE, AS and A Levels examinations.

SISB Pracha Uthit is certified by the Ministry of Education of China as a Hanban centre to conduct Chinese proficiency tests for students, and is fully accredited by the Council of International Schools (CIS) as well as the New England Association of Schools & Colleges (NEASC).

Recognised by The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award Scheme, SISB is an Independent Operator for the world's leading youth achievement award programme.

"SISB continues in its effort to provide a quality education to its students from nursery to kindergarten and subsequently right up to the advanced level," says the Head of School, Victor Giam. "Other than



classroom lessons, students are provided with various experiential learning such as enrichment programmes and extra-curricular activities within and outside the school, including overseas learning journeys to develop sound values, life skills, leadership skills, confidence, resilience, teamwork, cultural awareness and compassion for the less fortunate."

SISB's Ekkamai campus continues to provide nursery to primary 2 education while the Pracha Uthit campus provides nursery education right up to Year 13 (UK Cambridge Advanced Level). Suvarnabhumi campus provides nursery to primary education.

To meet the demands of an ever increasing student population, SISB recently expanded its Pracha Uthit campus to provide state-of-the-art facilities to its students.

These facilities include: an ultra-modern academic block set over six floors, a two-storey sports hall, a swimming pool, two boarding

residences, and a performing arts centre housing a 500-seater concert hall, music rooms, art rooms and a recording studio. "This will thus free up the rooms in the existing buildings for the primary section where the student population is also increasing," explains Mr Giam.



SISB has established its reputation as a trusted brand for quality education in Thailand and continues to grow as an organisation dedicated to providing a world class education.

For more information visit www.sisb.ac.th

Meet the boarding master: Stewart Ross

SISB's Head of Boarding explains the benefits of living on campus

• **As Head of Boarding at SISB's Pracha Uthit campus** my role is to ensure that our boarding programme provides students with a home away from home environment that is challenging, culturally enriching and supportive. Students are accepted into our two Boarding Houses from Primary 3 to Year 13. The wide age range helps to promote the House ethos of Service and Leadership by encouraging older students to look out for others in the lower year groups, thereby creating a House with a warm caring atmosphere within which all students can thrive.

• **Realising that our students and their families have a variety of needs** with regards to accommodation, we offer both Weekly (Monday to Friday) and Full Boarding (seven day) options. Located within the newly expanded Secondary Campus of the school, the two Boarding Houses provide a modern, comfortable and safe environment for our students who choose to board with us.

• **Having spent my formative school years at boarding schools** in England and the United States, I feel that I >>





>> understand what it is like to be both a regular boarder as well as an international student in boarding. Both groups of students bring with them different emotional needs, expectations and cultural adjustment requirements. Meeting these needs is the main challenge that my boarding staff and I have to cater to in the early part of the academic year. Success, you might say, would be to have created a harmonious, happy and challenging living environment that complements and enriches both a boarder's school and homelife.

• **The fact that Thai culture is vibrant, flexible and highly adaptive** adds a very special dimension to a boarding experience in this country compared to one in the West. Our regular day students represent many regions of the world, and whilst we aim to reflect this international flavour in our Boarding Houses there will still be an underlying Thai foundation of friendliness, respect, fun, and a family atmosphere. All of these qualities combine to help create a boarding culture that is first and foremost international within the framework of one of the most accommodating, unique and attractive cultures in the world.

• **Our new state-of-the-art Boarding Houses** within a self-contained Secondary campus allow our boarders, whether they are in Secondary or Primary, to have use of the new sports facilities, which include a six floor sports block, sports field and swimming pool. A typical schedule for a weekly boarder would consist of opportunities to participate in Extra-Curricular Activities (ECAs) at the end of the day in both sport and the arts. After their ECAs, boarders would have dinner and then attend Study Hall when they would be required to do their homework.

• **With the Full Boarding programme**, care is taken to balance the pursuit of academic excellence with providing our students opportunities to take part in fun activities with their peers that they would not normally experience in their daily lives. Therefore, a typical weekend could include wake boarding at the nearby watersports facilities, golf, Thai boxing training, a trip to the shopping mall to see a movie or a trekking trip to a national park.

• **SISB's strong academic foundations help prepare our students academically** when applying to universities and colleges worldwide. The boarding programme helps to extend that education to enhance their leadership skills, self-confidence, resilience, and self-reliance.

• **Studies conducted by The American Boarding School's Association (TABS)** have shown that a child who has been a boarder is considerably better prepared to succeed at University compared to a day student. When a student attends University some of the main stressors that they have to deal with are: living away from home, maintaining their own living area, adhering to a schedule without parental guidance, homesickness and living with other students 24 hours a day. The advantage that ex-boarders have is that they have already experienced and dealt with these issues, often years ago, and are therefore better able to focus on their academic studies than their non-boarding counterparts.

• **Studies conducted by TABs have found that** boarders are able to devote at least twice as much time to their academic studies than their day student counterpart. This is due to the more stringent adherence to Study Hall opportunities and inhouse support.

• **Currently, only the SISB Pracha Uthit campus has boarding**, but we do have plans to expand to other campuses as the need arises. Parents are becoming increasingly aware of the benefits of a boarding experience for their children and we are committed to providing them with this opportunity.

• **Having overseen the establishment of the sailing programme**, both in the Primary and Secondary sections of our school, I shall be aiming to offer our newly trained sailors the opportunity to compete against students from other international schools in Thailand and the ASEAN Region. Our newly established International Award Programme, which helps guide students in arranging their own jungle treks, kayaking trips and sailing expeditions, will certainly support our students in becoming the well rounded global citizens of the future.

Stewart Ross in focus

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ITH over 20 years of experience in international education, Stewart Ross began his teaching career in London and moved to Thailand in 1997 when he was offered a position with Redeemer International School (RIS) in Bangkok. Prior to joining SISB, Stewart was a School Counsellor and Teacher at Harrow International School, Bangkok, where he was greatly involved in the Boarding and Outward Bound Programmes. He has also served in Counselling and Teaching positions in International School Bangkok (ISB).

Stewart holds a Master of Education from State University New York, Buffalo, USA; Post Graduate Certificate in Education from University of Surrey, Froebel College, England, and a Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in United States Studies with a Major in US Literature from University of Essex, England. Since 2005 he has been a member of the American School Counsellor Association and Bangkok Counsellors Forum.