



BASIS BILINGUAL SCHOOL
Hangzhou, China

FOUNDING HEAD OF SCHOOL
Start Date: July 1, 2022
basis-global.com



**Carney
Sandoe**
& ASSOCIATES



Mission

To provide our students with a transformative early childhood and K-12 education. With the cutting-edge BASIS Curriculum, through exceptional teaching and faculty mentoring, we will produce graduates who have the broad intellectual and international perspectives, critical thinking capabilities, and creative problem-solving skills to be leaders in their future world.

Vision

With the purpose and mission stated above in mind, BASIS International Schools · China's entrepreneurial vision is to become the largest and most prestigious international school network in China by 2023.

OVERVIEW

BASIS International Schools · China (BIS·C) is the leading network of American-style international and bilingual schools in China. As of August 2021, there are six schools serving over 6,500 students and employing over 700 expat teachers and school leaders. BASIS Bilingual School Hangzhou is set to open in 2023.

BIS·C seeks a dynamic individual to serve as Founding Head of School starting July 1, 2022. The successful candidate will be a highly experienced educational leader who has worked at a well-respected school and will be devoted to the new school's mission and programs. In a community that reveres learning, the Head of School serves as the community's lead educator and head teacher, responsible for supporting the quality of instruction and learning in the classrooms and sustaining a community culture of faculty collegiality and student responsibility. The Head of School is responsible for the hiring of all teachers. This is an exceptional opportunity to lead and build an outstanding international school linked to one of the most successful and dynamic networks of schools in the world.

The Head of School leads the educational life of the school. The Head's work is supported by the firm operational and financial foundation of the [Ascend Organization](#). Its deep experience in school openings and business, facility, marketing, and admissions operations is a crucial advantage for all founding heads.



THE SCHOOLS

All schools in the BIS·C network are driven by a deep commitment to fostering a teacher-led culture of professional excellence. They strive to offer their students the experience of an academically elite American independent school: a liberal arts education in their classrooms is complemented by a rich co-curriculum of sports teams and organizations in which their students discover and develop life-enhancing interests and skills. BIS·C schools offer the intellectually challenging BASIS Curriculum.

Revolutionary and world-renowned, the BASIS Curriculum is recognized as blending rigorous worldwide standards with the ingenuity and creativity associated with American education. As a result, BASIS students are positioned at the very top in the world as measured by their performance on the OECD Test for Schools (based on PISA). Each BASIS Curriculum school offers a wide array of clubs and extracurricular activities, depending on the interests of the students.

Six years after their founding, BIS·C schools have proven their value to parents and students with an outstanding record of university and college acceptances (100% of the Class of 2021 were accepted to a top 50 U.S. university, 84% were accepted to a top 30 university, and 31% were accepted to a top 15 university). The schools also have a reputation for attracting and retaining talented teachers—especially from the United States, Canada, Britain, Ireland, and South Africa—and providing ambitious school leaders with significant professional opportunities.



HANGZHOU, CHINA

Hangzhou is the capital of Zhejiang Province and one of China's most popular travel destinations. With a population of around 10.4 million, the city is located on the lower reaches of the Qiantang River in southeast China and is an hour's journey by train from Shanghai. West Lake is undoubtedly Hangzhou's most renowned landmark, noted for the scenic beauty that blends naturally with its many famous historical and cultural sites. Hangzhou has the largest bicycle sharing system in the world, which makes it easy to commute around the city and enjoy its rich history and culture (the city is one of China's seven ancient capitals and has been designated a "Historic and Cultural City" by the government). Tea culture is an important feature of Hangzhou, as the city is known for producing the most celebrated green tea in China.



OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES

The following are opportunities for the Founding Head of School:

- Leading the founding of a significant new bilingual school in China's international school market.
- Building on the record of a remarkably strong, academically oriented network of schools with high expectations and a unique program.
- Working with the support and resources of BASIS International Schools, China leadership, the experienced network teacher-recruitment team, and the Ascend organization.
- Being able to focus on the educational program, supported by a sophisticated and highly efficient bilingual operational team.
- Working with a committed faculty in teaching a strong, motivated student body.
- Joining the collaborative senior leadership team of the network to guide rapid, sustainable growth.

Challenges for the Head of School will include:

- Building a shared sense of identity, purpose, values, and vision in the founding faculty and leadership team.
- Ensuring that the high expectations of the BASIS Curriculum are matched by the highest levels of faculty support for students.
- Leading a school that provides a blended Chinese National Curriculum/BASIS Curriculum model.
- Establishing an educational culture that meets the needs of the whole child.
- Developing a program of co-curricular activities that attend to social-emotional needs of students.



TO APPLY

Interested and qualified candidates should submit electronically in one email and as separate documents (preferably PDFs) the following materials:

- A thoughtful cover letter expressing the candidate's interest in and fit for this particular position;
- A current résumé;
- A one-page statement of educational or leadership philosophy and practice;
- A list of five professional references with name, phone number, and email address of each. Those five should include: two trustees or direct supervisors, two colleagues (administrators/teachers), and a parent or student. References will not be contacted until or unless a serious mutual interest is established and not without the candidate's permission.

John Chandler

Senior Consultant

john.chandler@carneysandoe.com

Jess Roberson

Search Associate

jess.roberson@carneysandoe.com