



**BASIS INTERNATIONAL  
SCHOOLS · CHINA**  
Shenzhen, China

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**PRIMARY SCHOOL PRINCIPAL,  
BASIS BILINGUAL SCHOOL SHENZHEN**

Start Date: July 1, 2022

[basis-global.com](http://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.

As the first bilingual school in the BASIS Curriculum Schools network, BASIS Bilingual School Shenzhen is located in the heart of Futian District, accommodating 1,800 students from PreK-1 to Grade 12. The school is equipped with state-of-the-art classrooms and teaching facilities including 12 specialized classrooms, black-box theater, sports center, and a natatorium. Fulfilling the mission of BASIS International Schools, BASIS Bilingual School Shenzhen is committed to developing global leaders with extensive knowledge, international horizons, critical thinking capabilities, and creative problem-solving skills.



BIS·C seeks a dynamic individual to serve as Primary School Principal starting July 1, 2022. Reporting to the Head of School, this senior administrative position has overall responsibility for curriculum, faculty and supervision, and student and parent programs for the division. In a community that reveres learning, the Primary School Principal serves as the division'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 Primary School Principal is charged with ensuring continuing excellence of all aspects of the division's operation in the context of the School's mission statement.

With 950 students in the Primary Division, this is an exceptional leadership opportunity in an outstanding international school linked to one of the most successful and dynamic networks of schools in the world. A Head of Lower Primary and a Head of Upper Primary report to the Primary Principal. The position will involve considerable management autonomy.

## 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.



## SHENZHEN, CHINA

Once a small fishing community, over the last four decades Shenzhen has become home to 12.5 million people and has catapulted into a global center for technology, research, manufacturing, and transportation. Dubbed China's "Silicon Valley," Shenzhen is the country's most affluent city and is considered the second financial capital in China.

The city is an outdoor enthusiast's paradise with year-round recreation at popular nearby mountains, hills, beaches and gardens. As the only city in China that provides three modes of transportation, Shenzhen is known as the "Gateway to China," offering comfortable and quick travel options by air, train, or ship.



## OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES

Opportunities for the Primary Principal include:

- Full responsibility for leading a large, complex division of nearly 1,000 students.
- Building on the record of a remarkably strong, academically oriented network of schools with high expectations and a unique program.
- 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 Primary Principal include:

- Collaboratively building a shared sense of identity, purpose, values and vision in the faculty and management team.
- Ensuring that the high expectations of the BASIS Curriculum are matched by the highest levels of faculty support for students.
- Establishing an educational culture that meets the needs of the whole child.



## 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 their 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**

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