



KING
SCHOOL

HEAD OF LOWER SCHOOL SEARCH

KING SCHOOL

Stamford, Connecticut

kingschoolct.org

Start Date: July 2026



**Carney
Sandoe**
& ASSOCIATES

CARNEYSANDOE.COM

Mission Statement

King School prepares students to thrive in a rapidly changing world.

Our students are immersed in an engaging and innovative curriculum anchored in an inquiry-based approach that fosters curiosity, intellectual growth, and character development.

At King, individual accomplishment complements a deep sense of belonging. We embrace diversity in all its forms, nurturing every student to learn and grow in a collaborative and supportive community.

Guided by dedicated educators and a commitment to academic excellence, King students become invested in their journey, develop a lifelong love of learning, and are well-equipped to succeed in college and beyond. They graduate with a global mindset, a strong sense of social responsibility, and the confidence to pursue lives of purpose.

Virtues

- **Integrity:** Being honest and accountable to our shared principles.
- **Kindness:** Treating others with empathy and compassion.
- **Perseverance:** Pursuing excellence with a focus on growth and improvement in the face of challenges.
- **Respect:** Treating every person with dignity through our words and actions.

Overview

King School is a PreK–Grade 12 independent school in Stamford, Connecticut. It serves students from Fairfield and Westchester Counties within a global community with more than 70 countries represented.

Through a dynamic, inquiry-based curriculum, King fosters intellectual curiosity, character development, and global citizenship. Students learn by asking questions, solving real-world problems, and exploring across disciplines, all within an inclusive community that celebrates individuality and cultivates a deep sense of belonging.

King School is seeking a visionary and collaborative Head of Lower School to begin in the summer of 2026 who will lead its PreK-Grade 5 division. This is a compelling opportunity for a thoughtful educator and strategic leader to help shape the future of early childhood and elementary education at a school with a clear mission, a strong foundation, and a bold plan for the years ahead.

As a key member of the senior leadership team, the Head of Lower School will guide the division in alignment with King's Strategic Vision 2025–28, "Recommitting to Excellence: A Bold Vision for Innovation, Belonging, and Impact." This leader will be deeply involved in advancing transformative learning, fostering an inclusive community, and supporting the school's long-term financial sustainability through effective enrollment management and philanthropic engagement, including annual giving and capital campaign efforts.



About the Lower School

King's Early Childhood and Lower School programs provide a joyful and rigorous academic experience grounded in developmental best practices. Inquiry-based instruction anchors the Lower School's pedagogy. An interdisciplinary curriculum challenges students to think critically, collaborate, and solve problems compassionately and creatively.

At King, curiosity leads to exploration, and exploration leads to mastery of foundational skills in all areas of the curriculum. King School's program is an interactive, hands-on experience that nurtures a love of learning and working with others.

Global education is an essential element of the King experience, starting in the earliest years. In the Lower School, students are introduced to multiple cultures and perspectives through interdisciplinary exploration, classroom experiences, and authentic global connections. This foundation cultivates curiosity and empathy and prepares students to engage meaningfully with the world around them.

The recent opening of the purpose-built Early Childhood Center, designed to support a Reggio Emilia-inspired program, underscores the school's commitment to honoring each child's natural curiosity and creativity.

As the first major initiative of King's Campus Master Plan, the Early Childhood Center signals a new chapter in facilities development, ensuring that King's learning spaces reflect the same level of excellence as its academic program.

The culture of the Lower School is shaped by the King Virtues: integrity, kindness, perseverance, and respect, and by a shared commitment to cultivating a safe, inclusive, and nurturing environment for every learner.



Expectations and Responsibilities

Division Leadership and Culture

- Inspire and maintain a joyful, inclusive, and developmentally responsive culture for children and adults alike.
- Promote and lead inquiry-based teaching and learning in early grades that reflects the Reggio Emilia philosophy and project-based, cross-disciplinary learning throughout the division.
- Foster a climate of psychological safety, kindness, and academic ambition for students, faculty, and families.

Program and Faculty Development

- Oversee all day-to-day operations of the Lower School, including curriculum, instruction, student support, and parent engagement.
- Hire, supervise, and professionally develop faculty and staff, supporting a culture of growth, innovation, and collaboration.
- Ensure alignment of lower school programs with institutional strategic goals and educational best practices.
- Support global education programming across grades and disciplines.

Strategic Implementation, Enrollment, and Advancement

- Collaborate with school leadership to advance the Strategic Vision 2025–28, with a particular focus on innovation in teaching and learning, belonging, and financial sustainability.
- Work collaboratively with other division heads and school-wide department chairs to enhance K-12 curriculum alignment.
- Serve as a partner to the advancement team by participating in annual fund and capital campaign fundraising efforts, cultivating relationships with current and prospective families.
- Work with the admission and communications teams to enhance the visibility, value proposition, and reach of the lower school program.
- Serve on the admission committee and assist with screenings to evaluate admission candidates.



Qualifications and Personal Attributes

King seeks a compassionate and forward-thinking leader with a deep love for children and a passion for innovative education. The ideal candidate will be:

- A champion of inquiry-based learning, early childhood education, and child development
- A clear, proactive and effective communicator with all constituent groups
- An advocate for diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging
- A compelling public ambassador and spokesperson for the school's values and programs
- A steward of King School's culture
- A confident community builder who inspires trust and engagement.

Qualifications

- 5+ years of leadership experience in early childhood and elementary education; Experience as a Lower School Division Head is preferred, though not required.
- Bachelor's degree required; master's degree in education or school leadership preferred.
- Proven success with program development, faculty supervision, and instructional leadership
- Experience with Reggio Emilia philosophy, responsive classroom, and inquiry-based methodologies
- Demonstrated ability to engage in fundraising efforts and advance strategic goals
- Strong interpersonal, organizational, and communication skills
- A collaborative leadership style that builds trust and energizes teams
- Ability to develop, articulate, and direct a clear vision for the Lower School
- Ability to prioritize multiple projects and tasks in a fast-paced work environment, including the ability to delegate tasks and responsibilities
- Ability to have and maintain excellent judgment and discretion, especially in regard to issues of confidentiality
- Demonstrate significant experience in professional supervision and talent development
- Strong capacity in cross-cultural competence, the ability to communicate, collaborate, and educate across varied cultures of our diverse learning community
- Demonstrated administrative experience or coursework in administration preferred
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills

Learn More

Click on the links below to learn more about King School.

[School Website](#)

[Lower School Academics](#)

[Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging](#)

[Stamford, Connecticut](#)



To Apply

Interested and qualified candidates are invited to contact the consultant in confidence. Candidates will ultimately need to submit the following materials as separate PDF documents:

- A cover letter expressing their interest in this particular position;
- A current résumé;
- A statement describing your educational philosophy;
- A list of five professional references with name, relationship, phone number, and email address of each (references will not be contacted without the candidate's permission) to:

John Faubert

Director of Placement

john.faubert@carneysandoe.com