



CIS/NEASC/ONESQA Accreditation 6th October 2009

Accreditation Newsletter to the School Community No.1

Accreditation Updates

A new initiative begins as this newsletter comes to you. Bangkok Prep is keen that over the next 15 months all members of the school community are kept fully informed about the school's progress towards the triple accreditation it is seeking including the Thai Quality Assurance through ONESQA at the Ministry of Education.

As the School's Accreditation Team Chairperson, I shall be sending you updates as we go along.

Preliminary Accreditation Visit

The recent Preliminary Accreditation Visit by Mr. Peter Gittins (CIS) and Mr. Leo Martin (NEASC) was very successful.

They have written a comprehensive report about how they found the school was performing in comparison to our own statements related to standards expected in good International Schools. This report will need to be verified by both the CIS Board in Spain and the NEASC Board in USA before it will be released to the school.

However Mr. Gittins and Mr. Martin were able to give a quick debriefing to the management and staff prior to their departure.

Debriefing after Visit

Mr. Gittins said Bangkok Prep has made *“significant and phenomenal growth over the last 12 months. The school now clearly has identity, is buoyant, financially secure and supported by a strong Board.”*

Commendations

There were a number of aspects that the school was commended on. One in particular that stood out was the **high morale** which they found amongst students, parents, staff, the management team and the Board of Directors alike.

Two aspects related to Student Support Services and Student and Community Life were both rated **very good**. We were also complemented on our process for involving the full school community when we drew up our Mission, Vision and Philosophy and Objectives Statements and on the thoroughness of the statements. More specific details of the commendations will be revealed in the report.

Recommendations





23 Sukhumvit 53, Wattana, Bangkok 10110 Tel : 02 260 7890 Fax : 02 662 5444 www.bkkprep.ac.th

A number of recommendations will also be put forward in the report which will indicate areas that the school needs to work on to improve itself. These had already been identified in our strategic planning sessions which took place from January-May 2009 and were generated by all those members of the school community who worked on the strategic planning teams. The areas identified for improvement are already a part of our School Action Plan and have strategies and timeframes for progress.



Next Steps

Once we receive the report we anticipate that the two Boards will recommend that Bangkok Prep enter the next phase of accreditation – Candidacy status for the Self-Study.

Survey

A survey will need to be completed by all stakeholders in the school; parents, students, staff and Board of Directors. The results of the survey will be a valuable starting point for the Self-Study and improvement work.

Self-Study

There will be 7 committees set up, one of which curriculum – will have a number of sub-committees. Parents, students and Board members will be asked to volunteer to work alongside staff on these committees.

Final Report/Team Visit

The aim is for the school to submit a final report in December 2010 and then we would expect a Team Visit comprising of around 9 members representing all 3 accreditation organisations in February/March 2011.

Embracing the Next Stage

Bangkok Prep is ready for the next challenge. We will once again be calling upon all school community members to work with us in the next steps. We know we have a challenge ahead of us but we believe that with a concerted effort from all sides we can meet that challenge and show that Bangkok Prep is a school that can meet International educational standards and that will continue to work towards improvement.

Bangkok Prep – moving towards accreditation

Sarah Brannon
Chairperson School Accreditation Team