

Challenges to Opportunities:

Empowering Teachers to become Bilingual

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Date





In this session we will explore together:

- Where did Cambridge take our school?
- Challenges we faced
- Empowering Teachers to become Bilingual
- Opportunities for teachers



The lead messages should be in all our communications and conversations:

Cambridge Assessment International Education prepares school students for life, helping them develop an informed curiosity and a lasting passion for learning. We are part of the University of Cambridge.

Learn: Schools can shape a Cambridge curriculum around how they want students to learn – with a wide range of subjects and flexible ways to offer them.

Discover: Cambridge programmes inspire students to love learning, helping them discover new abilities and a wider world.

Achieve: Cambridge programmes help students aged 5 to 19 develop the skills they need for life, and to achieve at school, university and work.



Where Did Cambridge Take Our School?

We have implemented Cambridge Curriculum for 8 years, since 2015. Some overview of the changes during this period.

- Student Growth: 330 to 1300
- Staff Growth: 41 to 110
- Bilingual Teacher Growth: 13 to 38
- Foreign Teacher Growth: 2 to 12





Challenges we faced



Challenges

Small number of Mongolian bilingual teachers

- Bilingual teachers almost didn't exist in Mongolia except English language teachers.
- Subject specific teachers who studied abroad are scarce
- Retaining existing teachers and developing them into bilingual teachers
 - Professionally the best teachers
 - Stayed with us for a long time
- Difficult to find foreign teachers for the long term
 - Extreme climate
 - Air pollution
 - Salary level in comparison to developed countries



Empowering Teachers to become Bilingual



Motivation is vital in driving adult professionals to adopt new teaching ways.

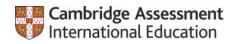
- Encouraging their self-esteem and self-belief
 - Personal development training
- Positive environment
- Preparation for two years
- Achievements of teachers who turned bilingual



Empowering teachers through language skills

Language Training Program for Teachers

- Language training started two years before implementing Cambridge Curriculum
- Conducted in A1-B2 levels to reach bilingual proficiency.
- School English teachers run the courses and are paid for extra hours.
- > The training hours are counted as paid office hours
- School pays all related costs
- Evolved into an ongoing teacher-led program



Empowering teachers through professional development

Peer support programs

- Create an opportunity for teachers to collaborate, share experiences, and exchange ideas by bringing in experienced professionals.
- Engaging workshops
 - Cover relevant topics, innovative teaching methods, and emerging trends.
- Mentoring sessions
 - Provide one-on-one guidance and support.







Empowering teachers through cultural immersion

- International Study Trips
 - Experiencing teaching and learning in bilingual environment
 - Finland, China and USA
- International Cultural Trips
 - Understanding different cultures
 - China, Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam, Hungary and Turkey







Empowering teachers through study abroad

- Teachers and our graduates studied abroad and returned
 - We offered scholarship based on future employment commitment
- Expecting more teachers to pursue higher degrees in English-speaking countries
- Discussions with US-based universities for tailor-made programs



Opportunities for Teachers



Opportunities for Teachers

Advantages of Cambridge Curriculum

- Organised curriculum in contrast with the National Curriculum of Mongolia
- More Time for Teaching and Learning Activities
- Focus on Continuous Professional Development
 - Language proficiency allowed teachers to explore and acquire professional knowledge and skills
 - > Teachers are committed for life-long learning with vast information available in English
- Cambridge PDQ centre is in process to support teachers with appetite for development
- Wide range of academic resources became available for teachers as Mongolian language is spoken by only 4 million people



Opportunities for Teachers

- Autonomy in Teaching Activities and Self-development
 - Freedom in running teaching activities
 - Self-development opportunities with language skills
- Improved Perspective and Social Development
 - Improved self-perspective through bilingual teaching
 - Increased recognition and competence
- Incentive System and Valuing Local Teachers
 - The incentive includes English proficiency
 - Emphasis on developing local teachers over short-term ex-pat teachers



Teacher interviews

- Two teachers speak briefly about their bilingual journey.
 - Teacher 1: Mrs. Yanjinlkham, graduate of Orkhon KhaSu. She returned after earning her degree. Working for five years
 - Mrs. Munkhnasan, who 12 years at Orkhon KhaSu School. As discussed here, she became a bilingual teacher through Orkhon KhaSu's preparation program.







Thank you Any questions?

