



**ST. JOHN'S INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL
MHS LEARNING SUPPORT SPECIALIST**

LOCATION

Waterloo, Belgium

REPORTING LINE

MHS Principal

CONTRACT TYPE

Two-Year Fixed-term, followed by permanent contract after mutual agreement

SCHOOL PHASE

Secondary School (Grades 6 to 12)

SALARY

St. John's internal scale

ADVERT CLOSING DATE

20th February 2019

St. John's BACKGROUND

Founded in 1964 by the *Faithful Companions of Jesus (FCJ)*, St. John's International School joined the Inspired group of schools in September 2016 (<http://inspirededu.co.uk>). St. John's International School is accredited by the Council of International Schools (CIS) and the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools (MSACS), the most recent re-accreditation being in 2012.

- St. John's International School's basic tenant is to offer an international education through a 21st century skills-set and International Baccalaureate pedagogical approach which highlight critical thinking skills, creativity, collaboration and inquiry-based learning.
- Circa 600 students from 55 countries pursue a challenging academic curriculum that includes an emphasis on development in athletics and the arts, all within the context of the ethos and values that make St. John's unique.
- The highly educated, qualified and dedicated international teaching faculty makes the difference for the students at St. John's. Among more than 15 nationalities represented, 20% come from the UK, 23% from the US and 23% from Belgium. More than 50% of the faculty holds advanced degrees.
- St. John's International School is an International Baccalaureate (IB) World School and offers the PYP and Diploma programmes in addition to the American High School Diploma. We are currently in our first year of introducing the MYP programme into Grades 6, 7 and 8, with a view to becoming an IB Continuum School.
- In 2017, the graduating classes had a pass rate of 95.1% and an average of 34.8 points in the IB Diploma Programme.
- The School is a member of the International Baccalaureate Organization (IBO), Council of International Schools (CIS), Educational Collaborative for International Schools (ECIS), Middle States Association for Schools and Colleges, International School Sports Tournament (ISSTs), International Schools Theatre Association (ISTA), and the Association of Music in International Schools (AMIS).
- Campus facilities, academic programmes and extracurricular activities cover a wide-variety of options for students of all ages. St. John's has a strong Service Programme running throughout the entire school.
- English is the language of instruction throughout the school. French is taught in all grades from kindergarten at foreign language and native speakers levels. Spanish, German and Dutch are offered as world languages from Grade 8 onwards. A dual language programme in English and French is offered as an option, currently operating from grades Pre-K through Grade 5. Self-taught mother tongue languages are also offered in Grades 11 and 12.
- St. John's International School has a very strong student support programme available throughout the school.
- St. John's utilizes the Moodle data system and management software (MHS), Studywiz for ES, Net classroom. The school is the process of moving onto the Managebac platform.
- Nearly 100% of High School graduates go on to university and attend prestigious institutions around the world.
- St. John's has rolling admissions.

Please consult our website www.stjohns.be to gain a more detailed sense of the St. John's community.



THE INSPIRED GROUP OF SCHOOLS

Inspired is a premium schools group that owns 28 schools on 4 continents, Europe, Africa, Australia and Latin America and educates over 20,000 students.

A definitive statement of excellence in private education, Inspired is a co-educational, non-denominational, independent school group designed to inspire students to achieve their maximum potential in a nurturing, progressive academic environment from ages 1 to 18.

Inspired offers a fresh and contemporary approach to education by re-evaluating traditional teaching methods and curriculums, and creating a more dynamic, relevant and powerful model reflecting current attitudes. We nurture the unique individuality, talent and self-assurance of each student, equipping them to take on the world with the skills and confidence to ensure success.

Inspired was founded by Nadim M Nsouli (www.inspirededu.co.uk) and has grown by acquisitions and greenfield development of new schools. Inspired has offices in London, Johannesburg, Sydney and Bogota.

Duties of the MHS Learning Support Specialist include:

Teaching and Learning:

- In collaboration with the Learning Support Department Head, devising and delivering appropriate intervention for students with a recognised need for specialist support in literacy, numeracy and general learning skills. This could involve:
 - “pull-out”, targeted teaching to individuals and small groups with emphasis on reading, writing, numeracy and general study skills;
 - “push-in” support in mainstream classes, in accordance with specialist areas of strength.
- Responding as required to acute need for academic support in the long or shorter term by scheduling targeted coaching to enhance the individual student’s performance on the mainstream curriculum through development of conceptual understanding and learning skills (organisation, academic self-sufficiency, reading & writing skills, numeracy, etc.).

Collaborative planning:

- Collaborate with Learning Support colleagues in planning, assessment and reflection.
- Collaborate with Learning Support Team members and faculty on identification of student learning needs and subsequent response.
- Collaborate as required with Learning Support Department Head and other relevant colleagues on diagnostic and educational documentation of in-coming students.
- Collaborate with Learning Support colleagues school-wide to ensure coherence of approach; participate in regular Department meetings arranged by Learning Support Department Head.

Assessment:

- Ensure assessment is integral to planning, teaching and learning throughout the school.
- Use of a range of assessment practices to recognize the individual needs of each student.
- Maintain student assessment data to provide evidence of learning over time.
- Use assessment data to recommend entry to and exit from the EAL programme.
- Collaborate with Learning Support colleagues school-wide to ensure coherence of approach; participate in regular Department meetings arranged by Learning Support Department Head.
- Write Individual Learning Plans (ILP) for students based on their psycho-educational assessments or demonstrated learning needs.





Administrative duties:

- Establish and maintain positive communication with parents, organising meetings as necessary, for the implementation of plan and evaluation of student progress in the light of the ILP.
- On an ongoing basis, update and communicate needs and agreed strategies of Learning Support students to all relevant faculty
- Participate in grade-level team meetings and student support meetings to enhance understanding of and approach to student needs, in order to optimise progress
- Serve as a support and resource to classroom teachers for differentiated learning strategies, engaging in co-planning and co-teaching where appropriate and as scheduling permits

Requirements of the role:

Essential Qualifications and Strengths:

- Expectation of at least three years teaching or associated experience
- Teaching Certificate and MA in Learning Support
- Demonstrated contributions to a positive school environment

Preferred Experience and qualities:

- Successful student leadership experience
- Experience of teaching the MYP
- Proven ability to work with other teachers and administration
- High level of technology skills
- Proven record of successful teaching
- Experience in programmatic development and assessment
- Successful experience in international schools
- Knowledge of and experience working with data to improve student learning outcomes

Additional Strengths:

- Proof of commitment to involvement in school beyond the regular teaching day
- Proven experience of contributing to extra-curricular activities and school visits
- Creative and energetic
- Ability and experience to contribute to and enhance the St. John's image in the local community as well as the greater community of international schools

Desired Personal Characteristics:

- Demonstrates educational leadership and is a role model to faculty and staff
- Demonstrates the ability to develop a collegial, collaborative and positive atmosphere amongst the faculty
- Demonstrates strong interpersonal skills
- Demonstrates excellent communication skills
- Is a life-long learner
- Is flexible and has a sense of humor
- Commitment to putting in additional hours as needed
- Interest in living and working in Belgium





Safeguarding:

St. John's is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and, as an employee of St. John's, you are expected to share this commitment. The protection of our students' welfare is the responsibility of all staff within St. John's and individuals are expected to conduct themselves in a way that reflects the principles and values of our organization.

Terms and conditions

- Date of commencement in the position: mid-August, 2018.
- CV, letter of application (which shows how your experience relates to the categories within the JD and which is no more than two pages in length) and names of three referees to be sent to the school HR Manager, Anne Marchi, at recruitment@stjohns.be by 20th February

