



ST. JOHN'S INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL
MHS SOCIAL/EMOTIONAL COUNSELLOR (0.6 FTE)

LOCATION

Waterloo, Belgium

REPORTING LINE

MHS Principal

CONTRACT TYPE

Fixed-term

SCHOOL PHASE

Secondary School (Grades 6 to 12)

SALARY

SJIS internal scale

ADVERT CLOSING DATE

May 23rd, 2018

SJIS 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 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 speaker 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 Social/Emotional Counsellor include:

The MHS Social/Emotional Counsellor works within the St John's Middle High School five-point pastoral framework: Maintenance of an orderly and supportive school environment, Preventative Pastoral Care; Pastoral curriculum; Reactive pastoral case work and Administration.

Preventative Pastoral Care:

- Presentations: deliver parent presentations during the school day on relevant topics as they come up through the year – for example: wellbeing, anxiety and depression awareness, addiction, sexuality and relationship issues, transition.
- Organise and deliver staff development on adolescent wellbeing issues as required.
- Preventive counselling: in the areas of social/emotional and/or academics, including - developmental concerns, self-awareness, decision making, depression and anxiety, eating disorders, anger management, addiction, substance abuse, loss, bullying, crisis, personal conflicts, motivation, study skills, test interpretation, test taking skills, goal setting, support plans.
- Work with the IB Coordinators to ensure smooth transitions from 5th/6th Grade, 8th/9th Grade and 10th/11th grade.
- Attend Professional Development, network with colleagues at other schools and serve on related committees and teams. Develop and update an external crisis network to support the needs of our students in the areas of social and emotional wellbeing and the hosting of an annual network meeting at SJIS.
- Transitions beyond St John's: prepare students and their families for saying good-bye. This includes liaising with families and new schools, arranging testing and hosting group and individual meetings with students who are leaving.
- Orientation and welcome: at the beginning of the year; organize and run all testing for new students and the orientation of students to Grades 6-8. Throughout the year, monitor and check-in with new students in the MHS and their parents. As new students arrive during the academic year, organise their welcome and orientation to St John's.

Pastoral Curriculum:

- Co-develop and co-deliver the Pastoral program with the grade level leaders and Advisors in collaboration with the Assistant Principal Student Life.



- Work with the other part-time Counsellors in such a way as to develop a coherent and thorough through-school pastoral and counseling programme that aligns with CIS/MSA Accreditation standards.

Reactive Pastoral Case Work:

- Attend weekly meetings to discuss both social-emotional and academic student concerns.
- Contribute as a key member of the child safeguarding committee, and advise the Leadership Team on appropriate responses in the event of a significant incident in the school or community.
- Ensure proactive and regular communication with parents on a needs basis. Refer students to appropriate therapists for social/emotional issues as and when needed.

Administration

- Organise with the Learning Support Department, Standardised testing in Grades 6-8.
- Other duties may be assigned on a needs basis by the Principal or Assistant Principal Student Life.

Requirements of the role:

Essential Qualifications and Strengths:

- Sensitive and caring individual able to manage challenging situations with youngsters in an experienced and professional manner
- Appropriate graduate or post-graduate qualifications in Counselling or related area
- Demonstrated contributions to building a positive school environment
- Proven ability to work with teachers and administration
- Successful experience in international schools or a highly multi-cultural environment
- Proof of commitment to involvement in school beyond the regular teaching day
- Proven experience and success with student engagement
- Proven experience and success with parent and community engagement
- Creative and energetic
- Ability and experience to contribute to and enhance SJIS's image in the local community, as well as the greater community of international schools

Preferred Experience and qualities:

- Expectation of at least five years of secondary counselling experience
- Demonstrated contributions to a positive school environment
- Mother-tongue level of English language (spoken and written), other languages an advantage
- Demonstrates educational leadership and is a role model to students, 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 humour
- Commitment to putting in additional hours as needed

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 Wednesday 23rd May 2018.

