



**Stockholm
International
School**



Strategic Plan

2021–2024



Contents

Meeting modern needs	3
Our guiding principles	4
Vision	5
Mission	5
Values	6
Global Citizenship	6
Definition of Learning	6
Making it happen	7
A framework for success	8
Community	9
Teaching and Learning	9
Talent	10
Legacy and Development	10
About this strategic plan	11

Meeting modern needs

Stockholm International School (SIS) is entering a year of celebration marking 70 years since it was founded in 1951. Over that time the School has become a significant part of the fabric of Stockholm life, educating the children of diplomatic, corporate, and academic communities, and preparing them for life as global citizens.

Just as the city of Stockholm has changed significantly over that time, and continues to do so at pace, so does SIS. We constantly refresh our teaching offering, and our thinking on how best to cater for the needs of our community, and plan for a sustainable and successful future for the School.

As part of this we regularly review our strategic plan, revisiting our mission, vision, and values, to make sure that they continue to serve our students and their parents, and meet the educational needs of modern society.

... the plan looks forward to 2024. It catalogues the principles we will adhere to, and some of the practical initiatives we will pursue, as we continue to ensure that SIS remains an essential part of Stockholm's 'infrastructure'

SIS today and tomorrow

SIS is flourishing. The Stockholm region's position as the major economic driver within the Swedish economy, coupled with the city's international appeal, continues to draw talent from across the globe to live and work in the area. This has led to a steady increase in the number of students at SIS, which currently stands at almost 800.

With the OECD predicting a rise in Swedish GDP of around 3-4% in each of the next two years, international mobility is only likely to increase demand for places from families relocating to the region. In response, SIS will establish a campus to allow us to satisfy the needs of that growing community, able to accommodate increased numbers, with spaces reimagined for delivery of a 21st century education, embracing the full continuum of the International Baccalaureate Programme.

A beacon of excellence

With that in mind, this current version of the plan looks forward to 2024. It sets out the principles we will adhere to, and some of the practical initiatives we will pursue, as we continue to ensure that SIS remains an essential part of Stockholm's 'infrastructure' and enhances its contribution to the wellbeing of our own community and of Swedish society.

We want SIS to be recognised as the go-to choice for international Early Years to 12th Grade students and their families. We want SIS to remain a trusted and integral part of Stockholm employers' offering when inviting talent to live and work in the city. And we want SIS to shine as a beacon of excellence, relevance, and best practice in education.



María Isabel León, Director,
on behalf of the Board of Trustees and the Senior Leadership Team



Our guiding
principles

Matters of principle

Our strategic plan does not exist in isolation. Whatever the ambitions of the school, they need to embrace external factors and influences and fit in with our sense of mission and our vision of what we want to be and the impact we want to have.

To guide us on this journey, and help us make the day-day decisions that affect the impact we make, the Steering Committee that created this plan, which included members of all our stakeholder groups, recognised the need to revisit our existing operating principles that define how we go about working towards our goals. As a result the Committee set about defining the values that the school should adhere to and added them as an important element of the strategic plan.

The Vision, Mission, and Values, together with our Definition of Learning, and our Global Citizenship Statement, go to make up our revised guiding principles, against which strategies, goals, and actions can be evaluated.

In evaluating our actions the school will be mindful of influential priorities that have informed those statements; concern for the environment and sustainability; wellbeing and balance within the school community; diversity, equity, inclusion, and justice; and outreach beyond the school to the city, the Stockholm region, and beyond.



Our Vision

To be recognised as a leading international school that inspires and educates generations of global change-makers

For 70 years the school has been in the forefront of welcoming international students to Stockholm, and its alumni are now pursuing careers in countries all over the world. Our new vision statement expresses SIS's determination to sustain the excellence at the heart of its teaching and the educational experience that develops confident, accomplished global citizens.

Our Mission

Stockholm International School inspires and educates children of the global community through internationally recognised learning programmes.

We understand that it's not just about the children. Their education is of course our priority, but we understand that they are part of a family dynamic, and that families relocate away from the Stockholm region as well as to it. We know parents want to feel assured that their child is getting an education that will be recognised globally, and be portable if necessary.

We enable international mobility and support growth and talent development in the Stockholm region and beyond.

That is why SIS offers the International Baccalaureate programme and will continue to ensure the education that children receive here is of the highest order and valued in educational systems and by universities around the world.

Our Values

Valued

At SIS, we value each other. We respect and appreciate one another for who we are. We work to create a more diverse, inclusive, equitable and just school community.

Challenged

At SIS, we support each other to embrace change. We recognise that positively challenging ourselves, our beliefs and others will make us more resilient and able to solve problems together.

Balanced

At SIS, we see the whole person. We recognise the importance of physical, intellectual, and emotional well-being as well as a healthy work/life balance for all members of our community.

Prepared

At SIS, we understand that in order to succeed we need to be proactive. We need to have the discipline to plan, to adapt, to practise, to learn and to reflect on our actions.

Our values guide our behaviour and how we live and work alongside each other. The whole person is at the core of our values at SIS. Respect, support, health, and reflection are fundamental to how we treat each other, while setting ourselves high standards, challenging each other, and working to realise our full potential.

Global Citizenship Statement

At SIS, we are Global Citizens who are respectful, resilient and reflective learners in our daily actions towards ourselves and others. We embrace our responsibility to make a positive impact on our local and international environment.

SIS is committed to the concept of Global Citizenship Education. Our curriculum embraces learning that addresses issues of a social, political, economic, or environmental nature. This helps instil 'global consciousness'; the moral or ethical aspect of global issues, and 'global competencies'; skills that enable learners to participate in a changing and developing the world. This capitalises on the multicultural nature of our school and encourages shared experience across the student body.

Definition of Learning

Learning is about making connections. It is a lifelong process where we can gain knowledge, develop our skills and deepen our understanding over time.

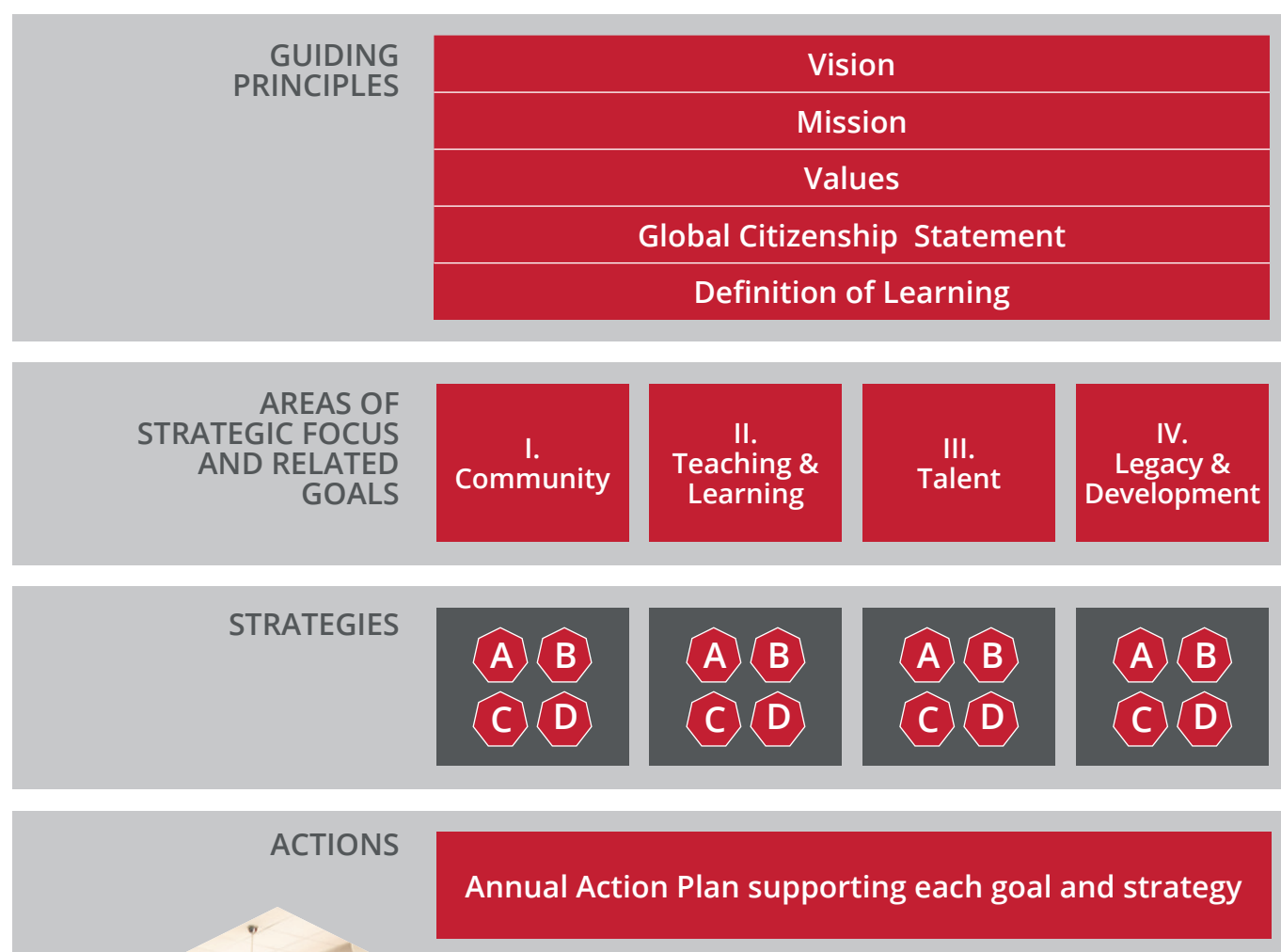
It is easy to take 'learning' for granted. At SIS we recognise that high quality learning is not just about acquiring facts and learning basic skills, it's about preparing students to thrive in an ever-changing (and rapidly changing) world. We teach them how to learn, how to analyse, interpret and understand, so that they can feel confident as they start a journey of lifelong learning.



Making it
happen

A framework for success

The Strategic Plan Steering Committee identified four areas of strategic focus in the life of the school; Community, Teaching and Learning, Talent, and Legacy and Development. The Committee expressed the main goal in each of these areas over the next three years, and defined strategies to achieve those goals. This provides the framework within which the actions of the school as an institution, the teachers staff as individuals, and the whole school community, can plan and make informed decisions.



Community

GOAL

SIS is recognised as an engaged community which fosters a strong sense of belonging.

STRATEGIES

- A. Create safe physical and virtual spaces that facilitate positive and effective interactions between all parts of the SIS community, past and present.
- B. Develop initiatives that improve the wellbeing and resilience of members of the SIS community.
- C. Execute outreach projects that engage individuals and groups and have an impact beyond the SIS community.
- D. Create a strong unifying sense of identity which celebrates the diversity of our whole community.



Teaching and Learning

GOAL

Students are exposed to a challenging and differentiated academic environment which develops their critical thinking skills and promotes further learning.

STRATEGIES

- A. Establish SIS as an IB World School following the full IB continuum.
- B. Develop EdTech Learning Commons which support technology integration throughout the SIS community.
- C. Provide differentiation strategies, linked to the Approaches to Learning (ATL), supporting and challenging all students.
- D. Reimagine SIS Learning Spaces promoting 21st century student focussed learning.



Talent

GOAL

SIS attracts, retains and recruits talented staff that are committed to personal and organisational development.

STRATEGIES

- A. Cultivate an ethos of accountability and responsibility.
- B. Attract and retain talent from a diverse range of perspectives.
- C. Encourage exchange and interaction with external organisations, eg schools, institutions and companies.
- D. Create internal opportunities for peer support and the sharing of best practice.



Legacy and Development

GOAL

SIS cultivates internal and external relationships, maximising development opportunities and leveraging the full extent of its resources to strengthen its legacy and reputation.

STRATEGIES

- A. Establish the role of SIS as an integral factor in attracting global talent to Stockholm and Sweden.
- B. Deliver sustainable growth which meets and adapts to school capacity and market need.
- C. Secure and develop facilities that support a sound and creative educational environment for SIS students and staff.
- D. Develop initiatives supporting SIS financial sustainability, community outreach and our brand.



About this Strategic Plan

A strategic plan requires everyone to invest in it fully in order for it to succeed. In developing this plan all the stakeholder groups in the SIS community were consulted to ensure its ambitions and goals reflect a ‘whole school’ view of the journey we’ll be on over the next three years.

Over several months, a Strategic Plan Steering Committee took input from the SIS Board of Trustees, senior managers, staff, parents, students, and alumni. Using workshops, focus groups, and direct feedback, the Committee formulated a draft plan which was considered and endorsed by the Board of Trustees.

The plan set out in this document was shared in a presentation to staff during October 2021.





Stockholm International School

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