



Crossing the Bridge

The purpose of the Middle School (MS) programme is to support children in the transition to adolescence through a comprehensive and meaningful program. There is a sharp focus on nurturing skills and competencies and providing a platform for students to embrace stewardship and passionate pursuits. In Middle School we build the complex thinking skills required for High School, while allowing students to grow, play, and pursue a path that is increasingly individualized as they begin to understand themselves as learners more fully.

Middle School Curriculum

Our Middle School curriculum is centered around helping our students take responsibility for their own learning. We focus on helping our students ask the right questions while fostering the skills they need to search for answers.

In Middle School, we believe that students learn more from *how* they are taught than from *what* they are taught. Thus, the programme reflects the Green School Principles, which are core shared beliefs about how to nurture powerful, sustainable and impactful learning experiences that aim to embody the school's mission. Green School's pedagogical belief is that learning is most impactful when it is:

Relationship-centred and Holistic

Experiential and Evolving

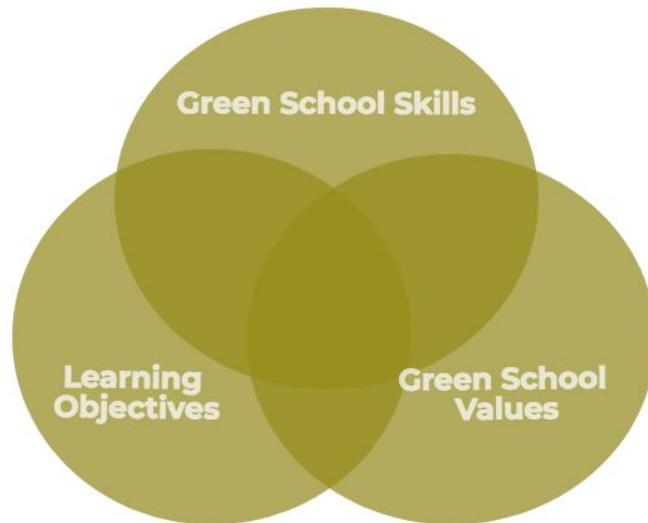
Authentic and Interconnected

Local to Global

The REAL learning principles are designed to foster authentic experiences in which students can grow and nurture their values, skills and competencies.

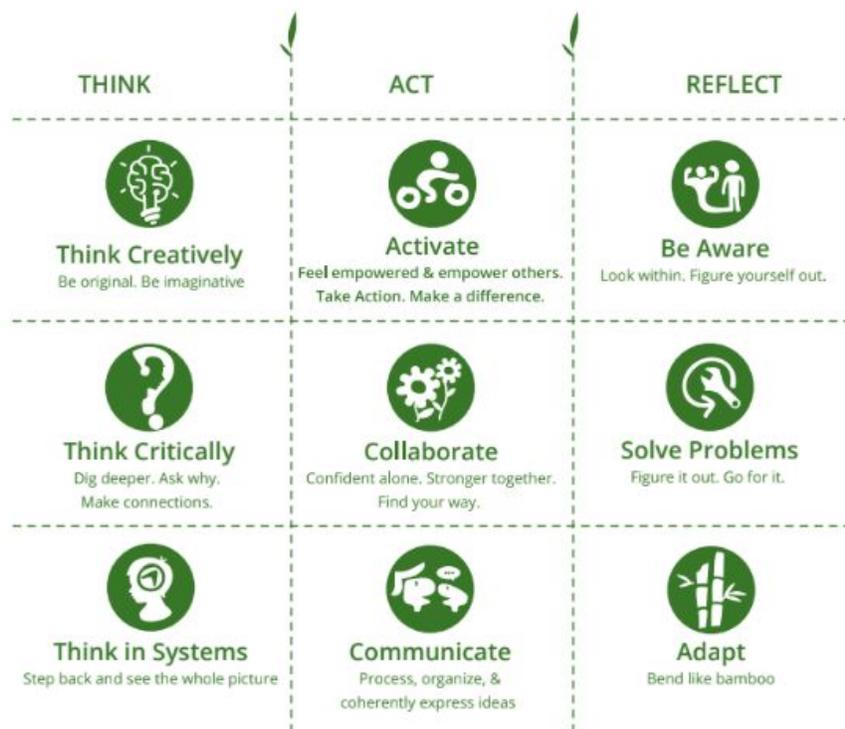
A Balanced Approach to Learning

Ever evolving, the Green School Learning Programme seeks to find a balance between the skills, values and discipline-based competencies that prepare learners for an ever-changing world. This balance between aspects of personal growth and learning is of great importance in our program. The balance between these aspects of our program is designed to develop the qualities, skills and competencies described in Green School's **Ambitions.**



Green School Skills

By nurturing 'Green School Skills' in our students we prepare them for their journey as learners for the rest of their lives and as passionate friends of the environment. Students learn these skills through every part of our program, including projects and lessons that align with the Green School Mission of 'A Community of Learners Making *Our* World Sustainable'.



Students are welcomed into a learning environment that is engaging, challenging, inspiring and nurturing. Learning experiences are created to inspire students to understand more about our amazing planet and their relationship with it. MS promotes the development of our Green School Skills and learning habits that encourage students to ask questions, explore their imagination and identify their values and passions.

More than preparing students for High School, our MS program focuses on a whole-child approach that supports the special needs of middle years students. Students are engaged in learning and community life, challenged intellectually and supported by passionate, nurturing, and inspired adults.

IRESPECT Values

As a school we subscribe to a set of values - **I RESPECT**. These are the values of Integrity, Responsibility, Equity, Sustainability, Peace, Empathy, Community, and Trust. At all times we are teaching and modeling these values and supporting our students in doing the same. We encourage all teachers to honor and recognize these values in our students at all times with ongoing dialogue, discussions, and reinforcement.

Integrity – being honest and ethical with thoughts and actions.

Responsibility – being accountable for thoughts, actions and deeds.

Empathy – understanding and caring for the feelings of others.

Sustainability – ensuring that your own body and surroundings are cared for so they are clean and healthy for as long as possible.

Peace – contributing to a state of harmony.

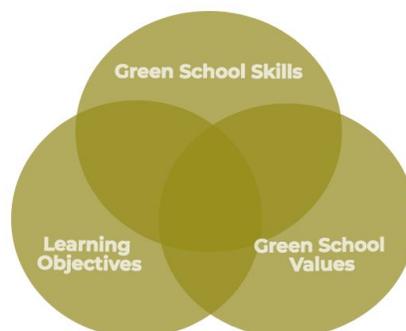
Equity - respecting everyone as an individual and valuing fairness

Community – being part of a group seeking common goals and taking care of each other.

Trust - building and maintaining strong relationships with each other, the school and the environment.

Discipline-Based Learning Objectives

Green School's learning programme follows a uniquely designed continuum of learning objectives that are designed to provide a foundation for learners to develop their knowledge and skills through challenging and integrated experiences that align with our REAL learning principles.



A Structured Approach to Learning

Three Frames of Learning

The pedagogy used in Green School is the Three Frames of Learning. This defines how we deliver the content of our courses in the classroom. This scaffold is designed to provide a consistent, relevant, well-rounded and comprehensive learning experience. The three frames of learning are:

1. Thematic Frame
2. Proficiency Frame
3. Experiential Frame

THEMATIC FRAME

The Thematic Frame is an interdisciplinary approach to learning where units are focused on a particular theme. Thematic units inspire students through relevant concepts and real-world experiences. Thematic lessons are holistic in that they engage multiple styles of intelligence and learning. They are aligned with Green School's mission and learning principles in that teachers lead activities designed around Green School Skills in each Thematic unit. Each learning neighbourhood approaches Thematics differently to match our practice with human development and growth - in MS, students start to question the world and, therefore, there is a strong focus on building inquiry and communication skills in our Thematic units.



The Middle School delivers Thematic units based on the United Nations’ Sustainable Development Goals (SDG). A six-week unit, looking at one SDG, will see the students focusing on the goal from a science, social studies, wellbeing and entrepreneurial perspective. All of the MS Thematics focus on inquiry based learning by providing students with regular opportunities to ask ‘Big Questions’ - students become adept at searching for and postulating answers to real-world issues and the global goals.

In MS Thematics, Grade 6 focuses on the SDGs related to *Water* issues, Grade 7 explores the SDGs related to *Health and Wellbeing*, and Grade 8 examines the SDGs related to *Conservation and Social Justice*. In addition, the MS students may also complete a ‘Game Thematic’ (designed by our team) that use real-world scenarios in which students collaborate, communicate and learn together.

PROFICIENCY FRAME

The Proficiency Frame focuses on core, discrete intellectual competencies that require repetition to reach proficiency, namely in Science, Literacy and Mathematics. Green School has developed its own curriculum in Science, Literacy and Mathematics that still follows the natural sequence of skill development for student success. Students know their skills and how to advance them to the next level. Attention to detail for individual learners maximises success in this frame.

Literacy

Literacy in the Middle School is delivered in grade-level classes. In Literacy classes, students develop the separate but overlapping skills of literacy - interpretation, expression and

awareness. MS Literacy aims to develop an understanding of the self and the world around us through the myriad of texts we have available. We aim to offer texts that teach students about our planet, its people, cultures and ideas.

A part of the MS Literacy program is the Drop Everything And Read initiative. DEAR involves students and teachers reading texts of their choice at structured times during week.

Mathematics

The Middle School Mathematics program at Green School is an innovative, student-centered model. The curriculum is based on best-practice Mathematics curricula from around the world – from which, a scope and sequence has been designed to fit with Green School's unique vision, mission and weekly schedule. The majority of the course units are delivered in 'concept groups' where students are placed in groups/classes with other students of similar learning requirements across grade levels - Mathematics in MS does not use the chronological age of students to determine their class/level. The selection of the 'right' Mathematics class is a collaborative process between teachers, students and parents. The units covered every year are: Number Skills, Fractions/Decimals/Percentages, Ratio/Rates, Measurement, Geometry, Statistics/Probability, and Algebra. Student Support is provided for students who require more one-on-one contact with a teacher to work through content/skill areas. Students also have the opportunity to participate in the MS Extension program – where students complete higher-level Mathematics units.

Science

Science in the MS is delivered in grade-level classes. In Science classes, students begin to understand that Science is a way of thinking as much as it is a way of knowing. Science classes at Green School examine concepts in the following categories: Living Systems, Energy Systems, and Planetary and Solar Systems. Students in these classes also work to develop scientific literacy skills which include research, experimentation, communication, as well as critically analyzing data and putting it into cultural and historical context. Science in MS aims to develop an understanding of the world around us through project-based learning that applies skills practically both in the lab and on our living campus.

EXPERIENTIAL FRAME

Experiential learning at Green School is the 'hands-on getting dirty' part of Green School. Whether it means working in the school gardens, creating art, building out of bamboo, learning first aid, or carrying out work experience, you will find students exploring and problem solving around the campus and around Bali. Students in every Learning Neighbourhood engage in real-world practical projects that deepen their understanding of their physical place in the world.

In Middle School, the Experiential Frame has three elective components - Physical, Art and Jalan-Jalan.

Physical Electives: students are given the choice to participate in six-week physical activity courses - some of the Physical Elective options include: team sports (football, volleyball, basketball, American football, tactical/field games), Green Studies projects based in our gardens, Mepantigan (Balinese martial arts) and archery, cross-Country/trail Running, swimming, yoga, dance, zumba, cricket, badminton, and parkour.

Art Electives: students are given the choice to participate in six-week physical activity courses - some of the Art Elective options include - drama, music (MS Band, Marimba, Gamelan), visual arts, Green Studies projects, photography, practical arts, Balinese crafts and dance.

Jalan-Jalan Electives: This program is designed to link learning to life outside of school. The courses give students valuable life experience by connecting them to local and global communities, and engaging them with people, projects and important environmental and human causes - local, national and global. Students choose courses from three areas: service learning, enterprise education, practical arts and outdoor/physical education. Courses are aligned with the existing six-week block structure and, through the course of the year, students will participate in at least one course from each area. There are three main types of MS Jalan-Jalan Electives: Service/Community, Entrepreneurial, and Outdoor/Physical.

SERVICE LEARNING

These activities develop life skills while introducing students to the importance of community service for personal, community, and world health. Special attention is paid to the need for considering environmental, economical, social, and personal

sustainability in order to promote healthy interactions between human and natural systems. Some examples of Jalan-Jalan units include: Bye-Bye Plastic Bags, Community Mapping, Community Demographic Survey, Take Action in Education, Riverboom, Kembali, Seeds to Table, Community Murals, Health is Wealth.

ENTREPRENEURIAL EDUCATION

These activities are hands-on programs intended to support students to develop design and creativity skills. In addition, they encourage students to develop entrepreneurial skills by marketing and selling the products created. With the array of festivals, events and farmers markets held at Green School, students have many opportunities to launch their business ideas and products. There are REAL practical art and design projects at Green School that benefit from the extended period of time on Wednesdays. Often, these practical arts programs are tied to a service project. Some examples of these units include: T-Shirts for the World, i-Hub Projects, GS Calendar, GS Mindful Colouring Book, Farmers Market, Trash to Cash, Sustainable Soaps and Candles, OROS (Operation Rain or Shine) Hub construction, Bali Batik Design, MS Theatre Production and Set Design, Create Your Own, and Jewelry Making.

OUTDOOR/PHYSICAL EDUCATION

The outdoor education courses expose students to new outdoor activities, while encouraging a more active lifestyle. These courses not only keep students active, they also provide valuable skills relevant to leading an outdoor lifestyle. Some examples of these units include: Green School Dive Club, SOAP (Student Ocean Ambassadors Program) Learn to Surf, SOAP Advanced Surfing, SOAP SUP and Snorkelling, Green Skate Movement, GS Mountain Bike Club, Mixed Martial Arts, and Trekking and Camping.

Flagship Programmes

Green Studies

Environmental action in Green School education deeply penetrates all aspects of learning; it is part of the air we breathe and the ground we walk on, at every turn. In short, 'sustainability' components attach to thematic teaching in all subject areas. At the Middle School level, there a wide variety of Green Studies units offered throughout the year in our Experiential program that are designed to foster 'ecophilia' or a deep love and respect for the environment.

Our environmental educators are viewed as researchers and teacher educators who have the important role of increasing the green wisdom of the entire staff. Environmental sustainability, deep respect for the earth, and intentional eco-harmony are not subjects in the Green School curriculum—they are inevitable consequences of the way we live. The school offers education where environmental responsibility is an inevitable consequence of its humane schooling vision.

Bahasa Indonesia

In Middle School, Bahasa Indonesia lessons are integrated into the timetable as such that all students receive the opportunity to learn about local language and culture at their own level. At Green School, we believe that an important element of sustainability is acting and living local, so it is imperative that we learn from, understand, communicate, celebrate and thrive in our local Balinese community, culture and environment.

Mindfulness

Social and emotional skills of mindfulness play an integral role in self development. Mindfulness offers easy strategies for helping students to focus their attention, improve self-regulation skills, build resilience and develop a positive mindset whilst at school and in life. Mindfulness as a practice in class and school wide is a feature of each day.

MS IDEAS Lab ***(Inquiry, Dialogue, Ethics, Action)***

Exploring New Meaning: Ethics and Inquiry

MS IDEA is a holistic approach to learning that seeks to engage the student's whole personality, including their sense of 'right and wrong'. MS IDEA is a 6-week opt-in unit where students/parents select to be in this class - it runs twice throughout the academic year. MS IDEA challenges students to identify themselves as autonomous actors, responsible for their own actions, consequences and the effect they have on self, others, and the environment. Students expand their thinking (and vocabulary development) by analyzing literature, history, and current events. Students will connect learning to scientific inquiries and develop an internal sense of Science methodology.

Expressing New Learning: Dialogue and Action

MS IDEA is based on dialogue about philosophy and the theory of learning. Students learn how to justify beliefs. Additionally, students are encouraged and supported to initiate their own action. They will be given time, opportunity, and supplies to do with what they judge is appropriate and valuable use of their time. Action will come from within the student, not dictated by the instructor. Student action could take the form of extended personal inquiry, writing, reading, designing, performing, or other personal projects. MS IDEA provides opportunities for students to move towards independent ethical adulthood.

MS Leap Jr

Leap Jr is an immersive project-based learning experience - it is 6-week opt-in unit where students/parents select to be in this class (it runs twice throughout the academic year). In Leap Jr a team of students take on a project (or two) and apply themselves for the majority of the school week in realizing that project. The projects always aim to improve our community, and our students are assisted in taking the right steps to complete the project. An important component of Leap Jr is that students own the process, from arranging workshops to ordering supplies, to setting deadlines. Leap Jr provides authentic project-learning opportunities for the MS students.

Middle School Tribes

The Tribes programme is a support network for every student in Middle School. Each student is connected with one teacher who acts as their Tribe mentor for the year. Students meet in their Tribe twice a week to develop a continuing support system that discusses class choices, progress and wellbeing. The Middle School Tribes Programme will focus on the following four areas:

- Nurturing students and guiding their development
- Promoting positive learning habits (IRESPECT)
- Healthy and positive attitudes
- Building community

Tribes will give a space to allow students to connect deeper with each other, their mentors and the greater community.

The Grade 8 'Quest' Capstone Project

The Grade 8 Quest challenges students to engage in a project that intersects environmental or social sustainability. This year-long program serves as a life-changing experience to mark the end of their Middle School journey. The Quest project culminates in TED-talk style presentations, which are filmed and published, and help prepare our students for success in their High School Green Stone presentations and beyond.



Middle School Timetable

Middle School students move around the campus throughout the day - they have a combination of different teachers and classrooms. Below is a 'sample' MS Timetable/Schedule to add clarity about the day-to-day flow of life as a MS student.

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
8.00 - 8.15	Check in	Check in	Check in	Check in	Check in
8.15 - 9.05	Arts	Physical	Jalan Jalan	Art	Physical
9.10 - 9:50	Bahasa	Social Em.		Bahasa	Tribes
9:50 - 10:15					
10.20 - 11.20	Literacy	Literacy		Literacy	Literacy
11.25 - 12.25	Maths	Maths		Maths	Maths
12.25 - 01.15					
1.20 - 2.15	Science	Science	MS Assembly	Science	MS Clubs
2.20 - 3.15	Thematics	Thematics	Tribes	Thematics	Assembly
3.15	Check out	Check out	Check out	Check out	Check out

Thank You

We hope you have enjoyed the information presented in Curriculum Overview for Middle School. The MS program provides opportunities for students to connect with themselves, our community and the world. Learning in MS is fun, it is meaningful, and it promotes the development of lifelong learning of knowledge, skills and values.

For more information about MS Curriculum, please email:

Pak Sal - Head of Middle School; sal@greenschool.org

Ibu Emily - Upper School Curriculum Coordinator; emily.ferguson@greenschool.org

Pak Glenn - Head of Faculty; glenn@greenschool.org