

Bishkek International School

CURRICULUM COORDINATORS 2023/24

IB Diploma Programme (DP) Coordinator: Grades 11-12



Makiko Inaba

Ms Makiko has a Bachelor's Degree in Psychology from Waseda University in Japan. Foreign languages and cultures have always been her passion and she has lived in the United States, South Korea, France, China and the Kyrgyz Republic in pursuit of that passion. She has the UK Qualified Teacher Status (QTS) and has experience teaching students ranging from elementary to high school level. Ms Makiko joined BIS in summer 2014 and is a much-loved teacher with exceptional skills in education. Ms Makiko has been IB Diploma Programme Coordinator since 2017.

Cambridge IGCSE Coordinator: Grades 9-10



Tom Clifton

Mr Tom has a Bachelor of Arts in English from Queen Mary University in London, as well as a Certificate in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages from Anglia Ruskin University in Cambridge. He has worked in language schools and universities in countries such as Spain and Iraq, as well as the Kyrgyz Republic. Outside of the classroom, Mr Tom enjoys travelling around the region and documenting Kyrgyzstan through photography. He joined BIS in August 2020.

IB Middle Years Programme (MYP) Coordinator: Grades 6-8



Nadine Lemoine

Ms Nadine holds a B.A. in Environmental Studies, a Master's in Geography and Planning and a B.Ed in Secondary Education. Prior to joining the BIS team, Ms. Nadine worked with various international environmental and human rights NGOs in Afghanistan, Cameroon and the Caribbean and worked in International Schools in China, South Korea, Albania and Romania. Ms. Nadine is also an IB examiner and has a keen interest in project and inquiry-based learning. In her spare time, Ms. Nadine enjoys rock climbing, mountain biking and studying yoga. Ms Nadine joined BIS in summer 2023.

IB Primary Years Programme (PYP) Coordinator: Preschool to Grade 5



Maria Corbett

Ms Maria graduated from ISAE University of Panama, with a diploma in Primary Years Education. She has 15 years of teaching experience, 7 of which have been in International Baccalaureate schools. She has worked with diverse age groups and has experience as a first-grade and second-grade homeroom teacher, English Language Acquisition (EAL) teacher for early grades and middle school, and Spanish as an Additional Language (SAL) teacher for upper elementary. Her experience in education goes beyond classrooms as an IB Primary Years Programme librarian for 4 years. Ms. Maria joined the BIS team in summer 2022.

National Curriculum Coordinator

Chynara Abdyraeva



Ms Chynara has a Doctorate in Education from Arabaev Kyrgyz State University. She worked for many years in the University sector, including work with the Ministry of Education and Science for curriculum accreditation. Ms Chynara is responsible for BIS accreditation with the Ministry in order for the school to hold national examinations at BIS for Grade 9 and Grade 11 students, enabling local students to graduate with a local High School certificate in addition to our internationally accredited programs.

Primary School Assistant Principal

Elina Ignatova



Ms Elina graduated from the Faculty of Linguistics and Translation of Chelyabinsk State University, Russia, then worked in Bishkek as a private tutor with international students of different ages. Ms Elina joined BIS as a Co-Teacher in summer 2018 and worked for two years before taking maternity leave. She returned in later 2022 as Co-Teacher in Grade 5, before promotion to Primary School Assistant Principal in summer 2023. Ms Elina is currently studying for a Masters in Teaching.