

# High Quality Learning at AICS



## A STATEMENT FOR OUR COMMUNITY

At AICS, every voice matters. Our decisions are guided by data and shaped by community-driven experiences, ensuring that evidence informs practice while fostering a strong, inclusive school community. High-quality learning at the AICS is a purposeful and joyful journey of discovery that goes far beyond the walls of our classrooms. It is an active process where students take ownership of their education, exercising agency to ask questions, engage in meaningful dialogue, and solve complex problems. We believe that true understanding happens when students connect conceptual understanding to authentic situations, using Amsterdam and the global community as their laboratory. By fostering a safe and inclusive environment that prioritises both academic progress and social-emotional well-being, we empower our students to develop the critical thinking and creative skills necessary to navigate and shape a changing world with confidence, integrity and optimism.

## WHAT DOES HIGH QUALITY LEARNING MEAN FOR PRIMARY STUDENTS

High-quality learning at AICS means that your brain, your heart, and your hands are all working together! It is the excitement of unearthing a new idea, the courage to ask "why?" and the joy of finding out the answer with your friends. Here, learning is a great adventure where you are the explorer in our city, Amsterdam. You don't just sit and listen; you do, create, and play. We use what we learn in class to help people and understand the world around us. In our school, every student belongs, every question matters, and every day is a chance to grow into a kind, curious, and creative global citizen.

## WHAT MAKES THIS DEFINITION "AICS"?

- **Community centred:** We balance data-driven decision-making with community-driven experiences, ensuring that evidence informs practice while fostering a strong, inclusive school community.
- **Balanced:** We value the IB framework and approach to learning while intentionally strengthening the human element; Joy, Well-being, Community.
- **Continuous discovery:** We treat learning as a journey and a process, emphasising that the learning is continuous and the actual goal rather than the focus on the final grade.



AGENCY

AUTHENTIC

COMMUNITY

CONCEPTUAL

CREATIVE

CRITICAL THINKING

INCLUSIVE

INQUIRY

JOURNEY

JOYFUL

TRANSFERABLE

WELLBEING