

## **UNIVERSITY LABORATORY SCHOOL**

### **PRIMARY DIVISION**

#### **CURRICULUM MODEL**

The University Laboratory School offers a comprehensive, inquiry-based approach to teaching and learning. A visit to our classrooms will find students actively engaged in discovery while moving toward becoming people who reflect the characteristics of an international person. In essence, what we want them to learn is how to be inquirers, thinkers, communicators, risk-takers, knowledgeable, principled, caring, open-minded, balanced, and reflective. Through both the curriculum and our teaching we aim to develop the intellectual, emotional, and physical potential of each child, in a secure and stimulating environment.

At the heart of our curriculum model is a commitment to structured inquiry as the leading vehicle for learning. Students explore subject areas through themes, often in ways that transcend conventional subject boundaries. In the process, they develop an understanding of important concepts, acquire essential skills and knowledge, develop particular attitudes and learn to take socially responsible actions. In most cases, the subject content works naturally into the units. However, in a few cases, i.e. math, writing, and spelling, some skills are still taught in isolation as needed to better prepare students for the global world they will live in. The subject areas of language, science, and social studies are taught through themes in order to help facilitate more effective learning. Assessment of the children's progress is ongoing, using a variety of methods.

The LSU Laboratory School offers French or Spanish each year on a daily basis beginning in kindergarten. In addition, each child receives daily physical education, bi-weekly music, guidance, and library classes, and weekly art classes. Technology is used in all classrooms on a regular basis and includes both calculator and computer use beginning in kindergarten.