



MEET THE TEACHERS































CANADIAN SCHOOL OF TASHKENT

At the heart of every successful school is a team of dedicated, passionate teachers - and at the Canadian School of Tashkent, we are proud to introduce ours.

Each educator brings unique talents, rich experiences, and a shared commitment to student growth and well-being.

This booklet offers a glimpse into the people who inspire, guide, and support our learners every day.

We invite you to get to know them and to join us in celebrating the spirit of learning they help bring to life.



Jean-paul Bhikarry

High School Vice Principal

Mr. Bhikarry is a
CELTA-certified educator
with over 15 years of
experience and dual
Master's degrees in
Curriculum & Instruction
- Leadership and TESL,
plus a Double Bachelor's
in Kinesiology/Physical
Education & Geography.
His extensive
international teaching

background spans South Korea, Russia, Oman, and Vietnam, where he has specialized in curriculum development and implementation. Currently serving as Vice Principal of Secondary (continuing in this role next year), Mr. Bhikarry holds multiple certifications including

Quality Teacher Status (UK), Health & Physical Education PreK-12, and Educational Administration & Management. Known for his innovative approach to curriculum and student-centered teaching methods, he excels at fostering critical thinking skills and creating engaging learning environments that help students reach their full potential.



Kalina Dmitrova

Lower School Vice Principal

Ms. Dimitrova is the Vice Principal of Lower School at the Canadian School of Tashkent, bringing over 15 years of experience in education, including more than a decade in leadership roles. She holds a Bachelor's degree in English and Literature from the University of

London, a Master of
Education from the
University of Essex, and
teaching qualifications
including QTS (UK),
CELTA, and SEND training.
Her international career
spans Bulgaria, India,
China and Uzbekistan,
with deep expertise in the
Cambridge, IB PYP, and
Nova Scotia curricula.

Passionate about inquiry-led and project-based learning, Ms. Dimitrova is committed to nurturing each child's curiosity, confidence, and character. She works closely with teachers and families to ensure classrooms are inclusive, inspiring, and focused on the holistic development of every student.



Mr. Phillip Rustamov

Technology Education/Head of Department

Mr. Rustamov will be our Head of Department. He brings over 10 years of international experience in education, including roles such as teacher, coordinator, Head of Technology and Innovation, and Director of Educational Technology/VP.

He holds a Master's degree in Educational Technology and a Graduate Certificate in Online Teaching from Boise State University (USA). He completed in-person training at Harvard University's CS50 Educator Workshop and holds a leadership certificate from the Harvard Graduate School of Education. He is also a member of NASA's Next Gen STEM educator network and serves as a judge for international space competitions with the Cosmic Leap Foundation (USA).



Mr. Tyler Pierce
Primary Homeroom Teacher

Mr. Pierce is certified to teach Grades K-6 and holds a Master's and Bachelor's in Education (International Specialization) from Western University, alongside a B.A. in History and Religious Studies from Laurentian University. He has taught at leading international schools in Canada, Myanmar, Cambodia, and Hong Kong, covering Grades 1 through 5. He has also served as a MYP Individuals & Societies teacher.

Mr. Pierce's classroom is a space of connection, where students build resilience, confidence, and a love of learning. He champions cross-curricular, collaborative projects and is passionate about culturally responsive teaching. Through differentiated instruction, multilingual support, and tech integration, he ensures every student feels included and empowered.



Ms. Nigina Mirkhanova

Primary Homeroom Teacher

Ms. Mirkhanova holds two
Bachelor's degrees—one in
Psychology with a focus on
child neuropsychology
from Moscow State
University of Technology
and Management, and
another in English Philology
from Bukhara State
University. She also holds a
Professional Diploma in

Child Psychology. With nearly a decade of experience teaching in Kuwait and the UAE, she has worked in both early years and elementary classrooms. Her educational philosophy centers on creating a safe, nurturing, and inclusive learning environment

where children feel valued and supported. She builds strong relationships with students, families, and staff, promoting open communication and emotional well-being as essential foundations for academic success.



Ms. Emily Lewis
Primary Homeroom Teacher

Ms. Lewis joins us from
Canada with a Bachelor of
Arts (French/English) and a
Bachelor of Education from
the University of Windsor.
She is certified to teach
Primary and Junior levels
and holds a Kindergarten
Specialist credential. With

a strong background in
French Immersion
education, she has taught
Kindergarten and Grade 2
in Ontario public schools,
focusing on student
well-being, academic
growth, and multicultural
understanding. Ms. Lewis is

passionate about early childhood development, language learning, and creating engaging, inclusive classrooms where students feel seen, heard, and encouraged to explore their full potential.



Ms. Helen Ramirez De Leon

Social Studies/Mi'Kmaw Studies/ English Language Arts

Ms. De Leon brings extensive experience in teaching English and Humanities at various levels, including international schools and Indigenous communities. Ms. De Leon holds a B.Ed. in Secondary Education English and is certified in British Columbia, Manitoba, and Nova Scotia. She also holds IB certification in Geography and Environmental Systems and Societies. Passionate about student engagement, she uses creative lesson planning and innovative strategies to build strong literacy skills. Her adaptability and commitment to student success make her a valuable addition to our school community.



George Isaac Evers

Mathematics and Physics Teacher

Mr. Evers earned a master's degree in engineering with an electrical emphasis via the thesis route from The University of Texas – Pan American and a bachelor's degree in mathematics with physics minor cum laude from Texas A&M University – Kingsville.

He is certified to teach both physics and mathematics and has 16 years of full-time experience teaching both in the US and abroad in addition to 2 years of part-time experience teaching electrical engineering and physics laboratories at his alma maters.



Ms. Sarah Muriel Larkin
Science Teacher

Ms. Larkin holds a Bachelor of Fine Art from Rhodes University and a PGCE in Natural Science from Two Oceans Graduate Institute. She thrives in creative, student-centered environments and brings a strong background in problem-solving and experiential learning. With experience working with both young children and teens, she is a confident and adaptable teacher. In her free time, she enjoys reading, writing, hiking, and exploring new places.



Mr. Abdel Karim Al Jebeai
Integrated Science/Biology & Chemistry

Mr. Al Jebeai brings a strong academic background in Biochemistry, holding a Bachelor's degree, a Teaching Diploma, and a Master's degree specializing in bioactive molecules. With nearly five years of experience teaching science at international schools in Lebanon and Saudi Arabia, he has worked with students across a wide range of age groups. He is a passionate educator who cares deeply about student success and the all-around development of each learner. Outside the classroom, he enjoys cooking and taking long-distance walks.



Ms. Elena Guschina

Russian and History Teacher

Ms. Elena Guschina is a Russian and History teacher with nearly 20 years of experience across public schools, colleges, and international schools in Tashkent. She earned her History degree from **Bukhara State University** in 2005 and is currently pursuing a second degree in Primary Education from Profi University. Ms. Guschina is recognized for her

structured classroom management, deep subject expertise, and dedication to student development. Her lessons are engaging and thoughtfully planned to support both academic and personal growth. Outside the classroom, she enjoys arts and crafts, reading, and exploring child psychology to further enrich her teaching practice.



Ms. Fatma Riahi

Primary Homeroom Teacher

Ms. Riahi is a **CELTA-certified English** Language educator with a B.Ed in English Language, Literature, and Civilisation from the University of El Manar. She brings a wealth of experience teaching both primary and secondary students in international settings. Her teaching background includes English Language instruction for Grades 1–6 and Social Studies for Grades 7–12, using both Cambridge

and IB PYP curricula. Known for her energetic and empathetic classroom presence, Ms. Riahi is deeply committed to creating an inclusive and inspiring environment. She is especially skilled at supporting English language learners, adapting her teaching methods to meet diverse student needs, and fostering a positive learning atmosphere rooted in inquiry and collaboration.



Ms. Anna Khan
Kindergarten Teacher

Ms. Khan brings over 13 years of international experience in early and primary education. She holds a Bachelor's degree in English Philology and is CELTA-certified by Cambridge, with advanced training in adult language instruction. Ms. Khan has worked in Turkey and Qatar, teaching a variety of curricula—including American, Turkish, and Early Learning systems.

She has led classrooms as a Native English Teacher and Early Years Class Leader, known for her warm approach and structured, child-centered instruction. Ms. Khan's strengths include clear communication, adaptability, and managing dynamic learning environments where young learners thrive.



Ms. Heather Marnell
English Language Arts Teacher

Ms. Marnell holds an MBA, a CELTA, and a U.S. teaching license, and brings over 20 years of experience teaching language arts and writing. With six years of international experience in Vietnam, she creates inclusive, project-based classrooms that build student confidence and real-world communication skills. Ms. Marnell has also coached TEDx-style student speakers and is passionate about helping young people think critically and share their voice. Her classes are known for being dynamic, relevant, and refreshingly real—where students explore meaningful topics, engage with authentic materials, and create projects that connect learning to life.



Mr. Subash Nedumpully

Mathematics Teacher

Mr. Nedumpully is an accomplished mathematics educator with a Master of Science degree in Mathematics. His extensive teaching experience spans secondary and higher secondary education across multiple prestigious curricula, including Cambridge, Edexcel, IBDP, and the

Ministry of Education (UAE). As a licensed educator in the UAE and an IBDP examiner since 2017, Mr. Nedumpully combines academic rigor with practical expertise to deliver exceptional mathematical instruction across diverse educational frameworks.



Mr. Joshua Johnson

Pastoral & Guidance Counsellor

An empathetic and versatile teacher, Mr.
Johnson has over 12 years of experience teaching Math, Science, ICT, and STEAM/Robotics in both national and international contexts. He holds a B.Tech in Electronics and Media Technology and is currently pursuing an MSc in Education.

Passionate about real-world, inquiry-based learning, especially for SEND students, Joshua brings a tech-savvy and compassionate approach to education. Outside the classroom, he enjoys cooking with his wife, traveling, supporting Chelsea FC, and watching Formula 1.



Ms. Saman Gharagozloo

Primary Homeroom Teacher

Ms. Gharagozloo is a highly experienced educator with over 22 years in teaching across diverse contexts. She holds a Bachelor's degree in English Language and Literature and has completed several International Baccalaureate (IB) professional development courses, including Concept-Based Teaching, Positive Discipline, and Agency in the Early Years. Ms.
Gharagozloo is known for fostering creative, student-led classrooms that prioritize emotional safety, exploration, and active participation. She tailors learning experiences to meet individual student needs, integrates technology thoughtfully, and builds strong partnerships with parents to support every child's development.



Ms. Feruza Zukurova

Uzbek Language Teacher

With over 15 years of teaching experience in public schools, colleges, universities, and international institutions, Ms. Zukurova holds a bachelor's degree in Uzbek language and literature from the Pedagogical University after Nizami. Ms. Zukurova is dedicated to cultivating a love and deep appreciation for the Uzbek language and culture. In her personal time, she enjoys reading and engaging in professional development.



Ms. Tatiana Bhikarry

Primary Homeroom Teacher

Ms. Bhikarry is a certified K-6 Elementary Educator with a Master's in Education (Special Education Focus) from Moreland University. She also holds a CELTA and multiple certifications in safeguarding, differentiated instruction, and children's mental

wellbeing. Her international teaching experience spans Vietnam and Sri Lanka, where she has taught Grades 4 and 5 using the Cambridge curriculum and adapted curricula from Singapore and France. She has served as a Safeguarding Lead and Curriculum Taskforce

member, demonstrating her commitment to student welfare and school improvement. Known for her inclusive, inquiry-led approach and strong classroom management, Ms. Bhikarry fosters agency, engagement, and creativity in every learner.



Ms. Damira Abdullaeva

English as a Foreign Language Teacher

Ms. Abdullaeva brings over 25 years of rich experience in English language education across schools, universities, and specialized training centers. She holds a degree from Andijan State Institute of Foreign Languages and has taught English in both public and

private institutions, including secondary schools, medical institutes, and IELTS prep centers. A former Fulbright fellow, she holds a C1 Certificate of Foreign Language Proficiency, a TOEFL score of 91, and an IELTS score of 7.5. Ms. Abdullaeva has published extensively on

EFL teaching methods and pedagogical communication. Her dynamic approach to language instruction is informed by years of experience, international exposure, and a deep commitment to student.



Ms. Zulfiya Khalmukhamedova

English as a Foreign Language Teacher

Ms. Khalmukhamedova is a dedicated and outstanding teacher with more than 20 years of teaching and leading experience. She started her career at the first-opened international school in Uzbekistan. She holds Bachelor's in Education from Tashkent State
Pedagogical University and
recently attained her PGCE
from Westminster
University.



Ms. Nargiza Mansurova

PE & Gymnastics Teacher

Ms. Mansurova brings over 10 years of diverse experience in physical education and gymnastics instruction across kindergartens, public and sports schools, and international educational settings. A multiple-time champion of Uzbekistan

and Europe in artistic gymnastics, she combines elite athletic expertise with a passion for teaching. Ms. Mansurova holds both a Bachelor's and Master's degree from the Tashkent State University of World Languages. Her teaching is shaped by discipline,

motivation, and a deep understanding of physical development in children. Outside of school, she enjoys reading, spending time in nature, and exploring new places through travel.



Ms. Leyla Irgasheva

Music Teacher

Ms. Irgasheva has been inspiring students at the Canadian School of Tashkent for the past three years with her dynamic approach to music education. She holds a Bachelor's degree in Music Education from a pedagogical university

and brings both creativity and enthusiasm to her classroom. Ms. Irgasheva is especially passionate about organizing school concerts and events that encourage students to explore their musical talents and express themselves confidently.

Her lessons are inclusive, engaging, and designed to instill a lasting appreciation for the arts. Outside of school, she enjoys traveling and discovering new cultures, often weaving those experiences into her teaching.



Ms. Felisiya Abdurazakova

Russian Teacher

Ms. Abdurazakova is a dedicated primary school and Russian language teacher with over 17 years of experience in various educational institutions across Tashkent. She specializes in early

childhood education and student psychology, with a strong foundation in teaching methodologies.

Felisia has guided numerous students to success in international Olympiads and citywide competitions. She is known for using creative, student-centered teaching strategies that significantly boost academic performance.



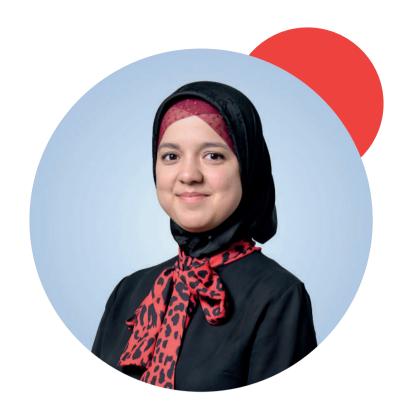
Ms. Saroymulkkhonim Sobirova

Art Teacher

Ms. Sobirova joined the Canadian School of Tashkent as a Lower School Art Teacher, bringing a strong foundation in architecture and a deep passion for the creative arts. A graduate of the Tashkent Architectural Building Institute, she is a

multidisciplinary artist dedicated to nurturing creativity and self-expression in young learners. Her diverse background includes experience in design, art education, and creative projects that span writing, photography, and set

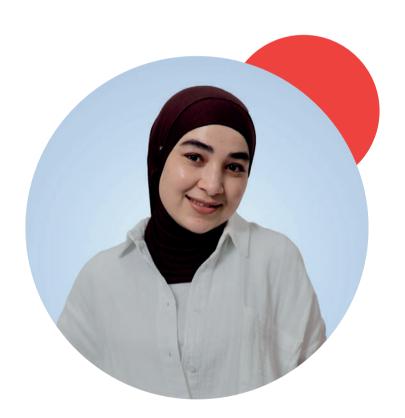
design. Ms. Sobirova's lessons are hands-on, imaginative, and tailored to inspire curiosity and confidence in the arts. Outside the classroom, she enjoys studying languages, watching films, listening to music, and traveling.



Ms. Gulsanam Islamova

Primary Teacher Assistant

Ms. Islamova is our curious Teaching Assistant. She graduated from MDIST in 2018. She has experience working as an English teacher in educational centers, as well as serving as a private tutor and a Teaching Assistant at one of the international schools in Tashkent. She enjoys reading, traveling, and discovering new places.



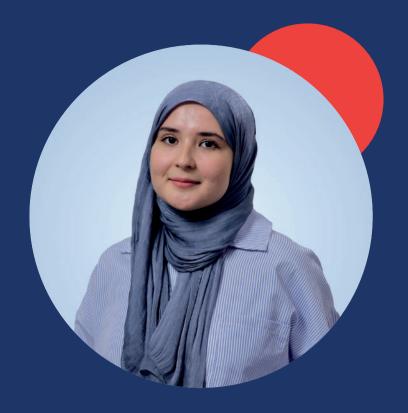
Ms. Dilafruz Rayimjonova

Primary Teacher Assistant

Ms. Rayimjonova is our supportive Teaching Assistant. She is an experienced ESL teacher who has taught in public schools across Tashkent. She holds a Bachelor's

Degree in English
Language and Literature
from Uzbekistan State
World Languages
University. Passionate
about student
engagement, she is

dedicated to creating a positive and inclusive learning environment. In her free time, she enjoys reading, learning new skills, and cooking.



Ms. Oynura Radjapboyeva

Primary Teacher Assistant

Ms. Radjapboyeva is our enthusiastic Teaching Assistant. She has over a year of experience in the field, having worked with children in a private language academy and as an individual speaking

tutor. She holds both an IELTS certificate and a National Language Certificate (Multilevel), which have helped her develop a wide range of English language skills. Ms. Radjapboyeva recently completed her MA in TESOL

at Webster University (2023–24) and holds a bachelor's degree from UzSWLU. In her spare time, she enjoys hiking, exploring new places, reading comic books, and watching comedy films.



Ms. Nargiza Abdukhalikova

Primary Teacher Assistant

Ms. Abdukhalikova is our experienced Teaching Assistant. She is a talented educator with a Bachelor's Degree in Early Years Education from Bucheon University in Tashkent and

is currently pursuing her Master's degree in the same field. She has worked as a Teaching Assistant in international schools for the past five years. Fluent in English, Uzbek, and

Russian, she brings multilingual strength to the classroom. Her interests include reading, learning new languages, and karaoke.



Ms. Mukhabbat Yuldasheva

Primary Teacher Assistant

Ms. Yuldasheva is our dedicated Teaching Assistant. She is an experienced ESL teacher with over five years of teaching in public schools and is currently pursuing a Master of Education at Webster University. Ms. Yuldasheva believes in a personalized approach to each student, using effective and student-centered teaching methods. In her free time, she enjoys caring for her family and spending time in nature.



Ms. Sharifa Urunbayeva

Primary Teacher Assistant

Ms. Urunbayeva is our motivated Teaching Assistant. She holds a Bachelor's Degree in Foreign Language Teaching (2018–2022) and is currently pursuing her Master's at Tashkent State University of World Languages. She has

gained valuable experience as a teacher in learning centers and public schools. She is proficient in Russian and advanced in English, holding IELTS and CEFR certifications obtained in 2022. Additionally, she has completed training in MS

Office and Adobe programs, including Photoshop, Premiere Pro, and After Effects, to further enhance her professional skills. In her free time, she enjoys reading, traveling, and photography.





MEET THE TEACHERS



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Admissions

+998 77 777 85 85

www.canadianschool.uz info@canadianschool.uz



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