

RISE IS UP AND RUNNING!

The inaugural year of Regents' one-of-a-kind foundation course for students aiming to gain entry into the International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma Programme or General Certificate of Secondary Education (GCSE) course is already in its sixth week!

Eight students are currently undergoing the demanding course under the head tutelage of Mr. Alexander Linne, who describes the course as "a vehicle which will bridge the gap between the student's education in their home country and Regents' British and international programmes".

Mr. Linne has high hopes for his charges. He wants to create an atmosphere that encourages independent learning and instills a belief that if they work hard this year, anything is possible. "I don't want to force feed students, I will provide them with guidance and direction but at the end of the day it is up to them to put in the hard work", he says.

We recognise every student is unique in terms of his or her learning needs, so we employ different resources and techniques to maximise the potential of each individual.

Alexander Linne, RISE coordinator







RISE: CLASS OF 2014

The first ever intake for Regents RISE program has accepted eight eager students ready to make the first step towards higher education.

With a range of different backgrounds, languages and ages, the foundation course is very diverse, but they all have one common goal – to gain a level of English that will see them accepted into GCSE or IB.

Linne comments: "We recognise every student is unique in terms of his or her learning needs, so we employ different resources and techniques to maximise the potential of each individual. Even in its first year we have a student taking a hybrid course of math, science and art with the general school population and English with the rest of the RISE group. Next year, as the course expands, we expect that we will be able to tailor more courses to students dependent on their abilities."

HOW DOES RISE WORK?

Almost half of all lessons (20 per week) will be devoted to specialist English language tuition, with no more than eight students per teacher. The lessons will be suitable for a wide range of learners, from those who have no English to those who already have a reasonable command. Students on RISE will learn to read and respond with thought to a variety of texts, express themselves in English and write using academic vocabulary. Students will have the same opportunity to study Mathematics, social sciences and other subjects but will have extensive English training to create the language platform they will need to continue their education in subsequent years. Emphasis on individual needs and interest is catered for and encouraged.





PROFILE: MR. LINNE - RISE COORDINATOR

Born in Lake Tahoe, California, the United States, Alexander Linne has led an amazing life so far. He has worked all over the world in a variety of occupations such as dolphin training in Sweden, a journalist in Spain and, most recently, as an ESL teacher in Bangkok. He believes his many experiences have created an 'anything is possible' attitude with regards to life, and he aims to bring this enthusiasm into the classroom.

Recently making Pattaya his home with his wife and two young girls, Mr. Linne is excited about the prospect of creating an amazing programme from the ground up. He is already seeing dividends in the short time the RISE programme has been operational and is looking forward to what the rest of the year holds.

BOARDING: AN ADDED INCENTIVE

Part of RISE's attractiveness for students is a chance to try life at a British international boarding school. Boarding school is a great way to enhance what is learnt in the classroom. Tutors are on hand to help out with homework, independence and responsibility are gained and life-long friends are made. The current RISE intake has four boarders experiencing life in beautiful Thailand.







A DAY IN THE LIFE OF A RISE STUDENT

RISE students have a varied and interesting make-up to their day. Below is a typical day for Yaroslav Ermoshkin, aged 17 from Russia, from his own perspective.

Warming up in the morning is the best part of the day! I start with some roleplaying games with my fellow students. It's a great way to start speaking English straight away and I can start my day by having fun.

Mr. Linne will then go through our homework with us and he lets us correct it, with his help. I think that's a great way for me to see my own mistakes and to learn from them.

We then continue with our subject topics which are IGCSE & Grammar, followed by vocabulary and essay writing practice which can be difficult topics, but with Mr. Linne's help, I know I can do it.

Then we have Science with Mrs. Holms, who is great. She has been a teacher in foundation programmes in schools all over the world.

Lunch is next, and with food this good I have the energy to keep going.

After lunch we continue working on our English through reading an multimedia technology.

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Every day I go home looking forward to tomorrow and the great adventure which is the RISE program!

Yaroslav Ermoshkin, aged 17, RISE student from Russia





