

# Teach@aes

Elementary School

## By the numbers



[aes.ac.in](http://aes.ac.in)  
#TeachatAES

## Insights for prospective faculty into our program, culture and operations

### Collaboration

Collaboration is important to the professional growth of faculty and to the success of our students. Collaboration at AES means that we are active participants in our practice and we help each other to learn through sharing, meaningful dialogue, and lending a hand when needed. AES follows the Adaptive Schools framework, which provides consistency in how we work together.

The Elementary School works together in grade level teams. Each classroom has a full-time teaching assistant. Additional support for our teachers includes planning together and co-teaching with their EAL teacher, Learning Support teacher, counselor or specialist teachers. Our teachers are given latitude and encouraged to work together to try new things and take professional risks.



### Teaching and Learning

AES uses a standards-based curriculum that values mastery of skills and content knowledge. Our philosophy of whole child education honors teaching and learning across the curriculum to include social-emotional and academic learning.

- **Literacy:** AES' balanced literacy approach is characterized by meaningful activities that provide students with both the skills and motivation to become proficient readers and writers. The program integrates language skills, reading, writing, spelling, speaking and listening, through the Readers and Writers Workshop model.
- **Math:** The focus of the math program is the development of deep, conceptual knowledge and mathematical practices. It includes basic computation, problem solving, development of flexibility and real life application.
- **Science:** Students are encouraged to exhibit the understanding of key scientific concepts and principles and develop their capacity for scientific thinking and processing using an activity- and inquiry-based science instruction program.
- **Social Studies:** AES' concept-based program prepares students for a global society. Concepts including identity, cooperation, unity, harmony, systems, courage, discovery, peace, creativity, freedom, and migration are explored from K-G5.
- **World Languages:** Students in grades 1-5 receive World Language instruction in either French, Spanish or English (for those receiving EAL services).

Students also enjoy specialized instruction in Art, Music, PE, Library, and Indian Studies.

## Desired Faculty Traits

- advanced degree
- familiarity with American system of education
- six-plus years of experience as an teacher/administrator
- high degree of flexibility and adaptability
- strong work ethic
- passion for, and knowledge of, discipline and/or area of endeavor
- collaborative nature
- organized yet creative
- positive outlook on work and life
- empathetic persona
- idealistic yet pragmatic
- well developed tech skills and inclination
- desire for improvement; values on-going professional development
- love of children/adolescents
- sense of humor
- sense of adventure and interest in the world
- interest in/track record of service to others
- high emotional intelligence
- holds high standards for self and others
- varied life experience

## Restitution

AES Elementary School has adopted Restitution (based on the work of Diane Gossen) as the classroom discipline and social development model. Restitution is defined as: *“Creating the conditions for people to fix their mistakes and return to the group strengthened.”* Each year new teachers complete Restitution training.

## Homework: Reading, Passions, Play

At AES, we expect that after school and on weekends ES students will read, play and spend time with family. We believe passion pursuit is key to innovation, creativity and problem solving. There is an expectation that children read or are read to (in English or their home language) for at least 20 minutes every day outside of the classroom. Nightly worksheets are not a regular part of our homework practice. However, when it benefits an individual student, the teacher, parent and child may make a plan to address specific learning needs or to reinforce a concept or skill at home.

## After School Activities

Students in grades K-5 have the opportunity to engage in various after-school activities to augment their ES experience. These activities are led by internal and external instructors. The program, iPOP, stands for the “Power of Passion,” and involves a nominal fee.

## Technology

AES has a 1:1 iPad program in grades K-5. We believe that technology integration needs to be balanced, authentic and intentional and focus on enabling students to be engaged, responsible and balanced digital citizens.

## English as an Additional Language (EAL) and Learning Support

The Elementary School staff includes counselors, a K-12 school psychologist, a speech-language pathologist, learning center and EAL teachers. We offer a comprehensive Elementary Counseling Program, which includes support for individuals, small groups, classrooms, teachers and families. Our mission is to help students develop academically, socially, and emotionally.

The goal of the Learning Center program is to equip children with the academic or language skills needed to function within the regular classroom. Partnership with parents and classroom teachers is considered to be a key factor in student progress.

## Faculty Spotlight

“I returned to AES for a second time in Fall of 2017. No matter when you were here, you remember the **caring, collaborative and nurturing** environment, and that’s what brought me back. This is a school that truly **lives its mission** across the students, faculty and staff.” - *Miriam V., EAL Teacher*



To learn more about AES and our school-wide beliefs, philosophies, and identity, please visit the **Work@AES** section of our website:

[aes.ac.in](http://aes.ac.in)