



MONT'KIARA INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL SDN. BHD. (83748-A)

No. 22, Jalan Kiara, Mont'Kiara, 50480 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.
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Letter of reference: Kimberly Ann Cofino

I have known Kimberly Cofino since July 2005 when we began employment at Mont' Kiara International School, in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

Kim is an articulate and capable member of the M'KIS faculty who has been the key driving force for IT integration. Since her arrival in August 2005 Kim has strived for success when working with both students and the faculty throughout the school. In her role as both Middle School IT facilitator and Middle School IT integrator she has been charged with the task of embedding Information Technology into daily instruction. Kim took on the challenge, developed and delivered a cutting edge curriculum that ensures student growth. As part of her continued effort to enhance the curriculum Kim has been proactively infusing core information literacy standards into her regular instruction. This can be seen in the various cross-curricular units that she has planned with her colleagues. Kim is reflective of both her teaching and support approaches, is open to criticism and is prepared to make the necessary modifications to ensure that students have the opportunity to become 21st century learners.

Kim is thorough and professional in all that she does whilst ensuring that she maintains relationships to promote collaboration. It has been this quality that has ensured that IT and IL integration has been possible. She has been keen to liaise with the information literacy specialists and has ensured that she shares a variety of IL related resources.

Kim has maintained her professional readiness through the attendance of regular graduate classes. It is this that helps her decipher what students really need to learn and how both IT and IL is key to students becoming 21st century learners. One of the most significant achievements resulting directly from her professional development has been the integration of the Understanding by Design curriculum development process into her planning sessions with her colleagues. Kim has taken a leading role in establishing various IT and IL units of study utilizing the knowledge acquired from her graduate studies. Furthermore, she has gone above and beyond her scope of responsibility to share her passion for IT/IL literacy by sharing recommendations for further reading. It is her passionate desire to further her knowledge of various curricular areas that sets her aside from many of the members in the department. With this in mind, Kim has offered weekly technology professional development focusing on the integration of IT/IL standards and benchmarks. Through this she has been able to work collaboratively with the various teaching divisions and has been able to acquire a broad knowledge of the whole school curriculum.

She has been ready to adopt new teaching practices and is keen to inform herself through a variety of methods that include blogs, membership to online teaching groups and through the reading of various teaching journals. The International Teenlife project would be a primary example where Kim has infused a great deal of her knowledge. She was instrumental to work with the Language Arts teachers and Information Literacy specialist to develop and deliver a unit, which addressed many of the Big 6. With a sound knowledge based upon research with other information specialists Kim has ensured that the students and teachers she works with are informed but focus on the core literacy skills. What stands out when reviewing both this and other integrated projects is Kim's ability to adapt current practices that ensure that students develop a 21st century learning skills.

As a department we grown to rely on Kim's excellent instructional knowledge and awareness, it is her tracking of educational developments that sets her aside and ensures that we as a team strive for success. Many of our discussions focus on the need to realign our instructional goals to meet the demands of a 21st century global market.





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Kim is a representative on the Mont' Kiara International School Curriculum Council working towards the linking and development of vertically aligned curriculum.

Most impressive has been the way in which Kim has taken onboard information literacy developments. She has worked arduously to embed not only the information technology standards but integrate information literacy standards so that students are able to create natural links between the two. Through the utilization of numerous online databases coupled with traditional research skills Kim has demonstrated that it is essential to infuse both to ensure the informed individual. When observing Kim work with both students and teachers it is easy to understand how important she values the need for students to develop 21st literacy skills.

It has been an honor to work alongside Kim for the past two years.

David Sinclair
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