

## Testimonial

### Jacques Weber

1st August 2014

To whom it may concern,

It is my pleasure to draw up a testimonial for the aforementioned Jacques Weber, who has been my colleague at The British International School of Jeddah during four academic years. We joined the school at the same time and we are both leaving the school together. Jacques is moving on to a Headship post in Malta.

Jacques Weber was the IB Coordinator and ultimately Assistant Principal at the BISJ from Sept 2010 until July 2014. Working with Jacques Weber has been enjoyable on many fronts but it has also been a very worthwhile and enriching learning curve for me personally. The first impression I had of Jacques was very positive and the qualities I detected in him upon our first meeting are qualities that continued to define themselves during the time I worked alongside him.

Jacques is a triple linguist with an interesting bi-national and bilingual background. I think that the combination of his French and American roots makes him look at issues and problems from several angles with an impressive degree of discernment and lucidity. The fact that he has worked in schools that operate different academic systems means that he is not locked inside one psyche. As a British teacher with experience of many education systems, I found Jacques' modus operandi very effective and often innovative. He is not afraid of thinking or acting outside the box, and that is a quality I truly admire in him.

Jacques taught both French and Spanish for the International Baccalaureate Programme, delivering the syllabuses for Language A and Language B at HL and SL. In his last year at the school he taught Social Anthropology at Higher and Standard Levels. He is an entertaining teacher/speaker with an ability to engage his audience very easily. Pupils feel very comfortable within his classroom environment. Jacques' academic ability is outstanding in all areas of his work. His subject knowledge is very impressive and the way he operated as IB Coordinator was a joy to behold. Jacques settled himself into the IB office very comfortably with his own way of doing things. Firstly, given that he is extremely efficient and a total perfectionist meant that he held up a beacon for both staff and pupils to follow. Secondly, he introduced us to Managebac and made all teachers ...



more computer literate than they had ever been via his modifications and improvements to the school systems. Jacques is a hard worker and nothing was ever too much trouble for him. He has always been extremely generous in sharing both his knowledge and ideas, and often his work too ; not only with pupils and colleagues but additionally with teachers from neighbouring schools requesting support for the IB programme. I learned a lot from watching Jacques operate : on an academic front but also at a purely human level. He was a refreshing gust of fresh air in our school and I can only hope that our professional paths may cross again one day in the future. His next school is gaining a colleague whose watchwords are rigour and perfection, but not without a large dose of humour and clear-headedness. This combination of conscientiousness and human warmth makes Jacques a valuable member of any academic institution.

Please contact me if you require any further information.

Respectfully yours,



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