

SPOTLIGHT ON:

DHIRUBHAI AMBANI INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL (DAIS) AND THE JIO INSTITUTE

Shaping future-ready leadership in India with ECIS

At Dhirubhai Ambani International School (DAIS), the vision is clear: "Dare to Dream... Learn to Excel." This ethos is not simply a motto but a lived reality across the school community, inspiring students, staff, and leaders alike. With a strong foundation in values such as collaboration, resilience, integrity, and compassion, DAIS prepares learners for an ever-evolving world filled with boundless opportunities.

The values of DAIS and its partner school NMAJS shape a culture where every voice matters, where determination is celebrated, and where respect and trust underpin learning. These principles provide a fertile ground not only for students, but also for educators seeking to grow and lead with purpose.

"The development of middle leaders requires real investment. They are the ones who make change happen.

Abhimanyu Basu



LEADING WITH PURPOSE

Abhimanyu Basu
Dean and CEO, DAIS

Serves as a member of the ECIS Board of Trustees



For Abhimanyu Basu, now Dean and CEO at Dhirubhai Ambani International School (DAIS), teaching was never the original plan. He had once envisioned a career in research and science. Yet an early experience in the classroom altered that trajectory entirely. What began unexpectedly soon felt like destiny. "Becoming a teacher was accidental," he reflects, "but I wouldn't choose to do anything else."

His journey at DAIS has been defined by steady growth, deep commitment, and a belief in purposeful leadership - from teacher to Deputy Head, to Dean of Academics, and now to his current role as Dean and CEO. Along the way, he has built strong professional networks through ECIS, NEASC, and the International Baccalaureate, learning from diverse schools and systems around the world. These collaborations have shaped a leadership philosophy that is globally informed, locally grounded, and deeply student-centred.

Rooted in the founding vision of Chairperson Smt. Nita M. Ambani and carried forward by Vice Chairperson Ms. Isha Ambani, DAIS is guided by the belief that every child is a world of possibility. Under this vision, Abhimanyu has helped nurture a family-like community of nearly 400 educators across three campuses - one that prioritises nurturing relationships, emotional safety, and a strong sense of belonging as the foundation for lifelong learning, resilience, and well-being. At DAIS, innovation and care go hand in hand, and learning extends far beyond the classroom.

THE DAIS-JIO-ECIS PARTNERSHIP



Recognising the pivotal role of middle leaders, DAIS partnered with ECIS and the Jio Institute to create a Middle Leadership Certificate Programme designed exclusively for Indian schools.

This bespoke programme equips participants with strategies for leading teams, managing conflict, and sustaining wellbeing, while gaining globally recognised ECIS certification.

CONNECTING VISIONS AND VALUES

The partnership brings together DAIS's values-driven ethos, Jio Institute's mission of innovation, and ECIS's global expertise. Together, they are building leadership capacity not only for DAIS, but for schools across India.

In true DAIS spirit, the collaboration dares to dream boldly, preparing educators who will learn to excel and inspire others to do the same.

THE BESPOKE MIDDLE LEADER CERTIFICATE PROGRAMME

Hosted at Jio Institute's state-of-the-art campus, this five-day residential programme blends immersive workshops, coaching, and collaborative learning. Its two core courses, Building and Leading Teams and Coaching & Leadership, are designed to give middle leaders the tools to:

- Build high-performing teams and lead change.
- Develop a coaching mindset rooted in listening, empathy, and trust.
- Manage conflict constructively and foster a culture of collaboration.
- Sustain personal and team wellbeing while leading with purpose.



Participants leave not only with a globally recognised ECIS certificate, but with a network of peers across India, sharing best practice and supporting one another long after the programme ends.



Founded in 2018 as a philanthropic initiative, the Jio Institute is redefining higher education in India. Located in Navi Mumbai, it offers multi-disciplinary programmes, cutting-edge research centres, and global collaborations. Its mission: to bridge the gap between academia and industry, nurturing innovators and leaders who will shape the future. You can find out more about [the Jio Institute here](#).

*I've seen positive changes in my department
...the skills shared are truly holistic and
transformative.*

Programme Participant

“

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PARTNERING WITH ECIS



The DAIS-Jio-ECIS partnership shows what is possible when schools and institutions collaborate with purpose. Together, DAIS, Jio Institute, and ECIS are shaping a new model of leadership development: rooted in context, enriched by global expertise, and driven by values.

If you would like to explore how ECIS can help your school design and deliver bespoke professional learning and leadership programmes, please get in touch:

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CONTACT US

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