

School Profile



The School and Community

Founded in 1970 with a vision to be one of the best British, international schools in the world, The British School of Brussels (BSB) is a thriving international learning community, with children from the ages of 1-18 years from over 70 different countries. Based in the eastern suburbs of Brussels on a state-of-the-art campus, we offer a high-quality, holistic education to students of all abilities and linguistic backgrounds. Tuition is mainly in English, although bilingual learning is also offered in French, along with support for other mother-tongue languages. The largest student population comes from the UK (30%). Enrichment activities are numerous, covering sport, music, drama and much more and there is also a strong pastoral focus in the school. Students are encouraged to develop wider skills beyond the academic, to take part in service learning opportunities and to see themselves as global citizens of the future, able and willing to make a difference in the world.

Curriculum

The British School of Brussels is made up of two schools: the Primary School - ages 1-11 and the Secondary School - ages 11-18.

All students follow the UK (English) National Curriculum up to age 16. This is enhanced to meet the needs of internationally mobile and expatriate families in Belgium.

Students take the General Certificate of Secondary Education (GCSE) and the International General Certificate of Secondary Education Examinations (IGCSE) at age 16. Students can also take an International BTEC (a vocational qualification awarded by the Business and Technology Education Council in the UK) at Level 2 in Business.

They then choose to study for the General Certificate of Education Advanced Level, the International Baccalaureate Diploma, or BTEC Level 3. Some students combine A Levels with Level 3 BTECs. Students study for these in "Post-16" – the last two years of education at BSB.

Most students studying A Level and/or BTEC will also complete an EPQ (Extended Project Qualification). The expectation is that students will begin *three* A Levels/Level 3 BTEC and complete them over two years. A small number will begin four. We do not offer AS Levels as a stand-alone qualification.

The following A Level Subjects are offered:

Art & Design (Fine Art)
 Biology
 Business Studies
 Chemistry
 Computer Science
 Design & Technology
 Economics
 English Literature
 French
 Further Mathematics
 Geography
 German
 Government & Politics
 History
 Mathematics
 Media Studies
 Music
 Music Technology
 Physics
 Sociology

Spanish
 Textiles

The following IB Diploma Subjects are offered:

Biology
 Business & Management
 Chemistry
 Computer Science
 Design Technology
 Dutch Language B
 Dutch Language A: Language & literature
 Economics
 English Language A
 Environmental Systems & Society
 Film
 French Language B
 French Language A: Language & Literature
 French ab initio
 Further Mathematics
 Geography
 German Language B

History
 Mathematics
 Mathematical Studies* (last session May 2020)
 Music
 Physics
 Psychology
 Spanish Language B
 Theatre Arts
 Visual Arts

The following BTEC subjects are offered:

Applied Science
 Business
 Hospitality
 Sport

All classes are taught in English, except for language classes and in the Bilingual Programme in Year 7-9, where 35% of lessons are taught in French. A number of students each year sit for the Bilingual IB Diploma.

Class rank and GPA

The British School of Brussels does not rank or calculate GPA for students. There is no appropriate system that would reflect the grading system of the GCSE and IGCSE, International Baccalaureate, A Levels or BTEC to a GPA. In addition, we have a transitory international population of students, many of whom transfer between different educational and grading systems.

Enrolment

Total enrolment including Early Childhood Centre = 1371
 Secondary School = 779
 Primary School = 573
 Early Childhood Centre = 19
 Class of 2018 = 95
 Maximum class size in Secondary School: 21
 Maximum class size in Post-16: 14
 Student-teacher ratio: 9:1

Faculty

Percentage of Faculty with a Bachelor Degree: 93.6%
 Percentage of Faculty with a Post-Graduate Degree: 6.4%
 Percentage of Faculty who are qualified teachers: 99.7%
 Percentage of local Faculty: 23.4%
 Percentage of foreign Faculty: 76.6%
 Top nationalities represented in Faculty: British (60.5%) Belgian (23.4%) French (6.2%)

University Acceptances 2017-19

Over the last three years, virtually all BSB graduates have gone on to study in Higher Education. Here are the colleges, universities and professional schools in which they have enrolled. Acceptance without matriculation is indicated in italics.

Africa, Asia and Australia

Nagoya University
SAE Institute Sydney

Belgium

CAD (College of Advertising, Art and Design)
Brussels
ESRA (École Supérieure de Réalisation Audiovisuelle), Brussels
Katholieke Universiteit Leuven (2)
Odisee University College
Royal Academy of Fine Arts, Antwerp.
Thomas More hogeschool
United Business Institutes, Brussels
United International Business School, Antwerp
United International Business School, Brussels
Vesalius College
VUB (Vrije Universiteit Brussel) (5)

Canada

Bishop's University (2)
Concordia University (2)
Dalhousie University
McGill University (3)
University of Ottawa
Queen's University
University of British Columbia

European

Tónlistarskólinn, Akureyri
Charles University, Prague
EDHEC Business School
Gilon Institute of Higher Education
Humboldt University of Berlin
IE University (4)
International University of Monaco
ISAL, Paris
LISAA (L'Institut Supérieur des Arts Appliqués) Paris
Musikschule Kreuzberg-Friedrichshain, Berlin
National University of Ireland, Galway (2)

PSB (Paris School of Business)
RWTH Aachen University
Sciences Po
University of Siena
SSTH Swiss School of Tourism and Hospitality
Superinfocom RUBIKA
WU (Vienna University of Economics and Business)

Netherlands

Conservatory of Amsterdam
University of Amsterdam
Delft University of Technology (2)
Eindhoven University of Technology (3)
Erasmus University Rotterdam (2)
University of Groningen (5)
Leiden University (6)
Maastricht University (8)
Royal Academy of Art, The Hague
Tilburg University (2)
Van Hall Larenstein, University of Applied Science

United Kingdom

Anglia Ruskin University
University of Bath (7)
BIMM (British and Irish Institute of Modern Music) University of Birmingham (4)
University College Birmingham (2)
Arts University, Bournemouth (2)
Bournemouth University
University of Brighton (3)
University of Bristol (3)
Bristol, University of the West of England (6)
University of Buckingham
University of Cambridge (5)
Canterbury Christ Church University
University of Cardiff
University of Chichester (2)
City, University of London (2)
Coventry University (2)
Delamar Academy of Make-up and Hair

De Montfort University (2)
University of Derby (2)
University of Durham (6)
University of East Anglia (4)
University of East London
University of Edinburgh
University of Essex (3)
University of Exeter (3)
Hartpury College and University Centre
University of Hertfordshire (2)
Imperial College, London (2)
Keele University
University of Kent (4)
King's College, London (4)
Kingston University (4)
Lancaster University (2)
University of Leeds (6)
Leeds Arts University
Leeds Beckett University
University of Leicester
University of Liverpool (2)
LSE (London School of Economics and Political Science) (3)
London South Bank University
University of Loughborough (7)
University of Manchester (6)
Manchester Metropolitan University (5)
Middlesex University
University of Newcastle (2)
University of Northampton
University of Nottingham (3)
Nottingham Trent University (2)
University of Oxford (4)
Pearson College London
University of Portsmouth
Queen Mary, University of London (2)
Queen's University Belfast
Royal Birmingham Conservatoire (2)
Royal Holloway, University of London
Royal Veterinary College (2)
University of Salford

University of Sheffield (2)
SOAS, University of London
University of Southampton (3)
Southampton Solent University
University of St Andrews (4)
University of Stirling (3)
University of Surrey (5)
University of Sussex (8)
Swansea University (5)
Ulster University
University College, London (5)
University of the Arts, London (2)
UCLAN (University of Central Lancashire)
University of Warwick (5)
University of West London
University of Westminster
University of Winchester
University of Wolverhampton
University of York (3)

United States

American University
Boston College
The Art Institute of Chicago
University of California, Davis
University of California, Merced
University of California, San Diego
University of California, San Diego
Carnegie Mellon University
Cornell University
Drew University
Fordham University
The George Washington University
University of Georgia
Northeastern University
Northeastern University (3)
Parsons School of Design
Pratt Institute
SAIC (School of the Art Institute of Chicago)
Syracuse University

Examination Results

(I)GCSE RESULTS		2019	2018	2017
A*-A/9-7 (from 2018)	BSB Worldwide	56% 22%	61% 21%	60%
A*-C/ 9-4 (from 2018)	BSB Worldwide	92% 70%	95% 63%	92% 65%

A LEVEL RESULTS		2019	2018	2017
A*-A	BSB Worldwide	41% 25%	35% 26%	32% 26%
A*-B	BSB	62%	67%	64%
A*-C	BSB	80%	87%	80%
A*-E	BSB	99%	100%	99%

IB DIPLOMA RESULTS		2019	2018	2017
Average Total Points	BSB Worldwide	35 30	35 30	37 30
40 or higher	BSB	14%	17%	32%
36 or higher	BSB	45%	46%	59%
30 or higher	BSB	84%	91%	98%
Highest	BSB	44	43	44

BTEC RESULTS (Level 3)		2019	2018	2017
Distinction or higher (= A and A* at A Level)	BSB	57%	61%	67%

Academic Calendar

The school year is broken up into three terms: Term 1 which runs from late August or early September until mid-December; Term 2 from early January until late March or early April; and Term 3 from late April to late June or early July.

Activities and Service

Service learning and enrichment activities are a vital and integral part of school life. Students have an extensive and diverse range of possibilities including sport, drama and music all supported by superb facilities. Sports include rugby, football, netball, tennis, gymnastics, swimming, golf, basketball and hockey. Many students compete successfully in the International Schools Sports Tournaments (ISST). BSB is the only international school in Belgium to have its own 25m indoor swimming, part of an extensive new sports centre which also includes a multi-purpose sports hall, specialist gymnastics space, dance studio and a fitness room. Music and drama opportunities are also exceptional across the age range. Many students also take part in the Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme at all levels. There is an extensive range of CAS activities available and a wide variety of curricular and extra-curricular trips and residential visits. BSB students are actively encouraged to develop leadership and to engage actively, ethically and purposefully with the world at large through such activities as THIMUN (The Hague Model United Nations), TEDxBSB, Fair Trade and a range of environmental projects through our GIN (Global Issues Network) group.