

Guiding Statements



Our School

The British School of Brussels (BSB) is an independent, fee-paying, not-for-profit international school which meets the needs of internationally mobile and expatriate families in Belgium as well as local families who want an international education.

- ✓ BSB is an inclusive, international learning community. All students who can benefit from the BSB experience are welcomed and are expected to be fully committed in their approach to learning
- ✓ BSB has students from approximately 70 nations and is made up of two schools:
 - Primary School - ages 1-11
 - Secondary School - ages 11-18
- ✓ English is the main language of tuition, with options available to follow a bilingual French & English programme
- ✓ All students follow a British-based curriculum up to age 16 - (I)GCSE. This is adapted to our European context and international cohort and is followed by the choice of three internationally recognised pre-university examination courses from age 16-18 years: English A Level, the International Baccalaureate Diploma and a range of vocational courses including BTEC Business, Hospitality, Applied Science and Sports
- ✓ In its governance and management and in all its activities, the school aspires to the highest ethical and legal standards.

Our Guiding Statements

BSB is an inclusive international learning community, working together and inspiring success.

Our aim is to be an educational force for good by:

- ✓ developing **confident, caring** and **courageous** people who engage actively, ethically and purposefully with the world around us
- ✓ fostering **curious, resilient** learners who enjoy life and achieve the best that they can
- ✓ encouraging **respect** for self, others and the wider world.

(Collaboratively created by staff, students, parents and governors 2016/17)



Our Vision

BSB will be a community of learners recognised as living and breathing the values of our Guiding Statements.

Our school will have:

- ✓ The highest quality of teaching, learning and support that is second to none
- ✓ Excellent facilities which enable great learning to take place
- ✓ A healthy, vibrant and progressive culture where children and adults successfully learn together.

(Last updated by the Board of Governors in 2019)





BSB Strategies

We will achieve our aims and vision through:

- ✓ high quality teaching and learning
- ✓ high quality support for learning
- ✓ a creative, dynamic and holistic curriculum
- ✓ enhancing learning through leading-edge technologies
- ✓ leading excellence and innovation in professional practice and development
- ✓ the fostering of international mindedness in all members of our community
- ✓ effective partnerships with the local and wider community
- ✓ high quality and sustainable campus facilities and resources
- ✓ a safe and secure learning environment
- ✓ effective governance and leadership.



Definition of Learning

- ✓ The British School of Brussels (BSB) is a learning focused school. We focus on a range of learning outcomes - academic, personal, social and physical
- ✓ The school's definition of learning underpins everything that the school seeks to achieve in terms of learning and teaching.

Learning is...

- ✓ Learning is a transformational process of acquiring, applying, connecting and adapting new skills, knowledge, behaviours and attitudes to affect an alteration in long-term memory and develop a deeper understanding, in order to inform action.

Student statements...

What can you **do** now that you couldn't **do** before?

What do you **know** now that you didn't **know** before?

What do you **understand** now that you didn't before?

What will help you to **remember** and **use** what you have learned in the future?

(Created 2012 during a staff session on 'Looking for Learning')

BSB Learner Profile

Learning for the 21st Century

- ✓ We are focused on supporting our students now and for their future. We acknowledge that the teacher's primary role as a 'dispenser of information' is now more accurately described as an 'orchestrator of learning', helping students turn information into knowledge and knowledge into wise action. As a school we are committed to creating a 'culture of inquiry'.
- ✓ We help our students develop a robust set of skills for their life in a century that is rapidly changing.
- ✓ Here are the most important words we associate with and develop in members of the BSB community:

✓ **Confident**
✓ **Caring**

✓ **Courageous**
✓ **Curious**

✓ **Resilient**
✓ **Respect**



Definition of Internationalism

BSB seeks to develop and broaden intercultural understanding as well as engage with and celebrate our interlingual diversity. In addition, we wish to foster an active, ethical and purposeful engagement with the world around us, rooted in empathy, solidarity and sustainability.

*(Created by staff October 2015 and revisited by staff 2016 /
approved by the Board of Governors March 2017)*

A member of the BSB community:

- ✓ is knowledgeable of and curious about the wider world and seeks to broaden and deepen understanding
- ✓ reflects upon his/her role and responsibility as a global citizen
- ✓ is willing and able to communicate about culture, language and beliefs
- ✓ is prepared to take action and to be an effective contributor
- ✓ respects and celebrates diversity, language, culture and beliefs
- ✓ appreciates multiple perspectives including environmental and economic systems and current global issues.





This is shown by:

- ✓ partnership links with other organisations within Belgium and worldwide
- ✓ a service learning programme that shows respect for and commitment to our host country and the wider global community
- ✓ international awareness throughout the curriculum, allowing for students to share and value each other's international experiences and mother tongue languages
- ✓ international extension opportunities which include visits & exhibitions, learning opportunities & competitions, personal development & challenge, higher education offers from a range of international universities
- ✓ systems and procedures that support families to integrate within the multicultural BSB community and to make links with their own and other cultural and linguistic groups
- ✓ community events which reflect and celebrate a variety of cultures.

BSB – an international learning community

The British School of Brussels vzw

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