

## 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%). Extra-curricular 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. As well as local families seeking an international education.

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. We do not offer the Triple Science option but our students are entered for the IGCSE Science (Double Award) or IGCSE Science (Single Award) exam. They are however, taught by subject specialists for each of the components.

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, some complete the Extended Diploma. Students study for these in "Post16" – 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 Level 3 BTEC subjects are offered:

Business  
 Hospitality  
 Sport  
 Business + Hospitality (as the Extended Diploma)  
 Business + Sport (as the Extended Diploma)  
 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 (not including ECC) = 1319  
 Secondary School = 820  
 Primary School = 499  
 Early Childhood Centre (ECC) = 10  
 Class of 2019 = 78  
 Maximum class size in Secondary School: 21  
 Maximum class size in Post16: 14  
 Student-teacher ratio: 9:1

## Faculty

Percentage of Faculty with a Bachelor Degree: 95.6%  
 Percentage of Faculty with a Post-Graduate Degree: 6.6%  
 Percentage of Faculty who are qualified teachers: 99.7%  
 Percentage of local Faculty: 25.2%  
 Percentage of foreign Faculty: 74.8%  
 Top nationalities represented in Faculty: British (58.4%) Belgian (24.6%) French (6.2%)

## University Acceptances

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.

### Africa, Asia and Australia

Nagoya University  
SAE Institute Sydney  
University of Witwatersrand

### Belgium

CAD (College of Advertising, Art and Design)  
Brussels (2)  
Katholieke Universiteit Leuven (2)  
Royal Academy of Fine Arts, Antwerp.  
Thomas More hogeschool  
United Business Institutes, Brussels  
United International Business School,  
Antwerp  
United International Business School,  
Brussels  
VUB (Vrije Universiteit Brussel) (5)

### Canada

Bishop's University (2)  
Concordia University (2)  
Dalhousie University  
McGill University (4)  
University of Ottawa  
University of British Columbia

### European

Tónlistarskólinn, Akureyri  
Charles University, Prague  
Technical University of Dublin  
École Polytechnique  
Gilon Institute of Higher Education  
Humboldt University of Berlin  
IE University (4)  
ISAL, Paris  
La Salle Campus Barcelona  
LISAA (L'Institut Supérieur des Arts Appliqués)  
Paris  
Musikschule Kreuzberg-Friedrichshain, Berlin  
National University of Ireland, Galway (2)

PSB (Paris School of Business)  
Uni-Campus Bio-Medico di Roma  
SSTH Swiss School of Tourism and  
Hospitality  
Superinfocom RUBIKA

### Netherlands

Conservatory of Amsterdam  
University of Amsterdam  
Delft University of Technology (2)  
Eindhoven University of Technology (5)  
Erasmus University Rotterdam (2)  
University of Groningen (3)  
Groningen University College  
Leiden University (7)  
Leiden University College  
Maastricht University (7)  
Royal Academy of Art, The Hague  
Tilburg University (2)  
Tilburg University College  
Van Hall Larenstein, University of Applied  
Science

### United Kingdom

Anglia Ruskin University  
Bangor University  
University of Bath (5)  
BIMM (British and Irish Institute of Modern  
Music)  
University of Birmingham (2)  
University College Birmingham (2)  
Arts University, Bournemouth (2)  
University of Brighton (3)  
University of Bristol (2)  
Bristol, University of the West of England (3)  
University of Buckingham  
University of Cambridge (4)  
Cambridge School of Visual and Performing  
Art  
Canterbury Christ Church University  
University of Cardiff  
Cardiff Metropolitan University  
University of Chichester (2)  
City, University of London (2)  
Coventry University  
Delamar Academy of Make-up and Hair  
De Montfort University (2)  
University of Derby (2)  
University of Durham (8)  
University of East Anglia (3)  
University of Edinburgh (2)  
University of Essex (3)  
University of Exeter (3)  
Falmouth University  
Goldsmiths, University of London  
University of Greenwich  
Hartpury College and University Centre  
University of Hertfordshire (2)  
Imperial College, London (4)  
Keele University  
University of Kent (3)  
King's College, London (5)  
Kingston University (3)  
Lancaster University (2)  
University of Leeds (5)  
Leeds Arts University  
Leeds Beckett University  
University of Liverpool  
LSE (London School of Economics and  
Political Science) (4)  
London South Bank University  
University of Loughborough (7)  
University of Manchester (7)  
Manchester Metropolitan University (5)  
Middlesex University  
University of Newcastle (4)  
University of Northampton  
Northumbria University, Newcastle  
University of Nottingham (2)  
Nottingham Trent University (2)

University of Oxford (2)  
Oxford Brookes University  
Pearson College London  
Queen Mary, University of London (3)  
Queen's University Belfast  
Royal Birmingham Conservatoire (2)  
Royal Holloway, University of London  
University of Salford  
University of Sheffield (5)  
SOAS, University of London  
University of Southampton (3)  
Southampton Solent University  
University of St Andrews (2)  
St George's, University of London (2)  
Staffordshire University  
University of Stirling (2)  
University of Surrey (4)  
University of Sussex (8)  
Swansea University (2)  
Ulster University  
University College, London (8)  
University of the Arts, London (4)  
UCFB  
University of Warwick (4)  
University of West London  
University of Westminster  
University of Winchester  
University of Wolverhampton  
University of York (4)

### United States

Boston College  
University of California, San Diego  
Cornell University  
New York University  
Northeastern University  
Parsons School of Design  
Tufts University  
Valley Forge Military College

## Examination Results

(I)GCSE RESULTS		2020	2019	2018	2017
A*-A/9-7	BSB	64%	55%	61%	60%
A*-C/ 9-4	BSB	96%	93%	95%	92%

A LEVEL RESULTS		2020	2019	2018
A*-A	BSB	43%	41%	35%
A*-B	BSB	74%	62%	67%
A*-C	BSB	98%	80%	87%
A*-E	BSB	100%	99%	100%

IB DIPLOMA RESULTS		2020	2019	2018
Average Total Points	BSB	38	35	35
40 or higher	BSB	37%	14%	17%
36 or higher	BSB	71%	45%	46%
30 or higher	BSB	94%	84%	91%
Highest	BSB	44	44	43

BTEC RESULTS (Level 3)		2020	2019	2018	2017
Distinction or higher (= A or A* at A Level)	BSB	55%	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.