

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.

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. BSB students are entered for the IGCSE Science (Double Award) or IGCSE Science (Single Award) exam and are 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 International BTEC Level 3. Some students combine A Levels with Level 3 International BTEC, some complete the Extended International Diploma. Students study for these in "Post16" – the last two years of education at BSB.

Most students studying A Level and/or International BTEC will also complete an EPQ (Extended Project Qualification). The expectation is that students will begin three A Levels/Level 3 International 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
 English Language B
 Environmental Systems & Society
 Film
 French Language B
 French Language A: Language & Literature
 French ab initio
 Further Mathematics
 Geography
 German Language B
 History
 Mathematics
 Music
 Physics

Psychology
 Spanish Language B
 Spanish ab initio
 Theatre Arts
 Visual Arts

The following Level 3 International BTEC subjects are offered:

Business
 Hospitality
 Sport
 Business + Hospitality (as the Extended International Diploma)
 Business + Sport (as the Extended International Diploma)

All classes are taught in English, except for language classes and in the Bilingual Programme in Year 7-9, where 30% of lessons are taught in French. A number of students each year sit for the Bilingual IB Diploma.

Class Rank, GPA and Mid-Year Grades

The British School of Brussels does not class rank or calculate a GPA for students. We also do not have Mid-Year grades in Year 13 (the Senior year). From the academic Year 2022-23 onwards, we will report grades twice a year. Previously, we reported three times a year. The exception being 2019-20 due to the pandemic. These grades appear on official Transcripts.

Enrolment

Total enrolment = 1363
 Secondary School = 873
 Primary School = 490
 Class of 2022 = 118
 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: 97%
 Percentage of Faculty with a Post-Graduate Degree: 6.4%
 Percentage of Faculty who are qualified teachers: 99.7%
 Percentage of local Faculty: 39.2%
 Percentage of foreign Faculty: 60.8%
 Top nationalities represented in Faculty: British (38.9%) Belgian (39.2%) French (5.3%)

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

FEDISA Fashion School
Nagoya University
University of Witwatersrand

Belgium

CAE Oxford Aviation Academy Brussels
HOWEST Universiteit of Applied Sciences (4)
Katholieke Universiteit (KU) Leuven (8)
Royal Academy of Fine Arts, Antwerp (2)
Thomas More University of Applied Sciences (2)
United Business Institutes, Brussels
ULB (Université libre de Bruxelles)
VUB (Vrije Universiteit Brussel)

Canada

Concordia University
McGill University (5)
OCAD University
Ottawa University
Simon Fraser University
St Mary's, Halifax
University of British Columbia (3)
University of Victoria
York University

Europe

Charles University, Prague
Technical University of Dublin
University College Dublin
École Polytechnique
ESADE Business and Law School (2)
ESMOD (L'École supérieure des arts et techniques de la mode)
Florence Design Academy
Francisco de Vitoria University
Griffith College, Dublin
Humboldt University of Berlin
International European University, Kyiv
IE University
Institute of the Arts, Barcelona
Karolinska Institute

Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (KIT),
Carl Benz School of Engineering
La Salle Campus Barcelona (2)
Massana School of Art and Design, Autonomous University of Barcelona
National University of Ireland, Galway
PSB (Paris School of Business)
Universitat Pompeu Fabra
Skema Business School
Sports Management School, Paris
WHU – Otto Beisheim School of Management

Netherlands

Conservatory of Amsterdam
University of Amsterdam (6)
Breda University of Applied Sciences
Delft University of Technology (9)
Eindhoven University of Technology (12)
Erasmus University Rotterdam (7)
Erasmus University College (s)
University of Groningen
Groningen University College
The Hague University of Applied Sciences
HU University of Applied Sciences Utrecht
Leiden University
Leiden University College
Maastricht University (3)
Tilburg University (4)
Tilburg University College
University of Twente
Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam

United Kingdom

Anglia Ruskin University
Bangor University
Bangor SERC (South-East Regional College)
University of Bath (7)
BIMM (British and Irish Institute of Modern Music)
Birmingham City University
Arts University, Bournemouth
Bath Spa University (2)
Bournemouth University
University of Brighton (4)

University of Bristol (2)
Bristol, University of the West of England (3)
University of Buckingham
University of Cambridge
Cambridge Regional College
Cambridge School of Visual and Performing Art
University of Cardiff (2)
Cardiff Metropolitan University
University of Chester
University of Chichester
University of Durham (4)
University of East Anglia (4)
University of East London
University of Edinburgh (5)
Edinburgh Napier University
University of Essex
University of Exeter (5)
Falmouth University
University of Glasgow
University of Gloucestershire
Goldsmiths, University of London (2)
University of Greenwich
Hartpury College and University Centre Heriot-Watt University
University of Hertfordshire
Imperial College, London (5)
University of Kent (4)
King's College, London (4)
Kingston University
LAMDA (London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art)
Lancaster University
University of Leeds (3)
Leeds Arts University (2)
Leeds Beckett University (3)
University of Lincoln
University of Liverpool (4)
Liverpool Hope University
LSE (London School of Economics and Political Science) (2)
University of Loughborough (4)
University of Manchester (3)
Manchester Metropolitan University (6)

University of Newcastle (6)
University of Northampton
Northumbria University
Newcastle (2)
Nottingham Trent University (3)
University of Oxford (6)
Oxford Brookes University
Queen Mary, University of London (3)
Queen's University Belfast (2)
Royal Agricultural University
Royal Veterinary College
University of Salford (2)
University of Sheffield (3)
Sheffield Hallam University
University of Southampton (3)
Southampton Solent University
University of St Andrews (4)
St George's
University of London (3)
Staffordshire University
University of Stirling
University of Strathclyde
University of Surrey (5)
University of Sussex (5)
Swansea University (3)
Ulster University (2)
University College, London (10)
University of the Arts, London (7)
UCFB
University of Warwick (5)
University of West London
University of Westminster (2)
University of York (3)

United States

Babson College
Boston University
University of the Cumberlands
The New School, New York City
New York University
New York Film Academy
Northeastern University (3)
University of Rochester
University of Southern California
Tufts University
Forge Military College

Examination Results

(I)GCSE RESULTS		2022	2021	2020	2019
A*-A/9-7	BSB	62%	59%	60%	56%
A*-C/ 9-4	BSB	97%	97%	90%	92%

A LEVEL RESULTS		2022	2021	2020	2019
A*-A	BSB	49%	45%	43%	41%
A*-B	BSB	70%	75%	74%	62%
A*-C	BSB	86%	85%	98%	80%
A*-E	BSB	100%	100%	100%	99%

IB DIPLOMA RESULTS		2022	2021	2020	2019
Average Total Points	BSB	37	40	38	35
40 or higher	BSB	21%	54%	37%	14%
36 or higher	BSB	59%	94%	71%	45%
30 or higher	BSB	97%	100%	94%	84%
Highest	BSB	45	45	44	44

BTEC RESULTS (Level 3)		2022	2021	2020	2019
Distinction or higher (= A or A* at A Level)	BSB	39%	83%	55%	57%

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 SCIS (Sports Council of International Sports), ISAA (International Sports Athletic Association) and ESC (European Sports Council). 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), Belgian Special Olympics, Fair Trade and a range of environmental projects through our GIN (Global Issues Network) group.