

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 and English programme.
- ✓ All students follow a British-based curriculum up to age 16 - (!)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.



Our Curriculum

BSB is committed to providing a credible, coherent, holistic curriculum, built around our Guiding Statements and underpinned by the UNESCO 4 Pillars:

- Learning To Know
- Learning To Do
- Learning To Live Together
- Learning To Become.

At BSB, this means our curriculum has an emphasis on:

- Learning together by valuing collaboration, connectivity, and diversity
- Student agency to make a positive difference to the world
- Becoming the best person we can be
- Providing opportunities for inquiry, critical thinking, creativity and learning beyond the classroom
- Scholarly endeavour and challenge
- Provision of a variety of pathways to set students up for success.

Teaching and Learning at BSB

- ✓ We provoke wonder and joy in learning
- ✓ We build and nurture strong relationships and know our learners well
- ✓ We are experts in our field, engaging learners to discover more to make a difference
- ✓ We create inspiring and supportive environments that promote creativity and enable ownership of learning
- ✓ We develop knowledge and skills for life and learning.

(Created from staff collaborative input during the curriculum and learning review 2020-2022.

Approved by Leadership Team December 2022)



Our 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 their 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:

- ✓ 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 students to share and value each other's international experiences and mother tongue languages
- ✓ International extension opportunities which include partnership links with other organisations, visits and exhibitions, learning opportunities and competitions, personal development and challenge
- ✓ Higher education offers from a wide 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.



An international learning community

The British School of Brussels vzw

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Learning **together**
inspiring success

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