

SECONDARY SCHOOL CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

Art

We have a practical approach to our subject which aims to build sound subject knowledge in a variety of media. We aim to help each pupil develop as an individual with the skills and confidence to explore their own unique imagination and creativity. Our staff have specialist knowledge and experience in a wide range of different subject areas including Drawing, Painting, Mixed Media, Sculpture, Jewellery, Theatre Design, Costume /Prop Making and Special Effects.

Business

Our IGCSE course starts with learning about entrepreneurs and their motives for setting up businesses; this allows us to explore the concepts of risks and rewards and creativity

Science

The principal focus of science teaching in Key Stage 3 is to develop a deeper understanding of a range of scientific ideas in the subject disciplines of biology, chemistry and physics. Pupils should begin to see the connections between these subject areas and Science. Throughout Key Stage 3, pupils will become aware of some of the big ideas underpinning scientific knowledge and understanding.

Computer Science

At British School of Tirana, we offer Computer Science, where students delve deeper into the theoretical side of these technologies, while developing skills in problem solving and programming. Computer Science explores the principles of digital technology and a way of working that is called “computational thinking”, coding being in the core of this course.

Economics

Economics is an extremely enjoyable and interesting subject to take at IGCSE. It will encourage and challenge students to think in different ways about the world around them.

English

English Language includes the study of literary and non-fiction texts from the 19th-21st centuries and tests students on comprehension, analysis and writing skills. English Literature requires students to analyse an anthology of poetry, a Shakespeare play, a classic English text and a modern play. At all Key Stages, we aim to develop an appreciation and understanding of the English Language, a love of literature and a confidence in all forms of communication skills. English language learning allow our pupils to explore complex issues and engage in topical debates, it also equips us with essential tools which enable us to understand and interact with the world around us, linking to other disciplines, such as History, Politics and Philosophy.

Reading

Promoting a love of reading for pleasure is a key focus for the English team. Students in Years 7-8 are given library lessons to promote regular reading habits, stimulate discussion about themes and narrative techniques and allow students to share their passion for their chosen book or genre.

Drama

Drama is a skill for life. This skill is explored creatively whilst allowing students to develop and express ideas around a range of topics and stimuli. Students learn to work collaboratively, developing their use of voice, movement, gesture and facial expression, in acting, mime, physical theatre and through exploring contemporary and classic texts.

Geography

Living with the Physical Environment, Challenges in the Human Environment: Urban issues and challenges, Geographical Applications. Throughout the curriculum there are opportunities to use map skills (traditional and digital) alongside extending literacy, numeracy and ICT skills. Our students are global citizens. We celebrate our ethnic diversity, learning reasons for inequality in the world whilst considering the type of actions to be taken to make the world a better place. Trips (an Albania residential and European trip are organised as part of the curriculum)

History

We bring the subject alive, both inside and outside the classroom, through interactive, engaging and stimulating ways.

Design and Technology

Design and technology is an inspiring, rigorous and practical subject. Using creativity and imagination, pupils design and make products that solve real and relevant problems within a variety of contexts, considering their own and others' needs, wants and values. They acquire a broad range of subject knowledge and draw on disciplines such as mathematics, science, engineering, computing and art.

Mathematics

In a world of instant access to most things, we are working to build students' resilience and independence and equip them with the tools needed to tackle difficult problems. We praise fluency and accuracy ahead of pace and work to develop pupils written and oral communication skills, to help them become successful in their future work place and able to play an active part as citizens.

Modern Languages

At the British School of Tirana, we ensure that the 3 main languages we teach as part of the curriculum – French, Spanish and German - are encouraged and reinforced, via teaching and learning, but also through extra and cross curricular activities such as clubs and trips abroad for each of them.

Citizenship

Teaching equips pupils with the skills and knowledge to explore political and social issues critically, to weigh evidence, debate and make reasoned arguments. It also prepares pupils to take their place in society as responsible citizens, manage their money well and make sound financial decisions.

Physical education

We recognise that sport instils self-confidence and develops leadership and therefore we focus on giving our pupils the opportunity of participating in as many different activities as possible in the hope that they find and develop a sport that each individual is suited to. Competitive and recreational sports including swimming are important and have a special place in BST.