



Curriculum Policy

Introduction

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that our curriculum reflects our school ethos and aims. We believe our curriculum should be broad, balanced, creative and cater for the needs of all children.

Our Mission Statement states:

The British School of Tenerife provides a high-quality British education for children of all ages in an open, multi-cultural environment; allowing each child to achieve their full potential in a positive learning community.

At the British School of Tenerife we aim to:

- Fully develop each student's academic potential.
- Provide each student with the personal and social skills for the future.
- Prepare students to be tolerant, caring, responsible members of society.

As a community we:

- Encourage all parents to participate in the education of their children.
- Promote a caring environment which responds to the needs of the whole community.
- Promote, develop and foster multi-cultural awareness and sensitivity.

As a school we are committed to:

- Remain at the forefront of educational thinking
- Participate fully in the wider community
- Provide a fully integrated education programme for children of all ages.

The BST curriculum encompasses the whole learning experience that our students are exposed to during their time at school. It is not limited to the academic but to moral and social education, in short, any learning that contributes to making our students all round citizens.

Our curriculum encompasses the learning of languages, the sciences and the arts. We hope that our students develop:

- a wish to succeed;
- a thirst for learning and an ability to set targets for future learning;
- a sense of what is right and wrong and the importance of fairness and truth;
- the ability to argue a point in a logical and respectful way;
- a sense of self-worth;
- a sense of personal and cultural identity;
- the key skills of literacy, numeracy and ICT;
- the study skills necessary to realise their learning potential;
- an appreciation of different cultures;
- a respect for the environment;
- empathy for others;
- an ability to work cooperatively;
- creativity and independence;
- a desire to embrace new ideas and embrace contemporary and future technologies

Our school will promote British values and values from other societies that are conducive with a democratic lifestyle i.e., commitment, kindness, honesty, respect, liberty, equality and tolerance and respect.

Our students are given the opportunity to take part in the democratic process of the election of Head Boy and Head Girl and also the election of School Council Representatives. Meetings are held regularly with School Leaders and staff to discuss issues of concern and undertake initiatives which are beneficial to the school.

Taught Curriculum

At the BST, children and young people are entitled to access the National Curriculum and each individual is valued, respected and challenged regardless of race, gender, religion, social background, culture or disability.

The BST follows the British National Curriculum but bearing in mind the locality of the school in Spain.

Pupils in Early years Foundation Stage follow the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) Framework.

Pupils in Years 1 to 6 are formally assessed termly in English and Mathematics and approximately half-termly (after each topic) in Science. GL assessments are used in English and Mathematics at the end of the year in Key Stage 1 and 2 and in Science at the end of the year in Key Stage 2 to assess attainment and progress.

In Key Stage 1 and 2, each child is has access to their timetable.

Years 1 to 6 follow the programmes of study for each National Curriculum subject as a basis for planning all lessons which are differentiated as necessary.

Homework for Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 pupils is posted on the class blog.

Primary allocation of times per subject:

English: 300 -360 mins

Mathematics: 300 - 320 mins

Science: 90 - 120 mins

Computing: 60 mins

Geography / History - 60 mins

Art/Design/Technology: - 60 mins

Music: 45 mins

P.E: 90 minutes

PSHEE: 30 minutes

Spanish: 90-200 mins

Secondary

All external exams sat at school are set by Cambridge Assessment International Education (Cambridge International Examinations board). Students sit IGCSE examinations in Year 11 and International AS and A Levels in Years 12 and 13. Timetables are published on the school platform, **Microsoft Teams**, so that parents can see the arrangements of subjects per day. Lessons are 40 minutes with double periods timetabled as much as possible for examination groups.

Years 7-9 (Key Stage 3)

- English, Maths, Science and Spanish are allocated 5 periods a week
- Art - 4 periods
- Sport – 3 periods
- History, Geography, Computer Science, French or German 2 periods
- Drama, Music, Reading (Literature) PSHEE and Tutorial 1 period each

Years 10 and 11 (Key Stage 4)

In these year groups students must study the obligatory subjects of English, Mathematics, Science, Spanish and Sports and choose 1 subject from each of the option blocks below:

Option 1

Computer Science
Geography
Art

Option 2

History
French/German
PE Theory

Option 3

Business Studies
Drama

- Spanish and subjects in the Option Blocks are allocated 5 periods a week
- Maths – 5 periods (Y10), 4 periods (Y11)
- Science (Biology, Physics & Chemistry) – 6 periods (Y10), 9 periods (Y11)
- English language – 3 periods
- English Literature – 3 periods
- Sport - 2 periods (Y10), 1 period (Y11)
- Tutorial – 1 period

Year 12 and 13 (Key Stage 5 / Sixth Form)

Students sit 4 A Levels including Spanish. Each subject is allocated 8 lessons of 40 minutes each per week. If teachers' and students' timetables allow for more lessons in a subject, then these are added once the timetable for the whole school has been finalised.

The option blocks for Sixth form students are:

<u>Option 1</u>	<u>Option 2</u>	<u>Option 3</u>	<u>Option 4</u>
Biology	Chemistry	Physics	Maths
Computer Science	History	Drama	English Lit & English language
Art	French/German	Business	Global Perspectives
	Physical Education		

Our curriculum ensures that students can demonstrate a high level of knowledge and understanding and can move, seamlessly from the BST to a new school.

The curriculum is accessible to students with SEND and ensures that those with levels above average are stretched accordingly. It provides continuity, progression of learning and differentiation.

Homework is posted in Microsoft Teams for easy access for students and parents.

Our schemes of work reflect SMSC values to:

- enable students to develop their self-knowledge, self-esteem and self-confidence;
- enable students to distinguish right from wrong and to respect the civil and criminal law of England and Spain;
- encourage students to accept responsibility for their behaviour, show initiative, and to understand how they can contribute positively to the lives of those living and working in the locality of the school and to society more widely;
- enable students to acquire a broad general knowledge of and respect for public institutions and services in England and Spain;
- encourage further tolerance and harmony between different cultural traditions by enabling students to acquire an appreciation of and respect for their own and other cultures;
- encourage respect for other people; and
- encourage respect for democracy and support for participation in the democratic processes, including respect for the basis on which the law is made and applied in England.

In addition, our curriculum ensures:

- an understanding of how citizens can influence decision-making through the democratic process;
- an appreciation that living under the rule of law protects individual citizens and is essential for their wellbeing and safety; 1 The Prevent strategy 2011: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/prevent-strategy-2011>
- an understanding that there is a separation of power between the executive and the judiciary, and that while some public bodies such as the police and the army can be held to account through Parliament, others such as the courts maintain independence;
- an understanding that the freedom to choose and hold other faiths and beliefs is protected in law;
- an acceptance that other people having different faiths or beliefs to oneself (or having none) should be accepted and tolerated, and should not be the cause of prejudicial or discriminatory behaviour; and
- an understanding of the importance of identifying and combatting discrimination.

In addition to the above, our students are actively involved in charity work, take part in school productions in drama and music, in sports days, excursions to places of cultural interest and produce their own school magazine.

After-school activities

At the BST we offer a wide variety of activities that children can carry out at the end of the school day. We believe it is very important that children practise other areas such as sports, art and music, improving the creativity and imagination of each child which is an essential part of their development.

<u>Yeoward – La Luz</u>	<u>Trinity – Los Realejos</u>
English as an additional language	Maths Clinic/Maths Club
Maths Club	Drama (including LAMDA)
Homework	English as an Additional language
Chess	Spanish as a Foreign Language
Spanish	Robotics
Hammer Beads	Chess
	“Dungeons & Dragons”
	SEND Workshops

<u>Additional Clubs:</u> Basketball Football Karate Minecraft Estrellitas Baby Ballet	
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Throughout the year, we are very fortunate to be visited by many speakers who impart extremely important and useful information to our pupils/students.

Review date: January 2024