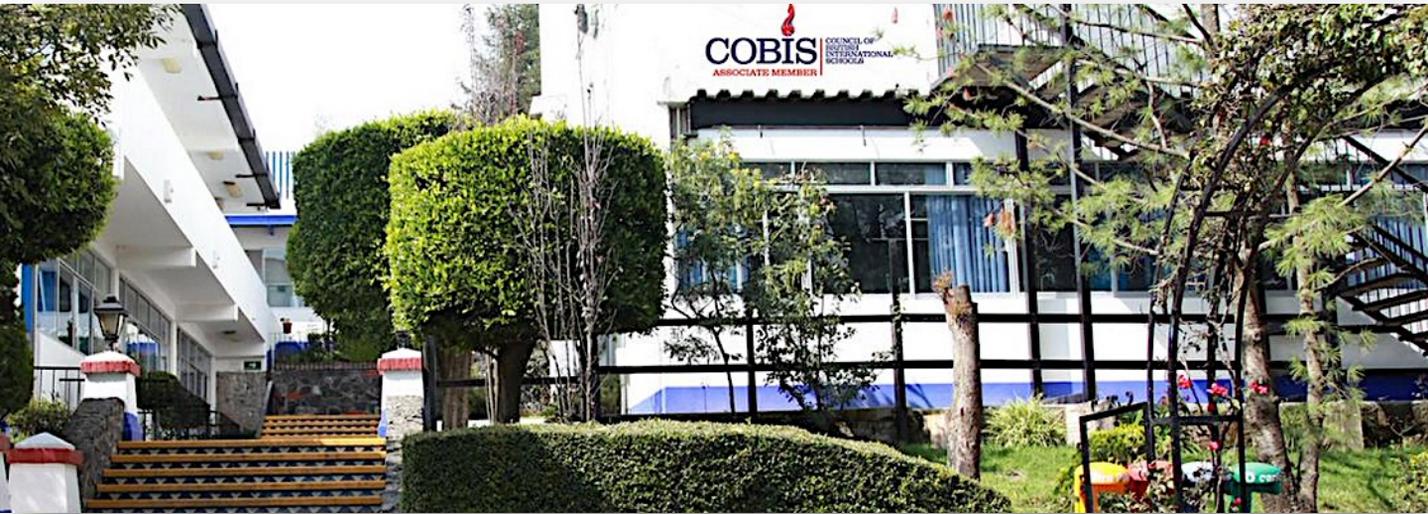




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EDRON



# The Edron Academy

*El Colegio Britanico A.C*



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## Introduction

The Edron Academy (El Colegio Británico) A.C. is a non-profit making institution founded in 1963 by Edward Foulkes, a Welshman who worked in Mexico in the publishing business and as a teacher for the British Council, and by Ronald Stech, a Canadian who became the school's first administrator. Their vision was to create a learning community in which every child would feel secure, wanted, cared for and free from tension and hostility.

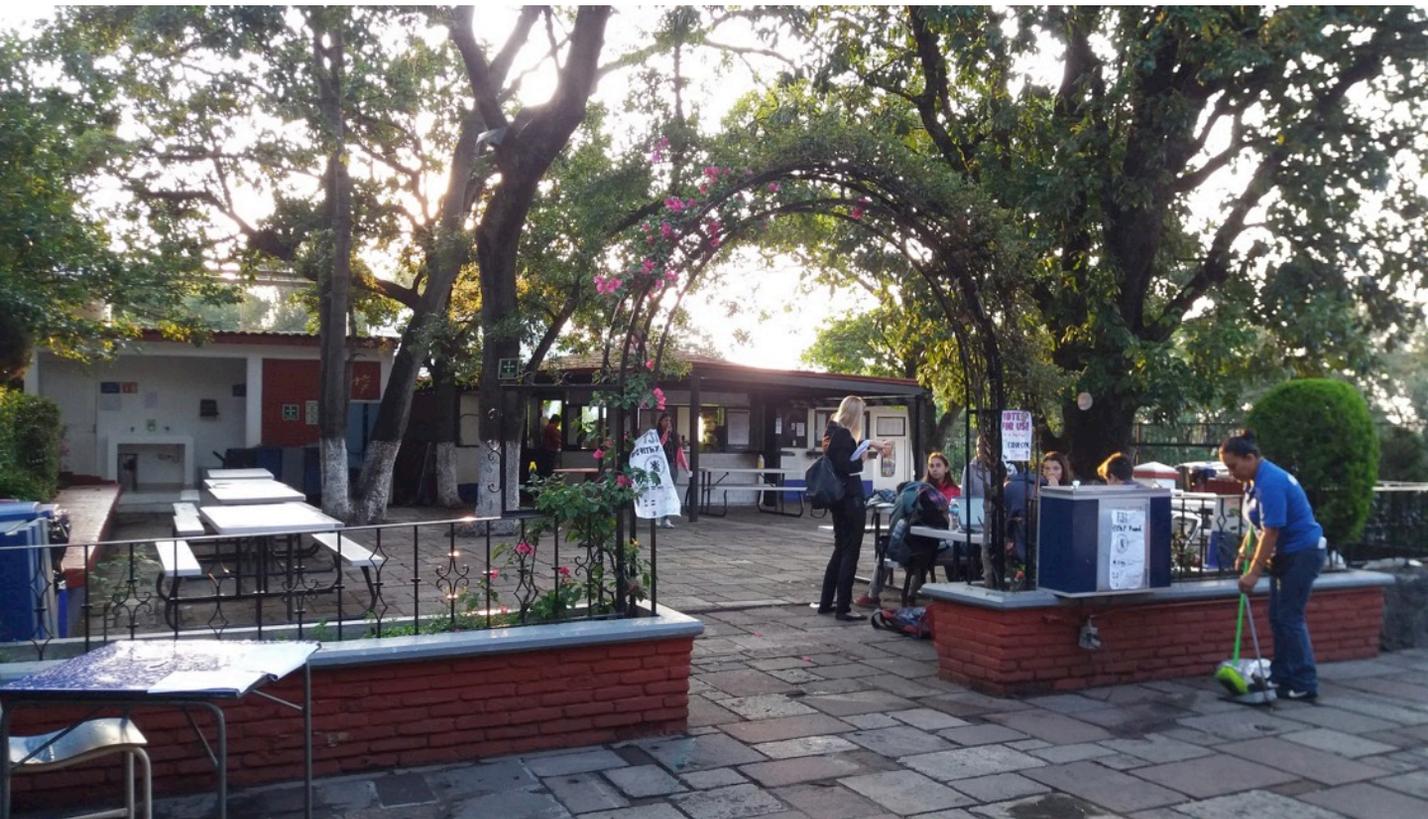
Over the years the school has retained these fundamental values, whilst adapting to change and expansion. In 1985, it moved from San Angel to its present site in a pleasant residential area close to the forested hills of Desierto de los Leones. At the same time, it achieved its bi-cultural status through incorporation with the Mexican education authority.

Edron Academy continues to be a non profit schools and in 2014, following a successful British Schools Overseas Inspection, the school became the first school in Mexico to be fully accredited to the Council of British International Schools, COBIS, and recognised by the Department for Education in London. The school is also affiliated to the LAHC organisation that works to promote links between schools in Latin America.



Today, the Edron Academy has 1,100 mainly Mexican students aged between 2 and 18 and an academic staff of 125. The curriculum is based on the Foundation Stage Programme, the English National Curriculum, IGCSE, IB and the Mexican National Curriculum.

The school is led by the Senior Leadership Team comprising of an Executive Head/CEO, Director of Administration, Head of Lower School and Head of Secondary. The SLT is overseen by a Board of Governors and the School Assembly. A comprehensive middle leadership team is distributed throughout the school and opportunities for professional development occur regularly.



## The Secondary Section

The Secondary School at Edron begins in Year 7 and ends in Year 13, with a maximum group size of 24 ensuring a student-teacher ratio, which is very low. This section of the school is organised into four faculties:

- Social Sciences,
- Expressive Arts
- Communications
- Mathematics and Science

Students in Years 7 to 9 continue to follow both the UK and Mexican National Curricula, as they have done in Primary. In Years 10 and 11 students take the IGCSE exams; these examinations are set by the University of Cambridge. In Years 12 and 13 students follow the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme.



Edron Academy is an IB World School and has been offering this programme since February 1995. The International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme is a rigorous pre-university course of studies, leading to examinations that meet the needs of highly motivated secondary school students between the ages of 16 and 19 years.

The International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme opens many doors to prestigious further educational institutions.

The school operates a vertical tutor system that is set up across three Houses - Windsor, Balmoral and Sandringham. Many teachers also act as Tutors and each House is led by a House Leader.

There is an annual camps week which normally takes place in November. Students also have the opportunity to take part in a range of extra-curricular activities including; sports, performing arts, debating and model UN.

The Secondary Leadership Team is made up of the Head of Secondary, Deputy Head Academic, Deputy Head Pastoral, Directora Tecnica, Leader of Key Stage Three and Leader of Key Stage Four.

Following the completion of the IB Diploma Edron students go on to study at universities around the world and these have included Oxford, Cambridge, Stanford, New York, Edinburgh and UNAM.

## The Primary Section

The Lower school begins in with our Early Years department and runs through to the end of Year 6. Children from EY to Year 1 are based at our Kinder site about 500 metres away from the 'Big School' or 'Colegio'



Class size is around 24 pupils per group. This enables teachers to identify and respond to a variety of learning styles and provide differentiated activities according to individual and group needs. Year group teams plan collaboratively and all staff work together to ensure that the curriculum is broad, balanced and developmental. Student progress is monitored through both formative and summative assessments and progress is discussed regularly at all levels within the school.

Learning in the Lower School is supported by the well established Additional Needs Department who work in partnership with the class teachers to support more able learners, those students with particular learning needs as well as students who may need emotional support for one reason or another.

There is a well established programme of camps and day trips, with all year groups from Year 2 and up going on camps within Mexico.

The Lower School Leadership Team is made up of the Head of Lower School, Deputy Head of Lower School, Directora Tecnica, Phase Coordinators for EY, FS, Year 1, Years 2,3,&4, Years 5&6.



## Staff profile and Professional Development

The school employs a mixture of both overseas and local teachers. The majority of the overseas teachers are from the UK with Canada, Australia and Brazil also represented. All teachers hold appropriate teaching qualifications, have an academic degree and most have taught for at least two years.

Staff development plays a significant part in the schools philosophy and staff are encouraged to use their skills and specialisms to support one another. Training is provided for teachers who deliver the IB curriculum and there are a host of other professional development opportunities including management training and support for further education qualifications. Many local staff study for the IPGCE qualification offered by Buckingham University and facilitated through a college in the Mexico City.



## Mission Statement

Edron recognises each child as an individual, developing their potential as global citizens in an environment where they feel safe, valued and secure. Where respect at all levels is fundamental to developing a secure sense of self and a desire to always be the best that they can be, both academically and personally.

Through the medium of a bilingual and bicultural learning environment, Edron seeks to ensure that students are prepared to be internationally minded, creative, self-assured future leaders and role models.

The Schools vision is to be the best bicultural and bilingual school in Mexico.

## Teacher quotes



I have worked in international schools now for over ten years, the last five of these at the Edron Academy. It is a really pleasant working environment where the staff is supportive and the students are generally a pleasure to be around. It is a truly bicultural school and certainly one of the best performing schools in the country. I have enjoyed my time here and intend to continue working here for many years to come. My daughter will be starting in early years in January.

*Mike Smith - TOK & Environmental Science Teacher*



I came to the Edron as a 52 year old grandma on “Gap year” adventure, 5 years on and I am still living and working with the most amazing people. Mexico and its people are warm and generous, its children are a pleasure to teach. Working in an international school is both rewarding and interesting. I was an experienced teacher before I arrived, during my time in the Edron. I have enriched that part of me, I am life long learner and I do learn every day.



*Sharon Moore - Art Teacher*

This is my 5th year now working for The Edron Academy in Mexico. I'm currently working in Year 2 and have worked in most other year groups. I always really enjoy working with the pupils here in Mexico as they are enthusiastic, keen to learn and well behaved. The parents are also very helpful and supportive. The school has made lots of good, positive changes over the years and continues to grow and develop. Working at The Edron Academy allows you to travel and explore Mexico and further afield. For me though, one of the best things about working here is the city itself. Mexico City is an exciting, vibrant place to live with lots of different things to see and do!

*John Reston - Lower School Teacher*

Edron is a friendly and welcoming place in a vibrant and exciting city. I am so glad I made the decision to become part of the Edron team.

*James Hughes - Primary Teacher*



## Salary and Benefit Package

- **Salary** – the basic salary for teaching posts is in the region of 26,000 – 31,700 MXN (Mexican pesos) per month. Salaries are reviewed annually
- **Housing** – the school provides basically furnished, rented accommodation up to the value of \$11,000. Staff can choose to add to this allowance if they wish.
- **Overseas allowance** – monthly allowance of 8,450 MXN for teachers recruited from overseas – this basically offsets taxes paid

**NB:** There is a transparent salary scale which is complemented by a Teaching and Learning Responsibility Scale for posts of responsibility

- **Flights** – flights are offered at the beginning and end of contract following school policy
- **Settling in allowance** – a one off payment on arrival to allow for initial expenditure. This is equal to one months salary
- **Health Insurance** – private health insurance is provided giving access to good quality hospitals. Onsite doctor service is available at the school for minor ailments and consultations
- **Bonus** – a Christmas holiday cash bonus equal to not less than two weeks of salary after 1 full year of service (pro-rata in the first year of service). The bonus is incremental and increases to reflect the number of years service completed
- **Contract** – initially two years with mutual renewal thereafter
- **Baggage** – allowance according to school policy
- **Loan** – available according to school policy
- **Pension** – 4% of salary
- **Visa and documentation** – reimbursement of expenses for the legalisation of all documentation



## Living in Mexico

Mexico lies between the United States of America to the north, and Guatemala and Belize to the southeast. Its extensive coastlines include the Gulf of Mexico and the Caribbean Sea to the east and the Pacific Ocean to the west.



Mexico has nice and warm people, unique food, art and archeology, pyramids, museums, Haciendas, 6,000 miles of shoreline, superb architecture and 21st century cities, weather from snow mountains in the Sierras, to rainy jungles in the Southeast and desert in the Northwest. There are many golf courses throughout the country, excellent fishing, world top destinations like Acapulco, Cancun, Cozumel, Los Cabos, and Patzcuaro. Mexico is ranked the 7th major destination for foreign visitors, according to WTO.

The greater Mexico City metropolitan area is one of the world's biggest and the largest city by population in North America, with an estimated 26 million people living in the region.

Mexico City is in the Federal District, a federally-administered area (that is, not part of any Mexican state) which acts as the capital of Mexico. The rest of the metropolitan area extends beyond it into Mexico State, which surrounds M.C on three sides. Legally and practically speaking, Mexico City is the same as the Federal District, much in the same way the city of Washington is the same as the District of Columbia in the United States' capital city.

Mexico City is divided up into 16 delegaciones, similar to the boroughs of New York, which in turn are divided into "colonias" (neighborhoods), of which there are about 250. As with many very large cities, the structure is relatively decentralized, with several parts of the city having their own miniature "downtown areas." However, the real downtown areas are Centro, the old city center, and Zona Rosa, the new business and entertainment district.

# Travel

Living in Mexico City places you in an ideal location to explore North, Central and South Americas as well as the Caribbean with ease. The beach resorts on both the Pacific and Caribbean coasts are around an hour and half flight time away.

The rich cultural and historical heritage of Mexico means that within the city and the local area there are untold places of interest to visit and explore from the pyramids at Teotihuacan to the magical 'pueblitos' such as Tepotzlan and Puebla. There is always something for you to see or do.



## Language & Culture

Part of the fun of living in Mexico is the chance to learn, or improve, your Spanish. In the tourist towns on the coast English is widely spoken but in the city and provinces you will have plenty of opportunity to extend your language skills. The school offers free basic Spanish classes for all staff who are interested. We also encourage English speakers to offer classes to Spanish speaking colleagues.

Many staff teachers have private tutors to help with language acquisition and some undertake intensive courses at UNAM, the main university in the city.

## Cost of Living

Staff coming out from Britain are more than able to make ends meet and are certainly able to enjoy their life in Mexico. The salary, plus benefits, competes reasonably well with the UK but the standard of living is equally comparable as your money tends to go further here than at home. It is more than feasible to eat well and to go away for the weekend.

The 'Cost of Living Comparison' document will give you greater insight in to this.

## Security

Mexico City is a city of twenty five million people and as with any big city using common sense and a 'big city attitude' are needed. Travelling around the city by public transport is generally safe with many teachers commenting that they feel safer in the city than they do in other big cities such as London, Chicago and Madrid.

Many of the troubles that you will have read or heard about are localized in different parts of the country and Mexico is a big country. Travel to popular tourist spots by air is safe and we keep an eye on the travel advice given by the British Embassy regarding overland travel especially to provincial areas. Nowhere in the world can be guaranteed safe however Mexico is far safer than the international press would have you believe.

## Food

One of the most famous aspects of life is the food in Mexico and you will not be disappointed. The culinary heritage of the different regions can be traced back hundreds of years and for those unfamiliar with Mexican cuisine you will be surprised by the many different dishes that will tempt your tastebuds! Vegetarians do not always find it easy in this country – ham and tuna fish are not considered as meat here, however with a bit of practice everybody manages to get by!

There is a wide range of places to eat out in Mexico City to suit every taste and pocket. At lunch time (around 3 pm here) the comida corrida is popular; it is a set menu with soup or rice, a main meal and a dessert – all for about \$40. On every street corner there is a taco stand, however it is advisable to go to one that has been recommended. Eat on the street only if you have a stomach of steel and come prepared to fall foul of Moctezuma's Revenge at least once.

Alcoholic drinks such as beer, tequila and rum are readily available and well priced. Other spirits tend to be roughly UK prices, except Gin which is expensive. Wine is surprisingly expensive here, both in supermarkets and restaurants.



## Weather

The climate in Mexico City is surprisingly different to what you might expect. The city is 2250m above sea level and therefore is not the tropical climate that many imagine. Temperatures rarely go above 30°C but can fall as low as 0°C overnight during December and January. Houses and buildings are not equipped with central heating making the layering approach to your wardrobe essential!

November to February are the cold months, and it does get cold, especially in the mornings and at night. You will need a good winter coat at the least, a scarf and gloves wouldn't go amiss either.

March to May is when the weather is at its warmest, with hot days and warm evenings.

May through to October is the rainy season, hot days and torrential rain from about 4pm every day. The daytime temperatures can range from a cool and damp 15°C to around 25°C.

## Entertainment



Mexico offers a huge selection of opportunities for entertainment and you are sure to find something to suit your taste. In terms of music there is a lot going on. If classical is your thing, then you will find a thriving concert culture, with numerous weekly presentations, where you can listen to composers ranging from Bach to Piazzolla. Perhaps the finest venue is the Sala Nezahualcóyotl, where the UNAM orchestra is based. Another great place to listen to music is the Centro Nacional de Bellas Artes, which also stages ballet and opera.

There are also opportunities to go to concerts by top international artists ranging from Elton John to Juanes to Metallica. Cuban music is very big here and there are dance halls where you can salsa the night away. If you have always wanted to learn to tango, this could be your big chance, with dance schools readily available for all levels of expertise.

There are too many bars and clubs to mention, ranging from the sublime to the ridiculous.

Film fans will be glad to know that all mainstream films are in English with Spanish subtitles. Films are usually released a couple of weeks after their release in the USA. There are also “art house” cinemas which show smaller, independent films and hold film festivals. Tiempo Libre comes out on a Thursday and is a weekly magazine that will let you know everything that is going on in the city.

## Application process

To apply for any position at Edron Academy please visit <https://apply.uptic.net/school/edron-academy>

Via this link you can apply for any vacancy (via an application form), download any Job Descriptions, and view further information regarding Edron Academy.

- Early applications prior to the advertised closing date are appreciated as this helps with the administration of the recruitment process.
- Skype interviews will be carried out on a rolling basis.
- If invited to UK interview, the school pays standard class travel expenses within the UK only

# *Still got questions?*

For any other information please contact Daniella Davies, Recruitment Consultant @ TIC Recruitment:

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T: + 44 (0) 2920 212083

W: [www.ticrecruitment.com/edron](http://www.ticrecruitment.com/edron)

## Safeguarding, Child Protection and References

The Edron Academy is committed to the safeguarding of children and as such will only make appointments once full references have been received and all standard background checks have been carried out.



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[www.edron.edu.mx](http://www.edron.edu.mx)



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*The Leading British Mexican School in Mexico City*