

# BRITISH COLLEGE LA CAÑADA

## Information for Candidates



### Why British College La Cañada?



British College La Cañada is located in La Cañada (Valencia) - a beautiful urbanisation north of the city of Valencia. From our recently built primary and secondary buildings you have stunning views of the mountains, normally accompanied by bright blue sky! Valencia's proximity to the Mediterranean Sea is one of the high points of life in Spain's third largest city. Located along a coastline rich in top quality

beaches, living in and around Valencia you will enjoy fabulous Mediterranean climates.

British College La Cañada is situated within a large, leafy location approximately 15 kilometres from Valencia city centre. The area enjoys good transport links, and offers several options to travel to and from the city. Valencia airport is situated only 7 kilometres from the school, and the metro line has two stations: one in La Cañada town centre and one in the northern part of La Vallesa. Both are situated roughly 2.5 kilometres from the school. Most members of staff drive to work; for those who do not have their own car, arrangements are made amongst staff to carpool and share lifts (staff arrange amongst themselves to cover petrol costs). Only a stone's throw from Valencia city centre, La Cañada's peaceful surroundings, clean air and natural environment make this an attractive outlying town in which to work.

### Who are we?

British College La Cañada is a non-religious, vibrant and modern private school that opened in September 2008. The school has a forward-thinking, dynamic ownership and management team who are 'hands-on' and actively involved in the day-to-day running and improvement of the school's facilities, as well as the academic and personal progress of its young people. The school is deeply passionate about driving high standards and works relentlessly to cultivate and retain talented and experienced teachers to deliver and embrace its passion, determination and 'thirst' for academic excellence.

### The basic principles of the British College La Cañada are:

1. To provide a command of the **English language** as a fundamental instrument, both in the present and the future, and in this way be recognised as a school which reflects its British origins.
2. **To give an education in fundamental values**, which will both strengthen and benefit the pupils' interpersonal relationships in any environment.
3. **To use sport** as a means of encouraging regular physical activity, team spirit, trying one's best and knowing how to accept defeat as well as victory.
4. **To educate the pupils in manners and good habits**, providing them with the ability to behave correctly in all situations throughout their day to day lives.





### **How is the school organised?**

The school consists of three main buildings: an infant building, and a two storey primary building and a three storey secondary building. The school has a two (and in some cohorts a three) form entry from Nursery, through to Foundation, Key Stage 1, Key Stage 2 and Key Stage 3. The school opened its secondary building later in September 2015 with brand new, state-of-the-art facilities and glass wall classrooms. At present, we have approximately 560 pupils on roll and, when at full capacity with Sixth Form, we will accommodate up to 800 pupils across Primary and Secondary. The children are mainly from Spanish speaking, middle-class families, so the only English most of them get is at school. Our pupils are kind, thoughtful and well-natured, where they present no serious behaviour difficulties. There are approximately 25 children to each class and in Foundation Stage there are two staff per class, a teacher and a T.A. Within Key Stage 1 and 2 there is an assistant that is shared between the two classes. In Secondary, pupils benefit from a personal Guidance Tutor who oversees their day-to-day personal and academic wellbeing matters.

There are sports courts and playgrounds, along with a swimming pool. The school has an independent dining room with its own kitchen. The school is at an exciting point in its growth and development as we continue to expand our cohorts up to Year 13; subsequently, facilities are being updated and new facilities and resources are being built. In September 2016, we opened our underground sports hall and we have plans for future expansion with more outside recreational sports areas.



### **What is our vision?**

Today's children will be capable of crossing new frontiers in a world which is becoming more and more accessible. Their experiences, both academic and personal, will provide them with the tools to enable them to adapt to this world, to understand it and to enjoy it. We pride ourselves on delivering an outstanding curriculum that provides a holistic approach to Primary

and Secondary education. We want high-quality, passionate teachers to join our excellent team and share in our vision for success. Our goal is to recruit, mentor and continually develop the professional knowledge of our teachers to the highest standards. Our teachers come here to learn, grow and enhance their skillsets in a supportive environment, with the aim of staying long-term.

### **What do we offer?**

We offer all teaching posts a temporary one year contract in the first instance, divided into 12 monthly payments. In the first year of employment, contracts run from September to June, then July and August. After 12 months, we automatically make all teachers permanent on a 12 month continuous contract by mutual agreement. All new teachers in their first year work a July summer school; in the following year, this is reduced to 15 days and then rotates back to one full month, then 15 days etc. Spanish income tax is deducted and the school makes full social security payments. There are no fees for staff children but there are charges per child for lunch, uniform, excursions and materials. Help and advice is given to find suitable accommodation as well as fulfilling all the paperwork requirements of a move to Spain. All teachers receive a hot buffet meal at lunch, where vegetarian, vegan and other dietary needs can be met.

Additionally, we offer ongoing internal continual professional development sessions, with opportunities to extend and develop teaching skills at our external British schools in Spain conference held in Madrid and other Spanish cities annually. We want our new teachers to feel happy and secure in their new home city and workplace; therefore, we will provide new teachers with a peer mentor to help with the settling in process. They will be on hand to offer friendly, peer to peer, advice and support to do with matters relating to school procedures and ethos, places to see and visit, or even where to find the cheapest beer and tapas!

### **What are the conditions of service?**

The conditions of service are determined by the Spanish national agreement for private schools, known as the 'convenio'. The annual gross salary for teachers is 22,086 euros. Teachers work the academic year from September to the end of June (and summer in July as previously explained): from 08.45am until 5.00pm. As the salary is guided by the "convenio", the monthly net income depends on a teacher's personal "fiscal" situation. In Spain, the tax rate will vary from 2% to 13%. As part of the convenio terms and conditions, there is a staff meeting once a week (from 5.00pm until 6.00pm) after school and parents' evenings are held twice per year. All teachers are expected to do break and lunch duties on a timetabled basis.

There are usually between 175 and 180 teaching days a year; in addition to the 'convenio', the school pays the full months of July and August with the month of August off for holiday.

Whilst there are no scheduled half-termly holidays, living in Spain you will benefit from a generous number of national and local bank holidays and long weekends (known as 'puentes'). Furthermore, working at British College La Cañada, there are Christmas and Easter breaks (between 1.5/2 weeks each) as well as holidays for Valencia's explosive 'Fallas': a celebration of traditional Valencian costume, food, music, poetry and gigantic effigy burning sculptures - recently honoured as a World Heritage festival by UNESCO. Moreover, the school is a member of the National Association of British Schools in Spain. Appointment to any post will only be confirmed once relevant police checks and reference requests have been completed satisfactorily.

### **Living in Valencia**

Accommodation in Valencia city is approximately 500/550 euros per month for a 2 bedroom flat. Outlying suburbs, towns and villages can be slightly cheaper. Useful websites to start your research are: [www.idealista.com](http://www.idealista.com) , [www.pisos.com](http://www.pisos.com) and [www.fotocasa.es](http://www.fotocasa.es) . These interactive websites will give new recruited teachers an idea of area, cost and quality of accommodation in and around the Valencia region. We also recommend newly recruited teachers to come visit Valencia and spend the day with us to get 'a feel' for their new home and workplace! Another useful website to gauge impressions of where to live is [www.airbnb.es](http://www.airbnb.es) - all these sites should have mobile apps for ease of use.



### **Cost of living**

In Valencia's historic centre, for example, renting a flat could cost 500 - 600 euros a month (this is living by yourself). Obviously if you choose to share that could come down considerably. Internet and mobile phone tariffs vary but you would be looking at around 50 euros a month as a rough guide, and then you will also have water, electricity and possibly gas bills, depending on how the flat is organised. Most letting agents in Spain require a deposit (the bond), plus an initial month's rent as well as one month's rent equivalent as the agency fee. Please bear this in mind as you could need three times the rental price prior to moving in! Water is around 60 euros every two months and gas and electricity will vary depending on the property.

**British College La Cañada - General Person Specification – Primary / Secondary Teacher**

	<b>Essential</b>	<b>Desirable</b>
<b>Qualifications</b>	<p>UK Degree (B.Ed, B.A, MSc, MA, MSc)            UK Teaching certificate with UK QTS (PGCE).            Native speaker of English.            Evidence of relevant continuing professional development</p>	
<b>Experience</b>	<p>Minimum of 1 year teaching in Primary / Secondary school.</p> <p>Must have passed NQT year.</p> <p>Experience of teaching the National Curriculum of England &amp; Wales, Scotland / Northern Ireland.</p>	<p>Experience of a British international school.</p> <p>Ability to live abroad for longer than 1 year.</p>
<b>Professional knowledge</b>	<p>Ability to teach reading and writing effectively.</p> <p>Ability to teach numeracy skills effectively.</p> <p>Excellent subject knowledge and understanding of the British Curriculum.</p> <p>Ability assess, track and report on progress.</p>	<p>Experience of assessing without levels.</p>
<b>Professional / personal skills and abilities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● A positive and enthusiastic disposition.</li> <li>● A highly effective classroom practitioner.</li> <li>● Ability to plan effectively to promote student learning.</li> <li>● Be a role model for positive behaviour management.</li> <li>● Ability to use a range of teaching and learning strategies for whole classes, individuals and groups which stimulate, challenge and engage students.</li> <li>● Ability to set clear and appropriate targets and provide feedback to students.</li> <li>● Make use of assessment information to plan future lessons and promote students attainment.</li> <li>● Have high expectations of children’s learning and behaviour.</li> <li>● Have proven ability of effective behaviour management of primary children.</li> <li>● Ability to be flexible and resilient.</li> </ul>	<p>Ability to cope well under pressure.</p> <p>Ability to work with a range of personalities.</p> <p>Ability and/or willingness to speak or learn Spanish.</p>

## **General Job description- Teacher**

More specific Job Role descriptions will be provided by the Primary/Secondary Coordinators in the Staff Handbook.

### **General Purpose**

To plan, organise and implement an appropriate instructional program in a learning environment that guides and encourages students to develop and fulfill their academic potential.

### **Main Job Tasks and Responsibilities**

- plan, prepare and deliver instructional activities that facilitate active learning experiences;
- develop schemes of work and lesson plans in line with school and national documents;
- establish and communicate clear objectives for all learning activities;
- prepare classroom for class activities;
- working with others to plan and coordinate work;
- provide a variety of learning materials and resources for use in educational activities;
- identify and select different instructional resources and methods to meet students' varying needs;
- instruct and monitor students in the use of learning materials and equipment • use relevant technology to support instruction;
- observe and evaluate student's performance and development;
- assign and mark class work, homework and tests according to the school Marking Policy;
- provide appropriate feedback on work;
- encourage and monitor the progress of individual students;
- maintain accurate and complete records of students' progress and development;
- update all necessary records accurately and completely as required by laws, district policies and school regulations;
- complete internal tracking and prepare required reports on students and activities;

- manage student behaviour in the classroom by establishing and enforcing rules and procedures;
- maintain discipline in accordance with the rules and disciplinary systems of the school;
- apply appropriate disciplinary measures where necessary;
- perform certain pastoral duties including but not limited to student support, counseling students with academic problems and providing student encouragement;
- participate in department and school meetings, parent meetings;
- communicate necessary information regularly to students, colleagues and parents regarding student progress and student needs;
- keep up to date with developments in the UK, subject area, teaching resources and methods and make relevant changes to instructional plans and activities;
- assisting the Head of Studies to cover classes when other teachers are absent;
- perform playtime and lunchtime duties.
- follow any other internal school policy.