

The School as Part of the British Council in Spain

The British Council School first opened in 1940 in the heart of Madrid, aiming to provide a British-style education based on liberal and democratic values, a tradition it continues to this day. Today the School is widely recognised as one of the leading schools in Spain, with a strong reputation for excellence and an annual roll nearly 2000 pupils. It forms part of the EU region and English and Exams S.B.U.

Vision

We aspire to offer our pupils the best of British and Spanish education in a bilingual and bicultural setting.

We aim to develop well rounded, global citizens aware of their responsibilities to others and confident in their ability to succeed.

We seek, as part of the British Council in Spain, to contribute actively to the Spanish education system and generate benefits for the UK and Spain.

School Mission

Our overall mission is to facilitate cultural relations engagement with key target audiences through a high quality bilingual and bicultural curriculum to a school community of host country children aged 2 to 18 years of age.

A second aspect of the mission is to support outreach into national education through policy exchange with Ministries of Education and also through practical projects in teacher training and curriculum design.

Accreditation and Curriculum

The School is authorised by the Spanish Ministry of Education to offer a British education based on Early Years Foundation Stage and National Curriculum of England and Wales to pupils from Nursery to year 11 inclusive. This is taught in English by UK qualified teachers for approximately 80% of the 35 hour week. The remaining time is dedicated to the statutory requirement of teaching Spanish Language and Culture.

Key Stage 5 is authorised by the Madrid Education Authority as a private Spanish school offering the bilingual British Council Bachillerato (BiBac®) programme.

School Values

Caring, Loyalty, Flexibility, Resilience, Challenge.

Family System

Our Family System consists of vertical Key Stage pupil communities within the school. Our Family System is similar to the "House System" and reflects the school's caring ethos. It provides a 'small school in a large school' environment through which the needs of every individual learner are addressed.

The Family System empowers students of different ages from the same Family to help each other, it helps increase their sense of belonging to the same community, and it fosters solidarity, tolerance and teamwork. It also allows for a smooth transition from Early Years to Primary and then Primary to Secondary, and establishes an important bond between students across all ages.

British Council School is the first school in Spain to implement a community system of this sort.

Co-curricular activities

The British Council education includes a whole range of co-curricular activities. Music, drama and performance are integral parts of the curriculum from the age of 3. Some examples include

- Strings in the class – violin for all 4 and 5 year olds
- Choir, choral speaking and pantomime for all Primary children
- Class Band – all 9, 10 and 11 year olds learn to play a brass or woodwind instrument
- Survival expedition – for all 11, 12 and 13 year olds, in Spain
- World Trekkers – community projects in challenging environments for 17 and 18 year olds across the globe
- Model United Nations - debating club that takes the winners to external debating competitions
- Duperier – science award that funds the winners to attend London International Young Scientists Fair held in July at Imperial College

One of our main objectives is to enable students to demonstrate that they live and breathe the school's values and qualities required by universities and companies around the world such as leadership, team work, negotiation skills and entrepreneurship.

British Council School

Community work

Our School is very involved in philanthropic and charitable initiatives. Students are offered the opportunity to participate in various community service projects. This way students invest a considerable amount of their time and energy in caring about others, which does not only benefit people in need but contributes to each student's personal development. Examples include:

- BLOOR, the school's own charity, works alongside the AECC (Spanish cancer organization). All students support BLOOR's fundraising activities through fairs, raffles, & etc., which directly support an annual medical research grant. Since 2003 the School has raised more than 250.000€.
- UNICEF and Red Cross - The school frequently collaborates with UNICEF and has officially been named its partner school. It also supports the Red Cross in Spain.
- Romania - Year 12 school pupils make an annual visit to support the House of Angels orphanage outside Bucharest
- Down's Syndrome Foundation - students work closely with the Fundación Síndrome de Down de Madrid to set up shared activities.

School Impact

School families are typically Spanish (95%) with a high socio-demographic profile. Many alumni go on to have careers at the highest levels in politics, business, professions and the arts.

Approximately 25% of alumni go to university in other countries, mainly to the UK. This proportion is increasing, reinforcing the school's international reputation. Parent satisfaction is very high – 82% of parents consider that the education their children receive at the school will help them find great career opportunities in the future.

The school has an impressive track record as a pre-cursor and a current practitioner of delivering a bilingual curriculum. The Spanish state bilingual schools project was based on the British Council School model and is now firmly established across Spain. In the Madrid area alone, 177,000 pupils are now being educated in bilingual schools as a result of this initiative. The school is now serving as the model for the British Council Global Schools' Project.

Outstanding BSO inspection

The school was inspected in April 2015 by the British School Overseas (BSO) inspectorate. The inspection awarded the school **Outstanding** in all criteria:

- *"The British Council School provides an outstanding education for all its students"*
- *"The school upholds the highest British values of democracy, tolerance and respect for diversity and at the same time ensures that students have a thorough understanding of Spanish culture."*
- *"The school is led and managed extremely effectively"*
- *"Students' behaviour is excellent"*
- *"Standards and achievements are outstanding"*

School Campus

The school occupies a 26,000m² site in Prado de Somosaguas, an affluent suburb to the West of Madrid. The freehold campus was recently valued at €26M. The Somosaguas Teaching Centre shares premises with the school and provides extracurricular and Summer English classes to approximately 2000 Adults and Young Learners each year.

The school opened the current site in 1990. In 2010 a programme of building improvement was initiated to bring all facilities up to the highest competitive level. Much of the school is now at an impressive standard. The latest project finished provides an accessible and prestigious reception block, management offices, central lobby, higher education office and, most importantly, a new school library, *La Biblioteca del Británico*.



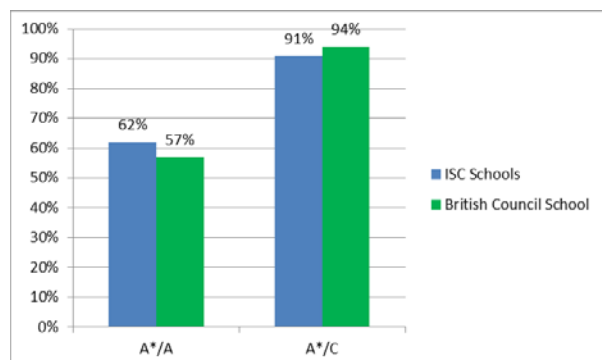
In 2015 the Early Years external facilities and access were improved and air-conditioning in the Secondary school updated.

As a strategic marketing initiative a new Infants School was opened in September 2016 in the centre of Madrid.

In summer 2016 the School began a major project to updating School outdoor sports facilities and music and event facilities in Secondary.

International GCSE and IGCSE results

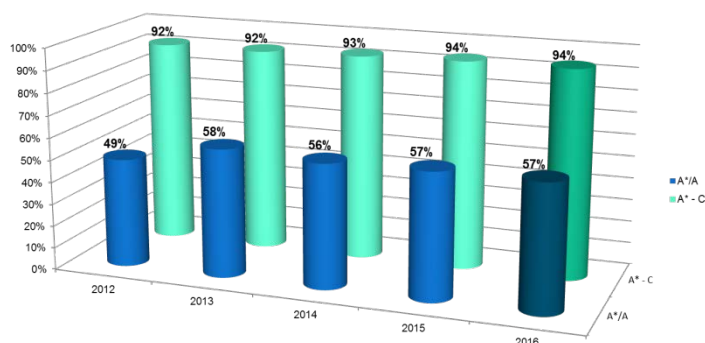
2016 Comparison with ISC Results



The Independent Schools Council (UK) data collection from 560 schools shows that “90.8% of pupils achieved five or more A* to C grades including maths and English”. “The proportion of entries from pupils achieving an A* or A grade was 62.1% (nationally 20.5%)”. British Council School matches these percentages with 94% of students achieving A*- C and 57% achieving A*/A in 2016.

Overall, the school's Secondary section carried out more than 1300 IGCSE and International GCSE exams in 2016.

IGCSE and International GCSE 2012-2016

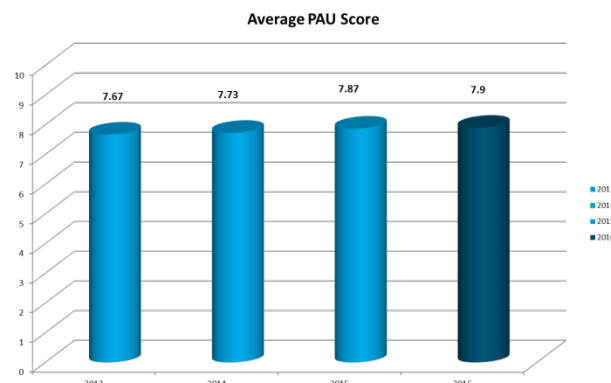


British Council School PAU results 2016

PAU: Prueba de Acceso a la Universidad; Spanish university entrance exams

In 2016 we had a 100% pass rate for the PAU examinations. The average score was 7.9 (out of 10), to which we still need to add the grade obtained in the

optional Specific Phase. These magnificent results have allowed our students to access some of the best universities across Spain, the UK and the US.



Academic Awards 2016

In June 2016, three Cambridge Learning Awards were presented to students on completion of IGCSE – Top in the World in Spanish Language, Top in the World in Spanish Literature and Top in Spain in English Literature.

Students in Year 13 also received a large number of prizes in the Spanish University Entrance Examinations - 2 students received the “Premio Extraordinario de Bachillerato” – Prize for Spanish Baccalaureate (out of a total of 25 best students in Comunidad de Madrid) after several official exams.

2 students ranked in Top Twenty from 28,000 students taking the PAU exam, the official entrance exams Spanish University, and then were invited to follow the “Leading Program” organized by the Comunidad de Madrid.

5 students whose grades in the PAU/Spanish University entrance exams in 2016 were in the Top 100 received a Certificate of “Mención Honorífica” from the Universidad Complutense de Madrid.





Ms. Gillian Flaxman O.B.E. - Head of School

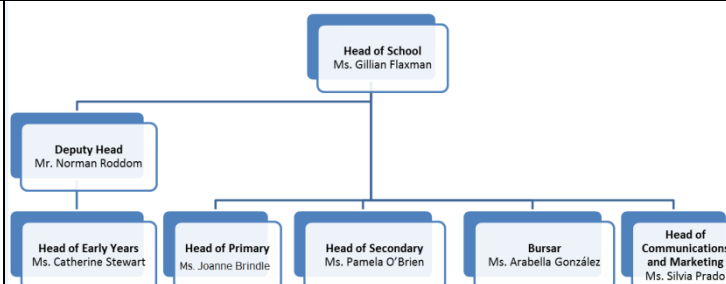
First degree: BA Interpreting and Translating-French and Spanish from Heriot-Watt University, Edinburgh
Postgraduate qualification: Diploma Business Admin from Valencia Polytechnic University / PGCE - ESL/EFL and Modern Languages from UCNW Bangor

Years with British Council School: 12

Years in current role: 11

Career highlights:

- Teacher British Council Valencia (1982-1985)
- Head of British Council School Alicante (1999-2000)
- Officer of the Order of the British Empire for her services rendered in the areas of education and international cultural relationships



Mr. Norman Roddom - Deputy Head of School

First degree: PE degree from Carnegie College
Postgraduate qualification: Cert Ed English/Drama from University of Leeds

Years with British Council School: 16

Years in current role: 11

Career highlights:

- Head of Primary, British Council School
- Chair of the National Association of British Schools in Spain (1991-1992)
- Teacher at Ilkley Grammar School and at Prince Henry's Grammar School, Otley



Ms. Catherine Stewart - Head of Early Years

First degree: BA (Hons) in Business Studies
Postgraduate qualification: PGCE in Primary Education (ages 5-11)

Years with British Council School: 9

Years in current role: 4

Career highlights:

- Year 1 class teacher, Family Leader, Primary Senior Management Team
- Worked in the UK, Peru, The Netherlands and The Czech Republic
- Worked on the Spanish Ministry of Education Bilingual Curriculum Project



Ms. Arabella González - Bursar

First degree: London School of Economics and Political Science BSc Econ
Postgraduate qualification: PgDip Information Science Liverpool John Moores

Years with British Council School: 4

Years in current role: 4

Career highlights:

- Chief Operating Officer Freetalk LLC (USA)
- Head of Finance and Administration In Store Solutions (HK) running ecommerce function for Skype
- 20 +years of business and financial management experience



Ms. Joanne Brindle - Head of Primary

First degree: B.Ed (Hons 2:1) Lancaster 1989
Postgraduate qualification: Masters Degree: Leadership for Learning, University of the West of Scotland, 2015

Years with British Council School: 22

Years in current role: -

Career highlights:

- Deputy Head British Council School (2012-2016)
- Senior Management Team (2010- 2012)
- Excellent Practitioner , Roehampton University, 2009
- UK schools , Surrey, Lancashire



Ms. Silvia Prado - Head of Communications and Marketing

First degree: Bachelor Degree in Advertising/ Public Relations and Fine Arts by the Universidad Pontificia de Salamanca

Postgraduate qualification: Master Degree in Corporate Communications Universidad Pontificia de Salamanca and a Master Degree in Sales and Marketing Management IE Business School

Years with British Council School: 5

Years in current role: 5

Career highlights:

- 8+ years at The Coca-Cola Company Spain, in corporate communications and marketing
- Expert in branding, public relations, networking, partnership development and strategic communication plans
- 13+ years of experience in the fields of communications and marketing



Ms. Pamela O'Brien - Head of Secondary

First degree: BA Mathematics and French University College Dublin

Postgraduate qualification: Higher Diploma in Secondary Education University College Dublin/ Master in Business Administration from the Open University/ NPQH from the National College for Leadership of Schools and Children's Services

Years with British Council School: 11

Years in current role: 6

Career highlights:

- Head of Early Years British Council School (2005 - 2009)
- Director of Studies at the Somosaguas Teaching Centre, ADOS at the Madrid Young Learner Centre and at the Barcelona Young Learner Centre
- Secondary Teacher of Mathematics and French at a school in Dublin