



Senior School

Profile 2020-21

Welcome

The British School of Amsterdam is an independent co-educational non-profit day school providing world class teaching and learning for children from 3 to 18 years. We are the first school in the Netherlands to be accredited by the UK Government as a British School Overseas (BSO).

We broadly follow the National Curriculum for England. Our school offers a stimulating and caring environment enabling your child to realise their full potential academically and develop the skills and confidence for a fulfilling and responsible life in a changing society.

The Senior School is for children aged between the ages of 11-18 and is housed in a building attached to the Junior School facility, situated in the Fred. Roeskestraat, 1.5 kilometres from the Early Years and Infant School.

The school offers a stimulating environment and the maximum class size is 22. The pupils benefit from smaller teaching groups in the upper years and in our Sixth Form. Classrooms are used by a range of subjects, alongside specialist rooms equipped for science, IT and computing, music, drama and art. The multifunctional shared hall space is used extensively by both the Senior and Junior schools for performances, exhibitions and assemblies. A hot meal is served in the dining room every lunchtime. Breaktimes are a social time for pupils and are spent outside in the school grounds.

The Senior School timetable, split over a two week period, enables a broad and balanced curriculum. The day runs from 8.40 to 3.40. Our extracurricular activities run before, during and after school and offer our pupils an enriching provision in, amongst others, the areas of technology, sport, and the arts.

“The British School of Amsterdam provides high quality education, much of which is outstanding. Relationships between teachers and pupils and pupils and their peers are outstanding and ensure that they feel happy and secure in their learning. The behaviour, attitudes and engagement of pupils in their learning is exemplary. They are a credit to the school.”

BSO Inspection Report (November 2017)



Our new home

The School has just started the exciting redevelopment of a 19th century listed building that will be transformed into our new home. The new building will be ready in April 2021. The beautiful new school will be just over 14,000 m². The total cost of the redevelopment is just under €40 million. The new site will have state of the art teaching and learning facilities, including a 7m high sports hall and theatre.

At The British School of Amsterdam, children move through several stages of their education in specific school environments suitable to their age and stage of learning.

In the Senior School we aim:

- To inspire all pupils in our inclusive, diverse community, encouraging and fostering tolerance and respect for all.
- To challenge pupils to take risks in their learning and support them in their educational journey, within and beyond the curriculum, to unlock their full and unique potential.
- To develop creative, independent and innovative learners.





Pupil body

The school roll is 965. We are a truly international school with over 40 different native languages and over 75 different cultures (including dual nationality parents). Our pupils are actively multicultural, many speaking languages at home that are additional to their academic curriculum.

British	14%	Early Years	190 pupils
Indian	22%	Infant School	160 pupils
Dutch	13%	Junior School	300 pupils
American	10%	Senior School	315 pupils

Curriculum

The British School of Amsterdam offers a curriculum that is broad and balanced. In Nursery and Reception the curriculum follows the Early Years Foundation Stage. The primary section is split between the Infant and Junior schools. The curriculum broadly follows the National Curriculum for England, in addition to teaching Dutch as a foreign language and native language.

In the Senior School Years 7 to 9 follow the Key Stage 3 Curriculum. Years 10 and 11 study a combination of IGCSEs and GCSEs and the Sixth Form (Years 12 and 13) follows the A Level programme.

Key Stage 3 (Years 7, 8 and 9)

At The British School up to the end of Key Stage 3 (age 14), all pupils follow the same core curriculum. Attainment and Effort grades are reported three times per academic year. In Years 7, 8 and 9 (Key Stage 3) attainment is measured in alignment with end of year expectations.

The British School Key stage 3 grades (Years 7 to 9)	IGCSE/GCSE grade (Years 10 and 11)	New GCSE grade (Years 10 and 11)
Step 9/8	A*	8/9
Step 7	A	7
Step 6	Secure B	Secure 6
Step 5	B	6
Step 4	Secure C	5
Step 3	C	4
Step 2	D	3
Step 1	Below D	2 or lower

Key Stage 4 (Years 10 and 11)

In Years 10 and 11 (Key Stage 4) pupils take IGCSE (International General Certificate of Education) or GCSE (General Certificate of Education) courses, externally examined at the end of the two years.

Compulsory core curriculum

• Mathematics	6 hours
• English	6 hours
• Biology	4 hours
• Chemistry	4 hours
• Physics	4 hours
• PSHE*	2 hours
• Physical Education*	4 hours

*Not examined externally

Optional subjects (pupils select four optional subjects)

• Art and Design	5 hours
• Business Studies	5 hours
• Dutch	5 hours
• Drama	5 hours
• French	5 hours
• Geography	5 hours
• German	5 hours
• History	5 hours
• Computing	5 hours
• Media Studies	5 hours
• Music	5 hours
• Physical Education	5 hours
• Spanish	5 hours

Sixth Form (Years 12 and 13)

In Years 12 and 13 (Sixth Form) pupils specialise in up to five subjects. GCE (General Certificate of Education) courses at Advanced Subsidiary and Advanced Level are available in the following subjects:

- Art and Design
- Biology
- Business Studies
- Chemistry
- Dutch
- Economics
- English Language
- English Literature
- Further Mathematics
- French
- Global Perspectives
- Geography
- German
- History
- Mathematics
- Media Studies
- Physics
- Psychology
- Spanish

Additional GCSE Courses

- English
- Mathematics
- Combined Science

All subjects taken at Advanced Subsidiary and Advanced Level are timetabled for 8 hours every fortnight. In the Sixth Form pupils also follow a programme of Personal Social and Health Education, alongside study skills and careers. An enriching electives programme is offered to all pupils with courses in subjects such as Life drawing, personal fitness, law, chemical engineering, computer programming and mindfulness.

Pupils may also choose to study towards an Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) in a subject of their choice.

Advanced Level GCE attainment is graded as:

A*	(90+%)
A	(80-89%)
B	(70-79%)
C	(60-69%)
D	(50-59%)
E	(40-49%)

Effort Grades in the Senior School are awarded on a four point scale

Effort Grade Description

A	Excellent level of effort
B	Good level of effort
C	Some concerns with the level of effort
D	Serious Concerns

Pupil leadership

Pupils in the Senior School are encouraged to apply for leadership positions on pupil committees, including the following positions:

Head Boy and Head Girl
Head of Student Council
Eco Committee Leader
House Captains
Event Coordinator

In Years 11, 12 and 13 pupils can apply for prefect and mentoring positions. A pupil leadership award is an integral part of the extracurricular choices in Key Stage 3

Extra Curricular

The Senior School offers a rich and varied programme of extracurricular activities which provide pupils with the opportunity to pursue and develop their own interests, to experience new ventures, to compete as individuals or as a member of a team in various settings etc.

Extracurricular activities are provided by specialist teachers and instructors. Clubs and activities running this academic year include:

- Art Club
- Basketball
- Chamber Choir
- Chess Club
- Debate Society
- FITNUT
- Football
- Glass Making
- Historical Film Club
- Mathematics Club
- Model United Nations
- Native Languages- Dutch, French, German, Spanish
- Orchestra
- Production Club
- Programming Club
- Rowing Club
- School Band
- School Magazine
- Science Research Club
- Senior Choir
- Squash
- Yearbook



The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award

The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award Pupils can take part in the International Award at Bronze, Silver and Gold level. The Service section of the Award encourages young people to understand the benefits of service to their community. The Skills section of the Award encourages the development of personal interests and practical and social skills. As part of a small team, participants will also plan, train for and undertake a journey with a defined purpose in an unfamiliar environment.

Examination Results

IGCSE & GCSE Results	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016
A* or A (9 to 7)	54%	54%	46%	29%	42%
A*, A or B (9 to 6)	77%	77%	71%	64%	65%
A* to C (9 to 4)	96%	94%	88%	88%	83%
Pass	100%	99%	99%	99%	100%
No. of examinations	373	392	312	294.5	296

A Level Results	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016
A*	17%	18%	19%	12%	18%
A* or A	47%	42%	36%	25%	43%
A	30%	24%	17%	12%	25%
B	15%	27%	26%	24%	20%
A* or A or B	62%	68%	63%	49%	63%
A* to C	84%	86%	82%	75%	79%
Pass	98%	97%	96%	97%	98%
No. of examinations	127	75	72	78	87

University Destinations

Pupils in their final year at The British School of Amsterdam apply for universities around the world. A Level examinations are a globally recognised qualification. The destinations of some of our pupils include:

United Kingdom

- Birkbeck, University of London (Business Management)
- Canterbury Christ Church University (Physiotherapy; Sports Science)
- Durham University (Economics; Business Management)
- Edinburgh Napier University (Engineering)
- University of Edinburgh (Biochemistry)
- Goldsmiths, University of London (Journalism)
- Imperial College London (Physics)
- King's College London (Business Management; Classics; Economics; Music)
- Leeds Arts University (Graphic Design)
- London South Bank University (Sociology)
- *London School of Economics (Economics; Law)
- Richmond, The American International University in London (Psychology)

- Royal Holloway, University of London (Music)
- Royal Veterinary College, University of London (Bio-veterinary Sciences)
- St. George's, University of London (Bio-Medicine)
- St. Martin's College (Art Foundation)
- University of Aberdeen (Psychology)
- University of Bath (Aerospace Engineering)
- *University of Birmingham (Economics; International Relations; Pharmacy; Politics & Economics)
- University of Brighton (Business Management; Architecture)
- *University of Edinburgh (Russian Studies and Politics; International Business with French)
- University of Essex (Art)
- *University of Glasgow (Economics and Politics)
- University of Greenwich (Event Management)
- *University of Oxford (Chemistry)
- University of Plymouth (Computing)
- University of St Andrews (Computer Science)
- *University of Stirling (Economics; Film & Media)
- University of Strathclyde (International Business)
- University of Surrey (Physics; Physics with Astronomy)
- *University of Warwick (Mathematics; Economics)

*The Russell Group represent the 24 leading UK universities.

The Netherlands

- Amsterdam Fashion School (Fashion)
- Amsterdam University College (Liberal Arts; Liberal Arts & Science)
- Amsterdam University of Applied Sciences (International Business Management)
- Delft University of Technology (Aerospace Engineering; Aeronautical Engineering; Architecture; Mechanical Engineering)
- Erasmus University College Rotterdam (Liberal Arts and Sciences)
- Erasmus University Rotterdam (Business Economics)
- Gerrit Rietveld Academie (Fine Art)
- Hogeschool van Amsterdam (Communication and Multimedia Design)
- Hogeschool van Amsterdam (Creative Business)
- Hotelschool The Hague (Business Administration; Business Management; Hotel Management)
- Leiden University (Law)
- SAE Institute (Animation)
- Saxion University of Applied Sciences (Game Design and Production)
- The Hague University (European Studies)
- Tilburg University (Global Law)
- TIO University of Applied Sciences (Hospitality and Management)
- TU Delft (Computer Science & Engineering)
- University of Amsterdam (Business; Business Administration; Communication Science; Economics & Business; English Studies; European Studies; Hospitality; History; International Business; Physics and Astronomy; Politics; PPLE; Psychology; Sociology)
- University of Groningen (Business Management; Chemistry; Computer Science; Industrial Engineering & Management; International and European Law; Psychology)
- University of Rotterdam (Econometrics)
- University of Tilburg (International Business)
- University of Utrecht (Notarial Law; Media and Culture)
- Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam ()
- Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam (Artificial Intelligence; Business & Innovation; Computer Science; International Business; Mathematics)
- Willem de Koning Academie (Architecture)

Austria

- Academy of Fine Arts Vienna (Fine Art)

Australia

- University of Newcastle (Biotechnology)

Canada

- Carlton University (Biotechnology & Biochemistry)
- Concordia University (Mechanical Engineering)

France

- Airways Aviation Academy Montpellier (ATPL Integrated Course)
- Faculté de Médecine de Lille (Medicine)
- Gobelins, Paris (Animation)
- Hotel institute Montreux (Hotel management and Business)
- L'Institut des Médias Avancés, Lille
- Sciences Po (Politics and International Studies)

Germany

- Ludwig-Maximilian University of Munich (Engineering)

Israel

- Rimon School of Jazz and Contemporary Music (partnered with Berklee College, USA) (Music)

Japan

- University of Waseda, Tokyo (Natural Sciences)



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