

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Please contact the Admissions Team for further details on any of these issues but the information below may answer some of your questions

Q- What is the typical class size in the Junior school?

A- The maximum number of pupils in each class is 24 pupils. Classes in KS1 (Year 1 and 2) and FS are usually closer to 20.

Q- What is the expected learning experience in light of the ongoing covid-19 situation?

A- The school is currently open for all classes with occasional bubble closures. We do offer a distance learning option but most parents prefer face to face instruction.

Looking forward we expect the campus to be open for face to face learning at full capacity but there may be short periods where individual children or groups of children are required to isolate and move to distance learning. When this happens distance learning work will be provided for all students by Google Classroom and zoom. Procedures in school are well established and children have adapted to the new expectations extremely well. Our staff are very adept at providing challenging opportunities for pupils under all scenarios.

Q- How are the Arabic and Religion subjects being integrated in the curriculum?

A- BISC is following the expectations of the Egyptian Ministry of Education up to and including Year 4 in 2021/22. The school has increased the number of Arabic lessons per week, and teachers have adjusted their teaching methods to incorporate the existing curriculum. Children who are not Egyptian attend alternative classes during the weekly Religion lesson.

Q- In case of multiple/dual nationalities, Is it possible to change an already registered nationality later on?

A- No, the nationality cannot be changed as it is registered on the official website of the Egyptian Ministry of Education.

Q- Is there any difference in teaching Arabic between Egyptians and Non-Egyptians?

A- All students, regardless of their nationality, will learn Arabic at their own level. Egyptians are obliged to sit for the Ministry subject exams, while Non-Egyptians are exempted from the exams.

Q- When do you start introducing students to second languages?

A- Students start studying French from year 3 onwards. In Year 6 the children are introduced to Spanish in the second half of the year so that they can then choose between French and Spanish when they enter Year 7.

Q- How frequently do parents receive school reports?

A- There are two formal written academic reports each year and regular online teacher-parents conferences. A formal report is also sent during the induction period for new students. Across the school we work very closely with parents ensuring they are aware of challenges and successes so we can share in the child's development and progress.

Q- Which platforms does BISC use for distance learning?

A- BISC uses Google Classroom; all students from FS1 have a google account. Zoom, Century Tech, Education city and Nearpod are also used to enhance the experience and offer a broad range of opportunities to support independent and collaborative learning.

Q - What extracurricular activities are available in the Junior School?

A- Swimming, rugby, football, tennis, basketball, running games, cheerleading, STEM, robotics and coding, Chess, Spanish, Art, Music and instrumental, drama, dance, Junior School newspaper,

Q- Has the school considered a separate nursery for FS1 so it can remain open if the Ministry of Education closes schools

A- Moving forward the school expects bubbles to be closed when there are cases in a bubble rather than long term closures of the whole school. In these circumstances FS classes will only move to distance learning if they have had COVID cases and otherwise will be open for face to face learning. We appreciate the special importance of face to face provision for our youngest learners and have provided secure bubbles with large inside and outside areas to make their environment as safe as possible.

Q- What are the school-hours?

A- For the whole school, school begins at 8 am until 3.10 pm except for FS1 which ends at 1.15pm