



# Secondary Prospectus

THE BRITISH INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL OF CRACOW







# Global

Our students come from over 36 different countries on 6 continents, making us truly international.



# An education for life

The British International School of Cracow (BISC Kraków) is truly a unique place to learn. Offering a full-suite of internationally recognised qualifications across diverse subject areas, yet still maintaining a family atmosphere in our city centre location, BISC is fully equipped to deliver a top education for your child and ensure they are fully guided towards their target university and career.

Our mission is to inspire our pupils to become independent and inquiring life-long learners, and self-confident, compassionate human beings, through the enjoyable, multicultural and family-centred environment of our school. We ensure our mission statement is achieved through our commitment to the following aims:

- Maintaining an open enrolment policy
- Preparing our pupils for the responsibilities of later life
- Educating the 'whole' person through sport, music and drama
- Maintaining appropriately sized classes to help our pupils achieve their full potential and to gain entry to their first choice university
- Fostering the right environment to help our pupils gain excellent IGCSE and IB exam results
- Maintaining a family atmosphere
- Encouraging our pupils to be caring and respectful of other people's perspectives
- Involving parents as partners through effective lines of communication

BISC is a fully accredited member of the Council of Overseas British International Schools (COBIS), the European Council of International Schools (ECIS), is an IB World School offering the Diploma Programme and is authorised to offer both AQA and Cambridge International Examinations at the IGCSE level.



# A supportive environment

**Our philosophy is about encouraging students to take responsibility for their learning. We encourage critical thinking and active interaction in the classroom. To do so we offer a safe and nurturing environment. Our average class size is 15 pupils, meaning every pupil gets the support they need.**

## **Leadership of teaching & learning**

We are creative and solution focused. We aim to continuously improve the quality of teaching, behaviour and safety. Our teachers focus on what happens in the classroom and have a strategic vision.

Lesson objectives are given at the beginning of each lesson. Teachers supply feedback to move learners forward.

Self-assessment and participation in their learning process challenges pupils every day. Teachers use lesson observations, self-evaluation and performance management to meet the school's educational targets.

Our teachers are dedicated and take part in on-going professional development.

## **Contact with parents**

As a small school we encourage close ties between teachers and parents. In addition to our regularly scheduled parent-teacher meetings, we welcome additional meetings with parents to discuss their child's learning.

Our Advisory Board, comprised of teachers, parents and school owners, is regularly consulted about school issues and suggestions are taken on board to ensure our school's continual progresses.

Our School Development Plan is published by the Head of School after consultation with the Advisory Board and Management Team. The plan informs parents and teachers of the educational direction of the school and establishes priorities for all members of our school community to work towards.

## **Outcomes**

Our curriculum and school-wide goals ensure that students are able to realise the following outcomes:

- Independent learners
- Risk takers
- Confident individuals
- Enthusiastic
- Internationally minded



### **Additional Learning Needs (ALN)**

Students with additional or special educational needs are fully supported by a full-time ALN Coordinator who works with individual students and teachers to ensure every pupil is guided in the most appropriate ways to meet their goals. Our ALN Coordinator has an office on site and is available at all times.

### **English as an Additional Language (EAL)**

As an international school, we welcome children from all over the globe and as such, students who may be new to English. EAL programmes focus on communicative competency as the foremost priority. This includes the language needed to make strong social bonds and to excel in academia.

Our teaching takes a natural approach, drawing on leading linguistic theory on the acquisition of additional languages in childhood. At all times, EAL intervention programmes are fun and supportive places to learn, thrive and gain confidence in English.

As many of our students progress to universities in the United Kingdom and continental Europe, our EAL teachers also ensure students reach their full potential in tests of English language ability such as the IELTS, TOEFL and the Cambridge ESOL suite of examinations.









# Ensuring success

We follow the English National Curriculum delivered in an international context. As such, we invite students across the age range of the school to consider different cultural perspectives and reflect on their own learning within the wider world as is required for older students following the International Baccalaureate Diploma.

Our students obtain excellent results at IGCSE as well as IB and go to top universities in the UK and throughout the world, including Oxford, Cambridge, Bath, UCL, St Andrews, Aberdeen, Dundee, Glasgow, Edinburgh, New York State, Jagiellonian and Heriott-Watt.

## Key Stage 3

Students take all subjects with specialist teachers. Every year, students sit International Schools' Assessment exams which provide interesting insights into their progress.

Year 7

11-12

Year 8

12-13

Year 9

13-14

International  
Schools'  
Assessment

## Key Stage 4

At the end of Year 11, students sit external GCSE and IGCSE examinations, as is the norm in UK schools.

Year 10

14-15

Year 11

15-16

Cambridge IGCSE

## IB Diploma Programme

The IB is internationally recognised and allows students to progress to top universities around the globe.

IB 1

16-17

IB 2

17-18

IB Diploma



# Cross-curricular components

## The Local Community

Our school is active in the local community with several charitable initiatives running throughout the year. Our most senior students who follow the International Baccalaureate programme take a leading role in organising charitable events and out-reach days as part of their Community, Action and Service requirements.

## Clubs & Activities

We encourage students to try new things outside the classroom and as such, offer a range of extra-curricular activities to suit a range of interests. Our list of available activities is constantly growing but some popular clubs include:

- Homework club
- Music club
- Poetry club
- Sports club
- Chess club
- Basketball team
- Football team
- Karate

## Student Council

The Student Council is comprised of students elected by their peers to represent the entire student body and work with the school's management to implement student-led initiatives.

## Model United Nations

The school has a very active involvement in Model United Nations, with students attending conferences across Europe. The preparation and participation in MUN conferences gives students an opportunity to develop public speaking and debating skills whilst giving them an understanding of global issues and the delicate art of diplomacy.

## International Day

We are naturally very proud of the diversity in our school and we celebrate this through regular cultural days and our annual International Day where everyone has the chance to sample food, listen to music and experience the cultures represented at BISC Kraków.

## Peace One Day

Marking the United Nations' International Day of Peace, our school holds special activities to promote our students' understanding of the impact of conflict and the importance of promoting a peaceful world.

## Performing Arts

Students' musical and performance talents are celebrated through regular workshops, concerts and performances throughout the school year.



# Exciting

BISC Kraków provides a range of extra-curricular activities and events throughout the year.







# Successful

Our priority is to ensure every single one of our students gains admission to their first choice university.



# Strong foundations

The Secondary School at BISC Kraków culminates with students taking GCSE and IGCSE examinations in a range of subjects, as is the case with schools in the UK. Our curriculum and the IGCSE programmes of study provide a strong foundation for students to progress to more advanced study.

Transitioning to post-16 study is seamless at BISC Kraków as our two most senior classes following the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme are housed within the same building. Students are therefore familiar with many of the teachers and the facilities shared across the school's phases.

We are proud of the family atmosphere in our school and our Secondary students take pride in being role models for the younger students. We also offer a wealth of opportunities for our older students to exercise leadership and initiative in the school through the Student Council and the many events and concerts held throughout the year.

With a strong set of IGCSE results and the International Baccalaureate Diploma, our students progress to top universities throughout the world. We pride ourselves in ensuring that every student achieves the results they need for their first choice institution.

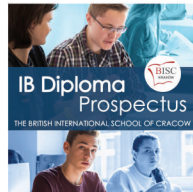
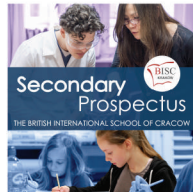
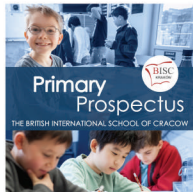
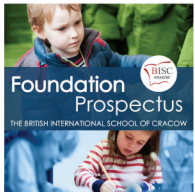




The British International School of Cracow provides a top-quality education for children between the ages of 3 and 19. Following the English National Curriculum, our school provides a wealth of opportunities for your child to develop both academically and beyond the classroom.

Our team of dedicated teachers deliver an excellent education, with results far above the average for international schools and surpassing expectations for schools in the UK.

We invite you to book a tour of our school and look forward to welcoming your child to the British International School of Cracow.



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