

# BRITISH INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL OF HOUSTON

## HIGH SCHOOL PROFILE



BRITISH  
INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL  
OF HOUSTON  
A NORD ANGLIA EDUCATION SCHOOL

### ABOUT OUR SCHOOL

The British International School of Houston (BISH) offers high quality, international education by providing rigorous, inter-disciplinary and respected curricula including the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme (IBDP), the High School Diploma Programme (HSD), the Business and Technical Education Council (BTEC) Diploma and the International Baccalaureate Career-Related Programme (IBCP).

BIS High School Years	US Grade Equivalent
Year 10 (GCSE year 1)	Grade 9
Year 11 (GCSE year 2)	Grade 10
Year 12 (IB/BTEC year 1)	Grade 11
Year 13 (IB/BTEC year 2)	Grade 12

### HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

All students graduate with a NEASC accredited US High School Diploma and must complete 4 years of high school, accruing the following academic requirements at a minimum:

- 4 credits in English
- 3 credits each in Science, Mathematics and Humanities
- 2 credits each in Foreign Languages and Arts/Design/PE
- 7 credits in Electives
- 24 credits total
- 1/3 credit is awarded for each term that the student is enrolled in a subject and achieves a minimum Grade 2 pass.

### COURSES OFFERED

#### Years 10 & 11 (IGCSE)

All students in Years 10 and 11 follow the rigorous International GCSE Curriculum, which offers subjects taught over the course of two years.

#### Compulsory Courses

- English Language
- World Literature
- Mathematics
- BISH Core

#### Elective Courses

- French or Spanish
- Geography, History, Economics or Sociology
- Biology, Chemistry, Physics (Triple Award) or Coordinated Science (Double Award)
- Art and Design, Design Technology, Drama, Music, PE or Computer Science

#### Principal |

Barrie Scyrmgeour

#### Head of Secondary |

Helen Morgan

#### Assistant Head of Secondary,

IBDP Coordinator | Ashley Thorpe

#### College & Career Counsellors |

Paula Cooper, Gerald Warren

### AUTHORISATION & RECOGNITION

New England Association of Schools and Colleges  
The International Baccalaureate  
Registered Examination Centre for  
Cambridge International Examinations  
CIE International Education Group



## COURSES OFFERED (CONT.)

Years 12 & 13 (IBDP, HSD, BTEC, IBCP)  
In Years 12 & 13, our students choose from 4 pathways:

- **The IB Diploma Programme**

3 HL subjects,  
3 SL subjects,  
Theory of Knowledge (TOK),  
Extended Essay &  
Creativity, Activity, Service (CAS).

- **The High School Diploma**

Any combination of DP courses.  
Students typically choose SL  
courses and are not required to  
complete any external DP  
examinations but may opt to.

- **Business & Technical Education Council (BTEC) Level 3 National Extended Diploma in Business**

Career-related study programme that develops practical skills as well as the theoretical knowledge of Business in preparation for university or the workforce. BTEC students can choose to enhance their studies by completing the International Baccalaureate Career-related Programme (CP) requirements: A three-part education framework that includes 2 IB courses at standard level and the CP core requirements; Personal and Professional Skills Course, Service-Learning Programme, Language Development; and Reflective Project.

BTEC Units are listed below:

Year 12 (Grade 11)	Year 13 (Grade 12)
Business Resources	Business Communication
Introduction to Marketing	Starting a Small Business
Business Communication	Supporting Business Activities
Business Environment	Creative Product Promotion
Business Accounting	The Impact of Communications Technology on Business
Recruitment & Selection in Business	Understanding Business Ethics
Health & Safety in the Business Workplace	Team Building in Business
International Business	Managing a Business Event
Quality Management Systems in Logistics	Market Research in Business

### Group 1: Language & Literature

Language A: English Language & Literature (HL/ SL)  
Language A: Literature English, Spanish, Dutch SSST (HL/SL)  
Literature & Performance (HL/SL)

### Group 3: Individuals & Society

Business (HL/SL)  
Geography (HL/SL)  
Economics (HL/SL)

### Group 4: Sciences

Biology (HL/SL)  
Chemistry (HL/SL)  
Physics (HL/SL)  
Sports, Exercise & Health Science (HL/SL)

### Group 5: Maths

Mathematics: analysis and approaches (HL/SL)  
Mathematics: applications and interpretation (HL/SL)

### Group 2: Language Acquisition

Language B: French, German, Spanish, Mandarin (Ab initio, HL, SL)

Psychology (HL/SL)  
History (HL/SL)

Computer Science (HL/SL)  
Design Technology (HL/SL)  
Environmental Systems and Societies (SL)

### Group 6: Individuals & Society

Visual Arts (HL/SL)  
Music (HL/SL)  
Film (HL/SL)

## GRADING

In Years 10-13, students are graded on a 1-7 scale

- 7 – Excellent
- 6 – Very Good
- 5 – Good
- 4 – Satisfactory
- 3 – Weak
- 2 – Poor
- 1 – Failing Conditions

## RANKING POLICY

Per school policy, we do not rank our students. Grades are not weighted.