



BRITISH INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL
OF HOUSTON

A NORD ANGLIA EDUCATION SCHOOL

British International School of Houston

Mother Tongue Program (MTP)

Revised summer 2019

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Introduction

At the British International School of Houston (BISH), we are committed to offering the Mother Tongue Programme (MTP), which looks to develop native language and cultural awareness. We believe that the development of the mother tongue language is crucial for both cognitive development and maintaining cultural identity. BISH is able to support native speakers to develop their mother tongue language whilst at the school.

Course outline

Dutch: Program inspected by the Dutch Inspection of the Ministry of Education and monitored and assisted by the Stichting NOB

French: Course uses the same resources as the European schools

German: Secondary: IIs GmbH Fernlehrwerk, programme endorsed by the Department of Education and ZFA recommended materials for the DSD2 certification

Primary: Piri Lehrmaterialien fuer Grundschule Bayern course and ZFA recommended materials for the A1 and A2 certification

Spanish: Bespoke curriculum. The Yabisí course and En español course support our curriculum

Russian: O.L.Soboleva Programme of the Russian Language for a four year primary school, endorsed by the Department of Educational Programmes and Standards of General Education of the Russian Federation's Ministry of Education

MTP structure for French, German and Spanish

- MTP is available from Years 2 - 13
- Each course develops the four skills of reading, writing, listening and speaking in the students' native language
- Each course is run by qualified teachers who are native speakers
- Each programme follows its own scheme of learning which is overseen by the respective teacher. For more details, please refer to the relevant section in this handbook
- Resources will be available to parents or online as part of the subscription to the programme
- Each child will be assessed regularly according to the programme they are enrolled in. This will be determined by the teacher collaborating with the parents, so that learning is personalised
- MTP is an integral part of the school curriculum and the support to Mother Tongue lessons run from 2.35pm to 3.30pm (4.30pm for German) all year round
- The cost of resources is at the charge of parents
- **This programme is by invitation only. Please contact Ms Chevallier if you would like your child to join in this programme. These courses require a year long commitment.**
- After registering in the MTP, students will be assessed which will help to determine the entrance level
- During the support to Mother Tongue lessons (enrichment), students will be expected to bring their books and work independently

Review process

At the end of each academic year, there will be a comprehensive review of each of the programmes the MTP offers. We invite parents to help shape the success of these programmes.

Dutch MTP

Introduction

The goal of the Dutch MTP is to provide Dutch speaking students the opportunity to study the core courses of the Dutch Curriculum in order to ease their returning into the Dutch educational system. The program is inspected by the Dutch Inspection of the Ministry of Education and monitored and assisted by the Stichting NOB (Foundation for Dutch Education Abroad). The students enjoy 4 hours of Dutch lessons per week integrated into their regular timetable.

- Year 8 and 9: havo/vwo level (klas 1&2);
- Year 10 and 11: students have the option to sign up for a course at havo/VWO level (klas 3&4) or pre-IB (only year 11) provided through 'De Wereldschool', an excellent distance learning program. It will be an extra subject from this moment, but the biggest portion of work can be done during enrichment, which is integrated in the students' timetable. At the end of year 11 a CNaVT exam* can be taken at B1 or B2 level, depending on the achievements of each student in this subject (optional).
- Year 12 and 13: students have 2 options:
 - 1. prepare themselves for the CNaVT exam level B2 if they didn't take/pass the exam at the end of year 11. It won't be part of the BISH curriculum and therefore will be an extra subject. The exam can either be taken at the end of year 12 or year 13.
 - 2. Choose IB Dutch language A self-taught as an IB subject for group 2 through 'de Wereldschool'. For students who choose this option, BISH offers hours for study, monitoring and consultation, within the students' timetable.

*The CNaVT certificate at B2 level gives students access to most Dutch and Belgian universities. For more information about the exams offered through this organisation: <http://cnavt.org/het-examen-nederlands>

Cost

There will be no extra cost for our Primary and Middle School students. For this academic year a collaboration between the Dutch board and BISH will provide the cost for year 10 and year 11 students if they choose to take Dutch as an extra subject through 'de Wereldschool'.

If students want to do IB Dutch language A self-taught through this provider, there will be an additional cost however. For fees please visit their website: <http://www.wereldschool.nl/ib-programma-op-internationale-school/>

Resources

In Y3 to Y7, the children work with the curriculum named “Taalverhaal.nu”. In Year 8 and 9, the students use the curriculum called “Nieuw Nederlands”. The combination of these two methods work well in bridging the entire curriculum and has proven to be very successful. Both Primary and Secondary Education students are regularly tested. All course books are provided through school.

Additionally, the school has an ever-growing library with Dutch primary and secondary school books. Each year new books are added to ensure an up-to-date broad collection.

Assessment

Y8/Y9 assessments from the course books + IGCSE Dutch as a second language in Y9 (optional)

Y10/Y11 assessments from the course books + CNaVT (Certificaat Nederlands als Vreemde Taal) level B1/B2 (optional). The B2 level exam can also be taken in Y12 if not taken in year 11 already.

IB Dutch language A in Y13

Culture

Apart from the regular lessons, the Dutch teachers organize cultural events such as “*Sinterklaas*” and a huge “*King’s Day*”-celebration, which are thoroughly enjoyed not only by the Dutch children but also by the rest of the school’s students and faculty.

Teachers

Jos Kerkhofs

Contact

Jos.Kerkhofs@houston.nae.school

Website

<https://ntcbish.com/>

French MTP

Introduction

The goal of the French Mother Tongue Language Programme is to provide French speaking students the opportunity to study their native language and to ease their return to France. The course develops the four skills of reading, writing, listening and speaking. Students are encouraged to read in French and the school has a broad collection of books, including subscriptions to magazines like Astrapi, Okapi and Le Monde des Ados.

Cost

Parents are in charge of buying the textbooks for the year. It is also advisable for students to purchase a French dictionary.

Resources

Here is a link to the books used in our course

[List of resources per level](#)

Each student will also get a French exercise book to practise cursive writing at the start of the course.

Assessment

Students will be assessed on the four skills of reading, writing, listening and speaking at regular intervals throughout the year. All students on the programme will receive a MT report alongside their general academic report.

Teachers

The teachers are Cécile Speter for secondary students and Nathalie Chevallier for primary students.

Contact

Nathalie.Chevallier@houston.nae.school

Cecile.Speter@houston.nae.school

German MTD Enrichment (Tuesday and Thursday 2:30-3:30 pm) and CCA Time (Tuesday and Thursday 3:30-4:30pm)

Introduction

Secondary students

Students follow a German language distance learning programme. This enables German speaking students to study German as they would if they were being educated in the German National Educational System. The programme is designed for German native speakers and follows the German curriculum, which requires speaking, writing, reading and listening skills. The course is assessed and certified. The programme needs to be purchased from the ils GmbH /Fernlehrwerk, which is an institution under the oversight of the Department of Education dedicated to providing distance learning courses. Please, visit www.ils.de to find out more about the programmes.

We offer 4 hours a week of contact time with a specialist teacher and in that time, students should be able to cover the curriculum. Students enrolled in this programme can take the German IGCSE and the DSD1 and DSD2 qualifications offered by the ZFA. Students can sign-up for as many of the available hours as they wish each cycle.

For 5. Klasse you have the choice between the materials offered by the ils GmbH/Fernlehrwerk or the Deutsche Fernschule (<https://www.deutsche-fernschule.de/>) which offers a Deutschbasiskurs online, should you prefer that learning style for your son/daughter.

Primary students

We offer 4 hours of contact time a week with a specialist teacher and students will be taught in small groups. We have two groups: Vorschule und 1. Klasse (lead teacher: Kathrin Sermbill)and 2.-4. Klasse (lead teacher: Bernadette Gronister). Attendance during enrichment time is compulsory.

The curriculum will mainly follow the German curriculum and students will have the opportunity to take the A1 and A2 certificates offered by the ZFA.

Please contact Victoria.Henecka@houston.nae.school if you are new to the school.

Stepping in to German Mother Tongue - class

We offer 4 hours of contact time a week with a specialist teacher and students will be taught in a small group. This class is aimed at students in Middle and High school who are not fully fluent in German and will receive a blend of foreign language and mother tongue lessons. Students enrolled in this programme can take the German IGCSE and the DSD1 and DSD2 qualifications offered by the ZFA. Students can prepare to join the Mother tongue or the IB classes from here.

Cost

The cost of the subscription to the secondary courses varies depending on the level. Students are also advised to purchase a German dictionary. For primary students, there is no additional cost, but parents may wish to purchase practice workbooks especially if registering their child for only two hours a week. Class teachers will advise on stationary required to bring.

Resources

Ils GmbH Fernlehrwerk and the Deutsche Fernschule will send all the resources needed for the year long course a few weeks after purchase so please purchase in advance.

Assessment

There will be evaluations to send to ils GmbH Fernlehrwerk throughout the year and for the Deutsche Fernschule the assessments will be conducted by the teacher if purchased by the parent. ZFA testing and certification is offered at A1, A2, DSD1 and DSD2 level. All students on the programme will receive a MT report alongside their general academic report and we will offer termly tests and grading in line with the German school system.

Teachers

The teachers are Victoria Henecka for secondary students, Denise Larson for the blended class and Bernadette Gronister and Kathrin Sembill for primary students.

Contact

Victoria.Henecka@houston.nae.school

Bernadette.Gronister@houston.nae.school

Denise.Larson@houston.nae.school

Kathrin.Sembill@houston.nae.school

German MTP during timetabled World Languages lessons

Primary Mother Tongue students in Y1 and Y2 will be able to opt for one hour of German a week instead of their French lessons. Y3-Y6 will be able to opt for one hour of German a week instead of either French or Spanish. Y7-Y9 will be able to opt for German for two hours a week instead of either French or Spanish.

All lessons will be taught in year groups by a German specialist. These will not be self-study lessons and will be assessed and reported on in the regular BISH report cycle.

If you would like your son/ daughter to opt for these hours of German lessons please email Victoria.Henecka@houston.nae.school for the options form, which will need to be completed and signed prior to starting the classes.

Spanish MTD

Introduction

The goal of the Spanish Mother Tongue Language Programme is to provide Spanish speaking students the opportunity to study their native language and to develop the four skills of speaking, listening, reading and writing. This course is a bespoke curriculum tailored to the specific needs of each student. *Yabisí* course is used as a point of reference for primary students and *En Español* is used for secondary students. Both courses are latin american courses.

Cost

Parents will purchase the resources needed. It is also advisable for students to purchase a Spanish dictionary.

Resources

Textbooks and workbooks are endorsed by the Yabisí course.

Assessment

There will be regular assessments throughout the year. All students on the programme will receive a MT report alongside their general academic report.

Teachers

The teachers are Maria Quiroga for secondary students, Candela Bater Lopez and Adriana Balseca for primary students.

Contacts

Candela.Lopez@houston.nae.school

Maria.Quiroga@houston.nae.school

Adriana.Balseca@houston.nae.school

Russian MTD

Introduction

The goal of the Russian Mother Tongue Language Programme is to provide Russian speaking students the opportunity to study their native language and to develop the four skills of most importantly speaking, reading, listening and writing. This course is for the bilingual children (that is the majority) based on the adaptive approach. (Please see www.metodika.ru for more reference). The lessons are run by a teacher to guide the children along the educational process to keep their learning motivation. No requirement for the children to work independently.

Resources

Учебники начальной школы 1-4 классы «Русский язык» О.Л. Соболевой, Литературное чтение 1-4 классы Л.А. Ефросинина и «Мой Русский язык» для билингвов Е. Геддис.

Средняя школа - разные пособия по «Русский язык» и «Литература» 5-9 классы. Различная дополнительная литература, которая рекомендована не только учителями в качестве внеклассного чтения, но и популярна среди детей.

Cost

No cost for the lessons. Parents will purchase the resources needed.

Assessment

There will be regular assessments throughout the year. All students on the programme will receive a MT report alongside their general academic report. A formal type of assessment (upon parents' request) may be arranged and provided directly by The School of Olga Soboleva.

Teachers

The teacher is Mrs. Irina McGuinn.

Contacts

Irina.mcguinn@gmail.com