

Secondary School

Richard Robinson: Director of Studies

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Dear Parents,

It is my pleasure to welcome you to what I hope is going to be an educationally challenging and diverse year at BISI. This year we are building on the wide range of subjects available at the school by introducing IGCSE Sociology, IB Psychology and IB Computer Science at the senior end of the school and by maintaining the broad curriculum already in place in Key Stage 3.

Over the Summer our IB and IGCSE results were released and proved to be as good and in some cases much better than anticipated, indicating that BISI does indeed offer a high standard of education comparable to some of the best schools around the world. Our results also highlighted the importance of the dedication of our students to their studies, with those who worked hardest achieving significantly above expectations.

As I enter my 18th year of teaching; 14 of which have been at schools offering the IB Diploma programme and the last 6 of those as Director of Studies at BISI, I am excited by the challenges the future holds, especially as the number of students continues to grow across all sections of the secondary school. We currently have **72** IGCSE Students in years 10 and 11 and a total of **33** IB students in years 12 and 13, 17 of whom will be leaving BISI at the end of the year to enter higher education at universities around the world.

From this year all secondary departments will be using UK National Curriculum levels as a whole or a part of their assessment of Key Stage 3 students. This will allow us to track and assess student's progress against a set of recognized criteria. Details of the assessment criteria and how it relates to tracking and reporting will be released in the coming weeks; in the mean time the criteria are available via the drop down menu in the Level descriptions box at: <http://curriculum.qcda.gov.uk/key-stages-3-and-4/assessment/index.aspx>

In another change to our assessment process at school, there will be no mid-year examinations for years 7, 8, 9, 10 or 12 in December. Students will sit internal exams in June.

I look forward to meeting you at the various meetings that will be held at school during the year and I am available to discuss any specific questions you may have about our academic programme.

Yours faithfully,

Richard Robinson

