



مدرسة الدوحة البريطانية
DOHA BRITISH SCHOOL

Curriculum Policy (Secondary)



Last Review: September 2021

Next Review: June 2022

Reviewer: Policy Committee





Rationale

The secondary curriculum at Doha British Lise De Jager is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: BSO Inspection Zoom Meeting - DBS AK

Time: Nov 8, 2021 11:00 AM Qatar

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/93035717608?pwd=c0hHQi9zVjRkSng0NFNLNVINNWtHUT09>

Meeting ID: 930 3571 7608

Passcode: db5

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h School offers pupils a natural academic progression from Year 7 up to University, for a global community.

Our curriculum is not just about the academic challenge. It is supported and deepened by a wide and vast range of pastoral, extra-curricular and global set of opportunities which all build on the belief we have in the importance of character education for each and every child.

Curriculum Intent

Our curriculum is underpinned by the 'DBS Ways' and embodies our whole school approach to character education, providing a deep and rich experience for all. We strive to offer our students the opportunity to meet and exceed their academic potential as well as equipping them with a growth mind-set for learning.

Relevant

Doha British School is at the cutting edge of the British National Curriculum and is reviewed and refined annually. This allows our students to access a curriculum that is relevant to current events around the world and become more progressive with research and technology. Our KS5 curriculum is relevant to universities globally and prepares students for degree programmes and higher education.

Rich

At Doha British School we promote a curriculum beyond the classroom through offering students a wide range of experiences to develop cultural capital. Subjects provide additional learning contexts



including trips, speakers, events and a high performing sports teams. In the classroom we embrace all the opportunities a global community offers to us, enriching our lessons through our differences and similarities that we bring to our DBS community.

Challenging

At Doha British School our courses are designed to meet the academic, personal and cultural needs of our students and better equip them for future challenges, while at the same time creating enjoyable learning environments that inspire and motivate. We focus on building strong characters who can face challenges in and out of the classroom, and who develop an inner belief in challenging themselves to improve every day.

Curriculum implementation

Each department must have:

- Department intent that follows the same characteristics as the whole school curriculum intent
- Schemes of work that are streamlined towards the examination board requirements but also including the DBS character development traits to every lesson.
- Learning Journeys that parents and pupils can clearly see how the curriculum is mapped and the topics that will be covered

Schemes of work must be followed by all departmental staff and monitored by Subject Leaders. Schemes of work must establish how the course content is structured, so that character development traits, skills, knowledge and understanding are developed progressively.

Character Development Traits



Our teachers will have a detailed understanding of the curriculum structure and sequence, recognising how each lesson's learning fits into the pupils' broader development within the subject. Teachers will know what skills students are expected to have gained at each stage of the curriculum and how these cumulatively prepare students for the rigours of the iGCSE exams in their subject.



Relevant and appropriately challenging home and project based learning must be provided for all students, with appropriate time given for students to complete the tasks set.

Pupils who enter at below average levels of attainment will be supported to narrow the gap, so they can access, and be successful in, our curriculum.

Curriculum Content and Equivalency Requirements

The Ministry of Education (MOE) has outlined specific requirements for pupils who have completed a British-style education here and plan to:

- Continue higher education in Qatar and some other Arab countries.
- Apply for a scholarship (funding) from local organisations in Qatar
- Work in a governmental or semi-governmental sector in Qatar.

In order to do this, these pupils need to obtain what is called 'Equivalency'; this shows that the education that your son or daughter has received with us is equivalent to the Qatar Ministry of Education Thanaweya Amma Certificate for school leavers.

In order to gain Qatar High School equivalency, the following conditions must apply:

- All students must study Arabic and Islamic Studies from year 7 up to year 12
- In Year 11, pupils will need to pass at least 7 iGCSEs with a 9 to 3 grade. If they meet this standard, then they qualify to study a minimum of 3 AS level subjects and must pass all 3 with minimum grade of a D
- If a student does not obtain 7 GCSEs, then the next minimum standard is 5 GCSE/iGCSEs between 9 to 3. They then must study 4 AS level subjects and pass with a minimum grade of a D in all subjects

In **Key Stage 3** our pupils cover a wide range of subjects. They are taught in mixed groups for the majority of their subjects, with setting occurring only in maths.

- All Qatari and Arab nation students must study Arabic and Islamic Studies
- All non-Arab students will study Spanish or French. Any French national or native speaker will study Spanish. Any Spanish national or native speaker will study French.
- Islamic and Arabic for non-Arab speakers is offered as an option

At **Key Stage 4**, the core subjects are: Maths, English language, English literature and a minimum of two Sciences from either Biology, Chemistry and Physics. Pupils then choose three to four further subjects from a wide range of options.

- All Arabic students that require equivalency must study Arabic and Islamic studies
- Students not requiring equivalency will study Core PE and PSHE
- Islamic and Arabic for non-Arab speakers is offered as an option
- Any French national or native speaker cannot choose French iGCSE. Any Spanish national or native speaker cannot choose Spanish iGCSE. In the event of any uncertainties, a competency test will be conducted and overarching decisions will be made by the school



At **Key Stage 5**, students can choose to study from 4 academic pathways. IB, AS levels, A-levels and BTEC. These pathways offer a variety of subjects, and options, all leading to entrance to universities around the world.

- All Arabic students that require equivalency must study Arabic and Islamic studies
- Students not requiring equivalency will study Core PE and PSHE
- Islamic and Arabic for non-Arab speakers is offered as an option

Entry requirements for 6th form

- AS and A Level require a minimum of 5 grades between 9 to 5
- Maths requires a minimum of a grade 6 at iGCSE
- All other subjects require a minimum grade of 5 in the subject you wish to study
- IB require a minimum of 5 grades between 9 to 6
- Visual Arts: Entry requirement 5 at iGCSE. Grades achieved at iGCSE can be in Fine Art, Textiles of Photography
- You cannot study Language Abinitio if you have studied the same language at iGCSE

Key Stage 3	Key Stage 4	Key Stage 5
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All Students	Core	Subjects Available
<p>English Mathematics Science History Qatar History Geography Computing Physical Education Art Design Technology</p>	<p>English Language English Literature Mathematics Minimum of 2 Sciences</p>	<p>International AS & A Level English Language English Literature Maths Biology Chemistry Physics History Geography Psychology Business Studies ICT Arabic</p>
<p><i>Some students will follow a different pathway taking 1 of 2 optional routes</i></p>	<p>Options IGCSE Biology Chemistry Physics Arabic 1st French Spanish History Geography Business Studies Economics Computer Science</p>	<p>A Level Physical Education Music</p>
<p>Non Equivalency Music MFL PSHE Qatar National Vision</p>	<p>GCSE DT - Resistant Materials DT - Graphic Products Art - Fine Art Art - Textiles Physical Education Music Arabic 2nd</p>	<p>International Baccalaureate (IB) English Language and Literature Maths - Analysis and Approaches Maths - Applications and Interpretations Biology Chemistry Physics Environmental and Social Sciences Arabic French A & B Spanish A & B Geography History Business Management Information and Global Systems Economics Design Technology Visual Art</p>
<p>Equivalency Arabic Islamic Studies</p>	<p>Equivalency Islamic Studies</p> <p>Non Equivalency PSHE Core PE</p>	<p>BTEC Level 3 Business</p>



Personal Development and Cultural Sensitivity

Careers education: the school's Careers Officers ensures that students receive excellent impartial careers guidance from Year 7 to Year 13. Careers education, information, advice and guidance starts in Yr7 and continues up to and beyond Yr13.

Pastoral curriculum: this is delivered through tutor times, assemblies, drop down days and house events; the theme of the week is consistently reinforced within the whole school curriculum.

Extended curriculum: there are a wide range of opportunities within and beyond the timetabled curriculum. The school's curriculum, coupled with opportunities provided by the staff and facilities at DBS, provides highly positive, memorable experiences and rich opportunities for high quality learning. These are provided through extensive extra-curricular opportunities and through a wide range of events, trips and visits to local, national and international destinations.

Promoting British values: the school pays careful attention towards promoting students' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development through a wide variety of activities; students thrive in the supportive, highly cohesive, inclusive learning community. The school promotes the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance throughout the curriculum and pastoral time, including assemblies and school trips and visits.

We must continue to be mindful of the context in which we live. We are visitors to the State of Qatar which has some traditional values that differ from ones that we may be used to. Whilst we understand we are an international school and celebrate different values we must be alert and aware of our surroundings. We are not permitted to teach any values that go against Qatari/Islamic values/culture.

Groupings and settings

In Key Stage 3 all classes are taught in tutor's groups. These are mixed ability groups that have been put together with the aim of producing a balance of gender, ethnicity and ability.

Setting or mixed tutor groups only occurs in the following subjects:

- Languages, Music, PSHE and Qatar National Vision
- Maths setting from Year 8 onwards

In Key Stage 4 all subjects are taught in mixed groups with sets only occurs in the following subjects:

- Maths
- English
- Sciences



Thank you