



THE  
**BRITISH**  
INTERNATIONAL  
**SCHOOL**  
UKRAINE

# BISU Academic Programmes

2023-2024



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# About our school

The British International School, Ukraine (BISU) is an inclusive international community which welcomes children aged 3-18 years old and promotes academic brilliance alongside sustainable progress beyond the classroom, passion for learning, creative thinking, social responsibility and global awareness, in a supportive atmosphere of care and trust.

We provide a quality holistic education which challenges our students to be broad-minded, observant, well-rounded, courageous and happy lifelong learners.

Our major task is to guide our students to feel valued, capable and to realise they play the role of creators in their own lives and futures. Through their vocation, they can give back to the world and make a difference.



School in Dnipro



School in Kyiv



We seek to empower young people to find their true calling in life through continuous learning, unleashed potential and personal growth.



Our priorities are the care and wellbeing of each child, provision of the highest standards of learning and teaching, service to the parents and support for the BISU community.



We focus upon achievement, high academic attainment and a curriculum that is broad, balanced and designed to meet a child's individual needs.



All BISU students are expected to distinguish themselves through displaying the highest standards of behaviour, politeness, engagement, punctuality and attendance.



# Why choose BISU?

Established in 1997, BISU was the first to bring a British-based world class education to Ukraine and is widely accepted as one of the country's most prestigious international schools.

Working according to the COBIS standards means that our students receive the same quality education as those studying in private schools in Great Britain.

More than 1,000 of our alumni continue their studies at the most prestigious institutions in different countries.

63% of BISU graduates entered universities in the UK, 46% of graduates were accepted to TOP-200 universities of the world, including Oxford, London School of Economics, King's College London, the University of Manchester, etc.

BISU assigns an academic mentor to each student who will support, coach, guide and motivate them to learn and progress.

Learning is provided in small groups and includes an individual approach to each student. Teacher-to-student ratio is 1:5.

**Bilingual education:** we offer British (all subjects are taught by our qualified international teachers in English) and Ukrainian Curricula.

We help students complement their academic knowledge with the skills and attitudes essential for their future life in the 21st century in a global environment. These include: personal and social responsibility, creativity, critical thinking and decision-making.



## Global connections and internationally renowned partners:

- ◆ BISU is a member of the Council of British International Schools (COBIS), which represents over 450 schools and organisations in 80 countries.
- ◆ We are the first international school in Europe and the second in the world to achieve the Gold EAL Quality Mark Award. It marks our achievements in meeting the needs of students learning English as an additional language.
- ◆ Our partners are reputable institutions with a rich history, including Cambridge Assessment dating back to 1858 and the International Baccalaureate founded in 1968.
- ◆ We are a Cambridge authorised exam centre, member of the Black Sea Schools Group – a loose grouping of COBIS schools in countries around the Black Sea Region (Azerbaijan, Bulgaria, Georgia, Romania, Moldova, Turkey and Ukraine). We participate in a variety of certified programmes: ASDAN, Edexcel, the Best Practice Network.







## IBDP and IGCSE outstanding exam results:

- ◆ Our IBDP graduates achieve a 100% pass rate.
- ◆ 80% or even more of all our IGCSE students achieve 100% A\* to C IGCSE passes.
- ◆ BISU international diplomas and certificates are recognised worldwide.



## External Independent Evaluation (ZNO) outstanding results:

- ◆ BISU Ukrainian Externat students pass the state final attestation exams in subjects:
  - Ukrainian Language, Mathematics (compulsory);
  - History of Ukraine, English, Chemistry, Physics, Biology (optional).
- ◆ BISU maintains a 100% pass rate, enabling our students to study at universities across Ukraine.





# BISU Advance Programme

## for the Academic year 2023-2024

Our well-balanced programme is based on a winning selection of British and Ukrainian Curricula, English language and enrichment activities to help your child get the most out of school.

BISU British Curriculum stems from the National Curriculum for England which is taught online and offline.

Ukrainian Curriculum operates according to the New Ukrainian School curriculum and the curricula recommended by the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine. Taught online and offline.

Creative Enrichment Activities offered by BISU teachers and external providers ranging from Sustainability to Coding – is an optional but recommended part of the educational programme. Examples: Music, Drama, Art and Design, Physical Education etc.

The academic year runs from 1<sup>st</sup> September until 30<sup>th</sup> June and is divided into 3 terms:

- ♦ Autumn term (September – December);
- ♦ Spring term (January – March);
- ♦ Summer term (April – June).



### Equivalence Table

Age by 31 <sup>st</sup> August	Ukrainian Class	BISU Year	Learning Stage
3	-	N	Early Years Foundation Stage
4	-	R	Early Years Foundation Stage
5	-	1	Primary School. Key Stage 1
6	1	2	Primary School. Key Stage 1
7	2	3	Primary School. Key Stage 2
8	3	4	Primary School. Key Stage 2
9	4	5	Primary School. Key Stage 2
10	5	6	Primary School. Key Stage 2
11	6	7	Secondary School. Key Stage 3
12	7	8	Secondary School. Key Stage 3
13	8	9	Secondary School. Key Stage 3
14	9	10	Key Stage 4. Cambridge IGCSE
15	10	11	Key Stage 4. Cambridge IGCSE
16	11	12	Sixth Form. Key Stage 5. IBDP or A-levels
17	-	13	Sixth Form. Key Stage 5. IBDP or A-levels



# Kindergarten

BISU offers the bilingual Early Years Foundation Stage (Nursery and Reception) that sets standards for the development and care of children aged 3-5 years old.

A blend of the National Curriculum for England and the Ukrainian Early Years Curriculum, it is designed to inspire and encourage the curious and inquisitive young minds to enquire, explore, discover, reflect and learn to solve problems, while fostering their confidence and self-efficacy.

The languages of communication are English and Ukrainian. Children who have English as their second language have an opportunity to develop their language skills, improve social skills and follow the British curriculum.

We support children's physical, cognitive and emotional development. Forming healthy eating habits is part of our curriculum. Our chefs take a responsible approach to serve 3 balanced healthy meals to our children every day.

Well-being and safety of the children, families and staff has always been and will remain our top priority. BISU Kindergarten boasts a closed territory, round-the-clock security, video surveillance and a fully equipped, comfortable shelter.

Subjects include:

- ◆ Communication and Language;
- ◆ Personal, Social and Emotional Development;
- ◆ Physical Development;
- ◆ Literacy;
- ◆ Mathematics;
- ◆ Understanding the World;
- ◆ Expressive Arts and Design.





# BISU Advance Primary

International programme Years 1-6

Ukrainian programme Classes 1-5

The programme combines a social, cultural, emotional and physical perspective with a strong focus on literacy and numeracy.

BISU Advance Primary Programme is available for children aged 5-6 to 11 and includes Key Stages 1-2 of the British Curriculum (Years 1-6) and the New Ukrainian School Curriculum (Classes 1-5).

Primary immersive digital learning will be provided by BISU's highly qualified and experienced international teachers.

BISU Advance Primary Programme has a strong emphasis on:

- ♦ language development;
- ♦ opportunities for thinking;
- ♦ problem-solving;
- ♦ self-expression;
- ♦ discovery;
- ♦ self-efficacy and confidence.

BISU has secured partnerships with some award-winning companies working worldwide to enhance our Primary curriculum:

- ♦ [Discovery Education](#); 
- ♦ [Pobble](#); 
- ♦ [Book Creator](#); 
- ♦ [Times Tables Rock Stars](#); 
- ♦ [Big Cat Reading](#); 
- ♦ [Century](#); 



## Key Stages 1, 2

All subjects are taught using an interdisciplinary approach:

- ♦ English;
- ♦ Mathematics;
- ♦ Science;
- ♦ History;
- ♦ Geography;
- ♦ Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education;
- ♦ Computing;
- ♦ Visual and Performing Arts;
- ♦ Art and Design;
- ♦ Music;
- ♦ Physical Education;
- ♦ Modern Foreign Languages.

Your child will be introduced to the essential skills he/she needs to be an educated citizen and learn to appreciate human creativity and achievement.

## New Ukrainian School Curriculum (Classes 1-5)

All subjects are taught using an interdisciplinary approach:

- ♦ I explore the world;
- ♦ Natural sciences;
- ♦ Mathematics;
- ♦ Ukrainian language and reading;
- ♦ Reading and writing;
- ♦ English;
- ♦ History.





# BISU Advance Secondary

International programme Years 7-9


Ukrainian programme Classes 6-8

BISU Advance Secondary is available for children aged 11 to 14 and includes Key Stage 3 of the British Curriculum (Years 7-9), the New Ukrainian School Curriculum (Class 6) and the curricula recommended by the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine (Classes 7-8).

The programme starts as a smooth transition between primary and secondary school. The Curriculum is taught includes linguistic, literacy, aesthetic, geographical, scientific, historical, and physical areas of knowledge and experience.

By the end, students are expected to know, apply and understand the matters, skills and processes specified in the relevant programme of study.

Secondary immersive digital learning will be provided by BISU teachers in conjunction with selected internationally renowned partner organisations.

Key Stage 3 subjects include English, Mathematics and Science plus a selection of British National Curriculum subjects. Please see the full curriculum at [www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk). 

Your child grows as a well-rounded person developed in many aspects. In addition to their academic achievements, your daughter or son learns how to:

- ◆ live in the modern digital world;
- ◆ use the most advanced technological platforms;
- ◆ be flexible and continue studying from wherever they are;
- ◆ be independent, responsible and choose their way in life;
- ◆ be fit for future education;
- ◆ communicate with other students and teachers inside and outside the learning environment.





# BISU Advance Secondary

International programme Years 10-11





Ukrainian programme Classes 9-10

BISU Advance Primary Secondary is available for children aged 14 to 16 and includes Key Stage 4 (Years 10-11) of the IGCSE/GCSE programme based on the British Curriculum (GCSE) but adapted for a more internationally-focused student body. The Ukrainian Curriculum is offered as Externat. At the end of the academic year, the 9 Class graduates receive Ukrainian State-Standard Certificates of incomplete general secondary education.

While studying the IGCSE/GCSE programme, your child will:

- ♦ Acquire, develop and apply a broad range of knowledge;
- ♦ Learn to think creatively and critically;
- ♦ Learn to respect themselves and others;
- ♦ Develop his/her physical skills;
- ♦ Recognise the importance of pursuing a healthy lifestyle.

BISU has developed partnerships with prestigious educational organisations around the world to be able to offer a wide range of subjects at IGCSE/GCSE:

- ♦ [King's InterHigh Leading Online School](#); 
- ♦ [Pamoja Education](#); 
- ♦ [Oxford Education Online](#); 
- ♦ [White Rose Maths](#). 



## Cambridge IGCSE

An IGCSE (International General Certificate of Secondary Education) is a qualification that is typically offered to students during their high school years, with the examinations for these taking place at the age of 16.

The qualification is recognised by many institutions in the world. It also allows further vocational education and is often considered the baseline for employment.



BISU students can complete their Cambridge IGCSEs and study the IBDP programme or A-level qualifications that will enable them to enter the top universities around the world.

Core subjects:

- ♦ English Language;
- ♦ Mathematics;
- ♦ Coordinated Sciences (dual);
- ♦ Computer Science;
- ♦ Modern Foreign Languages;
- ♦ PSHE/ASDAN.

Option choices will be available subject to availability and demand.





# BISU Advance Secondary

International programme Years 12-13

Ukrainian programme Class 11

In Years 12 and 13 (Key Stage 5 or Sixth Form, 16-18 years old), your child chooses one of two preuniversity programmes: IBDP or A-levels. BISU has developed partnerships with a number of prestigious organisations around the world to be able to offer a wide range of subjects at both programmes.

- ♦ [King's InterHigh Leading Online School](#); [🔗](#)
- ♦ [Pamoja Education](#); [🔗](#)
- ♦ [Oxford Education Online](#). [🔗](#)

These partnerships mean that we are empowered to create a bespoke programme of study for your child in order to ensure their interests are met, they have access to the subjects they require for further study at university and they are motivated to achieve their full potential.

After completing Key Stage 5, students will receive an IB diploma or A-level qualifications, which will allow them to apply to universities around the world. Upon successful completion of the Ukrainian Curriculum, 11 Class graduates receive Ukrainian State-Standard Certificates of complete secondary education.

Your child will:

- ♦ Develop confidence in their capacity to learn and work independently and collaboratively;
- ♦ Appreciate human aspirations and achievements in aesthetic, scientific, technological and social fields;
- ♦ Become creative, innovative, enterprising and capable of leadership.
- ♦ Become a responsible and caring citizen capable of contributing to the development of a just society;
- ♦ Respond positively to opportunities, challenges and responsibilities to manage risk and to cope with change and adversity.





## Advance International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme

IBDP was developed by a group of international school educators back in 1960s and today there are more than 3000 schools offering the DP in 147 countries worldwide. The programme aims to develop students who have excellent breadth and depth of knowledge – students who flourish physically, intellectually, emotionally and ethically.

Through the IBDP, schools are able to develop students who:

- ♦ Have excellent breadth and depth of knowledge;
- ♦ Flourish physically, intellectually, emotionally and ethically;
- ♦ Study at least two languages;
- ♦ Excel in traditional academic subjects;
- ♦ Explore the nature of knowledge through the programme's unique theory of knowledge course.

IBDP alumni reported higher capacities for a variety of 21st-century skills compared to their non-DP counterparts



This 2-year programme takes a holistic approach to academic study with six subjects chosen in total.

The programme also has a core element that includes:

- ♦ Extended Essay (EE);
- ♦ Theory of Knowledge (TOK);
- ♦ Creativity, Activity and Service (CAS).



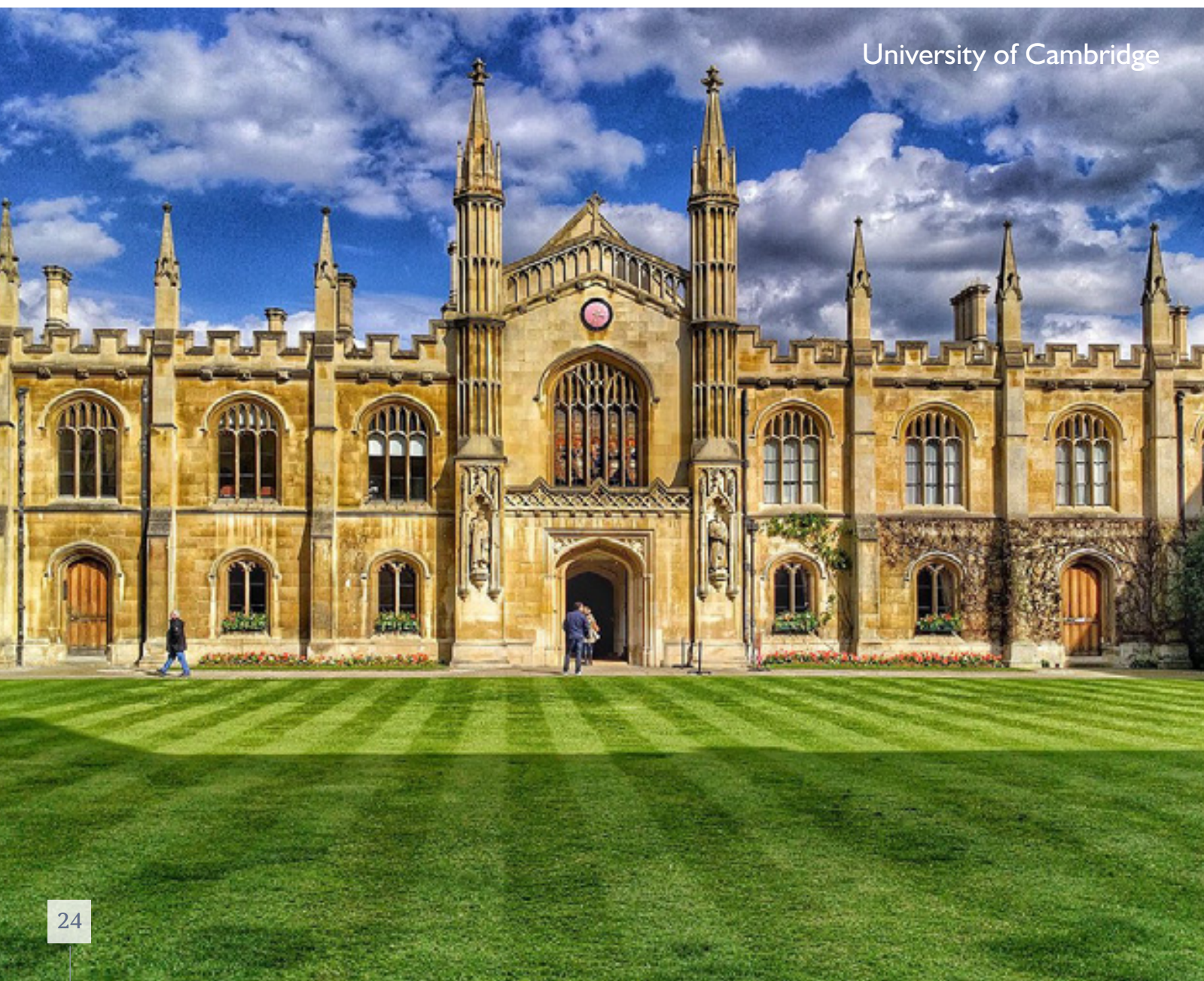


## Advance A-levels

Advanced Level qualifications (known as A-levels) have a great reputation for being in-depth and rigorous, and they are very well recognised by universities and employers as a great qualification.

This 2-year programme comprises 3-4 specific subjects studied in greater depth alongside a Creativity, Activity and Service (CAS) component.

There are no compulsory subjects at A-levels, so students are free to take the subjects that either interest them or are going to be beneficial to them in their future studies or careers.



University of Cambridge

### What does it take to enroll for the A-level programme?

In general, students need to get 5 A\* to Cs including English and Maths at IGCSE. In addition, students need a grade B or above in individual subjects that they wish to study to enable them to have the best opportunity to achieve the top grade at A-level.

### What subjects do A-level students take at BISU?

By employing a combination of face-to-face teaching and blended learning, we ensure that our students have access to a wide range of subjects. Our current Sixth Form students are taking subjects, such as English Literature, Maths, Further Maths, Physics, Computer Science, Business Studies and Russian. There are a great other variety of subjects available to them. Two of our students are looking to apply to Oxford and Cambridge, which are ranked among the finest universities in the world.

### Which exam boards do A-levels use?

Internationally, there are several exam boards which assess A-levels. Often, schools will use Edexcel or the Cambridge International Assessment. Here at BISU we use the Cambridge International Assessment for our A-level programme.

### How do students decide if A-levels are right for them?

If a student enjoys academic learning and want to select from a broad range of subjects, then A-levels might be the right choice for them. If the student has got a passion or a strength within a subject, A-levels allow them to focus on their programme of study. A-levels have a great reputation for being in-depth and rigorous, and they are very well recognised by universities and employers as a great qualification.

### So how do students make a choice between A-levels and the IB programme?

This is a difficult choice, and it depends on the individual student – on what they want to study and where they want to study it. Our dedicated Sixth Form team of teachers are British educated. They understand the issues, and they are always happy to help, support and guide our students.



# Personal development, enterprise and leadership

To quote one of our key partners, ASDAN, they are “on a mission – **to engage, elevate and empower young people**”. With this in mind, we have also set up a selection of complementary programmes alongside the academic programme to enhance our students' future prospects and develop their confidence.



Year group	Course	Overview
7	Personal Development Programmes Bronze	Personal Development Programmes (PDP: Bronze, Silver and Gold) link to nationally recognised qualifications and are aimed at learners aged 11-16. Students gain 1 or 2 credits for each section completed, with each credit representing about 10 hours of activity.  6 credits (approx 60 hours) are needed to achieve Bronze 12 credits (approx 120 hours) are needed to achieve Silver 18 credits (approx 180 hours) are needed to achieve Gold
8	Personal Development Programmes Silver	
9	Personal Development Programmes Gold	
10	Enterprise Short Course Endorsed by the Institute of Enterprise and Entrepreneurs	Accredits 10-60 hours of activities The Enterprise Short Course contains six modules: <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Your entrepreneurial skills</li><li>2. Generating enterprising ideas</li><li>3. Enterprise planning</li><li>4. Your enterprise evaluation</li><li>5. Enterprise and business</li><li>6. Your enterprise in action</li></ol>
11	Leadership Short Course	The Leadership Short Course accredits between 10-60 hours of activities. There are four modules: <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Develop leadership skills</li><li>2. Be a leader</li><li>3. Review your leadership</li><li>4. Support new leaders</li></ol>
12	Independently chosen projects as well as school directed e.g. Race4Good	
13		

## Global Social Leaders (GSL)

GSL is a movement to enable young people to change the world for the better through social action and personal development.

The GSL programmes are transformational leadership experiences delivered by Future Foundations and the Wellington Leadership Institute that bring together socially conscious young people from across the world who are driven to make social change on a global scale.

BISU students take part in the GSL courses – Accelerator, Catalyst, COBIS Leadership Weekend – to learn how to be leaders in their lives and society.

## Enrichment activities

Music, Drama, Art and Design, Physical Education, Young Engineers, Chess, Sports etc.





# Fluency in English

Based on the Cambridge English Language suite of qualifications, our programme helps your child improve his/her English and increase their chances of success in other subjects.

We are the first international school in Europe and the second in the world to achieve the **Gold EAL Quality Mark Award**. It marks our achievements in meeting the needs of students learning English as an additional language.

British and International Curricula enable our students to focus on developing their English language proficiency through a range of subjects, themes and disciplines.

Please see the table below for a simplified definition of proficiency at each CEFR level (international standard for working out your ability within a language).

CEFR level	BISU year group	Cambridge English Tests (CET)	IELTS scores	General description
Pre-A1	Year 2	Starters	-	Can understand and use familiar everyday expressions and very basic phrases aimed at the satisfaction of needs of a concrete type
A1	Year 3-4 Year 5-6	Movers Flyers	-	
A2	Year 7	KET	3.5	Can communicate in English within a limited range of contexts
B1	Year 8	PET	4-5	Can communicate essential points and ideas in familiar contexts
B2	Year 9	FCE	5.5-6.5	Can use English effectively, with some fluency, in a range of contexts





# Environment as the third teacher

Health, safety and security are our priorities, and all schools are regularly inspected and meet the highest local and international standards.

Our classrooms are spacious and cosy.

The schools have libraries, science labs, computer rooms, art and music rooms, assembly halls, gyms, makerspaces and playgrounds.

All the schools have fully equipped, comfortable shelters meeting all safety requirements and providing necessary conveniences.

Modern technology is an integral part of all the subjects offered and built into the curriculum. **BISU is the first school in Ukraine to introduce artificial intelligence to enhance students' learning through Century Tech.**

We have established a successful cooperation with numerous international technology corporations, including Firefly, Microsoft, iSams, and others.

These partnerships allow BISU students access to a wider network and greater choice of prestigious learning platforms, student-teacher-parent portals as well as subjects and lessons in keeping with the international school's high-quality provision.





# School life

BISU provides students with many challenging and enriching opportunities, engaging them, both personally and academically, in real-world meaningful projects and giving something back to the larger community.

Our students participate in a variety of social, cultural, scientific and charity activities both in and beyond Ukraine (offline and online activities).

They often earn prizes and accolades for their creativity and effort. It is an exceptional experience for young ambitious learners.



## School events including:

- ◆ Remembrance Day;
- ◆ Book and science weeks;
- ◆ Student Parliament and Assemblies;
- ◆ Sports days and themed festivals;
- ◆ Charity initiatives (Red Cross, Tabletochki Fund, animal shelters, etc.);
- ◆ Art exhibitions;
- ◆ Music and drama performances;
- ◆ World Animal Day;
- ◆ European Languages Day.

## International events including:

- ◆ Creative collaboration with Liverpool Life Sciences UTC for the Eurovision Contest;
- ◆ Voices Around the World;
- ◆ Collaboration with Gosforth East Middle School in Newcastle;
- ◆ COBIS Creative Writing, Art, Poetry and Mathematics contests;
- ◆ Black Sea Schools competitions (Mathematics, Science and Public Speaking);
- ◆ Race4Good;
- ◆ Kolosok Natural Science interactive competition;
- ◆ Kangaroo Mathematics competition.

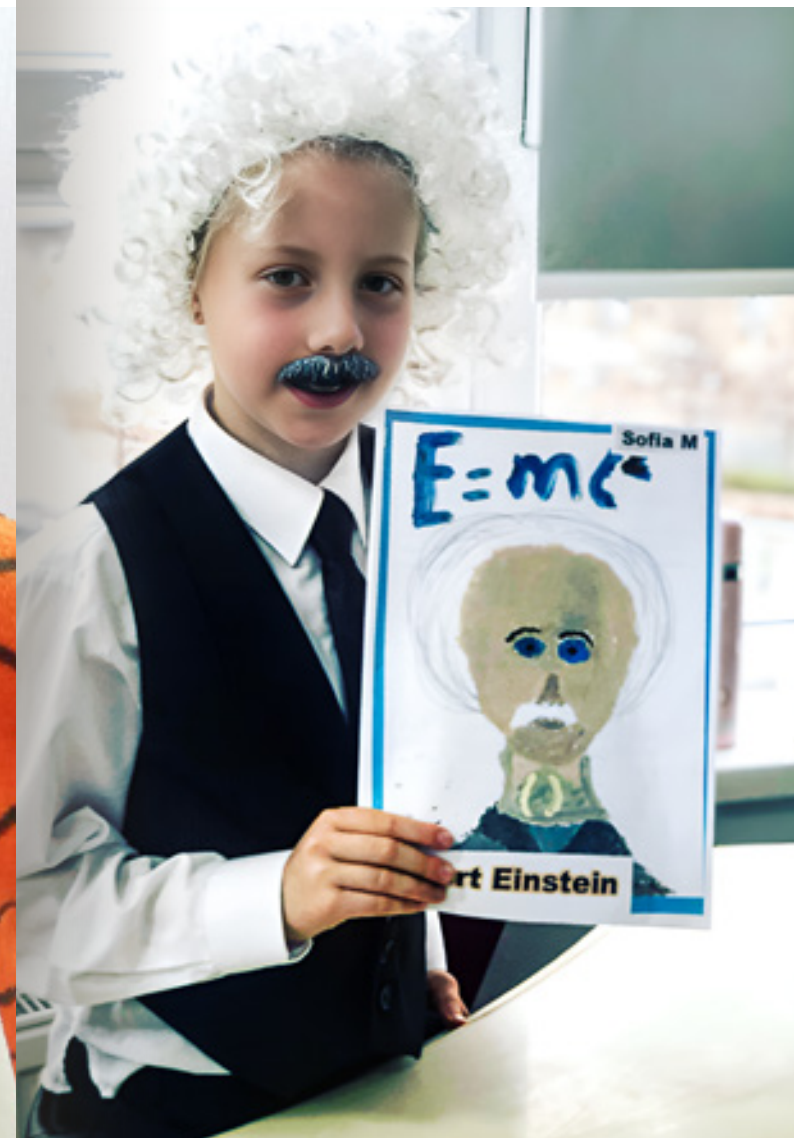
## National events including:

- ◆ Outstanding Mathematics and MediaMan competitions (Ukrainian Minor Academy of Sciences);
- ◆ All Ukrainian Sunflower contest.



# A happy place for happy students

Happiness is a crucial ingredient at BISU. We are child-centred and our students' needs must always come first. We provide them with a caring environment where they feel confident and are able to make individual choices. Every student's voice is heard.





# Testimonials

**Yelyzaveta  
Popova**

BISU IB Graduate

“ Studying at BISU, especially during the last two years (IB program), I have become more independent, flexible and open-minded, and have acquired other skills and abilities that will help me in my future life and career. The international school environment and the high level of support from my teachers have been the greatest value for me, especially during the lockdown. Of course, I enjoyed school and especially the IB course.

”

**Sergiy  
Klepikov**

BISU IB Graduate  
and Dux Litterarum

“ I was able to have an amazing graduation. Now I am studying PPE, that is Politics, Philosophy and Economics at the University of Manchester. Graduation is a big start. For many years that you have been educating yourself in multiple subjects you have also been doing a very important task – developing yourself. I am sure that everyone learnt and accumulated insights not only from the academic subjects but also from your teachers, peers, and all of the people you met along the way. You will keep using key lessons from the school during your lifetime.

”

**Anastasiia  
Yegorova**

BISU IB Graduate

“ Thanks to the 13 years I spent at a British school, I was fully motivated and prepared to study at the best colleges and universities in the UK. I am currently studying at D'Overbrook College, Oxford. I applied to study biochemistry and got an offer from one of the Golden Triangle universities. At BISU, I was taught to be sensitive, tolerant and impartial. Here, your child not only acquires knowledge, but also develops his own interests in various fields.

”

**Dr Kabir**

BISU parent

“ Many thanks for your support, leadership, counselling, mentoring, and coaching you gave to my son and all the students in the British School. All these things have really helped to shape him up and made him succeed in his exams. My thanks to all the teachers in BISU for their expertise. My best wishes and warmest regards!

”

**Oleksandr  
Osaulenko**

BISU student, Year 11

“ During our most recent Enrichment Programme session presented by the London Freeman's School, we got a chance to experience the skill of influential public speech. With an assistance of Freeman's current head, who was also a former anchorman, we were introduced to the vital tips for improving efficiency of our direct communication with the audience. Being an inevitable aspect of any social life, it has been a pleasure to hold such a diverse discussion with a real professional of this art – so I am extremely curious to discover what will expect of us on our next assembly!

”

**Carl  
Stephen**

BISU parent

“ My kids love it here. Lessons, extracurricular activities, a huge number of exhibitions and presentations prepared by children. The sports part is also fantastic. My boys are now excited about bench ball, a game they played at school and even won a tournament. I also like how they work with parents on grading and reporting systems. The reception works just fantastic - even at the busiest hours. I appreciate the excellent work of the team and would like to thank the staff for their enthusiasm and creativity.

”





# Your child's future

BISU offers choice and opportunity that allow your son or daughter to unleash their potential today and to flourish and prosper tomorrow.

Whatever pathway you choose for your child, we make sure s/he is equipped with academic success alongside vital life skills such as responsibility, creativity, communication, cultural tolerance and open mindedness.

We also provide support in guiding your child towards a successful future after graduation. This includes helping them choose a career path, preparing for university, and ensuring a smooth transition into higher education.

We look forward to welcoming your child to BISU for the next academic year 2023-2024!



For more details, please leave your number at [www.britishschool.ua](http://www.britishschool.ua) and we will call you back!





THE  
**BRITISH**  
INTERNATIONAL  
**SCHOOL**  
UKRAINE

**COMMITTED TO EXCELLENCE  
IN LEARNING AND TEACHING**