



THE BRITISH ACADEMY

PROSPECTUS



CAMBRIDGE
International Examinations

Cambridge International School

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Dear Prospective Parents,

Working with young adults is one of the most fulfilling experiences, as it allows us to have a lasting impact on their lives and how they perceive themselves. My vision for The British Academy is to create a Cambridge school with an excellent academic programme where both teachers and students are self-motivated and strive to achieve their best.

Our Why

At The British Academy, we believe that every child is created for greatness, and education is the key to unlocking their full potential. Our mission is to provide an environment that fosters academic excellence and personal growth. We offer small class sizes, personalised attention, and a nurturing community where every student feels valued and inspired to excel.

Our Curriculum

Cambridge Pathway

The British Academy offers a comprehensive Cambridge curriculum designed to develop learners' skills and understanding in a wide range of subjects. Our curriculum spans from Year 7 to A-levels, ensuring that students receive a high-quality education recognised globally.

1. Cambridge Lower Secondary (Checkpoint)

- **Years:** 7-9
- **Subjects:** English, Mathematics, Science, and additional subjects
- **Goal:** To build a strong foundation in key subjects and prepare students for the next stage of their education.

2. Cambridge IGCSE

- **Years:** 10-11
- **Subjects:** A wide variety of subjects including English, Mathematics, Sciences, Humanities, and Languages.
- **Goal:** To offer a broad and balanced curriculum that prepares students for further education and employment.

3. Cambridge International AS and A Levels

- **Years:** 12-13
- **Subjects:** Advanced study in subjects chosen by students, providing a deep understanding and preparation for university education.
- **Goal:** To equip students with in-depth knowledge and skills in their chosen subjects, fostering critical thinking and independent learning.

Our Approach and Values

A good school is not only defined by its academic programme or the qualifications of its teachers, but also by the environment it creates. At The British Academy, we ensure that no student feels left out or different from the norm. We strive to instil a school climate conducive to learning and develop a social and academic atmosphere that gives students a strong sense of belonging. Our students feel proud of their school, feel they belong, and feel nurtured by our community. We invite you to learn more about us and discover an excellent education built for your child's future.

Contact us to book an admissions meeting.

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Our mission and vision is shaped by our WHY:

We believe that every child is created for greatness, and education is the key to unlocking that potential.

Vision

Our vision is to be a leading international school that upholds the highest standards of the Cambridge curriculum while fostering a vibrant, diverse, and inclusive community. We aim to develop confident, reflective, and innovative learners who are prepared to thrive in a global society. By cultivating a passion for knowledge and instilling core values of respect, resilience, responsibility, resourcefulness, and reason, we aspire to shape future leaders who will make a positive impact on the world.

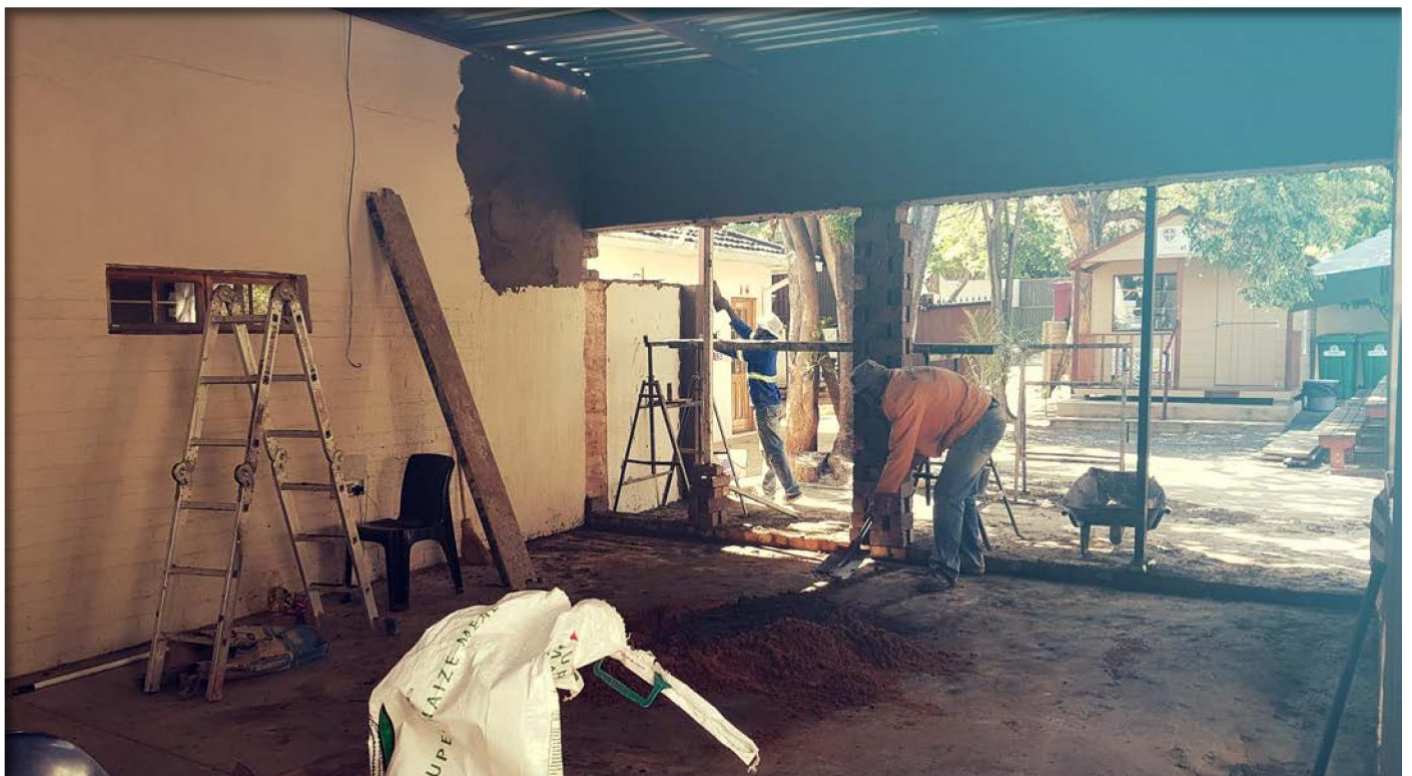
Mission

Our motto is “**Per Aspera Ad Astra**” which translates as “Through Adversity to the Stars” and this perfectly captures our approach to teaching. Therefore, at The British Academy, our mission is to empower every child to unlock their innate potential and become catalysts for positive change in the world. We strive to provide an exceptional education that nurtures academic excellence, personal growth, and a love for learning. Through small class sizes and personalised attention, we create a supportive and inclusive environment where every student feels valued, inspired, and equipped to achieve their best.

Our History

In 2012, The British Academy opened its original campus in Centurion, initially focusing on part-time Cambridge courses and extra lessons. However, by January 2013, the demand for full-time tuition had grown significantly, leading to the incorporation of full-time courses into the standard curriculum. Within a year, TBA had produced at least five national first-place awards and numerous A* results, underscoring the strength of its academic programme.

In October 2013, TBA acquired its flagship Brooklyn Campus in Pretoria, moving to its current location early in 2014. This move was driven by the growing demand for a highly focused yet enjoyable academic environment. The expansion included a larger, better-equipped campus and an extension of the courses offered to include Foundation Level (Grade 8) and IGCSE-1 (Grade 9), ensuring the full high school curriculum is covered.



Since then, we have further expanded our Brooklyn campus to offer Pre-Foundation level (Grade 7). This addition allows us to provide a seamless and comprehensive educational journey from the early stages of secondary education through to the completion of A-levels, solidifying our commitment to academic excellence and holistic student development.

WHY CHOOSE CAMBRIDGE?

Here are some of the key reasons why Cambridge is an excellent choice:

- **Internationally Recognised Qualifications:** Cambridge qualifications are respected and recognised by universities and employers worldwide, providing students with a passport to success in higher education and their future careers.
- **Excellence in Education:** The Cambridge curriculum is designed to be rigorous and challenging, promoting academic excellence and fostering a love for learning. It encourages students to engage deeply with their subjects and develop a thorough understanding.
- **Learner-Centred Approach:** Cambridge schools focus on the needs of individual learners, allowing for personalised learning experiences that cater to diverse learning styles and paces.
- **Holistic Development:** Cambridge education promotes the development of the whole student, encouraging not just academic achievement but also personal and social growth. Students are nurtured to become confident, responsible, reflective, innovative, and engaged individuals.
- **Global Community:** Studying within the Cambridge system means joining a global community of learners and educators. This international perspective enhances cultural understanding and prepares students for a globalised world.
- **Flexibility and Adaptability:** The Cambridge curriculum is flexible and can be tailored to meet the specific needs and contexts of schools and students. This adaptability ensures that the education remains relevant and effective across different environments.
- **Innovation in Education:** Cambridge continuously updates its programmes and qualifications to incorporate the latest educational research and practices, ensuring that students receive a modern and forward-thinking education.

Choosing Cambridge ensures that students receive a world-class education that prepares them not only for academic success but also for life beyond school.

Choosing the Cambridge curriculum means opting for an education system renowned for its global recognition and academic rigour. The Cambridge Pathway develops learners' knowledge, understanding, and skills in a balanced way, equipping them with the ability to think critically and solve complex problems.

Students benefit from a curriculum that is both broad and deep, providing opportunities to explore subjects in greater detail and fostering a lifelong love of learning.

Cambridge qualifications are recognised by universities and employers worldwide, offering students a passport to success in higher education and their future careers.

The curriculum is designed to be flexible, allowing schools to tailor it to the specific needs and context of their students, thus supporting diverse learning styles and encouraging creativity and independent thinking.

Moreover, Cambridge learners are encouraged to become confident, responsible, reflective, innovative, and engaged individuals. This holistic approach ensures that students are not only academically prepared but also equipped with the skills and attributes needed to thrive in an ever-changing world.



THE CURRICULUM & ASSESSMENTS

Cambridge Pre-Foundation and Foundation Level (Grade 7 to 9)

Cambridge Checkpoint tests are designed to assess learning at the end of Cambridge Secondary 1. These tests are available in English, mathematics, and science, and provide valuable feedback on learners' strengths and weaknesses before they progress to the next stage of their education. The tests are marked in Cambridge, providing schools with an external international benchmark for learner performance. Each learner receives a statement of achievement and a diagnostic feedback report, giving schools detailed information and parents extra trust in the feedback they receive.

Cambridge IGCSE Level

The Cambridge IGCSE curriculum offers a variety of pathways for learners with diverse abilities, including those whose first language is not English. We support schools in constructing a curriculum that meets their unique needs. Starting with core subjects as a foundation, schools can easily add breadth and cross-curricular perspectives. Our approach encourages learners to engage with a wide range of subjects and make connections between them, fostering a holistic educational experience.

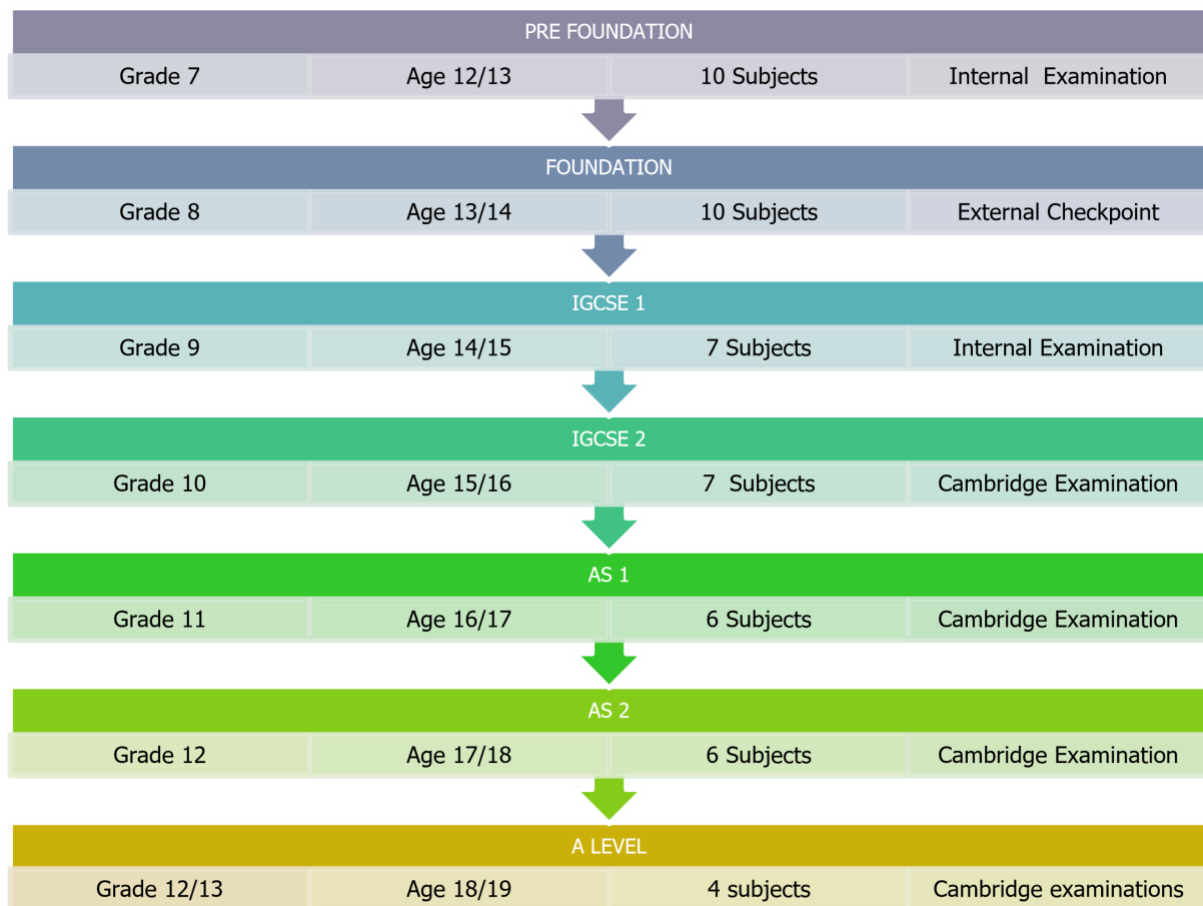
For schools, Cambridge IGCSE provides a flexible and stimulating curriculum supported by excellent resources and training. For learners, it enhances performance by developing skills in creative thinking, enquiry, and problem-solving. It serves as an ideal springboard to advanced study. Examinations are marked in Cambridge, providing schools with an external international benchmark for learner performance.

Cambridge AS and A Level

Cambridge International AS and A Levels develop learners' knowledge, understanding, and skills in several key areas:

- In-depth subject content, Independent thinking
- Applying knowledge and understanding to new and familiar situations
- Handling and evaluating different types of information sources
- Thinking logically and presenting ordered and coherent arguments
- Making judgements, recommendations, and decisions
- Presenting reasoned explanations, understanding implications, and communicating them logically and clearly
- Working and communicating effectively in English

We offer a choice of a range of subjects, and schools can offer them in almost any combination, allowing for an individualised curriculum. Learners can choose to specialise in a particular subject area or study a range of subjects. Cambridge International A Level is typically a two-year course, while Cambridge International AS Level is typically one year. Some subjects can be started at the AS Level and extended to the A Level, providing additional flexibility for students and schools.



The British Academy has met all the standards required by University of Cambridge International Examinations (CIE) to be a Cambridge International Examination Centre (Registered Centre ZA 123).



**Cambridge Assessment
International Education**

Cambridge International School



Characteristics of The British Academy

The British Academy is a place where every learner matters. At The British Academy, we strive to create an environment where learners are content, happy, and self-driven through a variety of unique and supportive characteristics:

- **International Cambridge Curriculum:** We offer a globally recognised curriculum that ensures academic excellence and prepares students for success in higher education and beyond.
- **Qualified, Supportive, and Innovative Teaching Staff:** Our educators are highly qualified and continuously seek innovative methods to support and inspire our students.
- **Passionate, Nurturing School Environment:** We foster a nurturing environment where passion for learning is cultivated.
- **Small Learning Communities:** Our small class sizes ensure personalised attention and a supportive learning atmosphere.
- **Invitational Teaching Philosophy:** We employ an invitational approach to teaching, encouraging student engagement and active participation.
- **Creative Thinking:** We promote creative thinking skills, enabling students to approach problems innovatively and critically.
- **Positive Behaviour Support:** Our positive behaviour support system encourages a respectful and responsible school community.
- **Outreach and Community Programs:** We engage in outreach and community service programs to foster social responsibility and community involvement.
- **Disciplined but Relaxed Environment:** Our disciplined yet relaxed environment is conducive to effective learning and personal growth.
- **Ongoing Professional Development:** We ensure that our staff engage in continuous professional development to stay abreast of educational advancements.
- **Partnership and Open Communication with Parents:** We maintain strong partnerships and open lines of communication with parents, ensuring a collaborative approach to education.
- **Bully-Free Zone:** We are committed to maintaining a safe, bully-free environment where all students feel secure and valued.

These characteristics define The British Academy as a nurturing, innovative, and academically rigorous institution dedicated to the holistic development of every learner.



“We invite you to learn more about us and discover an education built for you. We empower our students to ask insightful questions, explore disciplinary boundaries, and confront conventional ways of thinking.”

Our Humanist Philosophy

We are an institution grounded in a humanist philosophy that places individuals at the centre of their educational journey. This philosophy underscores an interactive and inclusive learning environment where students and instructors engage collaboratively. It champions the freedom to express individuality and grow without prejudice, celebrating differences rather than insisting on conformity, provided it does not infringe upon the liberty of others.

Core Principles:

- **Interactive Learning:** The instructor invites students to engage in an interactive experience that promotes learning and progression towards enlightenment. Success is assured only through willing participation.
- **Student Responsibility:** Students are encouraged to take responsibility for their education, refraining from passing this responsibility onto the instructor, guardian, or any third party.
- **Mutual Respect:** Instructors agree to treat students with respect and as equals within accepted educational parameters. This does not imply that instructors become part of the student body, but rather that boundaries are clearly defined and maintained.

We reject bigotry and promote tolerance, believing in a moral framework that guides our actions. We uphold that all individuals, regardless of class, race, or creed, should be treated with respect. Our decisions are driven by the welfare and happiness of all humanity, not the interests of any single group. We embrace the spirit of South Africa's Rainbow Nation, fostering open, rational discussions and encouraging an open forum for all.

Commitment to Human Welfare and Happiness

At the heart of our philosophy is the commitment to human welfare and happiness. We believe in creating an educational environment that prioritises the betterment of humanity as a whole. By fostering an atmosphere of mutual respect, open communication, and collaborative learning, we aim to cultivate a community where every individual can thrive.

Beyond Academics at The British Academy

While The British Academy places a strong emphasis on academic excellence, we also recognise the importance of a well-rounded education. We encourage our students to participate in a variety of extra and co-curricular activities such as Chess Club, Basketball, Table Tennis, and other recreational activities. These activities provide valuable opportunities for personal growth, skill development, and community building.

Our Offerings:

Physical Education Our physical education programme is designed to engage students in purposeful activities that develop fundamental motor skills.

Participation is encouraged from all learners as a means to build team spirit, promote physical health, and foster a sense of camaraderie.

Life Skills / Thinking Skills The Life Skills/Thinking Skills curriculum is an interdisciplinary area focused on personal development. Students engage in activities that help them develop essential life skills, solve problems, make informed decisions, and take appropriate actions. This prepares them to live meaningfully and successfully in a rapidly changing society.

Social Awareness Community involvement is a cornerstone of our educational philosophy. Students participate in community projects, taking ownership and striving to be the change they wish to see in the world. Our aim is to lead by example, serve others, respect diverse cultures, and contribute positively to society.

Toastmasters Public speaking and effective communication are invaluable skills. Our Toastmasters programme helps students develop their speechcraft and public speaking abilities, equipping them with the confidence and competence to express themselves clearly and persuasively.

By integrating these programmes into our curriculum, The British Academy ensures that students receive a holistic education that prepares them for all aspects of life.

School Calendar

At The British Academy, our calendar is designed to align as closely as possible with the departmental suggested calendars, though it may vary slightly each year. As an international school located in the Southern Hemisphere, we follow a four-term structure, differing from the three-term system commonly found in Northern Hemisphere schools.

Term Structure

- **Four-Term System:** Our academic year is divided into four terms, providing regular breaks to help students recharge and maintain a balanced approach to learning.

In-Service Learning Days Throughout the year, we schedule various in-service learning days to celebrate significant events and promote awareness on important issues. Such as Autism Awareness Day, World Book Day, Career Day, Earth Day.

Our International Day is one of our favourite events each year as we love celebrating the diverse nationalities within our school community with a spectacular showcase of cultures.

Community Outreach Each year group participates in community outreach projects as part of our in-service learning programme. These projects are designed to give back to the community, instilling our core values in students while providing educational experiences.

Educational Trips To ensure holistic development, we organise educational trips throughout the year. These excursions aim to enhance learning by providing practical, real-world experiences. Examples of these trips include visits to Museums, Art Galleries, Universities and many more with the aim of offering insights into advanced scientific research and potential career paths in STEM fields.

These activities are integral to our educational approach, ensuring that our students not only excel academically but also grow as well-rounded individuals with a strong sense of community and global awareness.

Why We Are the Diplomats' School of Choice

The British Academy is the preferred educational institution for diplomatic families for several compelling reasons:

- 1. Extensive Experience with Diplomatic Students** We have years of experience in hosting diplomatic students, understanding their unique needs and challenges. Each year, we welcome students from close to 20 different nationalities, fostering a truly international and multicultural environment.
- 2. Culture of Respect and Belonging** Our school cultivates a culture of respect and belonging, ensuring that every student feels valued and included. We celebrate diversity and encourage students to learn from each other's cultures and perspectives.
- 3. Support for English as a Second Language (ESL)** We offer additional support for students who have English as a second language. Our tailored ESL programmes help students quickly adapt and thrive in an English-speaking academic environment, ensuring they do not fall behind in their studies.
- 4. Internationally Experienced Teachers** Our teachers come with extensive international experience and are well-equipped to handle the diverse educational backgrounds of our students. They bring a wealth of knowledge and global perspectives to the classroom, enriching the learning experience.
- 5. Comprehensive Cambridge Curriculum** We follow the prestigious Cambridge curriculum, known for its academic rigour and global recognition. This curriculum prepares students for higher education and career opportunities worldwide, making it an ideal choice for families who may move frequently.
- 6. Holistic Development** Beyond academics, we focus on the holistic development of our students. Our extensive extracurricular programmes, community outreach initiatives, and educational trips ensure that students grow not only intellectually but also socially and emotionally.
- 7. Strong Community and Parental Involvement** We maintain strong partnerships with parents and the diplomatic community. Open communication and collaboration with parents are central to our approach, ensuring that each student's needs are met comprehensively.

These factors make The British Academy the school of choice for diplomatic families seeking a supportive, inclusive, and academically excellent environment for their children.



**THE BRITISH
ACADEMY**

THE DIPLOMAT'S CHOICE

 **CAMBRIDGE**
International Examinations
Cambridge International School



Cambridge
Checkpoint

Cambridge
IGCSE

Cambridge
International
AS Level

Cambridge
International
A Level

Cambridge
ICE

Cambridge
AICE

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