



BRIGHTON COLLEGE
VIETNAM

KEY STAGE 1

SUBJECT INFORMATION FOR PARENTS AND PUPILS 2023-2024

Years 1 and 2





Welcome and Introduction from Head of Prep

A very warm welcome to Brighton College Vietnam. Key Stage 1 consists of Years 1 and 2 and the very first years starting school life with us. If you are reading this, then you most likely have a child who is starting their school journey and I would like you to know we are here to support both you and your child at this exciting time. There is so very much to look forward to and we want your children to enjoy each and every day here with us.

We offer a broad and interesting curriculum from the very start of school and children will immediately feel welcomed into the Preparatory school by our super staff team, as well as by their pupil buddies.

Children will soon be confident about school expectations but it is perfectly normal to need a little support initially. Please do let us know any worries or questions you may have from home. We have many years of experience in helping pupils and their families settle into school life. Our Brighton College family is here to help!

We very much look forward to getting to know you and your child and know this handbook will help you to understand a little more about our special curriculum offer.

Best wishes,

Mrs. Katy Pinchess
Head of Preparatory School



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Overview of Key Stage 1 Curriculum

Our bespoke Brighton College curriculum uses the English National Curriculum as the framework for teaching and learning whilst going beyond this curriculum with subjects such as 'Our Planet and Our Past' and 'Growing Minds'. The National Curriculum at Key Stage 1 (KS1) provides our youngest learners with the core knowledge and skills for Years 1 and 2. Our curriculum is culturally relevant in our Vietnamese context and we ensure that it is inclusive for all our learners. Where needed, we offer support through both our English as Additional Language and Additional Educational Needs departments. We extend all of our learners through our personalised learning approach that is always pupil-centred.

We hope this guide helps you to understand our curriculum and that your child enjoys their first years with us at Brighton College Vietnam.



English

Introduction

Our pupils begin their learning journey with the development of excellent English skills at the forefront of all we do.

In Years 1 and 2, we start with the building blocks of language for reading and writing: phonics. Pupils learn the sounds in English and the letters that represent them. They also begin to learn how to form the letters as they start their writing journeys.

English comprises nearly one third of the KS1 curriculum. It forms the foundation from which all other subjects will be based. In addition to reading and writing, pupils are immersed in an English-rich environment where they learn the language of kindness and curiosity from the very beginning, starting to understand the nuances of how language is interpreted. Pupils are supported, not only with vocabulary acquisition, but also pronunciation. They are given opportunities to listen to and respond to English in a range of contexts so that their listening and speaking skills are honed from an early age.

By the end of Year 2, pupils will be ready to become more independent with their English skills and will embark upon the next stages of English learning.

Aims

- For pupils to learn to read in English with confidence
- To develop a habit of reading for pleasure and for information
- To acquire a wide vocabulary and understanding of grammar appropriate for their English and age level
- To start to appreciate the varied and rich literature available in English
- To write clearly and coherently, adapting their language for a range of styles and contexts
- To be able to articulate and discuss their learning, reflecting their growing understanding
- To develop the important skills of speaking and listening



Content of Curriculum

Phonics

Immediately as pupils start school we will start to teach them phonics using the programme Read Write Inc. We work at each pupil's pace to ensure they are confident with the new sounds and letter combinations to become independent readers. Their progress will be fluid and speedy, enabling them to make rapid progress as confident readers.

Speaking and Listening

Being able to communicate effectively and appropriately is an important skill. Brighton College Vietnam works with pupils to help them better understand spoken English and respond appropriately, not only with the correct words, but tone of voice, intonation and taking turns. Pupils are given many opportunities across each school day to build their confidence in speaking with different people and for different purposes.

Reading

As our pupils enter the world of reading, we facilitate this by making books available so that pupils can read on their own and practise at home. Weekly library times are part of our English curriculum and enjoying books and reading at home is essential for our young learners to thrive.

Reading is at the core of how we teach and what our pupils learn. Wonderful books and poems are used to teach the skills pupils need, to inspire them to love literature and to become avid readers, even at this young age.

Writing

Whilst learning to decode letters and sounds, pupils also learn how to form the letters so that they can begin to compose simple texts and start to use the written language to express themselves. By the end of Year 2, pupils should be able to:

- Write narratives, real events
- Use capital letters and simple punctuation correctly
- Spell many words, including many that do not follow conventional spelling rules
- Use spacing between words
- Use present and past tenses correctly

Mathematics



Introduction

At Brighton College Vietnam, we believe that mathematics should be relevant and applicable. Of course, our pupils will learn how to calculate, but they will also develop a deeper conceptual understanding of mathematics. Our mathematics scheme embeds repetition whilst introducing more complex and challenging tasks to build on knowledge and go deeper into each topic every time our pupils learn. The mathematics curriculum incorporates and promotes manipulatives such as blocks, number lines or interlinking cubes so that pupils can physically see the mathematics come alive.



Aims

- To develop knowledge and understanding of foundational mathematical concepts and techniques
- To acquire a foundation of mathematical skills for next learning steps in KS2
- To enjoy using and applying mathematical techniques and concepts, and become confident in using mathematics to solve age-appropriate problems.
- To appreciate the importance of mathematics in our world

Content of Curriculum

	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3
Year 1	Place value, addition and subtraction, geometry (shape)	Addition and subtraction, length and height, mass and volume multiplication and division	Fractions, geometry (position and direction), place value, time
Year 2	Place value, addition and subtraction, geometry (shape), money	Multiplication and division, length and height, mass, capacity and temperature	Fractions, time, statistics, position and direction



Science

Introduction

Our Brighton College Vietnam science curriculum offers an exciting, hands-on introduction to answer many of those 'big questions' our youngest learners have. Theory and conceptual understanding are explained in a child-centred manner to help pupils to understand our wonderful world. Our engaging science programme allows pupils to not only study the principles of science, but will also have the opportunity to conduct simple experiments with real life objects. Pupils will make links with other subjects such as mathematics and be confident in using the language of science to describe and report about their scientific learning.

Aims

- To develop early scientific knowledge and conceptual understanding through our fun, engaging curriculum
- To develop an understanding of the nature, processes and methods of science to help pupils to answer scientific questions about the world around them
- To teach pupils the correct scientific vocabulary and concepts to enable them to articulate their ideas with developing accuracy



Content of Curriculum

	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3
Year 1	The human body, seasonal changes, materials, plants and planting	Animals, caring for the planet, seasonal changes, plants and planting	Growing and cooking, seasonal changes
Year 2	Animal needs for survival, humans, materials, plants (light and dark)	Living things and their habitats, plants (bulbs and seeds)	Growing up, wildlife

Vietnamese

Introduction

Vietnamese will be taught daily to all prep school pupils. For Vietnamese pupils, this is a vital part of their learning to allow them to develop their reading and written language skills to the same levels and outcomes as their English acquisition. Initially, Vietnamese lessons will focus on phonics, then move onto handwriting. Lessons will be fun and creative using literary themes, just as in English lessons. This will help pupils to develop in both languages simultaneously.

For our non-native speakers, Vietnamese lessons will provide an early introduction to the language, focusing on verbal communication at KS1. Pupils will learn new vocabulary and conversational skills. These pupils will be taught separately by an experienced Vietnamese teacher who is familiar with teaching the language to new learners.

All pupils will come together regularly for Vietnamese lessons which incorporate learning about the history, geography and customs of Vietnam. This may include cookery, crafts and special events linked to festivals and will bring our community together to celebrate Brighton College Vietnam's host country.

At Brighton College Vietnam, we are very proud to be based here in Vietnam and want our pupils, both native and non-native, to learn the language and know more about the country's amazing culture. This will include aspects of history and geography, plus a celebration of Vietnamese customs. Research shows that children who are confident in their mother tongue will find learning another language much easier. We want our Vietnamese pupils to benefit from a solid foundation in their Vietnamese and our non-native Vietnamese speakers to enjoy learning the language of their host country.

Aims

- For pupils to learn the Vietnamese phonetic sounds and tone marks
- For pupils to apply their phonics sounds to reading, moving into development of their spoken and written Vietnamese
- To enjoy stories, poems and non-fiction texts, building a fluency and love of reading in Vietnamese
- To appreciate and study life in wonderful Vietnam



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Content of Curriculum

Native Vietnamese:

Our Year KS1 curriculum will be linked to our English curriculum and will be topic-based, whilst also focusing on skills. Just as in English, phonics will be a big part of the Vietnamese curriculum in the first years. These building blocks will help pupils recognise sounds and be able to produce them both orally and, later in the curriculum, in written form. It will include topics and skill areas such as:

- Who am I?
- Instructions
- Stories people tell
- Our world
- Traditional stories

Non-Native Vietnamese:

The Vietnamese curriculum for non-native speakers will follow a bespoke programme designed to enable pupils to communicate with their peers, particularly outside of school. Pupils will learn common vocabulary and phrases and begin to understand how the language is used in everyday life. At KS1, the focus is on speaking and listening, but will also incorporate elements of reading and writing. We want our non-native speakers to have an appreciation of the rich linguistic heritage that Vietnam has to offer.



Art

Introduction

Our art education will engage, inspire and challenge all pupils. Our curriculum gives each child the knowledge and skills to experiment, invent and create their own works of art and design. Art lessons allow pupils to develop their individuality and creative expression. In art lessons pupils will learn about and take inspiration from artists, craft makers and designers from both the present and the past.

The art curriculum will align with other topics that each year group is learning, so that pupils not only learn the skills and processes of art, but see the links and connections to its wider context in our day-to-day world. Pupils will not only be encouraged to enjoy the processes of their learning but also to be proud of what they create.



Aims

- To produce creative work in a range of styles
- To develop proficiency in drawing, painting, sculpting and other arts and crafts techniques
- To learn about and be inspired by some significant artists, craft makers and designers

Content of Curriculum

The art curriculum in KS1 includes:

- Being taught to use a range of materials creatively, both to design and make
- Using skills in drawing, painting and sculpture to develop and share ideas, experiences and imagination
- Developing a wide range of art and design techniques and the use of colour, pattern, texture, line, shape, form and space
- Learning about the work of a range of artists, craft makers and designers

Computing

Introduction

Our youngest pupils are growing up in a world where they have always been surrounded by computers. They are digital natives in our world of fast-moving technology. We can see how technology inspires them and fills them with excitement. It is vital that each child is confident with computing as it is used throughout their learning. The subject of computing is somewhat different, with the core of computing being computer science. In lessons, pupils are taught the principles of information and computation, how digital systems work, and how to put this knowledge to use through programming. This is taught using robots and age-appropriate software which makes learning dynamic and hands-on for our youngest learners.

Aims

- To understand how to use technology responsibly and carefully
- To gain experience of skills in a wide range of technology in a way that will enhance learning opportunities
- To ensure pupils are developing as digital citizens
- To ensure pupils keep safe when using technology



Content of Curriculum

The computing curriculum in KS1 includes:

- Introducing pupils to the world of computing and exposing them to technologies they might not have encountered at home
- Understanding what algorithms are
- Understanding how using clear language and precise instructions creates computer programmes
- Creating and debugging simple programs
- Using logical reasoning to predict the behaviour of simple programs
- Using technology purposefully to create, organise, store, change and retrieve digital content
- Using technology safely and respectfully, keeping personal information private
- Identifying where to go for help and support when pupils have concerns about content or contact on the internet or other online technologies



Design Technology

Introduction

This practical subject draws on pupils' creativity and imagination to design and make products that solve real and relevant problems within a variety of contexts. Our Design Technology (DT) curriculum ensures our pupils begin to understand how innovation works in designing and making objects, as well as the impact of DT on daily life. Pupils will become the real-life designers, architects and tech experts as they start to explore and think about ways to create and solve design needs.

Aims

- To develop the creative, technical and practical skills needed to perform everyday tasks confidently and to participate confidently in an increasingly technological world
- To begin to build a repertoire of knowledge and skills to design and make their own products
- To learn the fundamentals of how to critique, evaluate and test their ideas and products and the work of others



Content of Curriculum

In KS1, pupils will gain the knowledge, understanding and skills needed to begin designing and making new objects. They will work within four skills of designing, making, evaluating and understanding technical knowledge. Pupils will learn how to:

- Learn skills and methods
- Generate, develop, model and communicate their ideas through talking, drawing, templates, and, where appropriate, information and communication technology
- Select from and use a range of tools and equipment to perform practical tasks
- Select from and use a wide range of materials and components
- Explore and evaluate a range of existing products and their ideas and products against design criteria
- Build structures, exploring how they can be made stronger, stiffer and more stable
- Explore and use mechanisms (for example, levers, sliders, wheels and axles) in their products

Growing Minds

Introduction

We support every pupil to be 'confident, curious and kind'. We want each child to be resilient when experiencing difficulties, to be able to stand up for their opinions and to be comfortable in their own selves.

Our 'Growing Minds' lessons support pupils in each of these areas and also teaches pupils to lead physically and emotionally healthy lives. We give children opportunities to develop ideas and to make mistakes in a safe environment. Opportunities for exploration and experimentation are vital to allow pupils to become independent, informed learners.

Aims

- To encourage self-awareness, self-esteem and self-confidence
- To develop independence and responsibility and prepare for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of our wider society
- To communicate feelings and develop positive relationships with others
- To develop individuality and confidence in personal ideas
- To support pupils to develop both co-operative and leadership skills for life



Content of Curriculum

	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3
Year 1	Curiosity Kindness Pelican Pathways	Sustainability Physical health including teeth brushing	Growth mindset Perseverance and confidence Economic education (using money)
Year 2	Becoming an independent learner Healthy eating	Laws and society: trust, safety, responsibility to our community, friendship, respect and rules	Perseverance and confidence Kindness to others Community links



Music

Introduction

Music is a universal language that embodies one of the highest forms of creativity. Our high-quality music education will engage and inspire pupils to develop the foundations for understanding music and develop their talent as musicians. We want every pupil to enjoy our vibrant music curriculum through singing, playing percussion instruments and starting to use and understand correct music terminology. Brighton College Vietnam's modern theatre gives pupils the opportunity to perform on stage, even from the very youngest years, increasing their self-confidence, creativity and sense of achievement.



Aims

- To perform, listen to and begin to evaluate music across a wide range of genres, styles and traditions
- To learn to sing and use their voices to enjoy group songs
- To experience and understand musical instruments
- To create and eventually compose music on their own and with others
- To have the opportunity to learn a musical instrument and use technology appropriately
- To understand and explore inter-related dimensions such as pitch, duration and tempo by hands-on experiential learning



Content of Curriculum

Pupils will learn to:

- Use their voices expressively and creatively by singing songs and rhymes
- Play, enjoy and perform using instruments musically
- Listen with concentration and understanding to a range of high-quality live and recorded music
- Experiment with, create, select and combine sounds using the inter-related

Our Planet and Our Past

Introduction

Knowledge of both history and geography is essential to understanding the wider world. Brighton College's unique Our Planet and Our Past curriculum covers topics that help our pupils understand how things on Earth are connected, from physical areas to human links. Our Planet and Our Past links geographical topics and historical events to help pupils understand the world they are living in.

Aims

- To develop contextual knowledge of globally significant places
- To understand the processes that give rise to physical and human geographical features
- To start to use geographical information and vocabulary
- To know and understand significant aspects of the history of the wider world
- To develop an understanding of chronology and start to ask history-based questions, linking past and present



Content of Curriculum

Our Planet and Our Past will cover geographical and historical topics such as:

- Locating continents and oceans
- Identifying characteristics of various countries
- Understanding similarities and differences in human and physical geography
- Looking at weather patterns locally and in the UK
- Using sources such as maps, globes, online tools and photographs to identify features and locations
- Changes over time both in living and beyond living memory
- The lives of significant figures in history
- Significant events in history

Physical Education

Introduction

Our high-quality Physical Education (PE) curriculum will inspire our students to be active and healthy whilst giving them opportunities to work collaboratively and as a team. It will support pupils' confidence and can also help build character and embed values such as fairness and respect. Pupils will develop their strength and agility as they are taught basic skills through gymnastics, dance, swimming and athletics. They will also begin to play fun team sports. Through games and competitions they will learn the rules of many team sports and how to work as a team and what fair play entails.

We want all of our pupils to be fit and healthy. Our focus is that every child enjoys PE from the very start of school life. The modern sporting facilities throughout the Brighton College Vietnam campus offer our pupils the very best opportunities to try new sports and enjoy all their physical activities with their peers. Our pupils will thrive and flourish in their physical development which in turn supports their wellbeing and happiness across school life.



Aims

- To develop competence in a broad range of physical activities
- To perform physical activities for sustained periods of time
- To learn the basics of competitive sports and activities
- To lead active, healthy lives

Content of Curriculum

The PE curriculum in KS1 includes:

- Developing core movements including running, jumping, throwing and catching as well as balance, agility and coordination
- Participating in team games and developing tactics for attacking and defending
- Performing dances using simple sequenced movement patterns
- Introduction to swimming, building water confidence and teaching swimming skills

RSHE

Introduction

Relationships, sex and health education (RSHE) is taught weekly by the class teacher. The wider links and expectations of this curriculum are closely entwined with our Brighton College Vietnam expectations and pastoral commitment. Its focus teaches the fundamental building blocks and characteristics of positive relationships, with particular reference to friendships, family relationships, and relationships with other children and with adults. Our pupils are taught to treat each other with kindness, consideration and respect, the importance of honesty and truthfulness, permission seeking and giving, and the concept of personal privacy.



Aims

- To understand the importance of family and people who care for us
- To be able to establish caring friendships
- To understand the importance of respecting one another
- To know the boundaries of online relationships
- To learn to keep themselves and others safe

Content of Curriculum

	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3
Year 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • My family • Feelings • Online safety - passwords 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Friendships & kindness • Physical health including teeth brushing • Trusted help 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feeling safe • Safe touch
Year 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Healthy eating • Links with class book, fear, kindness, loneliness, feeling special, family life 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Friendship changes • Seeking help for worries • Differences and similarities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Celebrating diversity • Online and digital relationships

Co-Curricular Activities

Introduction

Our wealth of Co-Curricular Activities (CCAs) enhance and enrich our pupils' learning, but also offer choice in trying new things outside of class time. CCAs take place from Monday to Thursday after school each day. We see this as an important part of the everyday timetable and pupils are encouraged to choose which activities they take part in. We suggest that parents support each child to make their options and that there are a range of different activities chosen across the week. If required, staff can help with recommendations and help pupils to pick clubs which will work best for them. These activities can range from physical to intellectual, but always incorporate new skills and, most of all, enjoyment!



Aims

The aims of the CCA programme are to add challenge and offer further opportunities for pupils to try new things and begin to own their own learning and achievement.

Why it is important?

CCAs are important to fuel pupil learning and to build important skills, such as social and leadership skills to enrich and balance a pupil's academic experience. Pupils who engage in different CCAs practise and develop their self-management skills. Pupils develop a positive outlook towards school and future study through an increased sense of community at school. By selecting varied activities, pupils improve their confidence and self-esteem through developing proficiency in different areas. Through gaining newfound independence at this young age, CCAs can help prepare pupils for their future as they discover more about themselves and their path in life.

CCAs allow pupils to find connections beyond their own class or year group, to interact with others who have the same interests and passions. Whether a child enjoys football or singing, reading or painting, acting or cookery, they will certainly find others who enjoy the same activities. We all know children focus and enjoy activities they are interested in. Every day at school is full and busy; their club options should be something pupils look forward to and feel success in.

Brighton College Vietnam's CCAs range from specialist to general and will usually include activities such as:

- Art Club
- Choir
- Lego Club
- Team Games
- Sporty Club
- Board Games Club
- Jigsaw Club
- Mini Makers Club
- Gardening Club
- Book Club
- Pokémon Club
- Tech Toys and Games Club
- Cookery Club
- Animal Fun Club
- Dance Club
- Drawing & Colouring Club
- Brain Busters Logic Puzzles Club
- Storytelling Club
- Science Club
- Languages Club

