



## **The Primary Department**

The essence of the Primary Department at BSA is teamwork and it is vital that any new member of staff is prepared to work with, and as a part of, the Primary Team. Every member of the Primary Department, from the Head of Primary to the Primary support staff, give 100% plus!

Applications are encouraged from teachers wishing to teach in Foundation Stage, Key Stage 1 or Key Stage 2. We are looking for up-to date, committed, flexible and hard working teachers to fill a limited number of places in our Primary Team. The quality of the teacher is more important than the age group that they teach. As the situation stands we are looking for the best teachers available and will organise the team to fit the teachers we have next year.

The Primary Department is 1 form entry with classes usually limited to 20. Most of the classes are full or near full and for some year groups there is a waiting list. The Primary curriculum is based on the English National Curriculum and reflects current best practice in the UK.

The Leadership of the Primary Department is delegated to the Head of Primary who, along with the FS and KS1 Leader and the KS2 Leader form the Primary Leadership Team.

Current developments in Primary include the introduction of the new Primary curriculum, consolidation of the EYFS curriculum, introducing APP and peer and cross phase lesson observations.

### **Foundation Stage**

A significant number of our FS1 children arrive at BSA with very little English. However, they pick up the language very quickly and have no trouble coping with our child initiated learning programme. By the time they reach FS2 the majority of our pupils are operating happily in English and are successful in achieving the Early Learning Goals. Our Foundation classes are supported by hard working and enthusiastic teaching assistants who, along with the class teacher, make excellent EYFS practitioner teams.

### **Key Stage 1**

Years 1 and 2 work closely together with the teachers frequently planning together. By the end of Key Stage 1 the vast majority of pupils are achieving at or above the expected level for their age. The links between FS2 and Year 1 and between Year 2 and Year 3 are vital and form an important part of our Whole Primary approach. Each Key Stage 1 class is supported by a teaching assistant and for any student requiring learning support, primarily in language, the Primary Learning Support teacher provides in-class and withdrawal support. Pupils in Key Stage 1 currently benefit from specialist teaching in Arabic, Music and French.

### **Key Stage 2**

Years 3 to 6 are based in a separate building to Foundation and Key Stage 1 but every effort is made to bring all parts of the Primary School together as often as possible. We are currently working on a skills based curriculum taught via topics. Pupils in Key Stage 2 currently benefit from specialist teaching in ICT, French and Arabic. The children in Key Stage 2 work towards the end of Key Stage tests in Years 6 which are the same as those taken in the UK and are sent back to the UK to be externally marked.