

British Primary School of Wilanow

Prospectus

# Vision **Mission Values** To serve Warsaw's BSW provides a holistic educational experience Values are at the core that surrounds our students with opportunities of everything we do, international community by delivering to learn both in the classroom and beyond. and are expressed through our code of a world-class, val-The enjoyment of learning, self-discipline and ue-based education challenge are fundamental elements of a BSW conduct, the Walk of education. based on the best of the Lion. British Education. The Walk of the Lion RESPECTFUL CONSIDERATE COOPERATIVE COURAGEOUS NOBLE



Tom McGrath has 20 years experience in international education with successful headships in Poland, Portugal and the Caribbean. A graduate of University of Limerick and Trinity College Dublin, he has also completed advanced studies in Applied Linguistics, International Education and International Relations. He is married to Beata and has two daughters, Eilis and Aniela.

# **Welcome to BSW**

Here at BSW we believe that all children have a desire to be successful and respond positively when this is recognised. We are passionate about offering children an exciting, stimulating and rich curriculum, based on real reasons for learning.

We believe in developing the whole child. We place value on the importance of English, Mathematics, Science and ICT but at the same time we make sure that our students have appropriate pathways for learning into adult life; Art, Drama, Music and Physical Education contribute just as much to the self-worth of the students.

We realise how important it is to recognise the achievements of young people in as many different ways as possible. We place value on rewarding students who make a positive contribution to school life. It is important that our students feel that their positive involvement in school life is valued and appreciated.

BSW serves the international community of Warsaw where all are welcome and where our values shine through. Please join us at BSW in our walk of the Lion.

Yours faithfully,

Jun M'hrath

Tom McGrath Principal



#### **Academic enrichment**

BSW's enrichment programme provides an exciting opportunity for our pupils to try new activities, cultivate new interests and develop skills and aptitudes which will help with their personal and academic development.

## **A COBIS Compliant School**

In May 2018 BSW became the first school in Poland to the awarded the status of Compliant with the rigorous standards of the Council of British International Schools. Our pastoral care was rated as excellent and exemplary.

# BSW believes that the curriculum goes far beyond the classroom.

# Why BSW?

## **Outstanding teaching and learning**

We are passionate about excellent teaching in every classroom. We recruit teachers directly from the United Kingdom or from quality British International Schools. Our teachers provide a stimulating environment in the classroom that actively engages students and makes learning enjoyable and memorable

#### Values based education

All we do at BSW is based on our school values which are interwoven through our code of conduct; The Walk of the Lion. We have high expectations of our pupils in terms of courtesy, respect and behaviour and we instil these values inside and outside the classroom.

## **Pastoral Care**

Our approach to Pastoral Care is unique to us, founded on our pupils' ideas and supported by our whole school community. It is exemplary and we hold ourselves accountable for delivering our Pastoral Care to the highest possible standard. We pride ourselves on maintaining Happy Children and Happy Teachers and through our Walk of the Lion we secure this aim. At BSW the pupil comes first.

#### **Small class sizes**

We have clear class sizes across our Early Years and Primary School. This ensures individual attention and we know our pupils very well.

### **School status**

BSW is regulated and approved by the Polish Local Educational Authorities (Kuratorium). From Year 2 upwards Polish diplomas (świadectwa) are issued.



### **Forest School**

Forest school is an intrinsic part of BSW where all students have opportunities to learn in the natural environment. This programme is founded on the philosophy of 'courage to fail'.



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## **Transport**

BSW has two 22-seater minibuses. Our drivers are BSW employees and are fully qualified to operate a vehicle of this size. BSW operates a morning and afternoon bus within a 10 km radius of the school. This service is available for an additional charge.





#### **Facilities**

- → The classrooms are all spacious, bright and well equipped with interactive white-boards, class computer, modern furnishings and most are air conditioned;
- → The school is fully wired for wi-fi with a dedicated optic fibre line. The facilities have CCTV and lock-down technology.
- $\rightarrow$  The outdoor facilities include two playgrounds, a football field and there are ambitious plans for further sports facilities both indoor and outdoor.
- $\rightarrow$  The school also utilises external facilities for tennis, indoor football and swimming.
- $\rightarrow$  In early 2019 BSW will expand to add 6 new classrooms, a large cloakroom, a teacher's room and an ICT suite.



#### Canteen

BSW has a fully equipped kitchen run by our professional chef and kitchen team. They prepare and serve 5 fresh meals/snacks across the day. All food is prepared on site. The emphasis is on healthy eating with seasonal fresh fruit and vegetables.



## **Holiday Care Programme**

BSW operates creative, challenging and exciting workshops and programmes during school holidays.



### Uniform

BSW has a simple, practical approach to uniform. Our pupils are our ambassadors and it is therefore essential that they convey the highest possible standards of behaviour and appearance. They look smart and elegant in our school uniform.

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# Academic



# **Early Years**

Our youngest BSW Lions (from age 3 to 5) are encouraged to develop their own individual learning skills in safe, stimulating, colourful and child-centric surroundings. The Early Years enjoy access to outdoor learning spaces and age-appropriate playgrounds.

In the Early Years (Nursery and Reception classes), the children follow the English Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum (EYFS). It features a guided play-based approach, where teachers' detailed ongoing observation provides the main input for assessment of progress and attainment.

Teachers design relevant, interesting, learning-focused tasks and activities, providing daily opportunities for children to develop linguistic, physical and social skills whilst strengthening, and beginning to apply, their understanding in literacy, numeracy, understanding the world and expressive arts.

# **Lower Primary**

The transition from Early Years to Lower Primary (Years 1 and 2) sees the style of learning develop naturally: whilst the excitement of discovery is undiminished, learning becomes deeper and more focused. We use the National Curriculum for England as our foundation and build out through topic based enquiry and rich and exciting project work.

In Lower Primary, the Class Teacher oversees much of the curriculum and provides the pastoral care, which at BSW is exemplary. Specialist teachers generally lead Gymnastics, Ballet, Music, Swimming and Physical Education.

We encourage every child, right from the start, to develop a passion for learning through deliberate enquiry, critical thinking and creativity. We place a strong emphasis on motivation and consider motivation to be an attribute of the successful independent learners.

# **Middle Primary**

As pupils move into the Middle Primary (Years 3 and 4), our emphasis is on high academic standards coupled with an extensive and varied programme of enrichment activities.

One of the most important goals in the Middle Primary is to maintain and enhance our students' simple desire to know more, find out more, do more, which underlies deep learning and will set them up for success at this stage and beyond.

Enter a Middle Primary classroom and you will see rigorous, imaginative, creative teaching, and focused, independent, dynamic learning. The curriculum is based on the National Curriculum for England, includes relevant focus on local culture and history, and is enhanced by exciting elements of topic based enquiry.

In Middle Primary pupils are further encouraged to be proactive and independent in regard to their learning and a willingness to learn is actively celebrated through the behaviour management policy, reporting and achievement assemblies.

# **Upper Primary**

In Upper Primary (Years 5 to 9) we focus keenly on academic achievement, looking always to inspire curiosity, creativity and compassion as we do so.

We are here to enrich our pupils' lives with enjoyment and deep understanding of our global scientific, linguistic and cultural heritage. In doing this, we empower them with the knowledge, skills and independence of mind that will make them responsible – and outstanding – leaders of the future.

The emphasis of the curriculum in these years is to ensure that pupils with a diverse range of educational backgrounds and abilities are given an equal chance to sample the full range of subject options prior to taking options in future studies. Pupils have the opportunity to study English, Mathematics, French, Physics, Chemistry, Biology, History, Geography, Art, Design Technology, Drama, Computer Science, Music, Physical Education and Games.

In Year 9, students complete the Yellis assessment. Yellis is an adaptive assessment for students aged 14-16, providing insight into pupils strength and where they need support.

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# How to apply

To book a visit to the School or for further information regarding admissions, please email admissions@bswilanow.org

## 1 Submit the Application

Please fill out the Application Form and provide us with the latest school reports.

#### 2 Assessment and Interview

On receipt of the Application Form we will contact you to arrange a visit, an assessment and a meeting with the Head of Primary and Principal.

## **3** Offer of Place

Within 10 days of your visit we will inform you of our decision on whether they will be offered a place at the school or not. In some situations there may be a request for some further information.

## 4 Acceptance of a Place

There is a three week period for you to accept the Offer of a Place. You will be required to return the signed Acceptance Form and payment of the registration fee of 3,000 PLN. Payment can be made by online bank transfer.

# **5 Confirmation Letter** & Signing Contract

On receipt of the completed documentation and payment, you will receive a letter confirming successful enrolment.

# **Admissions Requirements**

- → An interview/ meeting at school or via skype
- → Submission of evidence of learning and behaviour from previous school
- $\rightarrow$  Having been given the appropriate assessment for their age
- → Completion of the medical information form and evidence of vaccinations
- → Proof of Identity
- $\rightarrow$  Payment of appropriate fees.



House



Children attending BSW become members of a House which provide them with the opportunity for positive competition and to form relationships with teachers and pupils outside of their year group. The

House System helps new pupils and staff adapt to the culture of BSW and encourages younger children to develop maturity and older children to develop responsibility and empathy.







