

INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE

AVAILABLE
AT OUR
**TAUNTON
CAMPUS**



BRIDGWATER
& TAUNTON
COLLEGE

BRINGING OUT YOUR BEST www.btc.ac.uk



International Baccalaureate



The aim of the IB is to develop internationally minded people who, recognising their common humanity and shared guardianship of the planet, help to create a better and more peaceful world.

The IB is an internationally recognised alternative to A Levels and provides a Level 3 qualification that is accepted and highly regarded by all universities (including Russell Group and Oxbridge), and employers worldwide.

It has been studied by over 1.7 million students in 146 countries since 1968 (as of May 2020) making it a well-established and prestigious qualification in the global

age. IB students are intelligent, enthusiastic, committed, motivated and very well organised which stands them in good stead for high level careers.

The IB offers breadth in academic subjects as well as enrichment to provide a well-rounded education. It is a respected route into a range of careers including law, medicine, the military, civil service, teaching and journalism.

“As one of the top colleges in England, BTC has high expectations of our students. The IB enjoys a coherent set of values which encourages students to be open-minded inquirers, reflective learners and intellectual risk-takers.”

Sam Reilly | Assistant Principal

“The IB is challenging, intellectually stimulating, exciting and distinguished by breadth. To be successful in a changing world, students require a wide range of skills and abilities to take on new challenges. All students develop this breadth by studying six subjects: English, mathematics, a science, a humanities subject, a modern or classical language and a creative arts subject.

Universities unanimously praise the IB. They appreciate the breadth and rigour of the programme. IB students are often noted for their ability to manage themselves, their independence of thought and their ability to immediately shift into the higher-order thinking required at university. It suits the intellectually curious and those who want to develop, not just academically but also personally.”

Bex Miller | Course Leader

IB LEARNERS STRIVE TO BE:

INQUISITIVE

KNOWLEDGEABLE

THINKERS

COMMUNICATORS

PRINCIPLED

OPEN-MINDED

CARING

RISK-TAKERS

BALANCED

REFLECTIVE



Choosing to study the IB was the best decision I've ever made. I was quite nervous about coming to the College as I was the only person to choose the IB from my secondary school, but the staff made me feel so comfortable and making friends with people on my course seemed like the easiest thing, because we all really want to be here.

The subjects we study are all so interesting, but our learning isn't just about the content, it's about applying our knowledge to real life. As well as our subjects, we cover Theory of Knowledge which enables us to think about how we know things, which is great preparation for university and very interesting. I also take part in extra-curricular activities. I'm the Vice-President of the Student Union at the Taunton campus, Student Representative for the IB, an Ambassador and I'm working towards my gold DofE Award.

We have access to modern classrooms, state-of-the art labs for the sciences and a huge library. Our tutors are all absolute geniuses in their subject and always available to give support.

Molly Morgan | Bishop Fox's School



“Choosing just three A Levels felt limiting when I didn't know what I wanted to do as a job or at university. So, studying six subjects for the IB enabled me to continue with subjects I really enjoyed such as art and English, as well as adding new interesting topics.

This gave me more time to decide which profession was right for me, plus the flexibility and variety of the IB led me to choose an equally varied degree. I was half way through uni before I found the direction I wanted to pursue as a career.”

Aggie Morris | Kings of Wessex Academy
BA (Hons) Liberal Arts & Sciences
(majoring in Anthropology)
Amsterdam University College
MSc Urban Design & City Planning
University College London

The top IB scores are worth the equivalent of five A* grades at A Level and a low pass is worth the equivalent of three B grades at A Level. Entry requirements include at least six GCSEs in the 9 to 5 range in a breadth of subjects including English, Maths and Science, and we recommend you have grades 9 to 7 in the subjects you wish to study at Higher Level.

Students choose six subjects and study the Core. The Core is an important part of the IB and encourages students to achieve success in ways that will enrich them beyond the academic curriculum. It comprises of an extended essay, Theory of Knowledge and Creativity, Activity & Service (CAS).

SUBJECT SELECTION	OFFER	IB SUBJECT
Group 1	English	English Literature
Group 2	Languages	Spanish / French / AB Initio Language (choose one or two)
Group 3	Humanities	History / Psychology / Geography (choose one)
Group 4	Sciences	Biology / Chemistry (choose one or both)
Group 5	Mathematics	Maths
Group 6	Arts	Film Studies (alternatively, study Chemistry or a second language)
The Core		CAS / Extended Essay / Theory of Knowledge



The extended essay allows you to research and write a 4,000 word paper on an academic topic, promotes high level research and writing skills, intellectual discovery and creativity. It can take the form of a traditional essay or an evaluation of an experiment. University admissions tutors are particularly impressed by the research and analysis skills developed through the Extended Essay.

Theory of Knowledge is the flagship element in the IB. It encourages critical thinking about knowledge itself and tries to help you make sense of the world around you.

Creativity, Activity & Service (CAS) requires the completion of two to three hours a week of creativity, activity and service. Creativity includes a range of artistic activities, as well as the creativity that you demonstrate in designing and implementing service projects or in developing new skills. Students have

kept creative journals, learnt instruments, applied henna designs and made films; they have also taught and learnt new languages including Arabic, Latin and sign language.

Activity can include participation in individual and team sports or physical activities, as well as taking part in expeditions and local or international projects. Previous projects have included fitness classes, playing for sports teams, teaching dance and helping at Scouts or Brownies.

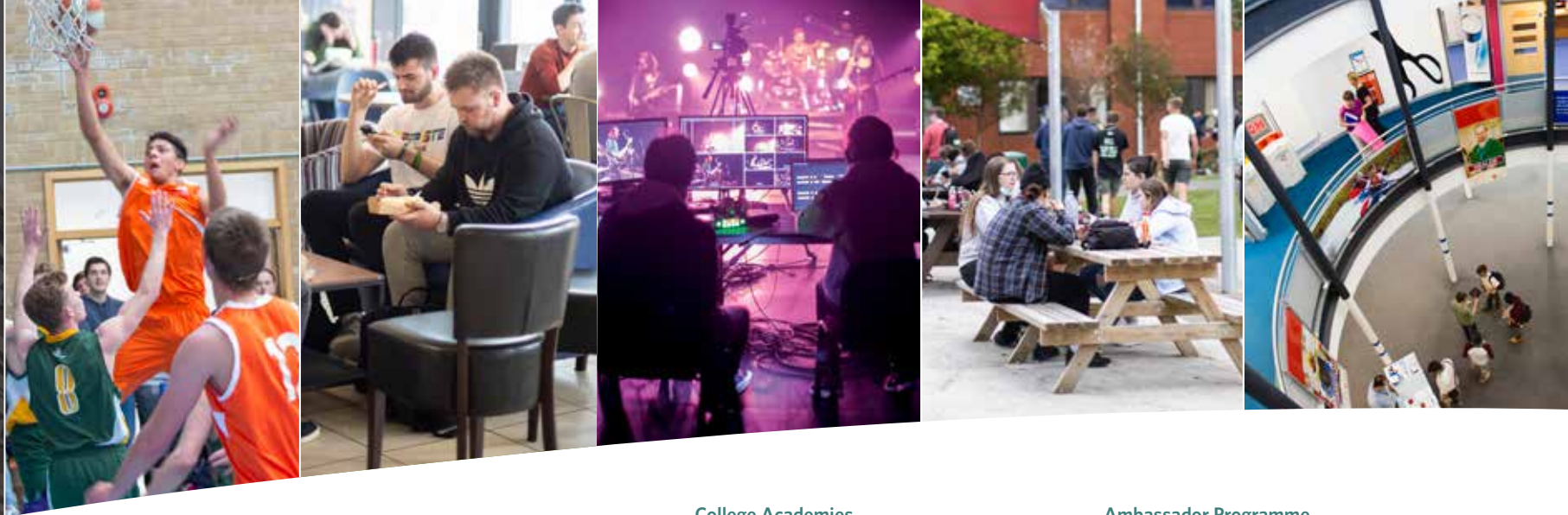
Service encompasses a host of community and social service activities such as working with children, the elderly, people with learning difficulties and those who are new to the country. Project work, forms a central feature of the Service element.

“We’ve been delivering this internationally-renowned programme for eight years and are still the only college in Somerset to offer the International Baccalaureate”

Andy Berry | Principal & Chief Executive



College Life



There's more to the IB than just studying. To enrich your course, help you flourish and make the most of your time, we offer a range of activities to get involved in.

Honours Academy

This Academy is for students who are ambitious, driven and keen to access a wide range of extra-curricular opportunities. The Academy will help stretch and challenge you to progress to leading universities and sought-after employment by offering additional tuition and skills development. The Academy has links with a wide range of higher education institutions, including Oxbridge, undertakes a range of project work and has access to many guest speakers from different walks of life as well as academia.

Pathways to Medicine

Pathways to Medicine is an extension of the Honours Academy programme and designed to support students applying for medicine-based courses at university, whether this be a medical degree or a qualification in nursing, children's nursing, midwifery, physiotherapy etc. Those enrolled on the programme have access to a range of guest speakers, undertake an independent research project and receive 1:1 support with their university applications.

“IB graduates are 7% more likely to achieve a first-class honours degree than matched A Level qualifiers.”

Jisc Report | February 2021

College Academies

All students (where possible) are encouraged to join an academy to complement their studies and pursue their aspirations. There are lots to choose from including:

- Team BTC
- Dance
- Photography
- Drama
- Music
- Show Choir
- Creative Enterprise
- Media
- 999 Academy
- Esports
- Technology
- Fashion

Students' Union

Run by student-elected officers who focus on the wellbeing of their peers and the overall experience of studying at College.



Ambassador Programme

Become a role model for other students, visitors and prospective students, and enhance your CV.

BTC Active

We want you to be happy and healthy so you can lead an active lifestyle. The BTC Active team offer students a range of sessions throughout the week that are planned to fit in with your timetable, so there really is no excuse not to join in with friends and have fun.



Studying the IB at BTC feels like being part of a small family of people who share the same interests, and that includes my tutors. I've always received all the support I need and feel safe and cared for.

Having recently immigrated from India, I was worried about starting college, but I'm proud of how well I adjusted. My tutors answer all my questions and give me reassurance and encouragement. They ensure I never feel left out and I'm confident I'll achieve my goals. I also became a Student Ambassador and joined the Student Union. Interacting with new people and being involved in a group has developed my self-esteem as well as my communication, teamwork, time management and organisational abilities.

The IB encourages you to reflect and evaluate everything you do and link it to the real world. It's helped me become socially responsible and smart, which in turn is preparing me for making decisions about my future.

Avanthika Narayanan Shaine |
Preston School

Clubs & Societies

Our clubs and societies are designed to enhance your studies as well as your leisure time. For example, we have a coding club, an engineering club and a driving club - all of which develop your skills and enhance your employability.

Duke of Edinburgh's Award

This popular programme offers a mix of adventure, self-development and community service that's a fantastic adornment to your CV and will help you stand out from the crowd.

The Learner Voice

Students are at the very core of our College and 'Learner Voice' is really important to us. Elected Student Representatives liaise between the College and students to bring about change, shape the College culture and enhance your experience.

Fundraising

Students regularly organise one-off events to raise money for charity or increase awareness of a particular issue. Examples include events for World Aids Day and Mental Health Awareness Day, as well as the annual Raise & Give (RAG) Day, where students and staff raise money for charities such as the Motor Neurone Disease Association, The Hawk and Owl Trust and the Dorset and Somerset Air Ambulance.

In previous years, our students have progressed to:

Aberdeen University

English
English and German

Aberystwyth University

Biology
Geography
International Relations

Bangor University

Health Psychology

Brighton University

Bio Medical Sciences

Bristol University

Ancient History
Neuroscience
Medicine
Politics
Russian

Brockenhurst College

Screenwriting

Cambridge University

English
Geography
History

Cardiff University

Medicine

Edinburgh University

History

Exeter University

Zoology
English and Spanish
Law
Medicine

Falmouth University

Art & Design

Harper Adams University

Bio Veterinary Science

King's College London

English

Kingston University

Biological Sciences
Liverpool University
Hispanic Studies

Manchester University

French and Arabic
Norland College
Childhood Studies

Oxford University

Jurisprudence
Medicine
Human Sciences
Psychology

Plymouth University

Marine Biology
Psychology

Salford University

Psychology and Criminology

Sussex University

International Relations

UCL

Chemical Engineering

Warwick University

History of Art and
Italian

York University

Sociology
Chemistry

We're excited to welcome you to our campuses, however in light of Covid-19, please check our website for updates or changes to the proposed schedule. Better still, register at www.btc.ac.uk for our events and we'll send any updates straight to your inbox.

OPEN EVENINGS

Bridgwater campus

Tuesday 12 October 2021	6pm - 8pm
Wednesday 19 January 2022	6pm - 8pm
Thursday 9 June 2022	6pm - 8pm

Taunton campus

Wednesday 13 October 2021	6pm - 8pm
Tuesday 18 January 2022	6pm - 8pm
Wednesday 8 June 2022	6pm - 8pm

ONLINE Q&AS

Tuesday 19 October 2021	6pm - 7pm
Tuesday 16 November 2021	6pm - 7pm
Wednesday 26 January 2022	6pm - 7pm
Tuesday 15 June 2022	6pm - 7pm

Register at www.btc.ac.uk/events For further information about these events please call 01278 441216



**BRIDGWATER &
TAUNTON COLLEGE**

Bridgwater Campus

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Taunton Campus

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