

EMPLOYER SUMMARY

British Section, Lycée International

ST GERMAIN EN LAYE, FRANCE

THE BRITISH SECTION – A UNIQUE EDUCATIONAL CONTEXT

The British Section is the largest of 14 national sections forming the Lycée International, one of France's most successful and respected schools.

The Lycée International (25km west of Paris) offers a bilingual and bicultural curriculum from age 3 to 18. The curriculum is divided between French staff teaching the French national curriculum, and foreign teachers employed in one of the school's fourteen national sections. Teachers in each section are given the freedom and responsibility to teach language, literature, history and geography in their national language to their own national standards. Students are taught by their respective national section teachers for six hours per week, increasing to eight hours per week for their final three school years; they spend the balance of their school week with their French teachers.

In recent years demand for places in some sections - including the British Section - has led to a progressive expansion of this teaching programme and philosophy into French partner schools at the *Maternelle*, *Primaire* and *Collège* levels. At *Lycée* level, all students attend the main Lycée International site.

Five national sections – including the British Section - are fee-paying; however the Lycée International and the partner schools are French state schools.

THE BRITISH SECTION

In the **2015-16** academic year there are **over 800** students in the British Section, making it the largest national section in the Lycée International network. The British Section's educational programme covers the entire school age range from 3 to 18. There are currently over 300 British Section students in the *Maternelle* and *Primaire* years; and more than approximately 500 students in *Collège* and *Lycée* years. The British Section's **22 teaching staff (19 full-time)** all hold British teaching qualifications, and operate on the main Lycée International campus and in four partner schools in the vicinity (currently 1 *Maternelle*, 1 *Primaire* and 2 *Collèges*). There is an administrative team of six (all based at the Lycée

International), and three librarians who provide a comprehensive service for the British Section libraries on all sites.

THE PRIMARY DEPARTMENT

In Primary, the Section is responsible for the teaching of English language and literacy skills with some history. The programmes of study are informed by the standards and expectations as defined by the National Curriculum and the department's curriculum. A topic-based approach is used which serves as a vehicle for the development of language and literacy. Our pupils work in a stimulating literary environment; each pupil is encouraged to develop fully his/her skills as a speaker, reader and writer. Assessment is considered integral to learning, and pupils are encouraged to develop into independent learners. There is an entrance test for all pupils applying to Maternelle and Primary.

The Primary Department currently consists of the Head of Primary, five full-time and three part-time teachers, and five part-time class assistants.

There is an active home-school partnership, with parents playing a variety of roles which support the many activities which extend pupil learning.

Our young pupils are motivated and enthusiastic learners. The profile of the children includes those from English speaking families, bi-lingual families and those who have learned English as a second language and are committed to developing it at mother tongue level.

GOVERNANCE

British Section teachers and administrative staff are employed by the British Section Parents' Association (BSPA) which is a French non-profit making Association. The BSPA's Governing Body (largely comprising elected parents) oversees the management of the BSPA's affairs (by the Senior Leadership Team led by the Director) and its annual budget. All appointments must be formally approved by the French administration.

The British Section website can be found at: www.britishsection.fr.