

THE BRITISH SCHOOLS



Founded 1908

Dear Parents of Form 6 students,

We are now in the process of planning for the following year. For this reason, I am writing to inform you of a change in the curriculum for your children when they arrive in 1YL of Senior in 2021.

As an IB world school, we are committed to the learning of different languages. We work in both English and Spanish, and we encourage students to learn a third language. This third language has been either Portuguese or French, and both have been offered at Foreign Language level for IGCSE, which students sit in 3YL. Cambridge have now said that Portuguese will no longer be offered at Foreign Language, so our students will study First Language Portuguese, and take the exam in 4YL. Recently there has been a considerable increase in students studying Portuguese as an option for the IB Diploma. One of our nearest neighbours is Brazil, so learning Portuguese could have a practical value for our students. Thus, we have made the decision that Portuguese will be the third language for all students from 2021. This is not to downplay the value of French as a language, but we are seeing increasingly less students wanting to take French for IGCSE, and very few at Diploma level, and sometimes none at all. There are also secondary considerations.

One is that with only one language, it makes selecting the A, B, C and D classes much easier. I will not bore you with the details, but it is to do with timetabling. This will enable us to have more flexibility in putting students in a class with a higher number of their friends.

If anyone would like to study French as an extra-curricular fourth language, we can look into the possibility of arranging classes. Please let me know if that is the case.

Regards,

Mark Rosevear
Principal

Estimados Padres de alumnos de Form 6:

Estamos en el proceso de planificación para el próximo año. Por esta razón, les escribo para informarles de un cambio en el curriculum de sus hijos para cuando cursen 1YL en 2021.

Como Colegio IB del mundo, estamos comprometidos al aprendizaje de diferentes idiomas. Trabajamos en Inglés y Español y alentamos a los alumnos a aprender un tercer idioma. Éste ha sido Portugués o Francés y ambos se han ofrecido como Lengua Extranjera de IGCSE, cuyo examen nuestros alumnos tomaban en 3YL. Cambridge ha informado recientemente que el idioma Portugués no seguirá ofreciéndose como Lengua Extranjera, por lo tanto nuestros alumnos estudiarán Portugués como Primer Idioma y tomarán el examen en 4YL. Recientemente, ha habido un considerable aumento de alumnos que estudian Portugués como opción del Diploma IB. El aprender Portugués podría ser muy valorado para nuestros alumnos al tener a Brasil como país

vecino. Por lo tanto, hemos decidido que éste será el tercer idioma para todos los alumnos en 2021. De esta manera no estamos quitando importancia al idioma francés, pero vemos que cada vez menos alumnos eligen este idioma para dar examen de IGCSE y muy pocos a nivel de Diploma; a veces ninguno de ellos. También hay otros puntos a considerar.

Una de ellas es que, con un idioma solo, es mucho más fácil formar los grupos A, B, C y D. No los molestaré con más detalles, pero están relacionados con el 'timetable'. Esto nos permitirá ser más flexibles al formar los grupos de alumnos y que tengan más cantidad de amigos entre ellos.

Si alguien quisiera estudiar Francés como cuarta lengua extra-curricular, podemos ver la posibilidad de arreglar esa clase. Si éste fuera el caso, sírvanse contactarse conmigo.

Atentamente,

Mark Rosevear
Principal

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