



Balears International College
Mallorca
an Orbital Education School



SIXTH FORM PROSPECTUS

2022 - 2023

EXCELLENCE · RESPECT · RESPONSIBILITY · INTEGRITY · COMPASSION



About our school

Welcome to Balears International College

Balears International College welcomes students aged 2 - 18 from over 40 different countries. Our school blends the highest quality, rigorous British education through the English National Curriculum, within a learning environment that is positive, constructive and a happy place to spend the day.

Our teaching staff are fully UK trained and experienced, and bring with them the latest educational methodologies and approaches.

Our campuses feature a wide range of facilities, and we make excellent use of outdoor learning spaces as well.



Orbital Education

Bringing the best of British education to the world



Orbital Education is completely dedicated to the service of advancing international education based on the British model. The company's head office in Manchester, England is staffed by a highly qualified team who support and direct the schools throughout the world.

The team are experienced educationalists, and all are united in the belief that the quality of education and the welfare of students is their greatest concern.

For more information go to:

www.orbitaled.com

Our Sixth Form

Come and meet us

You are invited to visit the School at any time. Prospective Sixth Form students and parents/guardians are warmly welcomed by the Principal, Head of Sixth Form and our current Sixth Form students to talk about BIC and tour the campus to see the high-quality facilities on offer.

To arrange a guided tour, contact our Admissions team:

Tel: (+34) 971133167

Email: admissions.saporrasa@balearesint.net

Web: www.balearesint.net

Facebook: [@balearesinternationalcollege](https://www.facebook.com/balearesinternationalcollege)



Open Day

for prospective Sixth Formers

WEDNESDAY 24th NOVEMBER | 2.00PM - 6.00PM

Taster Sessions

BIC is delighted to invite prospective students to meet our Sixth Form specialised teachers starting at 2.00pm and learn about the Sixth Form subject offer. Please select the preferred subjects from our prospectus so we can arrange the meeting for you.

TUESDAY 30th NOVEMBER | 5.30PM | ONLINE

Sixth Form Information Evening

At 5.30pm, parents/guardians and students are also welcome to join our Sixth Form Information Evening, meet the Principal, Head of Sixth Form and current Sixth Formers who will talk about BIC Sixth Form and the Sixth Form subject offer.

To book a place at the Open Day, please register via email at admissions.saporrasa@balearesint.net or call (+34) 971133 167.

Welcome to our Sixth Form

We are delighted to introduce you to Balears International College Sixth Form, where we are committed to helping all our students achieve success. We provide a friendly, respectful and stimulating Sixth Form community in which students achieve the highest standards in their A Level subjects as a vital step towards university life. BIC Sixth Formers also benefit from a range of experiences and skills to allow progression to higher education, training or employment. Our Sixth Form students enjoy exceptional teaching across a wide range of subjects.

Globally, A Levels are by far the most popular option accepted by universities around the world. At BIC, we offer a vibrant and successful learning environment and an enriching curriculum. In the Sixth Form, we would expect most students to follow a programme that includes:

- Four full A Level courses
- International Project Qualification (IPQ)
- Global Citizenship Programme focused on social wellbeing and knowledge for independent living after BIC.

We aim to enable each student to achieve success by offering opportunities and support for all.

BIC offers its Sixth Form students individual help and support tailored to their needs:

- A dedicated Sixth Form study centre with a college feel
- Additional staff time and one-to-one support to mentor individual students
- Small, seminar-style classes with a focus on individualised feedback
- Help with applications to universities in the UK, Germany, Spain, Netherlands, US and others
- Experienced, qualified UK teachers, many of whom have experience as examiners and textbook writers
- Extra Curricular activities like Drama, Dance and the Duke of Edinburgh Award.
- Opportunities for leadership through our House System, Sports Captains or as Head Boy, Head Girl and Student Ambassador

At BIC, we offer a package that we believe maximises students' opportunities. We want BIC Sixth Formers to be happy, to aim high, to be lifelong learners and to be responsible citizens.



Alison Colwell
Principal, BIC Sa Porrassa




John Barter
Head of Sixth Form





Share in our Sixth Form's success

We think some things are worth celebrating!

2021 A LEVEL RESULTS

59% A* to A AT BALEARES INTERNATIONAL COLLEGE

We welcome applications from students of all academic backgrounds and assess their entry requirements on an individual basis.

100% OF BIC STUDENTS CAN TAKE AN INTERNATIONAL PROJECT QUALIFICATION (IPQ)

Worth half an A Level and praised by universities for widening their learning experience and guiding students into higher education. BIC is unique on Mallorca in offering IPQ.



GREAT STUDENT : STAFF RATIO

Small group teaching is a hallmark of BIC. Given that A Level studies stretch our students' learning boundaries, we believe it is essential to provide a high level of personal support.

A TRULY INTERNATIONAL EXPERIENCE

With 470 students from over 45 different countries, BIC has one of the most varied international student bodies in Spain. In recent years, BIC Sixth Form students successfully started university courses in countries such as the UK, Germany, Switzerland, Spain and the Netherlands.



MODERN SIXTH FORM CENTRE

Custom-built school, with air-conditioned classrooms and a new, modern Sixth Form centre with wifi, which includes a social space and a study area that provides a calm place to work and to develop independent study skills before going to university.

OUR STUDENTS ARE WELL SUPPORTED

BIC has a strong system of pastoral support and guidance with a separate Head of Sixth Form and form tutors. Students get personalised careers advice, wellbeing coaching and English as an additional language support.



Why we chose BIC Sixth Form



CURRENT STUDENTS

"With a warm and friendly atmosphere, in which to learn and expand your knowledge, BIC has all the right ingredients to take you to the next stage of your life, whatever you choose to do. There is a wide variety of courses to choose from taught by highly knowledgeable tutors. They are enthusiastic and passionate about their specialist subjects and dedicate their time to ensure every student achieves success. As well as working hard we always make room for fun with a vast array of social events throughout the year. If you want to be inspired and motivated to reach your ultimate goal, then come and be a part of the BIC family."

Jessica Gilson, Student Ambassador

"BIC offers a unique learning experience with small class sizes and incredible teaching. BIC offers a range of subjects which aren't available at other schools on the island. I have thoroughly enjoyed studying here, and I'm sure you will too!"

Olivia Taylor, Head Girl

ALUMNI

On looking forward to going to Delft University of Technology to do Aerospace Engineering, former student Nacho said:

"I am without a doubt looking forward to this new experience. I will, for sure, keep in contact with BIC and my fellow teachers. I have really good memories of my years at the school and I will never forget where I come from."

Nacho Diaz, BIC Class of 2021

"I personally think that the BIC Sixth Form is great as it's very welcoming when it comes to new students and we integrate them into our group of friends right from the start. I believe that this eliminates the fear of being new in school and allows them to settle in much more quickly and get straight into learning whilst also developing a social life."

Santos Alcover, BIC Class of 2021





Discover your potential Choose the right courses for you

Students must be fluent in written and spoken English in order to meet the demands of the Sixth Form courses at BIC, with the exception of the language courses, which are taught in the language studied.

A Levels are a natural progression for students who have completed IGCSEs and build on similar skills taught at this level.

To be eligible to study A Levels, students need to have at least 5 IGCSE passes at grade C or 5 and above (including mathematics and first language English) or the equivalent from their previous school system. For specific subjects, grades may need to be higher. Please check the subject pages for further details.



What are AS and A Levels?

A Levels remain the gold standard for students who aspire to access university in the UK, their home country or elsewhere in the world. A Levels are taken over two years: the first year is called an AS, or Advanced Subsidiary level. This is equal to half an A Level. The second year is called an Advanced level.

For most subjects, BIC offers the international A Level (IAL) with module exams. Year 12 IAL sit AS exams at the end of Year 12. Year 13 will have options to sit exams in October, January and May/June. The UK A Levels (GCE) have exams at the end of the two years.

The subjects you study at A/AS Level can help shape your future, so your choices are very important.

You do not necessarily need to choose between mathematics/sciences or English/humanities – it is fine to mix them. However, if you are already focused on a particular career, this is a chance to start to specialise.

What matters most is choosing subjects that you will really enjoy and have a passion for. To do well, you will need to undertake wider reading and become absorbed in your subjects.

If you wish to study at a university from a Germanic background, you need to ensure that the mix of your choices fulfills the requirements of the country or area within which you wish to study.

A Levels or International Baccalaureate (IB)?

- A Levels are a natural progression for students who have completed IGCSEs.
- A Levels allow you to specialise. Unlike the IB, they give students the opportunity to specialise in their preferred subjects, thereby allowing more in-depth study.
- A Levels prepare you for your specialist chosen degree. The depth of study at A Level enables students to strengthen their chance of securing their chosen university course.
- A Levels enable a focussed curriculum, allowing you to complete an extended project and take part in extra-curricular activities.
- Globally, A Levels are by far the more popular pathway to university. Within the same time period, 1.2 million students took A Levels while 166,000 took IB Diploma.

Applied Learning courses

Most A Level courses leave the door open for students to follow many different career paths. For some students we are aware that they already have a clear career path in mind and are better suited to doing coursework rather than a 100% exam-based course.

BIC has carefully selected new international A Level courses which are heavily career-based, applied qualifications, providing learners with a clear route into university or straight into their chosen careers. Today's employers are looking for confident, work-ready employees who have the practical knowledge and technical skills that are acquired through career-based A Levels.

Need advice?

If you are unsure, please speak to our subject teachers, and our Head of Sixth Form. In addition, we offer access to a range of university fairs for our Year 11, Year 12 and Year 13 students.

Whatever your final decision, you will need to consider: what subjects you enjoy, what you are good at, career implications and which university courses you wish to access. The following pages will give you an overview of each subject, topics covered and who your teachers will be.

BIC's current career-based courses include:

- Art and Design
- Dance
- Drama and Theatre
- Information and Communications Technology
- Mathematics in Context
- Travel and Tourism





What we offer

Course List



Here is a list of Sixth Form courses* offered at Baleares International College:

Click on the course name to take you directly to the page.

- [Art and Design](#)
- [Biology](#)
- [Business](#)
- [Chemistry](#)
- [Dance](#)
- [Drama and Theatre](#)
- [Economics](#)
- [English Literature](#)
- [French](#)
- [Geography](#)
- [German](#)
- [History](#)
- [Information and Communications Technology](#)
- [Mathematics](#)
- [Mathematics in Context](#)
- [Physics](#)
- [Politics](#)
- [Psychology](#)
- [Sociology](#)
- [Spanish](#)
- [Travel and Tourism](#)
- [International Project Qualification](#)

*Please note that whilst we hope to run all these courses, the final subject offer will depend on student uptake and staffing levels. If we cannot run a specific course we will let you know in advance and work with you to find a solution.

Art and Design



Why choose art and design?

This course presents students with the opportunity to develop their creative and imaginative artistry skills. They explore relevant resources through analysis, discussion and evaluation of images, objects and artefacts, making and recording their own independent judgements.

These explorations will be recorded through observations in a variety of ways using drawing or other appropriate visual forms. Students undertake research and gather, select and organise visual and other appropriate information.

The course will also support students in developing their knowledge and understanding of the work of other students and artists, helping them to become independent and critical thinkers, with the ability to self- and peer-assess work.

This knowledge will in turn give students the ability to apply knowledge and understanding when making images and artefacts, review and modify work and plan and develop ideas in the light of their own and others' evaluations.

What you will need to study A Level art and design:

Minimum IGCSE grade 5 or C in English first language, literature and in Art.

Students who have not studied IGCSE Art will be asked to provide a portfolio of their previous art work.

About your teacher:

Ms Hatton has mentored her students to achieve highly successful careers relating to art and design, for example, graphic design, fashion design, film, multimedia and animation.

Having worked at BIC for a number of years, she has

provided students with opportunities to fulfil their potential through creative expression. Her imaginative approach to teaching and individualised support for students gives each art student a positive and holistic experience whilst studying art and design.



"Art doesn't give rise to anything in us that isn't already there. It simply stirs our curious consciousness and sparks a fire that illuminates who we have always wanted to be."

Kamand Kojouri



Biology



Why choose biology?

Many of the important and often contentious issues which society must address relate to the biological sciences. Ethical issues include stem cell research, genetically modified organisms, animal experimentation and the Human Genome Project and the use of its findings.

Environmental protection and health are topics that are high on the political agenda. Studying biology will also help students understand many of the issues that face society today such as cancer, drug use, climate change and antibiotic resistance.

Biology is a fascinating and varied subject, which is reflected in the high numbers of biology-based courses

offered at university.

Topics include, among others: health, biodiversity, immunology, gene technology and practical skills.

Biology is a well-respected course and students can move on to a wide variety of careers. For example, if your interests lie in medicine, biotechnology or conservation then biology is the right course for your future career.

Students also go on to study non-biology related topics such as law. The A Level course demands a lot of critical thinking, data analysis and problem solving, all of which are vital transferable skills for the future.

Over the course of two years, you will study the following modules:

Unit 1: Molecules, diet, transport and health

Unit 2: Cells, development, biodiversity and conservation

Unit 3: Practical skills in Biology 1

Unit 4: Energy, environment, microbiology and immunity

Unit 5: Respiration, internal environment, coordination and gene technology

Unit 6: Practical skills and biology II

What you will need to study A Level biology:

Minimum IGCSE grade 6 in biology and mathematics.

About your teacher:

Miss Turley has a first-class honours degree in biomedical sciences from Newcastle University. After travelling the world, she started her teaching career in Leeds and takes credit as Head of Biology for a school that was

subsequently judged 'Outstanding' by Ofsted.

Since joining BIC in 2016, she has overseen the changes to the new A Level biology course.



Love Life, Love Biology: Biologists study life!

Business



Why choose business?

Today's business climate makes it an exciting time to study business. This course enables students to gain the required business understanding of all aspects involved in running businesses, as well as the detail and depth to develop a career in a specified area of the subject.

Students will study topics linked to people in businesses, marketing, staff recruitment, finance management and business organisation.

Students will develop personal skills such as planning and organisation, conducting research, problem solving and

communication.

This course includes topics such as marketing, business finance, business strategy, managing employees, and how businesses participate in a global context. Students in Year 12 are encouraged to start a 'Young Enterprise' business during the year.

There will be the opportunity to take part in group work, welcome guest speaker visits from employers and visits to businesses.

What you will need to study A Level business:

Minimum IGCSE grade 5 or C in English first language, literature or mathematics and Business Studies.

About your teacher:

Mr Drumm joined BIC in September 2021 after teaching in a school in Dublin, Ireland for 7 years.

He has a Commerce degree from University College Dublin and a Masters in Marketing from the University of Ulster in Northern Ireland.



"Business touches on pretty much every aspect of modern human society; careers with a business degree are diverse and often highly paid."

www.topuniversities.com



Chemistry



Why choose chemistry?

Chemistry is everywhere in the world around you! It's in the food you eat, the clothes you wear, water you drink, medicines you take, cosmetics you put on your face, the packaging that wraps every consumer product you buy - it's in everything. It is often called the "**central science**" because it connects other sciences to each other, such as biology, physics, geology, and environmental science.

Chemistry helps you to understand the world around you. Our chemistry course covers a range of scientific disciplines, including physical, inorganic and organic chemistry. During the course, students will delve into the worlds of thermodynamics, rate equations, aromatic chemistry, protein synthesis, plus much more!

Chemistry is at the heart of many of the best hopes to solve global environmental issues such as climate change, air pollution, and the fate of plastics. It also helps you to understand current events, including news about

petroleum, product recalls, pollution, and technological advances.

It lets you study to become a doctor; that's right, if you want to study **medicine**, chemistry is even more important than biology! This really shows the diversity and importance of the subject. Jobs directly related to chemistry also include, among others: biotechnologist, healthcare scientist and research scientist. Jobs where chemistry will be useful include: environmental consultant, nuclear engineer and patent attorney, amongst others. Even if you're looking for a job in another field, the skills you gained in chemistry will be very helpful.

This course will teach you problem solving, teamwork, numeracy, communication and practical skills, as well as hugely valuable independent study and reasoning skills. Chemistry applies to every industry and field out there.

What you will need to study A Level chemistry:

Minimum IGCSE grade 6 in chemistry and mathematics.

About your teacher:

Mr Clark studied chemistry at Queen Mary's College and graduated with first-class honours in forensic science at the University of Glamorgan. Following this, he worked as a forensic scientist for the Forensic Science

Service, specialising in DNA analysis, before moving on and working in a host of other scientific disciplines and management. He retrained as a science teacher and joined BIC in 2012 where he has had highly successful results.

Over the course of two years, you will study the following modules:

Unit 1: Structure, Bonding and Introduction to Organic Chemistry

Unit 2: Energetics, Group Chemistry, Halogenoalkanes and Alcohols

Unit 3: Practical Skills in Chemistry I

Unit 4: Rates, Equilibria and Further Organic Chemistry

Unit 5: Transition Metals and Organic Nitrogen Chemistry

Unit 6: Practical Skills in Chemistry II



Everything you see around you involves chemistry in some way!

Dance



Why choose dance?

Dance has for many years been an admired art form, taking the form of many different styles and genres. The study of dance will not only allow students to develop dance choreography and performance skills, but an appreciation and history of the art form.

Students will follow the IDTA Level 3 course and look at many different genres of dance, from ballet, to street, to contemporary, jazz and many in between.

The International Dance Teacher's Association is a worldwide recognised dance exam board. This qualification will not only demonstrate the student is an accomplished performer upon completion, but will also give them the necessary qualification to work as a teaching assistant in a dance studio. It will allow them further progression to complete their dance teaching qualification.

Students will also study the choreographic process for dance. They will look at how dance pieces are constructed, both in group and solo pieces. They will learn how to create their own original pieces of dance, responding to a stimulus, and how to create pieces suitable for different ages and abilities, in different styles and for different dance

events.

Students will study anatomy and the importance of understanding the impact of dance exercise on the body. They will learn how to prepare the body correctly for dance, health and safety within a dance class and how to cool down and prevent injury. They will learn about all body systems but with specific focus on the muscular and skeletal system. They will complete a written anatomy diploma paper for this.

Students will study good teaching practice of their choice genre of dance for lower graded classes. They will learn dance pedagogy and different approaches for different learning styles. They will learn what makes a good dance lesson, and how to help younger dance students progress. They will learn how to structure and lead a class, and they will learn the lower IDTA grades for demonstration in that style. This will lead up to their final exam, which will take place with an IDTA examiner, and will involve them presenting a portfolio and answering questions on, and discussing with the examiner, approaches to teaching the exercises.

What you will need to study A Level dance:

Grade 5 in English and in Dance discipline from any exam board.

Audition to assess practical ability and 5-year extra-curricular dance experience is ideal.

About your teacher:

Ms Mayes is a qualified dance teacher and has a diploma in the performing arts. Her performances include: the Edinburgh Fringe; the Royal Albert Hall and in Mallorca.

Ms Mayes taught in the UK and spearheaded the opening of a Performing Arts Academy at her school.

She has successfully coached students into top UK colleges for dance, music and drama. Previous students of Ms Mayes can also be found in the West End, as Entertainment Managers and even in films such 'Rocketman'.



Develop your dance choreography and performance skills, as well as an appreciation for and history of the art form.

Drama and Theatre



Why choose drama and theatre?

During this course, students will have the opportunity to develop their creative and exploratory skills to devise an original performance. The starting point for this devising process will be an extract from a performance text and an influential theatre practitioner.

Students will also undertake creative explorations, mastering how text can be manipulated to communicate meaning to audiences and they will begin the process of interpretation. These explorations will be supported by a dynamic programme of theatre trips and professional workshops.

Students will also gain an in-depth understanding of how a new performance can be developed through the practical exploration of the theatrical style and use of conventions of the chosen practitioner. We also offer challenging school productions where theatre studies students can develop their stagecraft. This will enable students to complete a component either as a performer or as a designer. The latter includes costume, lighting, set and sound design.

What you will need to study A Level drama and theatre:

Minimum IGCSE grade 5 or C in English first language.

If you have not previously studied IGCSE Drama, you will be asked to audition for this course.

About your teacher:

Ms Mayes is a qualified dance teacher and has a diploma in the performing arts. Her performances include: the Edinburgh Fringe; the Royal Albert Hall and in Mallorca. Ms Mayes taught in the UK and spearheaded the opening of a Performing Arts Academy at her school.

She has successfully coached students into top UK colleges for dance, music and drama. Previous students of Ms Mayes can also be found in the West End, as Entertainment Managers and even in films such 'Rocketman'.



"It is not enough to discover the secret of a play, its thought and feelings – the actor must be able to convert them into living terms."

Konstantin Stanislavski

Economics



Why choose economics?

It is an exciting time to study economics and gain a real understanding of the main issues of today. Whether you are concerned with climate change or trade wars, the impact of Brexit or multinationals, economics will give you real insights. This course will improve your mind and open up wide career opportunities.

Taught lessons will focus on applied economics with up-to-date examples. A keen interest in current affairs is essential for the research work you will do.

Written work will consist of essays, data response and

multiple choice questions.

This course is 100% exam based. Practical knowledge will be gained through speakers and participation in the Bank of England's competition. Students will need to apply their knowledge and understanding to both familiar and unfamiliar contexts in the assessments and demonstrate an awareness of current economic events and policies. To enable this and when possible, the school organises trips to Oxford, London, Paris and Madrid, hosts guest speakers and, above all, encourages debate.

What you will need to study A Level economics:

Minimum IGCSE grade 6 or B in English first language and mathematics

IGCSE grade 6 or B in Business should have been achieved by students following this course.

About your teacher:

Mr Drumm joined BIC in September 2021 after teaching in a school in Dublin, Ireland for 7 years.

He has a Commerce degree from University College Dublin and a Masters in Marketing from the University of Ulster in Northern Ireland.



"On many issues, including some where the passions run highest, economics offers startlingly illuminating insights."

Paul Krugman



English Literature



Why choose English literature?

Poet, Ted Hughes spoke of poetry having an effect on him even before he understood it. Reading literature has that power. Studying A Level English Literature enables you to begin to understand that effect while developing your ability to explain the way in which literature influences readers and audiences. You will develop an appreciation of literature as well as skills of interpretation and analysis, essay writing, recognising contextual significance, and making connections between texts. You will be challenged to question ideas around authorial intention and to analyse

language and literary techniques while being rewarded by some of the best works the world has seen: canonical texts, works from different literary movements, and literature from a range of cultures.

You will read prose, drama and poetry, from Shakespeare and Marlowe to modern novels and a range of works in verse, gaining a thorough grounding in literary study. In addition, your skills as a critical thinker will be developed to enable you to be successful in your next steps beyond A Level study.

What you will need to study A Level English literature:

Minimum IGCSE grade 6 in English first language and English literature.

About your teacher:

Ms Austin is an experienced Head of English who joined BIC in 2020 having studied for an MA in Comparative Literatures and Cultures. She is passionate both about her subject and developing in students an appreciation of

literature. She is experienced in teaching in the UK and internationally, and throughout her career has worked to support young people to reach their full potential.



"When I was too young to understand very much about [poetry] it had an enormous effect on me. And this was an effect quite apart from anything that I would call understanding or being able to explain them or knowing what was going on."
Ted Hughes, poet

French



Why choose French?

More than 300 million people speak French on the five continents. French is the fifth most widely spoken language in the world after English, Mandarin, Spanish and Arabic. The ability to speak French and English is an advantage in the international job market. French is the second business language in Europe and the third in the world.

Speaking French opens up study opportunities at renowned French universities and business schools, which are ranked among the top higher education institutions in Europe and the world. Students with a good level of French are eligible for French government grants to enroll in postgraduate courses in France in the discipline of

their choice and to qualify for internationally recognised degrees.

French is both a working language and an official language of the United Nations, the European Union and most international bodies.

The course will focus on current developments. In Year 12, students will look at new family structures in France, the French educational system, employment, music, media, French traditions and a French movie. In Year 13, they look at immigration in France, the Nazi occupation and the Résistance movement in France during the Second World War and a novel, "Un sac de billes".

What you will need to study A Level French:

Minimum grade B or 6 in IGCSE Foreign Language or

grade C or 5 in First Language French at IGCSE.

About your teacher:

Madame Etienne has been teaching French at BIC since 2003 and previously she taught at the Alliance Française. She has a great deal of experience in the English

curriculum and has been a "DELFI" examiner for a year. She enriches her lessons with aspects of French culture and current events.



"Avoir une autre langue, c'est posséder une deuxième âme"
Charlemagne

Geography



Why choose geography?

A rapidly changing world makes studying A Level geography a useful and fascinating subject. The course is a mixture of physical and human geography and students will study current, topical global issues. As geographers, students will develop essential skills in both numeracy and literacy as well as learning fieldwork skills and data analysis techniques developed through fieldwork trips.

Students will take a closer look at how physical and human issues influence lives and can be managed. They will investigate how the use and management of resources is a key issue for geography in today's world.

What you will need to study A Level geography:

Minimum IGCSE grade 5 or C in geography.

Contemporary global issues like the climate crisis, globalisation, geopolitics and economic development run through the course, providing students with a link between the physical and social sciences.

Studying geography provides students with valuable skills and a firm base for lifelong learning. Careers that benefit from a geographical education include urban planner, community development, cartographer, climatologist, transportation management, environmental management and many others.

If you have not studied the subject before, you will need a grade 5 in English language, literature and mathematics.

About your teacher:

Miss Pooler is an official UN accredited Climate Change Teacher and has taught at BIC since January 2018. She is an experienced teacher and has had many roles within secondary schools, including leading literacy across the

curriculum and being involved in accreditation for the British Council's International Schools Award. In her last school she was the Head of Humanities.



A fast-changing world makes geography a vital, dynamic and lively subject.

German



Why choose German?

German at BIC has a long tradition. For more than thirty years this subject has been a strong A Level option for our students. Throughout all these years, the German department at BIC has ensured continuity, quality teaching and top results in all external examinations.

BIC is the only college on the island that offers an extended programme for our native and non-native German speaking students. The German department are all working towards the same objective: confidence in both spoken and written German combined with a wide knowledge of culture, history and literature.

German is the language of Goethe, Mozart, Einstein, Kafka – learning German at BIC is more than learning just a language, it is about cultural awareness, the ability to access German universities or career options and to establish future business contacts inside Europe's biggest economy.

When possible, trips to Berlin, theatre and movie visits and other educational trips complete our lessons outside school, whilst project work, presentations and group work create a versatile spectrum of learning styles in a familiar and friendly German classroom environment.

What you will need to study A Level German:

Minimum grade B or 6 in IGCSE Foreign Language or grade C or 5 in First Language German at IGCSE.

About your teacher:

Frau Ditthard has taught at BIC since 2006, having previously taught in Germany and Barcelona, and is an experienced examiner. She studied German and history at the University of Cologne.

In 2017, Frau Ditthard achieved the highest results in Spain in first language German and she has had a 100% A grade pass rate for the last 12 years.



German at BIC – a modern language with a long tradition based on quality, leading to success.



History



Why choose history?

Studying history provides students with skills that are not confined to the study of the past. Skills of analysis are invaluable in many jobs, and the ability to analyse and then prioritise information is vital to decision making. This not only provides a skill set for students but it also keeps career options open. In order to make sense of current affairs, it is important to study the past, as everything happening around us has been influenced by, and is a direct result of, that which preceded it. In this way, the study of history is explicitly relevant to us.

Topics studied will include: Britain 1964–2014,

Germany, civil rights and race relations in the USA, 1865–2009, from the end of slavery to Obama, and The Cold War in Asia.

Lessons will consist of a variety of learning approaches (e.g. seminars, group work, debates). Students will also have opportunities for independent historical research. To enable this and when possible, a trip to Germany is being organised. A history qualification is widely respected and can lead to a number of different careers such as law, journalism, politics, media and banking.

What you will need to study A Level history:

Minimum IGCSE grade 5 in history and in English first language.

If you have not studied the subject before, you will need a grade 5 or C in English language or English literature.

About your teachers:

Mrs Coutts joined BIC in September 2018. She is a highly qualified and very experienced teacher and has had held many senior roles in secondary schools in the UK.

She has been a Head of History, Assistant Headteacher and most recently worked in one of the highest achieving state schools in London.



History is who we are and why we are the way we are.

IT



Why choose IT?

Information Technology (IT) is the application of technology to process information. The impact of IT on all aspects of everyday life is immense. The enormity of the impact can be seen in industry and commerce, transport, leisure, medicine and the home. The impact of technology on the global economy and in making the world smaller means that students equipped with the skills to take advantage of this will be highly sought after.

The course aims to help develop a broad range of IT skills and knowledge of the uses of IT in the workplace and will provide a springboard to advanced university courses or into business. It also features more 'Creative Computing' content by introducing Video and Audio Editing, Web Design, Graphic Design, Animation and Web Programming. It allows students to develop their IT skills by solving real world problems in one or more of these areas.

What you will need to study A Level IT:

Minimum IGCSE grade 5 or C in English first language and mathematics or science.

You will also need the ability to think creatively, critically and logically.

About your teacher:

Mr Kingston-Bray joined the school this year after three years teaching Computer Science in the UK, having gained a first class honours degree in Outdoor Adventure Education.

Prior to teaching, he held a variety of senior international business management positions in both the Middle East and Australia.



"Much of what matters about human-level intelligence is hidden not in the brain, nor in the technology, but in the complex and iterated interactions and collaborations between the two."

Andy Clark



Mathematics



Why choose mathematics?

Mathematics is a creative and expansive subject that challenges and excites in equal measure. At A Level you will have the opportunity to take the skills honed at IGCSE and apply them to fascinating new concepts and situations. Through this development of skills you will become a confident problem solver, team worker and communicator primed for success in higher education.

Your skills will be deeply valued in a variety of careers and are insisted upon by many degree courses. Choosing mathematics A Level is a positive statement about yourself and your dreams and aspirations for the future.

At BIC we study pure maths, statistics and mechanics over the two-year course. There will be a pure maths paper and a statistics paper at the end of Year 12 and a second pure maths paper and a mechanics paper at the end of Year 13. There is no coursework. Pure maths has a focus on algebra and its applications involving trigonometry and calculus. Statistics allows us to understand the world around us and the meaning of data, and to make predictions about the future. Mechanics inspires physicists and engineers by applying our mathematical knowledge to a fascinating world of Newtonian forces and dynamics.

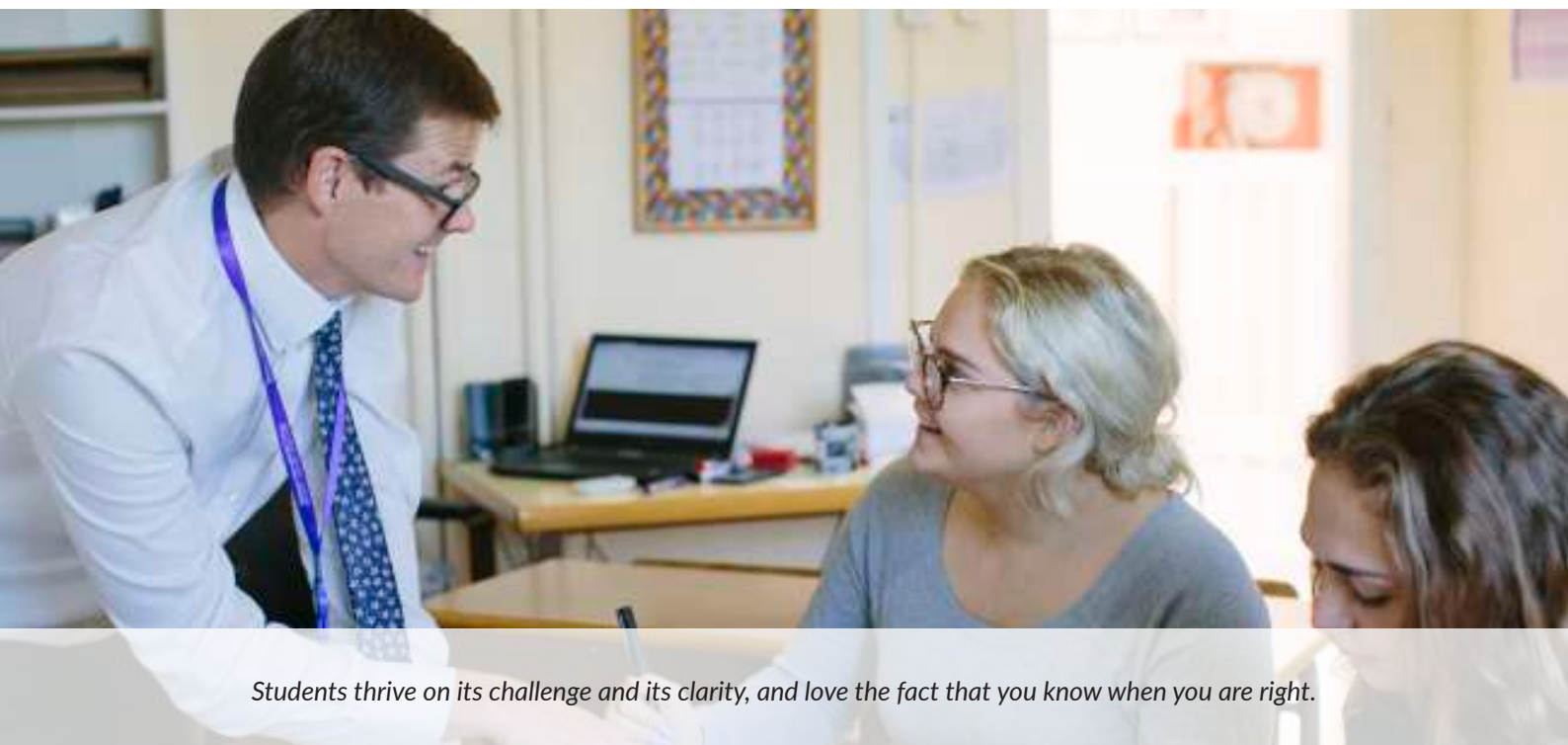
What you will need to study A Level mathematics:

Minimum IGCSE grade 6 or above in mathematics.

About your teacher:

Mr Cachia is a very experienced Mathematics teacher who completed the prestigious Teach First programme in the United Kingdom and has a Masters in Educational Leadership. He has held leadership roles in his previous

two schools and has a history of exceptional results at A Level. He is an enthusiastic and energetic teacher, who is will do everything possible to ensure that students achieve the limit of their potential.



Students thrive on its challenge and its clarity, and love the fact that you know when you are right.

Mathematics in Context



Why choose mathematics in context?

This engaging and rewarding one year qualification allows students to build on existing, and develop new, mathematical understanding in the application of mathematics to authentic problems. Knowledge and skills from GCSE is applied in a range of real world contexts that enable students to build confidence in areas that they are likely to encounter in vocational and academic study, future employment and life.

The objective of the course is to develop skills in problem solving, creativity, decision making, communication and reasoning and competence in the selection and use of

mathematical techniques. Students will develop confidence in representing and analysing situations and applying mathematics to related questions and real world issues.

The course is assessed through two externally examined papers. These are designed to test how students comprehend, interpret and analyse the content of a source booklet that will be provided several weeks ahead of the examination. Both papers assess skills in application of statistics, probability, linear programming, sequences and growth. The first paper addresses comprehension and the second paper is focused on applications.

What you will need to study A Level mathematics in context:

It is recommended that students achieve the equivalent of a grade C or 5 at IGCSE mathematics as a minimum requirement for the study of this certificate.

This course will support students who expect to progress to qualifications that use mathematics such as biology, business, geography, health and social care,

nursing and psychology. For students planning to study mathematically-based subjects including mathematics, statistics and physics, this A Level mathematics course is likely to be an advantage. For other subjects like geography and psychology it would be desirable.

About your teacher:

Mr. Sparks is a qualified civil and structural engineer who loves the application of his subject in real life contexts. Mr. Sparks has achieved significant success in the past 14 years teaching maths.

His higher achieving students have progressed on to Oxbridge Universities thanks to the zest for mathematical learning that he has engendered through his teaching.



Apply your knowledge of mathematics to authentic, real-world problems.



Physics



Why choose physics?

You will already be familiar with many of the topics that you will study, including forces, waves, radioactivity, electricity, magnetism and quantum physics.

At A Level, you will look at these areas in more detail and find out how they are interconnected. You will also learn how to apply maths to real-world problems and explore new areas such as particle physics, cosmology and medical physics. Perhaps more importantly, you will develop skills that can be transferred to just about any other area of work, from setting up a business to saving the planet. Even if you don't go on to become a physicist, learning to think like one will help you get to the root of any problem and draw connections that aren't obvious to others. Physics won't give you all the answers, but it will teach you how to

ask the right questions.

Physics is a seriously useful subject for the majority of STEM (science, technology, engineering and maths) careers and you'll find physicists everywhere, in industry, transport, government, universities, the armed forces, the secret service, games companies, research labs and more.

Physics is especially helpful for jobs that involve building things and developing new technologies, including: engineering (flight, buildings, space, you name it...), astronomy, robotics, renewable energies, computer science, communications, space exploration, science writing, sports and games technology, research and nanotechnology.

What you will need to study A Level physics:

Minimum grade 6 in IGCSE physics and mathematics..

If you choose to study A Level physics, you should also choose to study A Level mathematics.

About your teacher:

Mr Warn has a first class degree in physics and philosophy from King's College London. He has a contagious passion to gain an understanding of the universe as a whole.

Mr Warn has a successful track record of A-Level results having trained under the Institute of Education and the Institute of Physics.

Over the course of two years, you will study the following modules:

Unit 1: Mechanics and Materials

Unit 2: Waves and Electricity

Unit 3: Practical Skills in Physics I

Unit 4: Further Mechanics, Fields and Particles

Unit 5: Thermodynamics, Radiation, Oscillations and Cosmology

Unit 6: Practical Skills in Physics II



Investigate the fundamental principles of how the universe works.

Politics

Why choose politics?

Interested in the world around you? Want to know more about how political institutions make decisions and policies which affect our everyday lives? Or do you simply love to argue? If so, A Level politics is the ideal course for you!

Studying politics allows students to develop knowledge and understanding of the role politics plays in relation to current local, national, and global issues, as well as studying key political philosophers and political theories.

Politics enables students to develop a wide range of skills including: the ability to comprehend, synthesise and interpret political information, analyse and evaluate political knowledge, identify connections, assess similarities and differences between the areas studied, select relevant material and construct and communicate arguments clearly and coherently using appropriate

political vocabulary.

Topics include: British politics, political ideologies, feminism, environmental politics, the European Union, global politics, international relations, war and conflicts, the UN, NATO and geopolitics. This course is a UK A Level, so all the module exams take place at the end of Year 13. It also means that much of the Year 12 topics are focussed on the British political system, so it is important that you keep a focus on events in British politics. The principles learned in Year 12, are used to assess Global Political systems in Year 13. Year 12 students will sit the AS exam at the end of their first year as a stand alone qualification. Those students who continue into Year 13 will sit all module exams at the end of Year 13 for the full A Level.

What you will need to study A Level politics:

Minimum IGCSE grade C or 5 in English first language and history.

About your teacher:

Mrs Hawksworth has many years of experience teaching A level in the UK and has worked as an examiner for AQA and Edexcel. Teaching both History and Politics she enjoys how the subjects complement each other, using the past to understand current national and global

issues. Understanding and participating in politics is a fundamental element of being an active citizen and studying at A level is excellent preparation for entering the adult world.



"Politics is not just about voting one day every four years. Politics is the air we breathe, the food we eat, and the road we walk on."
Unita Blackwell



Psychology

Why choose psychology?

The course covers several areas of psychology such as social, cognitive, biological, developmental, criminological, health and clinical, as well as the understanding of learning theories. In addition, the course will entail the development of psychological skills based on issues and debates from some of the areas to be studied. It is a subject of great interest that combines well with other subjects.

This course is 100% exam based and will be assessed in four exam papers. Written work will consist of a combination of short and long answer response questions.

What you will need to study A Level psychology:

Minimum IGCSE grade 5 in mathematics, and at least two grade 5s in science and English language.

About your teachers:

Mr Barter read sociology at the London School of Economics and studied psychology as part of this degree. He has been teaching A Level psychology for over 20 years, mostly in the UK.

He has produced a website to support BIC's A level psychologists.



Students will need to apply their knowledge and understanding to both familiar and unfamiliar contexts in the assessments and demonstrate an awareness of current psychological debates.

There is no coursework module but an important element of the course is practical: designing and carrying out four pieces of research, analysis findings and reporting data. This provides good opportunities to develop IT and number skills. If you want to know more visit our website: www.barterpsychology.weebly.com

Ms Florey joined the school in September 2019 after several years teaching in London where she was regularly judged as outstanding.

She read international politics at SOAS University.



"Psychology is the science of the intellects, characters and behavior of animals including man."

Edward Thorndike

Sociology



Why choose sociology?

In a rapidly changing world, sociology offers learners the opportunity not only to explore the processes that are shaping current trends but also to develop an understanding of the complexity and diversity of human societies and their continuities with the past.

The study of sociology stimulates awareness of contemporary social, cultural and political issues, and focuses on the importance of examining these issues in rigorous, reasoned and analytical ways.

Course content focuses on the family and social change, the creation of social identity and research methodology. It will also focus on issues in education, the media, religious movements and global development.

What you will need to study A Level sociology:

Minimum GCSE grade 5 or C in English first language or English literature.

About your teachers:

Mr Barter read sociology at the London School of Economics. He has been teaching A Level sociology for over 20 years, mostly in the UK but recently one of his students achieved the top grade award in Spain for sociology. He has also written several textbooks to support students of A level sociology.

Written work will consist of essays and data response questions. This course is 100% exam based. Students will need to apply their knowledge and understanding to both familiar and unfamiliar contexts in the assessments and demonstrate an awareness of current sociological interpretations.

Through research and investigation, students will develop a range of transferable skills, among them the ability to construct and deconstruct arguments both orally and in writing, analyse information critically and present information logically. If you want to know more visit our website: www.bartersociology.weebly.com

Grade 5 or C in geography or history if the student has taken these exams.

Ms Florey joined the school in September 2019 after several years teaching in London where she was regularly judged as outstanding.

She read international politics at SOAS University.



"My students often ask me, 'What is sociology?' and I tell them, 'It's the study of the way in which human beings are shaped by things that they don't see.'"

Sam Richards



Spanish



Why choose Spanish?

If you enjoy meeting and talking to people from other countries, finding out about their cultures and learning how language works, then studying Spanish is an excellent choice for you. People with language skills and knowledge usually have an advantage over people without them. They stand out as talented and successful people, with broad and exciting horizons. So, success in A Level Spanish means you will be in a stronger position to get a job in companies with international links.

A Level Spanish helps you explore a wide range of topics, which will add to your understanding of the language and the country. In Year 12, topics include work, evolving society and tourism in Spain, music, the media and festivals in Spanish-speaking countries.

What you will need to study A Level Spanish:

Minimum IGCSE grade 6 or B in foreign language or

A film will be studied, which will link to the topics, giving you further insight into Spanish culture. You will also learn accuracy through the study of grammar and to articulate through the learning of extensive new vocabulary.

In Year 13, in addition to the topics and grammar mentioned above, learning will focus on a multicultural society module discussing immigration, integration and racism as well as a history module. In addition, there will be an opportunity to explore these cultural themes through literature.

When appropriate there will be trips to mainland Spain, visits to the main libraries on the island and any exhibitions or talks related to the programme.

Minimum IGCSE grade 5 or C in Spanish first language

About your teachers:

Señora Rodríguez is a highly experienced teacher and Edexcel examiner, who has been teaching A Levels in some of the best schools in the UK (Highgate School, Latymer Upper School). Her students have secured places in the top universities around the world, including Oxbridge. She has also organised numerous talks, debate competitions, trips and exchanges (Argentina, London,

Salamanca, Barcelona) thanks to her links with educational organisations abroad.

Señorita Luengo is a member of Association of Hispanists of the UK and a member of FILTA – Film in Language Teaching Association (Manchester University). She has extensive teaching experience in Spanish A-Levels and as a senior examiner.



Spanish gives you an enriched view of the world and creates many more opportunities for you.

Travel and Tourism



Why choose travel and tourism?

Mallorca provides the perfect setting for a qualification in travel and tourism. The Cambridge International A Level provides a highly specialised and vocational qualification. It provides students with the skills needed for employment but can also lead to higher education opportunities. Students will combine study in school with practical application of their knowledge and understanding through coursework projects and when possible visits to tourist destinations and businesses on the island and in the UK.

This qualification includes four mandatory units covering the following content areas:

- Features and principles of the travel and tourism industry
 - the travel and tourism industry in the UK is growing and is of major importance to the economy. Students will develop the skills needed to examine, interpret and analyse a variety of statistics that measure the importance of tourism to the UK and Spain.

- Practical coursework
 - students work as part of a team to plan, run and evaluate a real project in the form of a travel and tourism trip or event.
- Destination marketing
 - students will explore how to develop a successful marketing plan for use by travel and tourism companies.
- Destination management
 - students will investigate how to manage tourist destinations in order to maximise profit while protecting the environment, the local society and their public image.

Studying travel and tourism provides students with valuable skills to enter the world of work straight from school or continue with their education in a related field at university. Careers include working as a travel agent or hotel manager or even setting up their own travel company.

What you will need to study A Level travel and tourism:

Minimum IGCSE grade C or 5 in English first language, literature or mathematics.

An IGCSE geography qualification would also be an advantage,

About your teacher:

Ms Florey joined the school in September 2019 after several years teaching in London where she was regularly judged as outstanding.

She read international politics at SOAS University and has travelled extensively since graduating giving her first hand experience of the tourism industry.



Do you want to work in a fast-paced global industry, meeting the needs of tourists and working with destination managers?



IPQ

International Project Qualification

Why choose the IPQ?

The International Project Qualification (IPQ) is an exciting initiative which allows students to extend their studies beyond their A Level courses and prepares them well for university and their chosen careers. For students, it presents a fantastic opportunity both to pursue their interests and spread their wings.

Best of all the IPQ is worth half an A Level (20 UCAS points) so can be used to support students' applications to university.

The IPQ allows students to embark on a self-directed and self-motivated project. It gives students the chance to gain real independence, resilience and maturity while pursuing any topic of their choosing.

Students must choose a topic, then plan, research and develop their idea and decide on a 'finished' product. The

finished product can take a variety of forms including:

- A research-based written report
- A research-based artefact – for example a presentation, a book chapter, designing a carbon-neutral house, musical evening, scientific experiment or art piece.

Taught in a university style through seminars and one-to-one tutorials, it allows students to carve out their own pathway and follow their own interest whilst being supervised by their IPQ tutor.

The IPQ will be started in Year 12 with most students submitting their finished products in November in Year 13.

For students following the typical A Level route, IPQ will be an essential part of their programme in the BIC Sixth Form, in addition to their four subject options.

About your teacher:

You will have an individual tutor suited to your IPQ.



"It helps to develop research skills, time management and a whole host of other skills that could be very useful at university."

www.whatuni.com

BALEARES INTERNATIONAL COLLEGE

CONTACT US TO ARRANGE A VISIT



Baleares International College welcomes and values all members of our community in an atmosphere of tolerance and kindness as well as challenge. We aim to motivate and enable our students to:


- work hard and be the best they can be – with timetabled supervised independent study sessions
- behave responsibly, courteously and with consideration for the needs and rights of others
- be responsible and successful citizens within the College and in the wider community
- be mature in self-discipline and self confidence
- take pride in themselves and enjoy their achievements.

If you would like to obtain further information or apply direct please telephone, email or visit us at:

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