

EMPLOYER SUMMARY

British Section, Lycée International

SAINT-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.

Six 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 **2018-19** 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 teaching staff 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 five (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 and geography. Our curriculum is informed by the specific needs of our bilingual pupils as well as the standards and expectations of the UK National 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.

We are recruiting a Temporary Full-time or Part-time Primary English Teacher(s) for maternity leave cover to deliver language and literacy teaching to three year groups. The Primary Department currently consists of the Head of Primary, five full-time and three part-time teachers, and seven part-time class assistants. It is normal practice for full-time teachers to teach three separate year groups - each one for two three-hour sessions per week. In addition to contact time, teachers are required to participate in collaborative departmental development work, team PPA time and whole staff meetings as well as in-house INSET.

Our young pupils are motivated and enthusiastic bilingual learners. The profile of the children includes those from English speaking families, bilingual families and those who have learned English as an additional language and are committed to developing it at mother tongue level. There is an active home-school partnership.

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.