

BSME Newsletter

JANUARY 2020

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Happy New Year. As we embark on 2020, many exciting developments are afoot in the region, at BSME HQ and for our member schools.

The region welcomes Expo 2020 in Dubai, and preparations for the Football World Cup 2022 gather pace with a positive move from KSA, the UAE and Bahrain to participate in the Gulf Cup football tournament in November and December last year. In addition, BSME has partnered with GESS and BETT to benefit BSME schools.

Of course, BSME also celebrates its [38th Annual Conference](#) in Abu Dhabi from 03 - 05 March 2020. We look forward to reconnecting with each of you as we learn and network together. A couple of changes have been made to the [conference programme](#).

Plans for the move to Dubai for BSME HQ are underway. Our thanks to Andy Gibbs, Principal of DESS and DESC, for his Transition Lead role; his support for Olivia and the BSME Team has been invaluable. We can all appreciate the value in knowing how to navigate bureaucratic requirements.

Hits on the new BSME website have increased significantly. We trust that it has been a useful tool for your school. Feedback is always welcome; do contact [Olivia](#) directly. Further developments are in progress to free up our inboxes in the coming months as the BSME Team trial a notification system directly to your member portal, to replace eshots. For this to be successful, we rely on members to keep school contacts up-to-date in their portals.

To further improve our service to schools, BSME will launch a new student event at the Annual Conference 2020. This event will take place in various membership countries and will support student entrepreneurship. In addition, should you wish to support Student events in 2020-21, please contact [Rachel Richardson](#), Student Coordinator. The success of the BSME Student calendar depends on commitment from BSME schools. Remember our mantra... for the members, by the members.

I want to finish this newsletter by acknowledging and thanking Olivia and our amazing BSME team for all they are doing to ensure we, as members and our schools, get great support throughout the year.

Until we meet in March, I wish you an inspired Spring term.

Regards

Mark Leppard
MBE

CEO Welcome

This academic year is off to a flying start and our first newsletter for the year is packed with good practice from BSME schools. I know that you will benefit from exploring what works well in other schools, and adapting it to your school's context, if suitable.

The DfE's renewed impetus to promote the BSO Framework has been the highlight of Term 1! This supports [BSME's accreditation](#) philosophy and provides schools with substantial benefits. It is also a timely reminder that BSO is the only accreditation for British international schools recognised by the DfE. Please be reminded that BSME schools are required to accredit by June 2021. Please [contact me](#) if you have any questions about accreditation.

I would also like to celebrate Tanamma Ishaq, a student from GEMS Founders School Dubai, named the Goodwill Ambassador for Mission Million 2020 following her exceptional service to the community. Read Tanamma's recount of her work [here](#).

Sincere congratulations to the following BSME schools for their International School Awards 2020 nominations:

- The British International School Abu Dhabi (Community initiative)
- New Cairo British International School (Pastoral initiative)
- Dubai College (Initiative to support school wellbeing and safeguarding)
- International Community School, Jordan (Initiative to support school wellbeing and safeguarding and Initiative to support inclusion)
- Horizon English School (Teaching and learning initiative)
- GEMS Wellington International School (Teaching and learning initiative)
- GEMS Jumeirah Primary School (Initiative to support inclusion)

We will be watching the awards ceremony in anticipation!

BSME successfully ran an inaugural Modern Foreign Languages Conference, which included a day for Arabic B (non-native speakers) leaders and teachers, in October 2019. The uptake from schools was outstanding on both days with 130 colleagues in attendance. Our thanks to The British Schools Al Khubairat for hosting this Conference!

Three BSME Student events ran successfully in Term 1: the BSME U19 Triathlon, hosted by Kuwait English School; the BSME U15 Games, hosted by St Christopher's School Bahrain; and the Music Festival, hosted by The English School and New English School Kuwait. Our thanks to these hosts; the opportunities you provided students is invaluable!

I hope that the updates I have shared with you this term has been a delightful smorgasbord from which to choose:

1. Updates for [Autumn 1](#) and [Autumn 2](#) provide a wealth of information which will assist you and your teams in staying up-to-date with education policy and practice in England.
2. Make sure your EYFS team has their say about future reforms by completing [this survey](#).
3. If you missed the Chartered College of Teaching's [CPD Report](#), it makes for interesting reading and may support your decisions regarding the most effective, highest impact way forward for professional learning in your school.
4. Do subscribe to [ISC's International School Leader Magazine](#). The most recent issue focuses on Higher Education. In the coming months, BSME will host several education magazines on our website for ease of access.

Safeguarding remains a priority for us. Level 3 Safeguarding and Safer Recruitment was the focus of the BSME Safeguarding Conference held in October 2019. To further strengthen this work BSME schools, and to bolster the BSME Code of Conduct, a new Safer Recruitment Workflow exemplar will be shared with colleagues at the Annual Conference in March 2019. I also had the opportunity to represent BSME at the International Task Force on Child Protection in December in Cambridge. The outcomes of this meeting will be shared with members imminently.

Finally, please register for the [Annual Conference](#) if you haven't already done so! We have worked hard to prepare a [Conference programme](#) for you which values and celebrates the excellent work you do every day, and then pushes us to be/do even better! Please contact [Emma Wales](#) if you require any further Conference information.

Olivia Roth

BSME CEO

COUNTRY GROUPS BEST PRACTICE

BSME Heads Group Qatar

[Read more](#)

BSME Heads Group Kuwait

[Read more](#)

BSME Heads Group Egypt

[Read more](#)

BSME Heads Group Dubai

[Read more](#)

BSME Heads Group Abu Dhabi

[Read more](#)

SCHOOLS BEST PRACTICE

Celebrating our Successes

The British School Kuwait

[Read more](#)

CPD Partnerships

The British School Al Khubairat

[Read more](#)

Data and Tracking

The English School Kuwait

[Read more](#)

CPD in the City

Sherborne School

[Read more](#)

Exclusive Education Partnerships

Nord Anglia International School Dubai

[Read more](#)

The Tareq Rajah Docent Programme

New English School Kuwait

[Read more](#)

Celebrating Student Success

Gulf English School Kuwait

[Read more](#)

Unified Champion School Award

GEMS Wellington Academy Silicon Oasis

[Read more](#)

Optimus SEND Inclusion Award

GEMS Founders School Dubai

[Read more](#)

A Residency with ArtsEd

Dubai English Speaking College

[Read more](#)

Student and Staff Successes

Brighton College Abu Dhabi

[Read more](#)

Celebrating our Successes

Belvedere British School

[Read more](#)

Making Learning Visible to Students

Al Yasmina Academy

[Read more](#)



Rachel Richardson
Students Coordinator

“On behalf of the membership, we’d like to thank all our hosting schools. We truly appreciate the time and dedication in organising the events to provide our students with the platform to shine!”

For further information contact:
students@bsme.org.uk

Dear Colleagues,

I am delighted to have this opportunity to summarise the first term of the BSME Student Events 2019-20. I have thoroughly enjoyed getting to know our new and existing members and it was great to have the opportunity to see some of the student events in action! Visit bsme.org.uk for further information.

Term 1 started with the BSME U19 Triathlon which had several participants from our schools.

The BSME U15 Games, hosted by St Christopher’s School Bahrain in November, saw 12 schools (over 250 students) participate in a highly competitive and enjoyable games.

Students from 26 schools worked hard on their Art and Photography pieces, which were submitted for the BSME SRS Art Competition at the end of the term. This competition saw a huge increase in participation numbers and we are all excited to see who will be announced as the winners in March.

The final event for term 1, BSME Music Festival, saw a vast array of performers from 9 schools who came together to share their love for Music, hosted by TES and NES, Kuwait. The festival concluded with a superb concert and the students went away having had a fantastic time and made plenty of new friends from schools all over the Gulf!

A big thank you to all the host schools for the events that have taken place so far and a HUGE well done to all the students who participated.

With the next term providing a large amount of the student events, it’s going to be a busy but thrilling few weeks with 1000s of students gaining the chance to represent their schools and showcase their talents.

Visit our website bsme.org.uk for updated results of all student events. Keep updated via our social media channels and don’t forget to tag us in your posts [#BSMEStudentEvents](https://twitter.com/BSMEStudentEvents)





Cheryl Stewart
Professional Learning
Coordinator

MFL Conference 2019

"It was a very inspiring day and also a great opportunity to meet other colleagues. I picked up loads of practical ideas to cascade to my team. I fully enjoyed the day."

MFL Conference 2019

Professional Learning has started the year successfully with our inaugural Modern Foreign Languages Conference hosted by The British School Al Khubairat (BSAK). Over 130 delegates listened rapt to Alex Rawlings, polyglot, explaining how he became Britain's most multilingual student (2012) and how life changed for him once doing so. Joe Dale helped us wade through the plethora of language tutorial apps and the many ways to incorporate these into lessons. The second day of the conference focused on Arabic for non-native speakers with Taoufiq Cherkoui discussing the importance of culture in learning languages. His life experiences both in and out of the UK helped illustrate how food, climate, clothing, and traditions are integral to language. We look forward to making this a biennial event and thank our host school BSAK for their hospitality.

Safeguarding and Safer Recruiting Conference 2019

The Safeguarding and Safer Recruitment conference helped develop senior leaders, school policy and recruitment techniques for a safer environment for our students. BSME is committed to helping our members attain and surpass the required safeguarding and child protection training as defined both in the region and in the UK. Robin Watts of RAW Training Ltd is BSME's preferred trainer in this field and is fully accredited.

EYFS Conference 2020

Looking forward, BSME is excited to welcome Alistair Bryce-Clegg, Elizabeth Jarman and Pete Moorhouse as keynotes at our EYFS Conference 2020. GEMS Founders School (Al Barsha) is generously hosting this event for the second year running. This conference has been extremely popular and is now fully booked. Contact learning@bsme.org.uk to add your interest to the wait list.

Leaders and Aspiring Leaders

Training courses for our leaders and aspiring leaders have had full cohorts to date and we look forward to running more Penta International Inspection Accreditation courses throughout the year. Please refer to the [website](#) for registration.

Safeguarding and Safer Recruiting Conference

"The course leader's subject knowledge was excellent."

"The course was extremely informative and beneficial. There was a good mixture of presenter talk and discussion between groups / scenarios."

PE Conference 2020

We would like to thank South View School, Dubai in advance for hosting the annual PE conference 05 - 06 June, 2020. The conference, delivered in partnership with International Coach Education, will offer workshops in Primary PE, Leadership, GCSE PE, Technology in PE, and GCSE Gymnastics. All trainers are experts in their field and we are excited to offer this specialist training for our members. Please see the full programme [here](#).

BSME Webinar Series

The BSME Webinar series has grown in popularity and expanded in scope. Please see our [website](#) for future webinars and past recordings.

Online Learning

Due to the time and travel constraints of many of our members, BSME has collated discounts for online learning products as provided by our partners. Visit our [website](#) to book your training.

Brokering

If you would any of our specialist trainers to come to your school for bespoke training feel free to contact learning@bsme.org.uk to explore how we might support your school.

CPD Offers



Book **two** delegates, get your **third FREE!**

National Professional Qualification for Executive Leadership
DfE accredited (NPQEL) in BSME Schools

NPQEL is for colleagues aspiring to, or already in, leadership roles across cross-phase schools or multiple sites. This includes Headteachers, Principals, CEOs and Education Directors.

- Programme fees of £6,950 include all registration and programme fees and final NPQEL award;
- Delivered through a blend of Middle Eastern located residential events and distance learning;
- Qualifications accredited by the UK Department for Education and fully portable internationally;
- Content contextualised to the needs of British international schools and underpinned by robust evidence and expertise;
- Developed in collaboration with Liverpool Hope University (LHU) to be delivered at Masters level 7.
- Programme commences with face to face delivery on 6-7 March 2020 at Crowne Plaza, Yas Island, Abu Dhabi.

Application Deadline
26 January

Email Mark Bignell on bsme@espeducation.co.uk to register

OTHER CONFERENCE UPDATES

Independent Association of Prep Schools (IAPS) Conference 2019

IAPS is a UK-based schools association with 700 of the world's leading prep schools in membership. Close to 50 of these schools are international prep schools with 16 from our own region known as IAPS District Middle East. Schools must reach a very high overall standard to be eligible for membership, with strict criteria on teaching a broad curriculum, maintaining excellent standards of pastoral care and keeping staff members' professional development training up to date.

[Read more](#)

HMC Conference 2019

The annual Headmasters and Headmistresses Conference (HMC) was held at the Intercontinental O2, London from Monday 30th September to Thursday 3rd October 2019. It was a special conference as it also marked the 150th year of HMC.

[Read more](#)

AoBSO Conference 2019

The 2019 AoBSO Conference was held in London 20-23 November, at the Richmond Hill Hotel and attended by over 60 delegates from over 50 AoBSO member and prospective member schools.

[Read more](#)



The poster features the BSME logo (British Schools in the Middle East) in the top left. A blue banner at the top right reads '38th ANNUAL CONFERENCE'. Below this, a yellow box says 'SEE YOU THERE!'. The dates '03 - 05 March 2020' are listed, followed by the venue 'Crowne Plaza Yas Island and Yas Marina Circuit Abu Dhabi'. A large, colorful, abstract graphic resembling a dandelion seed head is on the right, with the text '20|20VISION' and 'Being your school's catalyst for excellence' overlaid. The hashtag '#BSME20' is in the bottom left.

If you have any further questions or queries, please don't hesitate to get in touch by email at business@bsme.org.uk



Lisa Kirkley
BSME Membership
Coordinator

Dear Members

Thank you for renewing your membership for 2019-20; BSME values your ongoing support.

We have had many new Partners and Schools join us this year and it gives me great pleasure to welcome them. More information can be found in the following pages.

I hope you are enjoying the new look BSME website. You can login to your member portal to register for the Annual Conference 2020 and access all important conference information. Your username has been updated to your Partner lead email address; if you would like a reminder of what this is, just give me a shout.

We have some great contributions from Partners in this edition - thank you! Century Tech inform how BSME schools are using AI, BlueSky Education lift the lid on lesson observations and ISC Research feedback the results of their study 'Cultivating Diverse Leaders in International Schools' (in partnership with George Mason University and Diversity Collaborative). We always welcome informative contributions so do get in touch if you have anything you would like to share.

On a final note we still have a few excellent sponsorship packages available for the Annual Conference. If you are interested, please register your interest here or contact [Laura](#) for more info.

Wishing you all a very happy new year and I looking forward to seeing you in March 2020.

New Partners

[Click here to find out more.](#)

New School Members

**GEMS Wellington Academy
Silicon Oasis**



Smart Vision School



Maadi British School



GEMS Wellington Academy, Al Khail



Hay Al Sharooq International School



Repton School Abu Dhabi



The Hamilton International School



GEMS Wellington International School



Insights from our Members

How are BSME schools harnessing artificial intelligence?

[Click here to find out more.](#)

Challenging perceptions of the lesson observation, a beginning.

[Click here to find out more.](#)

CES Holdings is delighted to announce that it has secured a multimillion-pound deal with HSBC UK

[Click here to find out more.](#)

Cultivating Diverse Leaders in International Schools

[Click here to find out more.](#)

Governance in International Schools

[Click here to find out more.](#)

International school governance and leadership diversity - New free specialist reports from ISC Research

[Click here to find out more.](#)

New Cloud Finance & HR solution responds to market sector challenges - WCBS has announced the latest addition to their product suite.

[Click here to find out more.](#)

New Partners

EduCater



Chamberlain Music



Equity



Renaissance Learning



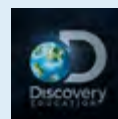
Frog Education Ltd



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Discovery Education



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A.B.T



2Simple



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Atlas Teachers Ltd





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BSME is a not-for-profit organisation