

THE BRITISH SCHOOL OF MILAN



FROM NURSERY TO TOP UNIVERSITIES

3 - 18 YEARS





Established in 1969, **The British School of Milan** (Sir James Henderson) is a co-educational day school, with an international student body of 730 students ranging from ages 3 – 18, comprising over 40 different nationalities, and with a constituency extending across the whole of Milan. Our common language is English.

Our mission is to **inspire learning within a caring, creative and international community**, to pursue **excellence**, and to **challenge** students to **think critically** as they prepare for the world beyond.

BSM

Recently celebrating its 50th anniversary, the BSM enjoys a global reputation for excellence.

The school is unique in 3 ways. We are the only British school in Milan:

- approved and validated by UK Government Inspectors
- that is **not-for-profit**
- offering an **exclusively British system** of education following the English National Curriculum, with IGCSE in Year 11 and the International Baccalaureate Diploma (IB) in the Sixth Form.

The distinctive mix of **academic excellence, pastoral care, and a rich co-curricular programme** helps to instil in students a love of learning, equips them with a clear set of values, and prepares them for leadership in the world beyond.

Dr Chris Greenhalgh - Principal & CEO

MISSION

STUDENTS & STAFF

High quality teaching and learning is at the heart of what we do at the BSM. The style of teaching is **progressive**, and **class sizes are small**.

BSM staff are almost all **British-trained** and mother-tongue teachers. Our teachers are professionally qualified and highly experienced. Languages are taught almost exclusively by native language speakers including Italian, French and Spanish.

All students speak English to a high standard. Many are bi-lingual. Around 30% of our students have English as a first language;

around 50% have Italian as a first language – many of these have previously lived abroad and attended British or international schools elsewhere. Another 20% have other first languages from around the world, so the school is truly international.

The school promotes a culture of excellence, where students are inspired by world-class teachers, who use modern, digital methods of instruction as well as maintaining a traditional emphasis on reading and books. We ensure students are happy and well looked after, so enhancing their capacity to learn.





Our goal in Nursery and Reception is to ensure that children learn in a nurturing, safe and stimulating environment. We get to know each child as an individual and learn with them each day.

We aim to give children confidence and encourage them to make friends, and this then transfers to their learning. They learn actively how to play in a group for example, explore, share and take turns.

Communication and Language is key. Children often arrive speaking one language and learn to speak another. English is taught through hundreds of daily interactions as well as through stories, and performances.

Fine and Gross Motor Skills are developed through specialised PE lessons as well as outdoor learning, using scooters, bikes, building dens, playing ball games, and handling small objects.

PRIMARY SCHOOL

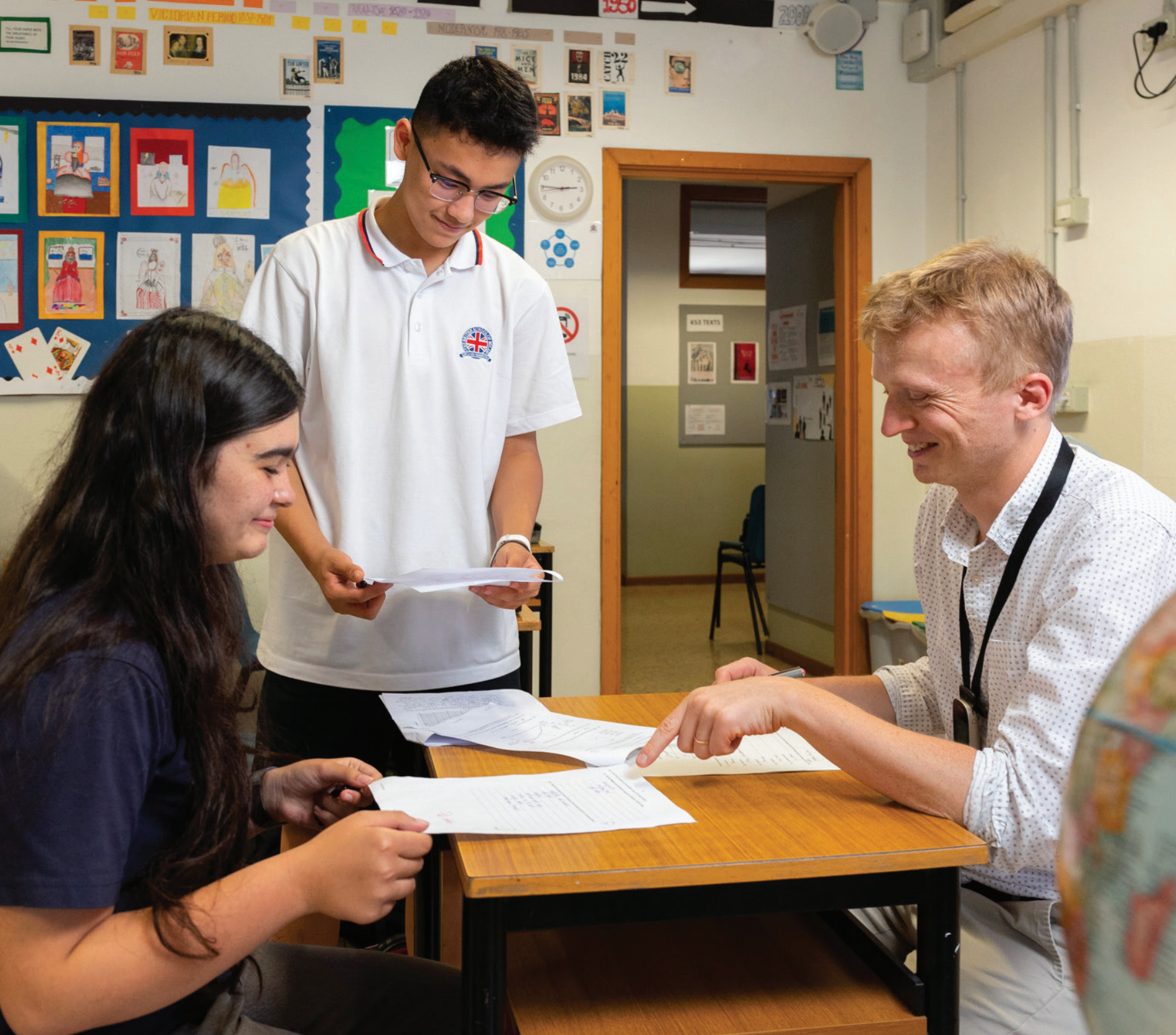
The Primary School comprises Nursery and Reception (equivalent of Kindergarten), **Key Stage 1** (Years 1 – 2) and **Key Stage 2** (Years 3 – 6). **Classes are small**, averaging around 17 pupils, and are taught by expert staff.

The main focus in Primary is on **Mathematics and English**, with these subjects taught every day. But this is within a larger **creative curriculum**, which also sees pupils learning Science, History and Geography, ICT, Art and Design, with Music, PE, and Italian taught by specialists. Many classes enjoy dedicated

Teaching Assistants, helping to personalise the learning. Pupils are warmly welcomed, settle in quickly and teachers ensure they are safe and happy. A well-resourced library helps pupils to develop their **inner life**.

The **British teaching style** ensures that pupils actively participate and engage in lessons, and develop personally as well as academically. Success is celebrated, and students emerge as confident, curious and enthusiastic learners.





In the Senior School, students follow a **broad, balanced and rigorous curriculum**, with a wide range of subject options, choosing up to ten at **IGCSE**, and six subjects for the International Baccalaureate. The IB is the gold standard of international education and the best preparation for university and the world of work.

Our **Sixth Form numbers around 110**, and in addition to academic studies, students pursue a programme of Creativity, Activity and Service, developing a rounded personality and the transferable skills of **leadership** and teamwork. A well-resourced Learning Centre helps to support their studies. The vision is always to educate young people to the highest

possible standard. Classes are small and there is an **exceptionally friendly atmosphere** in which students quickly make friends. High professional standards of pastoral care ensure that students are safe and happy.

Students pursue academic excellence and perform outstandingly well beyond the classroom. We also want them to be principled and driven by **core values**, including critical enquiry and creativity, with a strong spirit of independent learning and international-mindedness.

CURRICULUM CHOICES FOR IGCSE & IB

SUBJECTS	IGCSE SUBJECTS	INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE
English	English Language English Literature	English Language and Literature English Literature
Mathematics	Mathematics	Mathematics Applications Mathematics Analysis
Languages	Italian French Spanish	Italian French Spanish
Humanities	History Geography	Business Management Economics History Geography Philosophy
Sciences	Biology Chemistry Physics	Biology Chemistry Physics
Creative Arts	Art Drama Music	Art Drama Music



BSM IB RESULTS



IB Results 2021

Pass Rate

100%

44 or max 45 Points

19%

40+ Points

45%

30+ Points

100%

Average BSM Diploma Score

39

IB Results 2022

Congratulations to BSM Students on our
Best-Ever Results in an Examination Year

Average Points Score

37

4 Students Score

45

Maximum

30+ Points

96%

Historic World Average 29



Top University Places

Oxford x 4

Yale

Columbia

LSE

BSM

The BSM enjoys a reputation for achieving the **best and most sustained academic results** across any equivalent school within Italy. A recent **Inspection** by UK Government Inspectors rated the quality of our teaching and learning ‘excellent’ - the highest possible rating.

University Success

The school provides access to **top universities** in the UK, Italy, the USA, as well as Europe and across the globe. Recent **University destinations** include the prestigious universities of Oxford, Cambridge, Yale, Columbia, Durham, Edinburgh, University College London, the London School of Economics, Exeter, Leeds, Manchester, as well as Bocconi, Toronto, Madrid and Amsterdam.

IB Results

The results in the last two years are the best the school has ever achieved, including an average score achieved by BSM candidates of between 37 - 39 points – well above the historic world average of 29.

IGCSE Results

We have also seen fantastic successes in IGCSE. Most recently, students attained an A*/A grade (or equivalent) average of 71%, with 98% achieving A* – C grades – an outstanding performance and among the best results the school has ever achieved.

The school offers a **rich and varied programme** involving over 100 co-curricular activities. This is an integral part of every pupil's learning experience. Just as we celebrate the academic success of our pupils, so too we encourage active participation in the school's co-curricular programme.

Sport is an essential part of school life from Nursery to the Sixth Form and reflects the holistic education that the school offers. We make extensive use of high-quality facilities close to the school that allow students to participate in a range of sports such as football, basketball, volleyball, rugby, badminton, chinese karate, canoting, fencing and trampolining.

Our PE staff were recently awarded the **AfPE Award for Excellence** – a distinction shared by only one other school in Europe. The BSM

helped to create the Northern Italian Schools Sports Association – **NISSA** – to facilitate the organisation of fixtures and inter-school tournaments. The school Varsity football team recently won the NISSA Team Winners Trophy.

The wide range of **over 100 clubs and societies** on offer both at lunchtime and after school includes Art, Chess, Computer, Creative Writing, Drama, Film, Irish Dancing, Debating, Model United Nations, Chinese, Photography, and Yearbook.

The **Duke of Edinburgh International Award** programme helps to equip young people with practical and social skills such as leadership, creativity and team-building. Recent expeditions include hiking in the mountains of Lombardy, Trentino and Liguria.





The activities and achievements of the Music department are among the most impressive of any major British school in the world. There is a combined school **choir** with over 150 singers, Primary and Senior School **orchestras**, and a Jazz Band.

Regular performances include the Carmine Christmas Concert and the San Simpliciano Easter Concert. Recent pieces include Mozart's Coronation Mass, Fauré's Requiem and Handel's Messiah.

The Drama department stages a major production each year, including performances of Shakespeare's A Midsummer Night's Dream, and combining with the Music department to

produce Guys & Dolls. Primary School pupils participate in around 9 drama performances for parents staged throughout the year.

There are also summer **concerts**, individual instrument concerts, and the annual Chamber Choir tour to prestigious venues such as St Peter's in Rome, Madrid, Venice, Florence, Naples, Palermo and Prague – all this in addition to the regular Wednesday Concerts.

The school is a Centre for the Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music – **ABRSM** – in Italy, and has a team of 17 instrumental teachers who provide weekly tuition to over 200 students.

The Art department enjoys an outstanding local and even international reputation. Examination Boards use our students' work as exemplary material for other schools, and many graduates go on to pursue careers in Art, Architecture and Design.

The showcase is the annual **IB Art Exhibition**, where students display their chosen pieces in a gallery space in Milan. But creativity is not

just confined to the Arts. Creative approaches to learning inform the teaching of all our subjects, including experiments in Science, presentations in English and problem-solving in Maths.

Students remember 10% of what they are told but remember 90% of what they do. We ensure that our students **learn by doing** across the curriculum.



COMMUNITY

The BSM is a community and members often speak about the special **family atmosphere** within the school.

In addition to students and staff, parents play a large role in developing that community spirit. A strong parental support network of **Friends and Class Representatives** exists and regularly meets with the school's senior management team.

In addition, there is now a regular **Careers Fair**, at which more than 50 top professionals – mostly parents and alumni of the school –

freely give career advice to our students. The **parent body** includes people from many walks of life – academia and the arts, business and finance, fashion and design, industrial, legal and medical professions. Among them are many notable alumni.

Our alumni platform allows us to stay in touch with leavers, former parents and staff. Members are given exclusive access to a dedicated newsfeed, directory, job listings and mentoring opportunities. Currently, the BSM Community connects from over 172 cities and 50 countries around the world.





The governance of the BSM is unique in Milan, in that it is an Association, and therefore the school is ultimately owned by the parents. Within the **Association** there exists an operating company – the **Srl**.

The **Board of Governors** comprises professionals and parents with a wide range of skills and expertise - legal, financial, marketing – as well as serving UK Principals and ex-officio

governors such as the **British Consul General** in Milan and the President of the British Chamber of Commerce for Italy.

Unlike other international schools in Milan, the BSM is a **not-for-profit** organisation. This means that the focus remains on education, with any surplus re-invested into the school rather than a dividend going to shareholders or to private companies.

ADMISSIONS

The BSM is an academically non-selective school, though entry is competitive in some year groups.

Where places are available, Admission is based upon:

- **Interview** with the Head of the relevant school section
- **Assessments** in English and Mathematics and CEM tests where appropriate in the Senior School
- **Reports** from the child's last or current school

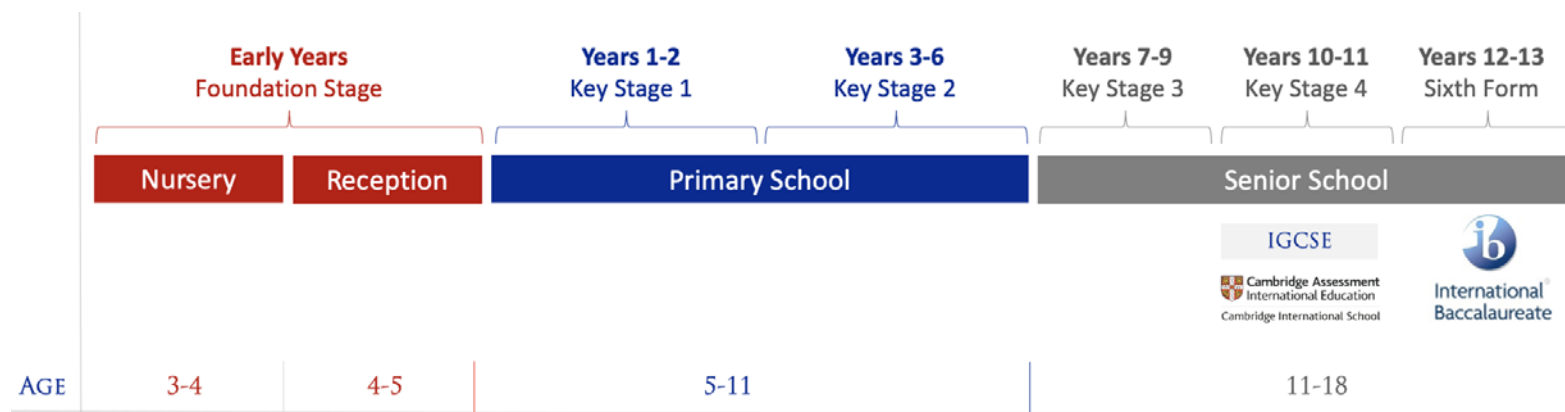
Education is the best investment parents can make for their child. It can transform life chances,

ensure that an individual thrives academically, flourishes socially, and enjoys a rich and creative inner life.

If you would like your son or daughter to enjoy the **BSM experience** and join a community that is international and dynamic, then please feel welcome **to visit and see for yourself** what a difference a BSM education can make.

To apply, visit the school website and complete the online application form.

FROM NURSERY TO UNIVERSITY



CAREERS PROGRAMME

THE BRITISH SCHOOL OF MILAN

Careers Programme

Year 7 to Year 13 students use the Unifrog platform to support their Careers Education and University Preparation.



KEY STAGE 3

- Using Unifrog personalities and interests quizzes, students start thinking about personal strengths and ambitions
- Students explore the Unifrog subjects' library, leadership, interests and CVs

KEY STAGE 4

- In PSHE, students learn about requirements, careers advice, and changing patterns of employment
- In Year 10 and 11, students complete **work experience**
- Students participate in Careers Week
- The Morrisby Programme helps Year 11 students to identify strengths and match these to possible careers before their bespoke IB options interviews

SIXTH FORM

- Students participate in Careers Week
- **Weekly Core sessions** include a full programme of support for university applications
- **Speakers & Forums** from the world of academia and work
- Personalised **university interview**
- Bespoke **programme of counsellor support** for UCAS, CommonApp, and applications across the world
- Specialised University Preparation Programme

ALUMNI

- Students become part of a **world-wide alumni network** – The Sir James Alumni Society
- Sign up to alumni platform **BSM Sir James Connect** and access job listings, alumni directory, internship and mentoring opportunities
- Former students give back and return to BSM to offer **advice** at the Alumni University Fair and the Careers Week

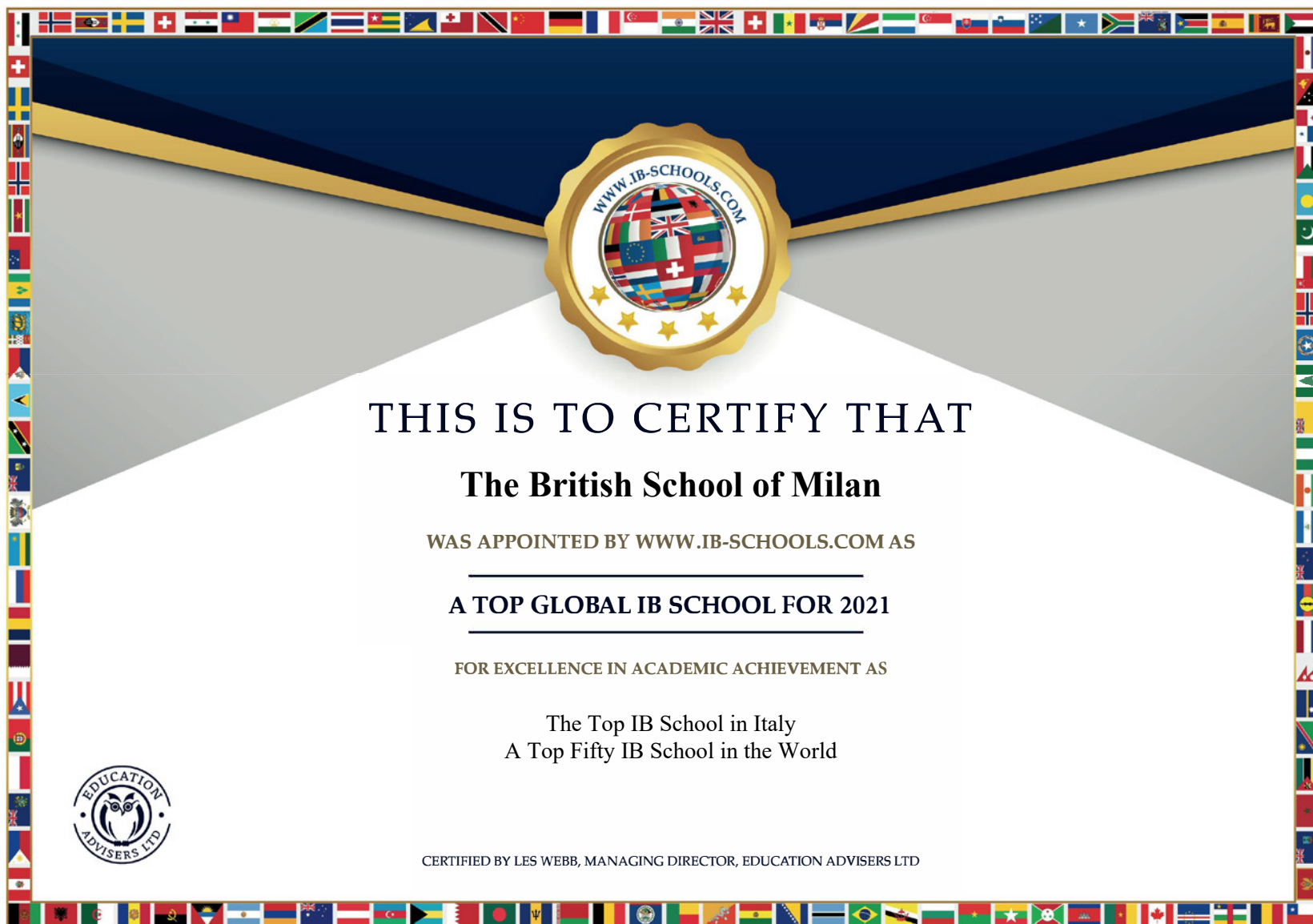
All students experience an extensive and tailored Higher Education programme. They use the careers and university application tool **Unifrog** to make carefully informed choices and to prepare applications for a wide range of top universities.

Students are provided with personalized counselling as they make their degree choices. We host an excellent programme of talks and presentations and a clear framework of guidance

for all Year 12 and 13 students as well as involving parents in the process at every stage.

Our aims are to:

- secure the best possible offers for the best courses at some of the best universities in the world
- enhance their life and career opportunities
- make informed choices to pursue careers that best reflect their skills, aptitudes, and ambitions



Our students pursue degrees at top-20 UK universities and at many world-class universities, including:

UK Destinations

University of Oxford
University of Cambridge
Imperial College London
London School of Economics
University College London
The University of Edinburgh
Durham University
King's College London
The University of Warwick
University of Exeter
Royal Veterinary College
Central St Martins
University of the Arts London
University of London
University of York
University of Bath

University of Leeds
The University of Manchester
University of St Andrews

Italy

Politecnico di Milano
Università Bocconi
Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, Milano
Università degli Studi di Milano
Università Vita-Salute San Raffaele, Milano

Rest of the World

Yale, USA
Columbia, USA
Northeastern University, USA
The University of British Columbia, Canada
Trinity College Dublin, Ireland
University of Maastricht, The Netherlands
University of Michigan, USA
Yonsei University, Korea

CURRENT LOCATION



The school is favourably located near central Milan, close to the Green Line Metro stations of Lambrate and Udine, and very well served by local buses.

A private bus service is also available to BSM Families, shuttling students from home to school and back.



The BSM has ambitious plans to relocate to a new state-of-the-art building close to the green space of Parco Lambro.

This new learning space will help to inspire every student to develop and fulfil their potential.

The impact of better facilities will be transformative, putting the BSM at the forefront of excellence and raising standards, with top

quality Science laboratories, best-in-class Sports facilities, more and improved spaces for languages, humanities, technology, arts, as well as a fully-equipped canteen.

The relocation of the school represents an exciting opportunity to realise our dream of new premises. It will ensure we can continue to attract the best students and recruit world-class staff.

BSM

NEW BUILDING



The BSM is an accredited member of the Association of British Schools Overseas (BSO). Membership depends upon successful inspection approved by the UK government.



The BSM is the only school in Milan inspected by the Independent Schools Inspectorate (ISI), on behalf of the UK government.



The International Baccalaureate (IB), established under UNESCO, embodies a philosophy of education. Over 5000 schools teach the IB in 150 countries world-wide. BSM students pursue the IB Diploma, a qualification recognised by universities and employers across the globe.



Cambridge IGCSE is the world's most popular international qualification for 14 to 16 year olds, recognised by leading universities and employers worldwide.



The Headmasters' and Headmistresses' Conference (HMC) is a professional Association of Heads of the world's leading independent schools. HMC has 298 members in the British Isles, and a further 50 international members, including the BSM.



COBIS is an association of British International Schools of global quality. The BSM is an accredited member, meeting the UK standard for British Schools Overseas (BSO) through a successful inspection by a government-approved Inspectorate, ISI.



DofE is the world's leading youth achievement award. It involves a personal challenge rather than a competition against others; at the school it comprises hiking expeditions as its main activity.



ABRSM is the UK's largest music education body and the world's leading provider of music exams, serving 90 countries across the globe. The BSM is the examination centre for the ABRSM in Italy.



The Association for Physical Education (AfPE) Quality Mark is a prestigious award that evaluates the strength and quality of physical education and sport in a school. The BSM is one of only two schools outside the UK to have been awarded it.

BSM has been rated the top IB school in Italy and identified as one of the top 10 British schools in the world.



QUALITY BRITISH EDUCATION IN MILAN
FROM NURSERY TO UNIVERSITY