

BTEC & A Level Options 2024-25



DUBAI
BRITISH
SCHOOL
EMIRATES HILLS





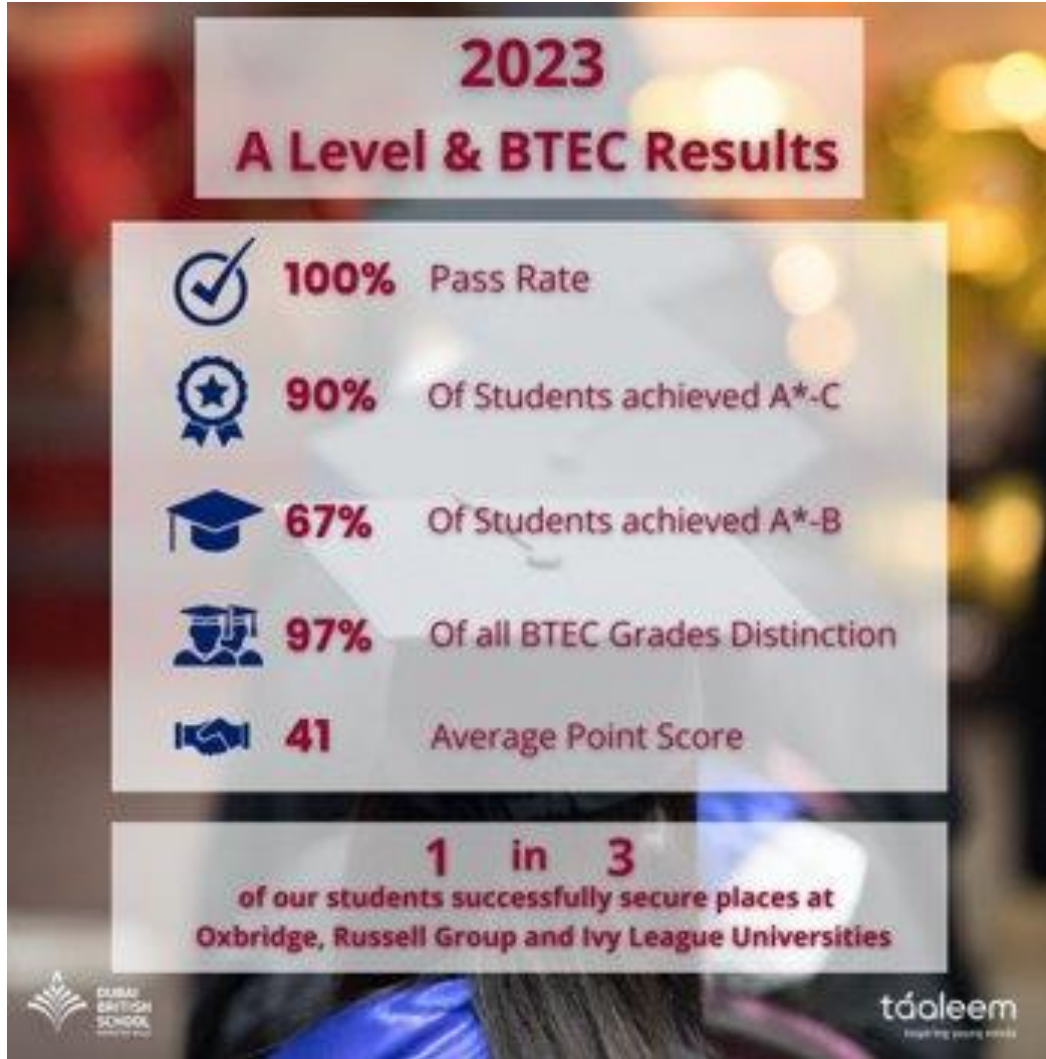
Mr David Potts Headteacher

Dubai British School Emirates Hills

A thriving community with a values-based ethos and a strong academic pedigree



- 1,189 students on roll (FS-Y13)
- Over 60 nationalities
- A broad curriculum of GCSE, BTEC and A level courses
- A holistic focus upon every student



DBSEH students achieve approximately half a grade on average above students with similar starting points in the UK and globally.



Some of our recent alumni destinations:

University of Cambridge

University of Oxford

Imperial College London

London School of Economics & Pol Sci

St Andrews University

University College London

University of Durham

University of York

University of Warwick

University of Manchester

University of Birmingham

Kings College, London

University of Loughborough

University of Edinburgh

Berklee School of Music

Johns Hopkins University

IE University, Madrid

University of Liverpool

University of Toronto

School of Visual Arts New York

Barnard College

Boston University

NYU, Abu Dhabi

Maastricht University

University of British Columbia

University of Southern California

University of Groningen

University of Amsterdam



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Transition Support Team



David Potts
Head of Secondary



Sheridan Teasel
Deputy Head of Secondary



Jackie Baxter
AHT Whole School



Emma Pennock
AHT Head of Sixth Form



Rebecca Henderson
Head of Year 11



Ian Barfoot
University and Careers Counsellor



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Mrs. Emma Pennock Assistant Headteacher & Head of Sixth Form




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Sixth Form at Dubai British School

ASPIRE

ENJOY

 dbseh_sports



ACHIEVE



Stepping Up: Changes from Year 11



Business Dress
Common Room
Increased Independence
Private Study Periods
Enhanced Careers Provision
Smaller Class Sizes

Leading Others



- Prefect Team
- Head Boy & Girl
- Sports Leaders L3
- School Council
- Peer Mentor Team
- Head Peer Mentor
- Medics Society
- Newspaper Club
- English Literature Society
- Maths Society
- Psychological Society
- Fundraising Committee
- Eco Committee
- Extended Project Qualification (EPQ)
- Model United Nations
- Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme

Taster day





Mr. Ian Barfoot University & Careers Guidance Counsellor

Advice to Year 11 families ...looking beyond the sixth form

University

- Benefits of independent living, immersion in a subject you love.
- Access to graduate jobs.
- Potential for further study: MSc, PhD.
- BTEC/A-level choices are important depending on which country you want to study in/degree course you wish to study (more on this in the next slide).

Or something else?

- Gap year (make it useful)
- Apprenticeship (can include a degree eg PWC)
- Employment
- Enlisting in uniformed services*



A VERY brief review of pros/cons of studying in...

UK:

- Established education system.
- Straightforward application process.
- Portable degrees.
- Ability to work whilst studying.*
- Easy entry with DBS qualifications.*
- Fee Status*

US:

- Established education system.
- Flexible degrees
- 'Open' admission requirements BUT can be complex process.
- Relatively expensive application process.

CANADA:

- Established education system.
- Ability to work whilst studying AND potential for visa/passport.
- 'Open' admission requirements.

AUSTRALIA:

- Established education system.
- Portable degrees.
- Not amenable to BTEC – may require foundation year.
- Apply with results.

UAE:

- Many campuses of long-established universities now opening.
- Potentially lower cost than studying abroad.
- Option to study abroad in yr 2/3/4.
- Pay careful attention to local entry requirements.*

MAINLAND EUROPE:

- Many courses taught in English
- Cheaper fees than UK, US, CAN.
- Check entry criteria carefully.*

GERMANY:

- Free tuition possible.*
- Ability to work and gain passport.*
- German language requirement.
- A-level choices prescriptive.*
- BTEC not recognised.



Mr Sheridan Teasel

Deputy Headteacher

A Level and BTEC courses

- Students choose 3 A Level or BTEC subjects from a choice of 24
- This can be 3 A Levels, 3 BTECs or a blended combination of both
- Taking four A Levels is only suitable if the average GCSE grade is 8 or more
- Students must meet entry criteria for A Level courses including:
 - A minimum of six GCSEs at Grade 5 or above to study any A Level(s)
 - Most subjects require at least a 6 at GCSE in the subject or related subjects
 - English, Maths and Science require at least a 7 at GCSE in the subject
- In Year 12 students will have 6 lessons per week in each subject
- Students are expected to complete significant amounts of independent study
 - Similar time spent studying out of class as in class to achieve their potential
 - From the start of Year 12!
 - Year 12 assessments strongly influence University Predicted Grades
 - Independence is great preparation for the transition to university



A Level and BTEC blocks

Block A	Block B	Block C	Block D	Block E
Maths	Economics	Chemistry	Physics (must be taken with Maths)	Psychology
English Literature	BTEC Double Business (must be taken with BTEC Business)	English Language	Media Studies	BTEC Business
Geography	Art	BTEC Travel & Tourism	BTEC Sport	Business Studies (A Level)
BTEC Graphics (Art and Design)	Biology	BTEC IT	Spanish	Further Maths (must be as a fourth subject)
French	History	Music		
	Drama			

- Provisional blocks
- Max one per block
- Blocks may change, based on demand

Key Stage 5 Options process

- Wednesday 11th October – Options Booklets released
- October & November - Careers guidance activities including Unifrog support (PSHE)
- Monday 30th October - Options Evening (parents and students)
 - Options form and parent login for Unifrog
- Friday 3rd November - A Level and BTEC Subject taster Day
- November - Students arrange to speak with teachers, UGC or SLT
- Friday 1st December - Options form due
- Thursday 7th December – Year 11 Data Report
- Friday 12th January 2024 – Any changes completed

How to use this evening effectively:

Ask:

- How is this subject assessed?
- What kinds of things will I learn about?
- What are the links between this subject and future careers and university options ?

Do:

- Consider what you find interesting and are passionate about
- Consider the range of skills you wish to develop


Next steps for students...

1. Use the Taster Day to get a feel for potential subjects
2. Carefully review your progress data to understand your areas of strength
3. Review the Options Booklet to check all information about a subject including entry criteria
4. Speak to your teachers
5. Speak to your parents
6. Research future career pathways
7. Decide what's right for **you**
8. Submit your choices through the link shared via email by Friday 1st December.
9. You will then be invited to meet with a member of our leadership team to discuss your application and review choices. Any changes that need to be made can happen at this time.

SIXTH FORM

OPTIONS BOOKLET

2024-2025

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- The Sixth Form Options Booklet contains detailed information about the courses on offer as part of the options process
 - It can be found in the 'Sixth Form' section of our website

Please spend time with the teaching teams





STEAM Lab

Sciences (Biology, Chemistry & Physics)

Mathematics

Arts

*(Music, Drama, Art,
Graphics)*

*English &
Media*

➔ **Corridor from Auditorium**

*PE &
Sport*

Entrance

Humanities

*(Geography, History,
Travel & Tourism)*

*Social
Sciences*

*(Psychology, Business,
Economics & IT)*

Entrance

Languages

(French & Spanish)