



**THE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL OF KSAFH IN NORTHWESTERN REGION
TABUK, KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA**

Academic Year 2026-2027

PARENT HANDBOOK
CURRICULUM SYLLABUS GUIDE



INTERNATIONAL LEADERS EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION
“Learning for Life - Leadership for Tomorrow”

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Approved by the Ministry of Education – License No. G069
Accredited Centre for IGCSE / GCE AS / A Level Examinations
Centre Number: SA/SX 134

“We deliver UK qualifications in cooperation with the British Council.”

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WELCOME MESSAGE



Dear Parents,

Welcome to The International School of KSAFH in the Northwestern Region, Tabuk, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, formerly known as British International School of Tabuk (BIST), Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

We are delighted that your family is joining our educational community.

At BIST, education extends beyond academic achievement. We are committed to developing the whole child - intellectually, socially, emotionally, ethically, culturally, and physically.

Our school proudly delivers a high-quality **British Curriculum from Reception to Year 13** while integrating:

- British educational excellence
- Saudi national identity
- Islamic values
- Leadership and innovation
- Global citizenship
- Lifelong learning

Our students are active learners, critical thinkers, innovators, collaborators, and future leaders.

OUR HERITAGE, VISION & MISSION

Our Heritage

BIST combines the internationally respected philosophy of British education with the culture, values, and national identity of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

Our educational model emphasizes:

- Academic excellence
- Character development
- Student wellbeing
- Leadership
- Entrepreneurship
- Innovation
- Global readiness

We prepare students not only for examinations but for university, careers, and responsible citizenship.

Vision

To be a leading British international school in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, inspiring students to achieve academic excellence, embrace innovation, uphold Islamic values, and become confident, responsible, and globally minded leaders who contribute positively to their communities and the world.

Mission

To provide an outstanding British education that develops:

- Academic excellence
- Critical thinking
- Innovation
- Leadership
- Communication skill
- Lifelong learning
- Respect for Islamic values and Saudi identity

THE BRITISH EDUCATIONAL JOURNEY AT BIST

Stage	Years	Program
EYFS	Reception	Early Years Foundation Stage
KS1	Years 1–2	Primary Foundation
KS2	Years 3–6	Primary Development
KS3	Years 7–9	Secondary Foundation
KS4	Years 10–11	IGCSE Program
KS5	Years 12–13	AS / A Level Program

YEAR-BY-YEAR CURRICULUM & SYLLABUS GUIDE

Reception (EYFS)

Subjects	Learning Focus
Communication & Language Literacy Mathematics Understanding the World Expressive Arts & Design Physical Development Personal & Social Development Arabic Islamic Studies / Qur'an	Language development Confidence & independence Early reading readiness Number awareness Creativity Social communication Learning through structured play

Year 1

Subjects	Learning Focus
English Mathematics Science Computing Global Perspectives Art Physical Education Arabic Islamic Studies STEM French	Phonics & reading fluency Sentence writing Number operations Scientific observation Communication skills Collaborative learning

Year 2

Subjects	Learning Focus
English Mathematics Science Computing Global Perspectives Art Physical Education Arabic Islamic Studies STEM French	Reading comprehension Paragraph writing Mathematical reasoning Scientific enquiry Independence Classroom collaboration

Year 3

Subjects	Learning Focus
English Mathematics Science Computing Global Perspectives Art Physical Education Arabic Islamic Studies STEM French	Advanced literacy Multiplication & problem solving Research skills Digital learning Teamwork Presentation skills

Year 4

Subjects	Learning Focus
English Mathematics Science Computing Global Perspectives Art Physical Education Arabic Islamic Studies STEM French	Analytical reading Structured writing Scientific experimentation Coding foundations Independent learning

Year 5

Subjects	Learning Focus
English Mathematics Science Computing Global Perspectives Art Physical Education Arabic Islamic Studies STEM French	Critical reading Advanced writing Scientific investigation Leadership skills Mathematical problem solving

Year 6

Subjects	Learning Focus
English Mathematics Science Computing Global Perspectives Art Physical Education Arabic Islamic Studies STEM French	Advanced literacy Mathematical reasoning Independent research Leadership development Critical thinking

Year 7

Subjects	Learning Focus
English Language & Literature Science Physics ICT / Computing Geography History Art Physical Education Arabic & Special Arabic Islamic Studies STEM French	Analytical thinking Scientific methodology Structured academic writing Research skills Subject exploration

Year 8

Subjects	Learning Focus
English Language & Literature Science Physics ICT / Computing Geography History Art Physical Education Arabic & Special Arabic Islamic Studies STEM French	Conceptual understanding Communication skills Scientific analysis Academic independence Career awareness

Year 9

Subjects	Learning Focus
English Language & Literature Science Physics ICT / Computing Geography History Art Physical Education Arabic & Special Arabic Islamic Studies STEM French	Academic specialization readiness Examination preparation Advanced research Independent learning

Year 10 – IGCSE Year 1

Subjects	Learning Focus
<u>Core Subjects</u> English Language (1st & 2nd Language) Mathematics Biology Chemistry Physics <u>Elective Subjects</u> Business Studies Computer Science / ICT Economics Accounting Psychology Sociology Arabic & Special Arabic French Art <u>Business Pathway</u> Business Economics Accounting <u>Computer Science Pathway</u> Computer Science / ICT Mathematics Physics	Official IGCSE syllabus study Subject specialization Examination skills Analytical writing

Year 11 – IGCSE Year 2

Subjects	Learning Focus
Continuation of IGCSE Subjects	Completion of IGCSE syllabus requirements Revision programmes Mock examinations External international examinations

Year 12 – AS Level

Subjects	Learning Focus
Medical Pathway: Biology, Chemistry, Mathematics Engineering Pathway: Mathematics, Physics, Further Mathematics Other A Level Options	Independent research Advanced academic study University preparation Analytical and investigative skills

Year 13 – A Level Final Year

Subjects	Learning Focus
Continuation of AS Level Subjects	A Level coursework completion Advanced subject mastery University applications Career planning Independent research

Students sit official **GCE A Level examinations**.

"Students are advised to check with their future university of choice about its minimum entry requirements before deciding on which A Level subjects to take"

CURRICULUM, TEACHING & LEARNING

BIST follows a student-centered teaching philosophy.

Our learning model includes:

Inquiry-Based Learning- Active Learning-Project-Based Learning-Blended Learning Collaborative Learning- Differentiated Instruction

Students are encouraged to:

- ask questions
- conduct research
- communicate confidently
- solve real-world problems
- think critically
- develop leadership abilities



ASSESSMENT & STUDENT PROGRESS

Assessment includes:

Formative Assessment

- Homework
- Classwork
- Projects
- Quizzes
- Presentations
- Discussions

Summative Assessment

- Internal examinations
- End-of-term assessments
- International examinations

EXTERNAL EXAMINATIONS



BIST is an accredited center with Cambridge Assessment Internationals Education, United Kingdom for:

- IGCSE
- GCE AS Level
- GCE A Level

Students must bring:

1. Statement of Entry
2. Passport or Iqama

Examination Sessions:

Morning Session — 11:00 AM

Afternoon Session — 3:00 PM

Students must arrive **30 minutes before examinations**.

Unauthorized materials are strictly prohibited.

SCHOOL LIFE & DAILY ROUTINES

The school operates **Sunday–Thursday**.

School begins: **7:30 AM**

School concludes: **1:00 PM**

The academic year begins in late August and consists of **three academic terms**.

Daily Student Routines

Students should bring:

- healthy snacks
- suitable containers
- insulated water bottles

Drinking water is available.

School Uniform

Students must wear the prescribed school uniform and dress in accordance with local customs.

Textbooks

Students purchase their school textbooks, which remain their personal property.

Arabic Lessons & The Special Arabic Program

Learning Arabic is an essential component of our curriculum.

Students whose first language is English participate in a **Special Arabic Program** delivered by qualified Arabic teachers.

Instruction and assessment are adapted appropriately to students' language backgrounds and developmental levels.

For non-Arabic speakers, emphasis is placed on:

- oral communication
- practical language use
- confidence building
- functional everyday Arabic

During Qur'an lessons, non-Muslim students attend supervised alternative learning arrangements unless otherwise approved.

Homework Diary

All students receive a homework diary.

Parents are requested to review and sign the diary regularly.

PARENT PARTNERSHIP & EXPECTATIONS

Parents are valued partners in student success.

We encourage families to support:

- attendance
- homework routines
- positive behavior
- reading habits
- wellbeing
- communication with teachers

A **Home - School Agreement** must be signed before enrolment.

STUDENT LIFE & FUTURE PREPARATION

BIST education extends beyond classrooms.

Students participate in:

- leadership programs
- innovation projects
- sports
- arts & culture
- entrepreneurship
- academic competitions
- community engagement

Our graduates are prepared for:

- Saudi universities
- UK universities
- international higher education pathways
- medicine
- engineering
- business
- technology & computer science

FINAL MESSAGE

We sincerely hope your child will enjoy a successful, inspiring, and rewarding educational journey at BIST.

Together, we will nurture excellence, character, leadership, innovation, and lifelong learning.

ACADEMIC CALENDAR 2026-2027

KING SALMAN ARMED FORCES HOSPITAL NORTHWEST,
MINISTRY OF DEFENSE HEALTH SERVICES,
TABUK, SAUDI ARABIA



مستشفى الملك سلمان للقوات المسلحة
بالمملكة العربية السعودية
تسوك، المملكة العربية السعودية

ACADEMIC & TRAINING AFFAIRS THE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL OF KSAFH-NWR TABUK ACADEMIC CALENDAR 2026-2027

AUGUST 2026						
Sa	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
30	31					1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29

SEPTEMBER 2026						
Sa	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

OCTOBER 2026						
Sa	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

NOVEMBER 2026						
Sa	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

DECEMBER 2026						
Sa	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

JANUARY 2027						
Sa	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
31					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

Term 1: Staff return: 16th August 2026
Student return: 23rd August 2026
Internal Assessment: Years 3-10 (9th - 15th Dec.)
Term 2: Return from Winter break: 10th Jan. 2027
Parent-Teacher Conference: 11th February 2027
Internal Assessment: Years 3-10 (24th Feb.-2nd Mar)
Term 3: Return from Spring break: 28th March 2027
Parent-Teacher Conference: 11th April 2027
Internal Assessment: Years 3-10 (23rd June-29th June)
Holidays
Tue 23rd Sept: Saudi National Day
Sun 25th to Thu 29th Oct. Half Term Break
Sun 20th Dec to Thu 7th Jan: Winter Break
Sun 22nd February: Foundation day
Sun 7th to 18th March: Eid Al Fitr Holidays
Sun 21st to Thu 25th March: Spring Break
Sun 9th to 20th May: Eid Al Adha Holidays
Summer Break begins: Sun 4th July 2027
Term 1: 23rd Aug. to 17th Dec. 2026 (79 days)
Term 2: 10th Jan to 4th March 2027 (39 days)
Term 3: 28th March to 1st July 2027 (60 days)
Student Days: 178 days
Staff Days: 183 days

Code	Definition
	Staff return from summer holidays
	School days
	Saudi National Day/National Holidays
	Ramadan Shorter days
	School Holidays/half term/weekend

MS. AMEETABAPAL ATAWI
School Principal
Date: 15 FEB 2026
Approval Signatures:
MS. NASREEN HUSSAIN AL KHALAF
Director of the Continuing Professional Development (CPD)
Date: 15 FEB 2026
BRIG. GEN. DR. BANDAR ALI AL QANTARI
Asst. Hospital Director for Academic & Training Affairs
Date: 18 FEB 2026
DR. SAAD SALEM AL GHAMDI
Director of King Salman Armed Forces Hospital Northwest,
Ministry of Defense Health Services, Tabuk, Saudi Arabia
Date: 19 FEB 2026

FEBRUARY 2027						
Sa	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28						

MARCH 2027						
Sa	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

APRIL 2027						
Sa	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

MAY 2027						
Sa	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
30	31					1
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9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29

JUNE 2027						
Sa	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

JULY 2027						
Sa	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Welcome to the BIST Family

International Leaders Educational Foundation

School Administration 2026-2027

Mr. Ahmad Ateyeh Al Harthi
Chairman of the School Board

Engr. Fahad Ahmad Al Harthi
Deputy Chairman of the Board

Dr. Khaled Abudhaim
Director General

Dr. Areej Faraj Al Atawi
School Principal

Ms. Lola Eugenia Labans
Head of Primary

Mr. Mohammad Ijaz
Head of Secondary & Higher Secondary

Ms. Gilma Deligencia – Sisno
Executive Administrator/Admission Officer
Ext. 83299

Mr. Gamal Yahia Abdelrazek Elashwal
Accountant
Mobile: +966 504435927

Ms. Ohoud Jumah Al-Huwiti
Guidance Counsellor

Ms. Mada Al Unizi
Events Coordinator

Ms. Corazon Lydia Jurado
Secondary Secretary/ External Exams
Coordinator to BC
Ext. 83272

Ms. Merlyn E. Mahilom
Primary Secretary
Ext. 83104

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Formerly: British International School of Tabuk (BIST)

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