



THE BRITISH
INTERNATIONAL
SCHOOL **CAIRO**

Welcome to Foundation Stage

The start of something special

Welcome

At The British International School, Cairo, our Foundation Stage provides a carefully structured early years experience where children feel secure, valued and motivated to learn.

Foundation Stage includes **FS1 (age 3–4)** and **FS2 (age 4–5)**. The curriculum is based on the **UK Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)**, ensuring learning is appropriately sequenced, engaging and ambitious. Children are introduced to early literacy, numeracy and communication through purposeful, play-based experiences. English and Arabic are developed from the earliest stages through everyday interaction and structured learning opportunities.

We place strong emphasis on building positive relationships, independence and early learning behaviours that support long-term success. Families are central to this journey, and we work closely with parents to ensure consistency between home and school.

Jane Godfrey
Head of Foundation Stage



The BISC Early Years Child

Confident, capable and ready for the future.

The BISC Early Years child develops within a secure and structured environment that values individuality and progress. Each child is supported to build strong foundations in communication, early thinking skills and emotional development. They are:



Confident in expressing themselves in English and Arabic.



Independent in exploring and making choices.



Engaged in purposeful, play-based learning.



Socially aware, respectful and able to collaborate.



Developing an understanding of their own culture and the wider world.



Learning in the Foundation Stage

Learning follows the **EYFS framework**, supporting development across seven key areas:

- Communication and Language
- Personal, Social and Emotional Development
- Physical Development
- Literacy
- Mathematics
- Understanding the World
- Expressive Arts and Design

Teaching is based on observation, interaction and careful planning that responds to children's interests and needs.

Arabic is taught through structured, engaging activities that build early language awareness and cultural understanding.

Learning is practical, purposeful and designed to build strong foundations for future academic progress.



A Typical Day in Foundation Stage

Each day is structured to balance routine, exploration and focused learning.

Children begin with a calm welcome and time to settle into the day. Whole-class sessions introduce stories, language, and key ideas that support communication and thinking.

Children then move into learning through:

- Independent exploration of learning areas
- Small group adult-led activities
- Practical literacy, numeracy and early science tasks
- Creative play and problem-solving experiences

The day includes time outdoors for physical development and movement-based learning, along with specialist sessions in music, PE, art and cooking.

The day concludes with reflection and shared stories, supporting language development and emotional understanding.

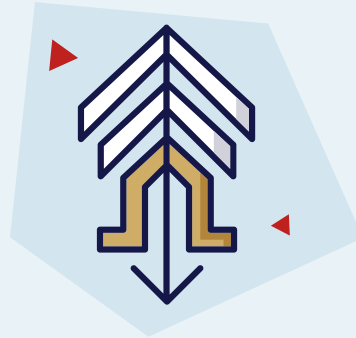


Outdoor Learning and Play

Active, confident and resilient learners.

Outdoor learning supports children's physical development and wellbeing through daily access to purpose-built play areas connected to classrooms.

This is supported by PE lessons, swimming sessions, and FS1 Teddy Padel, which develops early movement skills in a structured and enjoyable way. Annual Sports Day provides a shared celebration of physical achievement and participation.



Children develop:

- Coordination, balance and strength
- Confidence through movement and exploration
- Social skills through group play
- Early understanding of the natural and physical world



Pastoral Care and Wellbeing

Each class is supported by a UK-qualified teacher, bilingual teaching assistant and classroom nanny, ensuring consistent care and attention.

Safeguarding is central to all practice and aligned with statutory EYFS requirements, overseen by the Designated Safeguarding Lead.

Children's wellbeing is supported through daily routines that promote healthy habits, emotional security and independence. An on-site school doctor provides additional reassurance for families.

Relationships, consistency and care form the foundation of children's confidence and emotional development.



Our Learning Environment



Classrooms are designed to support independence, exploration and collaboration.

Each space includes:

- Defined learning zones
- Age-appropriate resources
- Direct access to outdoor areas
- Facilities that support independence

Children also access specialist areas including:

- Music rooms
- Cookery spaces
- Outdoor learning gardens
- Sports fields and athletics track
- Age appropriate Swimming pool



These environments support learning through experience, movement and creativity.



Parents as Partners



We value strong relationships with families as a key part of each child's development.

As a not-for-profit school, decisions are guided by the needs of children and families, strengthening trust and transparency.

Parents are kept informed through clear communication, regular updates and opportunities to engage with learning.

Workshops and curriculum sessions help parents understand how children learn in the early years, particularly through play-based approaches.

We welcome parents into school life through events and celebrations that build connection and shared understanding.

Celebrations and Special Moments

Throughout the year, children take part in a range of experiences that reflect both international and local culture.

These include:

- International Day
- Cultural and national celebrations
- Seasonal events
- World Book Day
- STEM and themed weeks
- Class performances
- Sports Day

These experiences help children develop confidence in expressing themselves and working with others. The FS2 Graduation marks the end of Foundation Stage, celebrating progress and readiness for the next stage of learning.



School Trips and Real-World Learning



Learning is extended through carefully planned visits that connect classroom learning with real-world experiences.

Children visit local and cultural sites such as the **Pyramids of Giza**, **Sara's Organic Farm**, and surrounding community environments.

These experiences support understanding of:

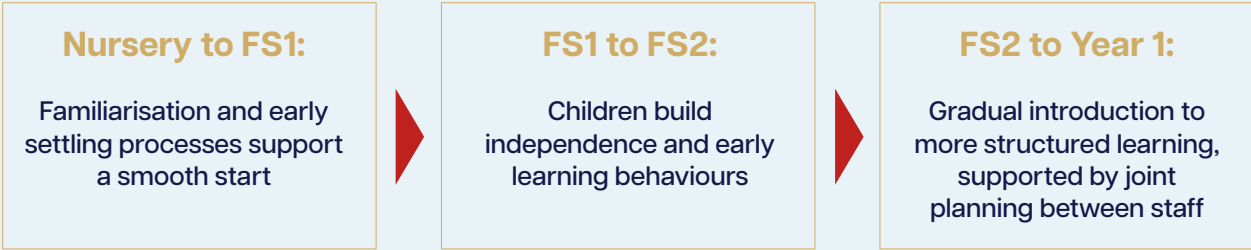
- People and communities
- Natural environments
- Cultural heritage
- Real-world contexts for learning

All visits are carefully planned to ensure children feel secure and supported.



Transition Between Phases

Transitions are carefully structured to ensure continuity and confidence.



Children experience continuity in routines, expectations and relationships across all stages. By the end of Foundation Stage, children are well prepared for the next stage of learning.

Ready to join BISC Foundation Stage?

Entry Requirements

- Successful completion of an informal classroom observation.

How to Apply – Simple Steps

- 1. Submit the Online Application Form**
Available on the website at www.bisc.edu.eg.
- 2. Assessment Invitation**
The applicant will be invited to sit for an assessment.
- 3. Classroom Observation and Parent Meeting**
Same steps as Junior brochure and Sixth, however change step 3 to Classroom Observation and Parent Meeting. The family and pupil will meet with the Head of the Foundation Stage.
- 4. Parent Interview**
A family interview will be scheduled with the Deputy Chair of BISC.
- 5. Formal Offer**
Upon successful completion of all steps, a formal offer of a place will be issued.



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For more information
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