

BBS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PROGRAM**Structure of the School**

Al-Bayan Bilingual School is a part of a modern, well-equipped site in a suburb of Kuwait City. Most students have attended BBS's one-year Nursery Program and our two-year KG before entering the ES. Class size is set at 24 students, with the total enrollment of elementary at approximately 960 students. There are five grade levels and forty classes in Grades 1 through 5 of the Elementary School. Students must be at least six years old by December 31st to enter grade 1 and are ten years of age when they finish grade 5. The curriculum is bilingual with instruction in either English or Arabic, dependent upon the subject.

Subjects taught in English:

English, Science, Art and Math

Subjects taught in Arabic:

Arabic, Religion, Social Studies and Music

Subjects taught in both languages:

Computer, Library and PE

How the Instructional System Operates

The Elementary School uses block scheduling for teaching to address both Literacy and Numeracy. Technology is an integral part in what and how our students are taught; the school is equipped with a computer lab as well as having class sets of iPads available to support learning. Every classroom is equipped with an interactive whiteboard. Attention is being placed on more fully integrating technology in those areas where it has been determined that it would improve student learning, in either English or Arabic. Technology improvement has been and will continue to be an area of major focus. At present, due to restrictions on school attendance because of the COVID19 threat, all classes are taught virtually.

Assessments

Students follow a core curriculum in all subjects. We seek strong teachers who not only understand the importance of collaboration to follow a designed curricular program, but who are also capable of bringing individual creativity to the process. Our teachers are strongly encouraged to adopt "teaching for meaning" in their classrooms.

The academic year is broken into two semesters, with report cards issued at the end of each semester and a progress report for the first quarter. Each subject area has an established grading criterion. Teachers are encouraged to utilize a variety of diagnostic, formative and summative assessments to measure student growth and teacher success in achieving goals. BBS uses MAP (Measure of Academic Progress) testing to benchmark progress. Teachers are required to measure student reading progress at least twice per year utilizing running records.

Grade level teams collaboratively design common assessments which are administered quarterly at a minimum. After school student support is offered by all teachers twice weekly, typically from 2:30 to 2:50.

Counseling

Al-Bayan regards the counseling role of each faculty member to be exceedingly important. Homeroom teachers are charged with attending to the general welfare of their own students, but this is also every teacher's responsibility. When required, a Child Study Team (CST) Program is assembled to assist teachers with students requiring additional support.

Extra-Curricular Activities

Teachers may offer extra-curricular, after-school activities in the form of clubs. These are elective in nature and normally last one hour per week. Elementary teachers also have various coaching opportunities for the many sports and academic teams the school offers. A stipend is paid for some of these opportunities.