

Course description: **Bilingual 6**

Approach to Bilingualism

Our Bilingual Section welcomes students from a wide range of backgrounds who speak English fluently. We aim to help our CP learners to:

- provide opportunities to practise and build on learners' oral English
- develop and extend their literacy (reading and writing)
- provide a window into the English-speaking world through literature and culture

To learn more about our approach to bilingualism, you can read our blog article on the subject [here](#).

Approach to Learning

At the British Council, we offer high-quality, effective English teaching to help learners build confidence, become better communicators and prepare for their future, in a safe and inclusive learning environment.

Our teachers are experts in supporting bilingual learners of all ages in their natural use of English. Collaborative activities like debates, projects and role plays are at the heart of our classes, and we draw upon a range of published resources and works of literature to ensure that learners are challenged and inspired. At the primary level, we aim to equip our learners with the skills to read and write independently.

Our syllabus is based upon the UK National Curriculum but adapted around our students' needs. Our courses also focus on the British Council core skills: digital literacy, communication and collaboration, creativity and imagination, personal development, citizenship, and critical thinking.

Where possible, students are grouped by literacy level to help them get the most out of their classes.

Approach to Assessment

Assessment is continuous, so there are no exams. Instead, teachers monitor student work over the course of the year. We communicate with parents in our progress reports and our parent-teacher meetings.

Books

Please make sure you have all the books on the reading list [here](#) before classes begin.

Over the summer, we suggest you do as much reading as possible with your child. Some suggestions for age-appropriate books can be found [here](#).

Learning Objectives

Our teachers are experts who tailor their teaching to the specific needs of their students. Our Bilingual Primary classes (BL6-10) correlate with Key Stage 1 and 2 in the UK National Curriculum. Our objectives in Bilingual 6 relate to Year 1 in the UK National Curriculum. Students will continue working towards these objectives in future years. As a result, not all these topics will be covered in Bilingual 6 alone.

Writing

The writing process

As pupils' literacy skills develop, they will begin **writing independently and collectively**. They will learn to write **simple sentences** by composing sentences orally, sequencing sentences and rereading to check sense. They will begin to discuss their writing with the teacher and peers and read it aloud.

Spelling

Pupils will focus on studying **phonics** and **spelling rules**, learning to spell words containing the phonemes (sounds) they have studied, and name the letters of the alphabet in order. They will develop a basic understanding of **word structure** and learn to spell relevant **common exception words** by heart.

Vocabulary, Grammar and Punctuation

Students will learn to use tenses accurately and consistently. Their language will become **more complex and cohesive**, e.g. connecting clauses with 'and'. They will learn **basic punctuation** e.g. full stops, spaces between words, etc. Their **vocabulary** will become more varied and rich as they study a range of topics.

Reading

Word Reading

Pupils will learn **basic phonics knowledge and skills**, recognising **graphemes** (letters or groups of letters) for all 40+ phonemes (sounds), and **decoding** words by segmenting and blending. They will begin to **read aloud** books which allow them to rely on their phonics skills only. They will begin to recognise common exception words, words with common suffixes (e.g. -er), and words with contractions (e.g. I'm). Where possible, they will read and reread books to build up their **fluency and confidence**.

Comprehension

Students will be exposed to **a range of texts**: fiction (e.g. fairy stories), poetry and non-fiction. They will **engage with texts in various ways**, e.g. retelling stories. In this way, they will develop **higher-order reading skills**. They will also develop **pleasure in reading** by listening to more complex texts.

Speaking and listening

Throughout our primary bilingual programme, students are encouraged to do the following at a level appropriate to their age group:

- speak fluently and automatically with an increasing command of Standard English
- participate in discussions, presentations, performances, role play, improvisation and debates
- participate actively in conversations, staying on topic and initiating and responding to comments
- articulate and justify answers, arguments and opinions
- give well-structured descriptions, explanations and narratives for different purposes, including for expressing feelings
- consider and evaluate different viewpoints, attending to and building on the contributions of others
- use spoken language to develop understanding through speculating, hypothesising, imagining and exploring ideas
- select and use appropriate registers for effective communication
- listen and respond appropriately to adults and their peers
- ask relevant questions to extend their understanding and knowledge