



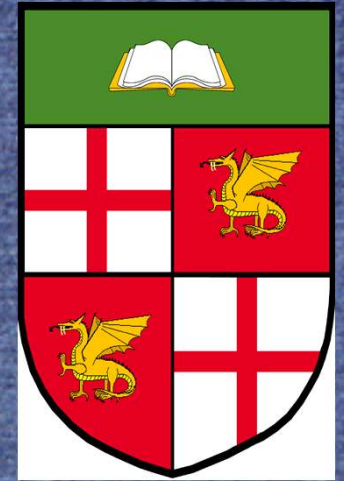
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The British International School of Ljubljana

Freedom in Education: *Inspiring to Inspire*

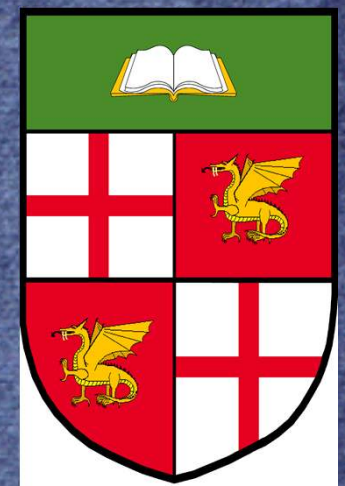
Tom Majer

General Information



- Host Country: SLOVENIA
- Number of Nationalities at School: 23
- Student Population: + 120 (50% are Slovenian)
- Education offered for students aged 3 to 18
- Class size: 5 to 13 students
- Languages:
 - ENGLISH – language of instruction
 - SLOVENIAN
 - mother tongue to Slovenian nationals: grades 1 - 11
 - as second/foreign/additional language to all other nationalities
 - ITALIAN – offered from grades 3 to 9

Curriculum Information



Preschool: IPC – Early Years Programme

Primary: Grades 1 - 6

- UK English National Curriculum Literacy and Numeracy
- All other subjects – IPC (International Primary Curriculum)

Secondary School

- Lower School: Grades 7 – 9
 - Programme designed to bridge IPC and CIE
- Middle School: Grades 10 & 11
 - externally-assessed CIE or AQA systems (IGCSE examinations)
- Upper School: Grades 12 & 13
 - Cambridge International and AQA A-Levels examinations

School Constitution Highlights



- **Mission Statement**

- Our passion is creating a positive, challenging and nurturing learning environment in which we value everyone as individuals, empowering them to be versatile, motivated and caring people.

- **Descriptive Statements**

- Our teaching methods emphasise curiosity, understanding and learning to learn rather than memorising facts to pass exams.
- We use a wide range of assessment tools formatively and avoid aggregated grading until as late as possible.

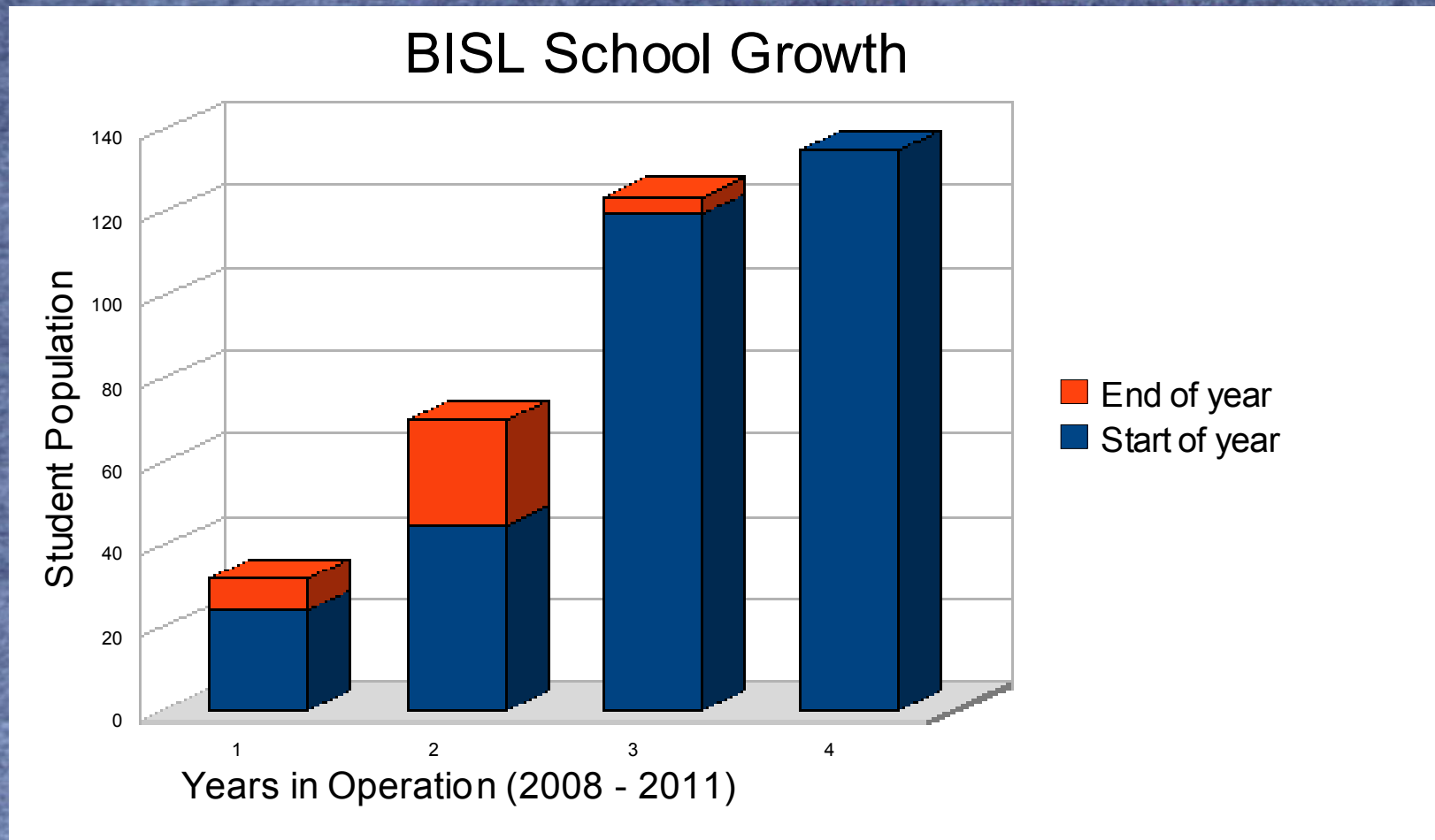
School Constitution Highlights



Values Statement

- We acknowledge the importance of our students' nationality as part of their identity and celebrate our diversity and internationalism.
- We will emphasise the education of the whole, international-minded person over intensive cramming for hollow exam success.
- We will celebrate our learners' achievements and increase freedoms and responsibilities for those young people who earn our trust.
- We will encourage our students to take calculated risks, aim high and learn from their mistakes, since failure is a vital part of the learning process.
- In all matters, the focus and priority must always be on the students' learning and welfare.

completely independent
no concessions or subsidies from any government: UK or SLO
assure quality by membership of internationally-recognised professional bodies
not a purely commercial profit-making venture
here to provide the choice which people in Slovenia want and deserve



Working on Creativity in the Curriculum:

How do we bring creativity in the curriculum?

Through a thematic based, cross-curricular programme

Project based

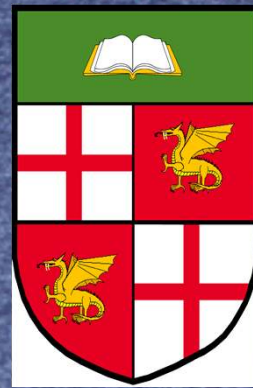
- Block learning

every 5 weeks, 1 week off

no teacher burn out

Daily review - integral part of learning process

End of year review week



Working & establishing independent learning

education focused on the top 3 levels of Bloom's taxonomy

Analysis

Synthesis & Evaluation

Quality education NOT quantity education

Chaos in the Classroom:

*And why we need more of it!
(find the right balance)*

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=empxK6MZyWs
&feature=share](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=empxK6MZyWs&feature=share)



Jeremy Hibbins
Headmaster & Founder of BISL

Conclusions

- Freedom of education for everyday practice is part of BISL's constitution and curriculum
 - starts from the top down
- We place more attention on the learning than on testing – allowing more prep time & less paper work
 - quality education & finding the balance
 - allow time for teacher creativity
- Thematic-based learning
 - focused on the skills acquired.
- Yearly increase in Slovenian student population





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