Committed to Achieving Excellence for All
Vision
Oporto British School is committed to achieving excellence for all.

As the oldest British School in Continental Europe, Oporto British School is committed to providing a high quality international education for its pupils.

Mission Statement
To Strive for Success and to Serve
Guiding Statements

All students at OBS will:

• aim for the best possible level of academic achievement according to individual ability.

• work independently and collaboratively.

• take responsibility for their own actions and make informed choices.

• become aware of their responsibilities as kind and thoughtful individuals, mindful of the needs of others, in order to become valued and caring members of the school, local and global communities.

• acquire knowledge, skills and attitudes relevant to the changing world in which they live.

• make a positive contribution as citizens of the wider world, guided by the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights.
Message from the Head Master

At Oporto British School we aim to be a vibrant and challenging school which opens the minds and hearts of our pupils. We seek to engender a stimulating and inspirational environment in which all our pupils learn and develop. Our objective is to guide and encourage our pupils to develop and progress spiritually, academically and communally, enabling them to take their place in society as responsible citizens and equally conscious of their duty to serve others.

We believe that every pupil should strive for success whether that is in Mathematics, English, science, sport, humanities and music. Fundamentally, our aim is to instil in our pupils a sense of mutual respect, tolerance, leadership and service. Our pupils are well-mannered, friendly, bi-lingual and engaging.

Our school is proud of its historical roots and traditions and at the same time fully aware of embracing innovative ideas within an international environment. The best way to gauge our unique atmosphere is to come and visit us. I shall be delighted to welcome you and talk about my vision for the School.

Tom McGrath
Head Master
“It is a life enriching experience, where you have the opportunity to make friends for life and enjoy the company of fantastic people from all around the world. You are definitely prepared for the outside world.”
A British School Providing an International Education

OBS the oldest British school in Continental Europe, was established in 1894 in the fashionable suburb of Foz on the site that the school occupies today.

We are proud of the traditions developed over several generations, which are built on solid British foundations. Whilst proud of our rich history, the school eagerly embraces the challenges inherent in a modern and forward-thinking International School.

Almost twenty different nationalities are represented in the pupil body, and this adds a rich, multicultural dimension to the school.

"I like the fact that there is a communal atmosphere and innovative teaching, but the school is still steeped in over 100 years of history"
Quality and Achievement

Primary Curriculum

In Prep and Reception the natural curiosity of young children is nurtured and stimulated in an environment that promotes exploration and develops independence. The areas of development include:

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

In the Primary Forms 1-5 the curriculum provides a rich academic programme that encourages all students to develop as confident learners. Subject areas include:

— English (including drama)
— Portuguese
— Mathematics
— Science
— Geography
— History
— Art
— Music
— Physical Education
— ICT
— Personal Social and Health Education
— French (from Form 5)
— Portuguese Studies (from Form 4)

OBS follows the English National Curriculum, introducing the Cambridge Primary Curriculum at age 6.
Secondary Curriculum

The Cambridge Secondary Curriculum is followed from form 6 leading to the Cambridge IGCSE Programme for Forms 9 and 10. The IB Diploma Programme is offered in forms 11 and 12. Teaching from pupils is broadly based on the English National Curriculum and also ensures “equivalência” with the Portuguese national educational system.

Outstanding academic results.

Our pupils’ IGCSE and IB results have consistently exceeded national and international averages by a comfortable margin, and they have gained access to the finest universities in the UK, Portugal and elsewhere.

Recent IBDP results

IBDP Average Points Score 35.4. World Average 29.81. Highest score was 44 out of 45 points. Distribution of grades (a cohort of 23 pupils):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cumulative % of pupils</th>
<th>40+</th>
<th>38+</th>
<th>35+</th>
<th>32+</th>
<th>28+</th>
<th>24+</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>91</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

UK University Offers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>University</th>
<th>Course</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>University of Hertfordshire</td>
<td>Events Management/Marketing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Glasgow</td>
<td>Theoretical Physics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Royal Holloway</td>
<td>Economics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Surrey</td>
<td>International Hospitality Management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lancaster University</td>
<td>Medicine and Surgery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kings College London</td>
<td>Computer Science</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kings College London</td>
<td>Business Management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Royal Holloway</td>
<td>Management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Imperial College London</td>
<td>Electrical and Electronic Engineering with a Year Abroad</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Royal Holloway</td>
<td>Computer Science</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Royal Holloway</td>
<td>Management with International Business</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Queen Mary University of London</td>
<td>Law</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Leeds</td>
<td>Fashion Design</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The University of Nottingham</td>
<td>Medicine</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Portuguese University Offers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Universidade</th>
<th>Curso</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Universidade do Porto: Faculdade de Direito</td>
<td>Direito</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Universidade Nova de Lisboa: Faculdade de Ciências Sociais e Humanas</td>
<td>Ciências da Comunicação</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Universidade do Porto: Faculdade de Medicina</td>
<td>Medicina (1º colocado na lista de ordemação)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Universidade Nova de Lisboa: Faculdade de Economia</td>
<td>Economia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Universidade Nova de Lisboa: Faculdade de Medicina</td>
<td>Medicina</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Universidade do Porto: Faculdade de Direito</td>
<td>Criminologia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Universidade do Porto: Faculdade de Economia</td>
<td>Economia</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
"I like my music lessons"
Creativity
Art, Music

Each pupil is viewed as an individual with unique talents and capabilities. The nurturing of self-confidence is an important aspect of everything that goes on in and out of the classroom. Creativity, flexibility and initiative are important qualities for every citizen in today’s society.

Artistic ability and performance nurture personality and develop confidence.

Art and Music are viewed as important vehicles for promoting the development of these attributes.
The teachers are very helpful and they are always there for us and support us.
Community

To Strive for Success and to Serve

The special family atmosphere that is evident throughout the school enables pupils to settle in very quickly.

The emphasis on forging strong relationships, built on mutual trust, respect and affection is a cornerstone in our educational philosophy.

Enthusiasm, diligence and good manners are instilled from the very beginning and are fostered throughout the school.

Living and working in the community of the school is seen as first-rate preparation for citizenship in the wider community outside the school gates.

“There is a great sense of fraternity between pupils and teachers.”
“OBS is full of laughter and friendship.”
Learning for Life and Leaders of the Future

Leaders of the Future
The pupils of the school are society leaders of the future. Countless opportunities are provided for them to develop invaluable qualities such as independence of thought and action, self-reliance and decision-making.

Developing Breadth
The IB CAS programme, the Prémio Dom Henrique (similar to the UK’s Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme), the school’s prefect and monitor system, the pupil’s council and many other activities enable our pupils to develop their inherent capabilities and prepare them for life when they leave the school.

“Pupils learn the important things in life and how to take action when the time comes.”
“OBS rounds me as an individual for the future.”
Communicators

Our pupils are accomplished communicators, both in Portuguese and in English. They are encouraged from the earliest age to express themselves with clarity and confidence.

IB Bilingual Diploma

The majority of senior pupils are also extremely proficient in French and/or Spanish, and our international pupils add their native languages to their repertoire.

The multi-lingual ability of our pupils gives them a marked advantage in the modern world. It also makes them highly attractive potential undergraduate students at some of the best universities.

"It is important to learn in a British school because English is the international language."
The teachers give us confidence.
Fit and Healthy

Fitness and health contribute greatly to a satisfying life-style. Participation in sport is seen as a way of maintaining physical fitness, while at the same time, developing positive attitudes towards teamwork and self-control.

Sports and facilities include: Football, Basketball, Hockey, Volleyball, Gymnastics, Athletics, Tennis, Cross-Country Running, Rounders, Judo, Karate, Dance, Astroturf pitch and adventure playground.

Pupils are encouraged to discover enjoyment in a wide range of physical activities, which will stimulate a desire to continue with some form of physical activity for the rest of their lives.

“OBS is special because I look forward to coming in everyday to learn something new.”
"We have great teachers and it is a lot of fun to work with them."