

Curriculum Statement

Bicester Technology Studio provides an exciting and challenging curriculum that is intended to not only provide students with an excellent base of qualifications, but also develop core employability skills that ensure students are fully prepared for success in work and also in their personal endeavours.

Students will attend school for 41 hours per week, enjoying a variety of academic and active project based learning.

The school will plan weekly student work placements for all students, co-created with employer partners and targeted at the developing needs of the area in order to facilitate a talent pipeline of skilled, confident students who are ready for their next step in the workplace.

CREATE framework

BTS will ensure students embrace the core skills outlined in the CREATE framework, ensuring constant personal development facilitated via coaching and project work. These skills are essential employability skills that once developed will give our students a significant advantage when they choose to enter the world of work.

C- **Communication**- *Select, organise, deliver.*

R- **Relating to others**- *Relate, collaborate, steer.*

E- **Enterprise**- *Launch, Plan, execute, reflect.*

A- **Applied**- *School and learning, family and relationships, work and employment, my community.*

T- **Thinking**- *Use, research, decide.*

E- **Emotional**- *Understand myself, manage myself, understand others, manage others.*

Trust Structure

Student 'tutor' groups will be in project teams within one of four trusts. Each project team will consist of 5-8 students who are monitored by a teacher. In the trust format, project teams will work on common projects that foster competition and give opportunities for personal development. Individual and project group coaching will occur through this structure.

We will also incorporate a trust credit structure that rewards the roles and impacts of students in their project teams and other notable contributions. This will be developed in conjunction with staff and students during Term 1.

Common Curriculum elements (strand of learning throughout projects)

BTS will select courses that match the specialisms of the school but will also develop skills and experiences that align to the needs of employers, e.g. project management, statistics

Key Stage 4 (in 2016/17 relates to Year 10 only)

Maths, English Literature, English Language, Triple Science, Double science, Studio Sport, Big Debate.

Geography, Art, Product Design, Computing, Business Studies.

BTEC Engineering and BTEC Business Studies.

Post 16 (in 2016/17 relates to Year 12 only)

A Levels

Product Design, Mathematics, Business Studies, Physics, Geography, Biology, Art, Computing (*Big Debate*)

BTEC Subjects (level 3)

Engineering and Business Studies

Electives

Students use one block of learning per week to plan and follow their passion. The school requires that this is developmental and that it is genuinely enriching.

Project Based Learning

Students will spend up to 6 hours of PBL per week. This time gives students to apply and embed knowledge developed in core curriculum time or immerse themselves in an employer led project. Throughout the flow of the school year students will undertake 3 types of projects: Immersion, Innovation and Insight. Within these projects students will have the opportunity to undertake a variety of different roles to enable them to develop a wide range of skills (as mapped in Create framework)

Employer Work Placements

Year 10 students will be regularly placed with an employer partner for half a day per week. Year 12 students will be regularly placed with an employer partner for one day per week. Work placements will formally commence in January 2017 when students and work placements have been properly risk-assessed and matched to need. Our list of employer partners in and around Bicester is growing to a January target of 50. Some placements will be based in Kidlington, Buckingham and Banbury in order to widen employer choice and assist with travel by geographically locating nearer to some students home addresses.