

# Secondary School

Gabriella Davutoglu : Head of Modern Foreign Languages Department

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Dear Parents,

## Modern Foreign Languages Department

I hope you and your children have had a restful and relaxing summer holiday. After such an enjoyable break it is always motivating to come back to school and see how enthusiastic our students are to start the new academic year.

I'd like to take this opportunity to introduce the members of the MFL Department, especially to the new members of our school community.

My name is Gabriela Davutoglu, I am the Head of the MFL Department. I also teach Spanish to Key Stage 3, 4 and 5. I've been involved in academia for the past 25 years and I have worked in various universities and colleges in Ecuador England and Turkey. This is my thirteenth year at BISI.

Angela Pérez is from Spain. She teaches Key Stage 3 French and she also teaches IGCSE and IB Spanish. Before coming to BISI in 2009, Angela worked as a Spanish and French tutor in England for five years.

Claudia Azizoglu is our German teacher for all Key Stages. Claudia started working as an educator in 1981 in Austria, her home country. She has been a lecturer in three universities in Istanbul and she's been working at BISI for the past 15 years.

Katya Skoudy is the teacher in charge of all the French courses we offer from year 7 to year 13. Katya taught French and Spanish for a number of years in different schools in England. She was also Head of Department for six years before coming to our school last year.

Nursena Kamas is responsible for the Turkish as a Foreign Language courses in Key Stage 3 and she also teaches First Language Turkish at IGCSE and IB level. This year Nursena will be working full-time in secondary. She has been in the teaching profession since 2000 and she has been part of our team since 2008.

This year we have introduced Spanish as an extra language option in year 7. We will continue to offer French and German for beginners to this year group. We have also increased the time within the curriculum that the students in Key Stage 3 have Turkish.

In order to promote the culture of the foreign languages we teach as part of our curriculum, we plan to visit the French, German and Spanish cultural centres in Istanbul and we will try to participate in some of the cultural activities that these centres organize throughout the year. Also, we have organized the MFL Department Week of Languages which starts on the 26<sup>th</sup> of September. Once again the students will have the chance to learn more about other languages and cultures and also share their own with their peers. Furthermore, as in previous years, we will offer catch up language lessons at lunchtime and after school for students who need help.

I am very happy to inform you that the mother tongue resources that were kindly donated by parents last year have already been placed in the secondary library. This is a good start and we hope that with your help we will continue to develop this section of the library.

I am looking forward to a very productive year with all our students and look forward to helping them achieve their full potential and the success they are capable of. If you have any queries or wish to talk about any matter then please call or e-mail me.

Yours faithfully,

Gabriela Davutoglu



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