

The British Education System & Taunton School Offering

School	Summary Information	Level	Age	Level	Summary Information	School
Sixth Form (TS)	Year 13*: Second year of Sixth form with the external exams at the end of the school year	C1/C2	17	B2/C1	Year 13: International Foundation Year: Business, Maths, Economics + IELTS	Taunton School International (TSI)
	Year 12: First year of Sixth Form: A Levels, IB or BTEC (no external exams taken)	C1	16	B2	Year 12: Pre-Foundation year: A Level Business Studies + 2 x GCSEs	
Taunton School (TS)	Year 11*: Second year of GCSE study with exams taken at the end of the school year.	B2/C1	15	B1/B2	Year 11: One-year GCSE programme: take up to 8 GCSEs	Taunton School International Middle School (TSIMS)
	Year 10: First year of GCSE study (no external exams)	B2	14	B1	Year 10: Start of two-year GCSE programme: take up to 6 GCSEs	
				A2/B1	Year 10: Preparation for one-year GCSE programme	
	Year 9: Preparation for GCSE (no external exams taken)	B1/B2	13	A2	Year 9: Preparation for two-year GCSE programme	
Year 8: Preparation for Senior School						
Taunton Prep School (TPS)	Years 3 – 8: Preparation for Senior School	B1	12	A1/A2	Years 4 – 7: Preparation for Prep School	Taunton School International Middle School (TSIMS)
			11			
			10			
			9			
			8			
			7			

Notes:

- Students are placed into year groups depending on their age as of 01 September of any one year.
- Note that it is not unusual for International students to be one year older than their British counterparts. For example, it is acceptable to join Year 10 at 15 years old or to join the Sixth Form at 17 years old.
- GCSEs (General Certificate of Secondary Education) are the first major external exams students sit within the British Education system. Students generally take between 5 – 10 GCSEs after 2 years of study.
- GCSEs have Levels 1 (low) to Level 9 (high) with Levels 4 – 9 being generally accepted as passes.
- On successful completion of GCSEs, students move on to the Sixth Form, where they can study A Levels (generally 3 subjects), the IB (6 subjects), BTECs (in Business or Sports Science) or follow a two-year Business Foundation Programme at TSI.
- A Levels and the Foundation Programme are graded from A* (high) to E (low)
- IB pass marks range from 24 – 45 points (world average in 2019 was 29.6)
- BTECs are graded Distinction*, Distinction, Merit, Pass & Unclassified
- University placement at the age of 18 is dependent on the standard of the qualifications gained at AL, IB, BTEC or the Foundation.
- Year groups marked with an asterisk (*) indicate those year groups that international students are not able to join as it would mean starting half way through a programme of study.