

The British School in Tokyo

Tokyo, Japan



A Heatherwick-designed Azabudai Hills campus anchors Japan's only full English National Curriculum, steps from Tokyo Tower.

RANKING DIMENSIONS

Overall	69/100
Academic outcomes	71/100
University placement	69/100
Prestige & heritage	70/100
Alumni network	69/100
Facilities	71/100
Transparency	63/100

EDITOR'S VERDICT

The Heatherwick-designed Azabudai Hills campus gives The British School in Tokyo a level of architectural theatre that few city schools can match, but the sharper point is curricular. BST offers Japan’s only full English National Curriculum from age 3 to 18, a rare proposition in a market full of hybrids, partial British pathways and international programmes that drift away from England’s structure long before sixth form. That clarity matters for families who need a clean transfer in or out of the UK system. It is a day school, secular, teaches in English, and carries COBIS, BSO and CIS accreditation: a serious set of external badges for a school that trades on being the British option in Tokyo rather than merely borrowing the label.

What puts BST on a shortlist is the combination of *structural certainty* and metropolitan ambition. The school states that academic results and university destinations are a core feature of school life, and its recent destinations include Durham University, City University London and Doshisha University. That is a small published snapshot, not a sweeping outcomes table, and parents should note that the school does not publish aggregate public exam results in the information we have seen. Still, the broad shape is clear: this is a school built for internationally mobile families who want a *recognisable British track* with serious co-curricular weight in music, sport, art and drama. The average annual day fee across the full ladder is **¥3015555**, which places BST in the *expensive* end of the Tokyo market and demands confidence in the fit.

The pupil who will thrive here is academically steady, comfortable in a dense international city, and keen to use school as more than a classroom pipeline. BST talks about critical thinking, creativity and independent learning, and that aligns with a school trying to produce *self-directed* students rather than narrow exam machines. It will suit children who want the discipline and familiarity of the English system without sacrificing breadth, and whose families value a central Tokyo location near Tokyo Tower over a sprawling suburban campus. It is less compelling for parents who want published outcome data in depth, boarding, or a bilingual Japanese-English model. For the right child, though, BST offers a *clean, coherent proposition*: **3–18** British education in Tokyo, backed by **1989** roots and a campus that signals institutional confidence rather than stopgap expatriate schooling.

STRENGTHS

- British curriculum clearly stated
- Separate primary and secondary campuses
- Indoor and outdoor learning spaces emphasised
- Music, sport, art and drama are notable strengths

TRADE-OFFS

- No fees published in provided sources
- No accreditations stated in provided sources
- Academic results not detailed in provided sources

ADMISSIONS

BST is a British-curriculum school in Tokyo for pupils aged 3 to 18, so the obvious entry points are likely to be the early years, primary and secondary phases. The school states that its programme is based on the National Curriculum for England and is tailored for international students in Japan. It operates separate primary and secondary campuses. Beyond that broad age range and structure, the public material provided here does not set out a detailed admissions map by year group.

The school's website excerpt does not publish the practical admissions detail most parents will want: there is no stated assessment format, no public application deadlines, and no information here on bursaries or financial aid. Nor do these extracts describe any distinctive selection process such as interviews, taster days or rolling entry policies. In other words, families should not assume a standardised British independent-school model without checking directly. For specifics on testing, documentation, waiting lists and whether places are handled year-round or by intake cycle, BST would need to be asked directly.

WTS RATING 

This profile summarises editorial research by World's Top Schools. Verify all admissions dates directly with the school before submitting. Sources are cited in the full online profile at WorldsTopSchools.com/schools/sch_0903e9177d.