baker&bloom

2022–2023 course catalog

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Letter From

Our Founder

After a year of upheaval and uncertainty, we are finally facing a period of reflection and planning. What have we learned about how children learn, what they need to know, and how to best support them?

We have learned that even at a time when so much can be learned online, learning at schools but particularly at a place like Baker & Bloom, offers something invaluable. The power of personalised learning – having a guide who pays attention to your level of understanding, your interests and individual goals, and can help you achieve them in a way best suited to you.

Here, our coaches have relationships with students that deepen over the years and allow them to respond to what our students need. Our coaching team, particularly at the secondary level, has expanded and we have excellent and knowledgeable coaches across a range of subjects to support our students.

As one of my favourite educators John Dewey wrote, "It is not enough that certain materials and methods have proved effective with other individuals at other times. There must be a reason for thinking that they will function in generating an experience that has educative quality with particular individuals at a particular time."

These are very particular times. Children have had to learn every subject through a screen, collaborate on projects, participate in discussions, submit homework, and conduct exams online. After 3 years of this they need to build their confidence in verbal communication and sustained written thought. Thus we have added back public speaking as a regular offering along with creative writing and our inspirED Reader & Writer series. They need "The Art of Positive Thinking" and "Resilience & Self-Awareness" – workshops we will be offering, including our perennial "Super Learner" which teaches strategies that foster independent learning and smarter learning regardless of externalities.

Latest research suggests that adaptability is one of the most important skills that children need for future success - even a better predictor of overall success than resilience. Adaptability is affected largely by the consistency of emotional support of a child's learning environment. This gives us a renewed sense of urgency and purpose as we at Baker & Bloom continue to adapt and grow to fulfil our mission of cultivating creativity, confidence, and holistically preparing students for their future.

– Renée Boey

Renée Boey

Founder & Educational Director

- B.A. Hons. English (Harvard)
- M.Phil. Renaissance Literature (Cambridge)
- M.F.A. Writing (USF)
- P.G.D.E. (HKU)

Renée Boey founded Baker & Bloom to promote innovative learning, service, and leadership among young people. Baker & Bloom's mission is shaped by Renée's own educational journey, she enjoyed learning at both local and international schools in Hong Kong before completing her secondary education at St. Paul's School in Concord, N.H. The school's diversity and emphasis on arts, humanities, and service instilled in her an appreciation for creativity, thinking from multiple perspectives, and a desire to lead a meaningful life.

After graduating from Harvard College as an English major, Renée obtained an M.Phil in Renaissance Literature at Cambridge University, and returned to Hong Kong. She completed a teaching internship at St. Paul's Co-Educational College, received her Postgraduate Diploma in Education at the University of Hong Kong, and proceeded to teach at the ISF Academy as an IB English and Humanities teacher before harnessing her experiences and passions to launch Baker & Bloom. Whether it is teaching the inspirED Social Entrepreneurship Program, designing curricula, or coaching a student, Renée hopes to inspire the youth to learn with joy and embrace life with positivity and creative confidence.

scan me to learn more about Renée!

About Us

Baker & Bloom is a K-12 education organization that immerses students in academic rigor and creative thinking to prepare them for studying both locally and globally and wch would lead them to purposeful careers.

With the advent of Artificial Intelligence and unpredictable global forces, we need to adapt and embrace lifelong learning to survive and succeed. Baker & Bloom understands this need. We empower students to develop an optimal mindset and 21st-century skills through excellence in teaching.

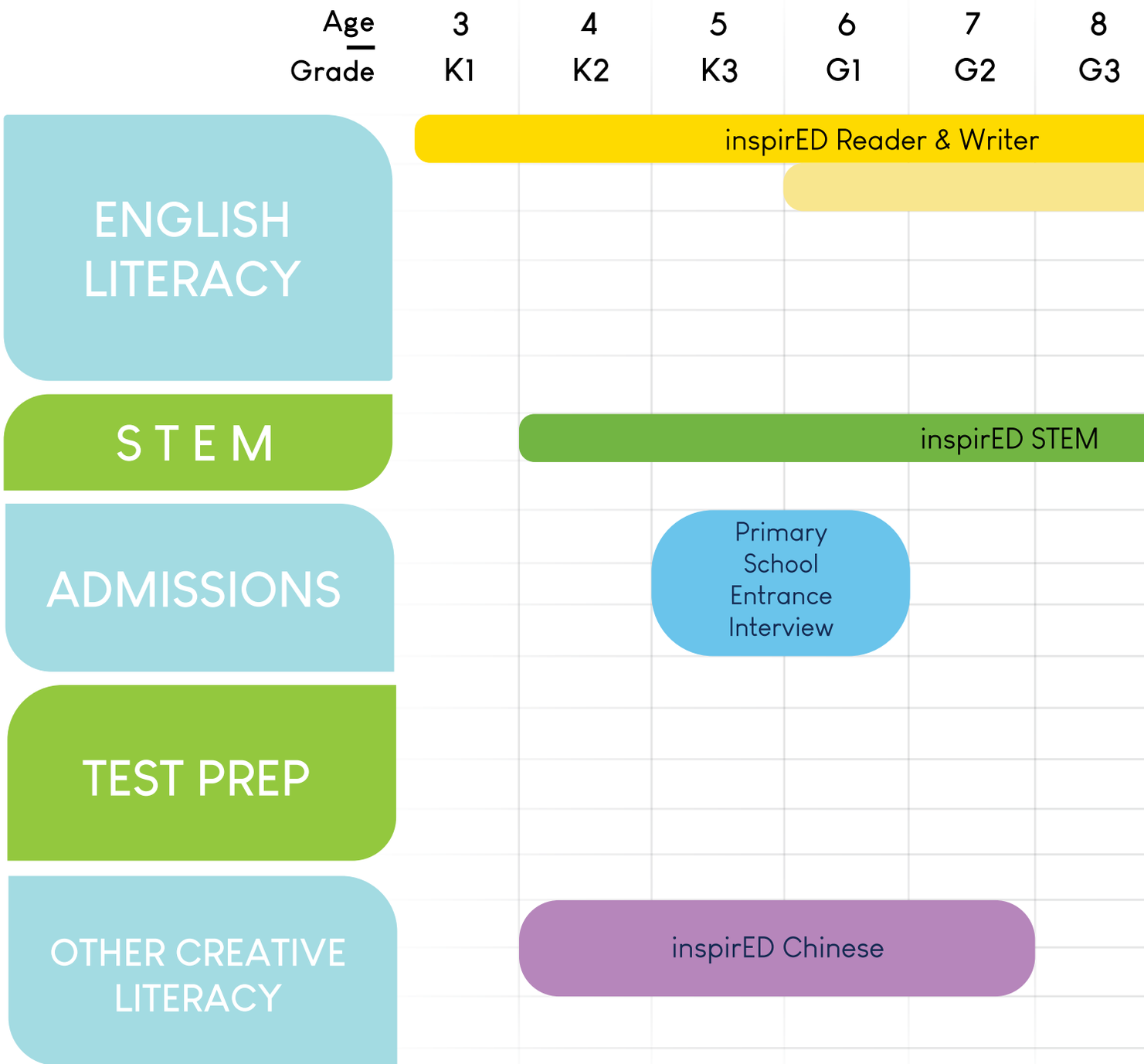
Our professional teachers use our original Four-Leaf Approach to inspire our students to learn deeply and create with empathy. One student at a time, we aim to enhance human potential alongside creativity.

Our Mission

To cultivate creative literacy and confidence so that students can innovate and flourish in a fast-changing world.

Journey

To Cultivate Creativ



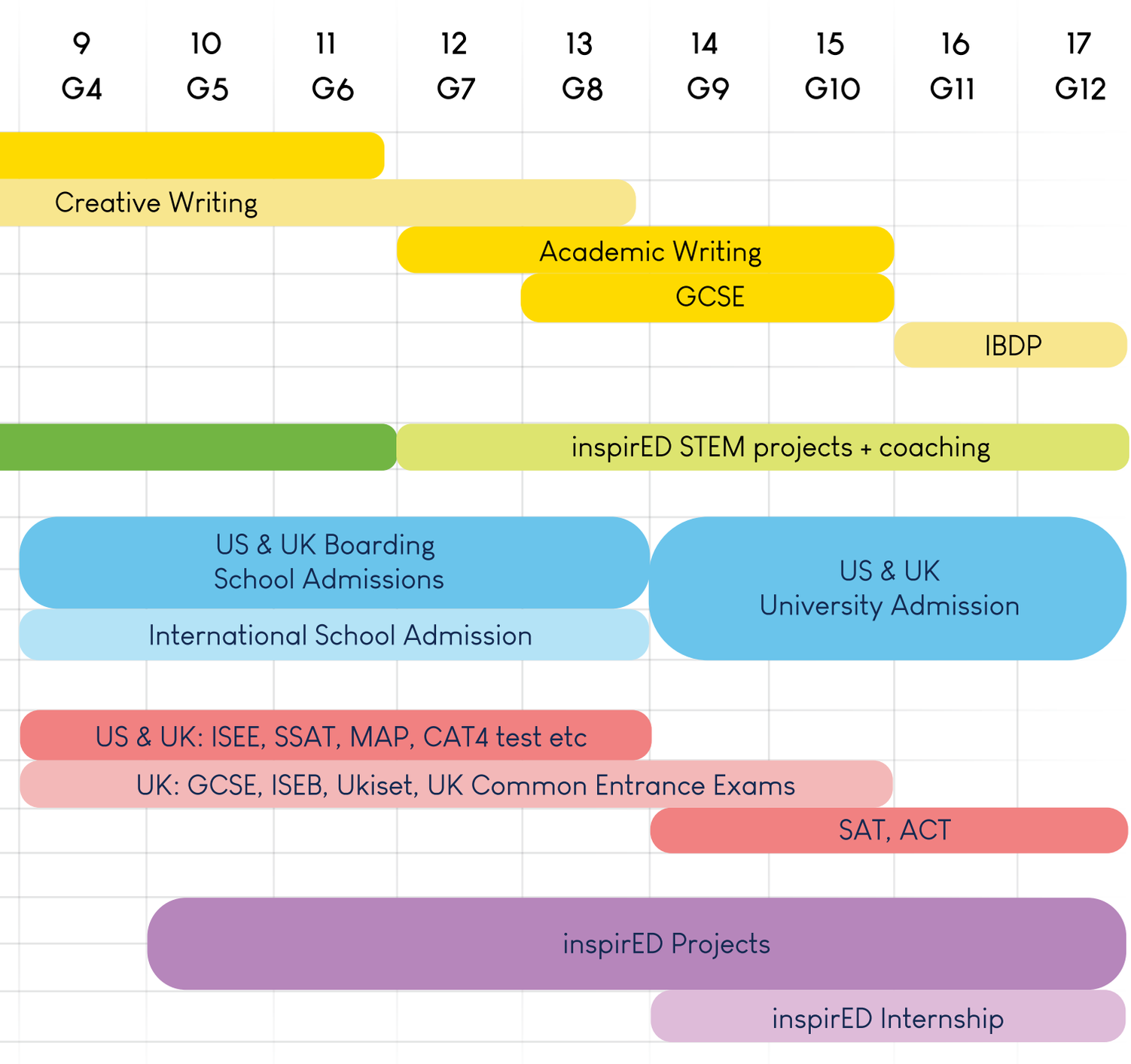
At Baker & Bloom, we know that learning takes time. Our English, STEM, and Admissions program university — and everything in between. Our scaffolded curriculum ensures continuity from each c our class sizes small and offer one-on-one coaching so that each child receives the personal atter

When it comes to child development, there is no formula for success. Every child's learning trajec take a student-centered, big-picture approach — we listen to your long-term goals, interests, and projects that prepare your child for success in the 21st century.

Whether it's getting your kindergartener ready for primary school interviews, helping your child a and admissions experts are here to guide you and your family every step of the way.

with Us

e Literacy and Confidence



s are designed to support your child through every season of their education, from kindergarten to course to the next, helping students move through their educational journeys seamlessly. We keep ntion and continuous feedback they need in order to realize their potential.

tory is unique and deserving of careful thought, planning, and consistent evaluation. That is why we challenges. Our teachers then translate them into holistic learning experiences and real-world

pply for boarding school and college, or planning a productive summer break, our team of teachers

Course Schedule

FALL 2022

Day	Module	Dates	Total Classes	Total Classes Per Term
Monday	A	Aug 29; Sep 5, 19, 26; Oct 3, 10, 17	7	15
	B	Oct 24, 31; Nov 7, 14, 21, 28; Dec 5, 12	8	
Tuesday	A	Aug 30; Sep 6, 13, 20, 27; Oct 11, 18	7	15
	B	Oct 25; Nov 1, 8, 15, 22, 29; Dec 6, 13	8	
Wednesday	A	Aug 31; Sep 7, 14, 21, 28; Oct 5, 12, 19	8	16
	B	Oct 26; Nov 2, 9, 16, 23, 30; Dec 7, 14	8	
Thursday	A	Sep 1, 8, 15, 22, 29; Oct 6, 13, 20	8	16
	B	Oct 27; Nov 3, 10, 17, 24; Dec 1, 8, 15	8	
Friday	A	Sep 2, 9, 16, 23, 30; Oct 7, 14, 21	8	16
	B	Oct 28; Nov 4, 11, 18. 25; Dec 2, 9, 16	8	
Saturday	A	Aug 27; Sep 3, 10, 17, 24; Oct 8, 15, 22	8	16
	B	Oct 29; Nov 5, 12, 19, 26; Dec 3, 10, 17	8	

SPRING 2023

Day	Module	Dates	Total Classes	Total Classes Per Term
Monday	A	Jan 9, 16, 30; Feb 6, 13, 20, 27; Mar 6, 13, 20	10	20
	B	Mar 27; Apr 3, 17, 24; May 8, 15, 22, 29; Jun 5, 12	10	
Tuesday	A	Jan 3, 10, 17, 31; Feb 7, 14, 21, 28; Mar 7, 14, 21	11	23
	B	Mar 28; Apr 4, 11, 18, 25; May 2, 9, 16, 23, 30; Jun 6, 13	12	
Wednesday	A	Jan 4, 11, 18; Feb 1, 8, 15, 22; Mar 1, 8, 15, 22	11	22
	B	Mar 29; Apr 12, 19, 26; May 3, 10, 17, 24, 31; Jun 7, 14	11	
Thursday	A	Jan 5, 12, 19; Feb 2, 9, 16, 23; Mar 2, 9, 16, 23	11	23
	B	Mar 30; Apr 6, 13, 20, 27; May 4, 11, 18, 25; Jun 1, 8, 15	12	
Friday	A	Jan 6, 13, 20; Feb 3, 10, 17, 24; Mar 3, 10, 17, 24	11	21
	B	Mar 31; Apr 14, 21, 28; May 5, 12, 19; Jun 2, 9, 16	10	
Saturday	A	Jan 7, 14, 21, 28; Feb 4, 11, 18, 25; Mar 4, 11, 18, 25	12	23
	B	Apr 1, 15, 22, 29; May 6, 13, 20, 27; Jun 3, 10, 17	11	

Grade	Course Title	Day	Time
K1–2	inspirED Reader & Writer	Tuesday	3:00 – 4:00pm
		Wednesday	3:00 – 4:00pm
		Thursday	3:00 – 4:00pm
		Friday	3:00 – 4:00pm
K2–3	inspirED Reader & Writer	Monday	4:10 – 5:40pm
		Tuesday	4:10 – 5:40pm
		Wednesday	4:10 – 5:40pm
		Thursday	4:10 – 5:40pm
		Friday	4:10 – 5:40pm
		Saturday	9:00 – 10:30am
		Saturday	11:00am – 12:30pm
		Saturday	2:00 – 3:30pm
G1–2	inspirED Reader & Writer	Tuesday	4:10 – 5:40pm
		Wednesday	4:10 – 5:40pm
		Thursday	4:10 – 5:40pm
		Friday	4:10 – 5:40pm
		Saturday	9:00 – 10:30am
		Saturday	11:00am – 12:30pm
		Saturday	2:00 – 3:30pm
		Saturday	4:30 – 6:00pm
G3–4	inspirED Reader & Writer	Tuesday	4:10 – 5:40pm
		Tuesday	5:45 – 7:15pm
		Wednesday	4:10 – 5:40pm
		Thursday	4:10 – 5:40pm
		Thursday	5:45 – 7:15pm
		Friday	4:10 – 5:40pm
		Saturday	9:00 – 10:30am
		Saturday	11:00am – 12:30pm
		Saturday	2:00 – 3:30pm
		Saturday	4:30 – 6:00pm
		Saturday	4:30 – 6:00pm

Grade	Course Title	Day	Time
G3–4	Public Speaking	Monday	4:10 – 5:30pm
	Creative Writing	Wednesday	5:45 – 7:15pm
		Friday	5:45 – 7:15pm
G5–6	inspirED Reader & Writer	Tuesday	4:10 – 5:40pm
		Tuesday	5:45 – 7:15pm
		Wednesday	4:10 – 5:40pm
		Thursday	4:10 – 5:40pm
		Thursday	5:45 – 7:15pm
		Friday	4:10 – 5:40pm
		Saturday	9:00 – 10:30am
		Saturday	11:00am – 12:30pm
		Saturday	4:30 – 6:00pm
	Public Speaking	Monday	5:45 – 7:15pm
	Creative Writing	Wednesday	5:45 – 7:15pm
		Friday	5:45 – 7:15pm
G7–8	Public Speaking	Friday	4:10 – 5:40pm
	Academic Writing	Tuesday	4:10 – 5:40pm
		Wednesday	4:10 – 5:40pm
		Thursday	4:10 – 5:40pm
		Friday	4:10 – 5:40pm
		Saturday	2:00 – 3:30pm

scan for class dates,
tuition rates and more!

Testimonials

Parent of G10 student, Kellett School

"Teachers like my daughter's at B&B STEM make it easier for children to quickly pick up skills needed for painting portraits, with their exceptional guidance. She now knows how to layer the lights and darks, adjust color and how to correct "mistakes', with the invaluable encouragement she has received!"

Parent of G1 student, German Swiss International School

"I like the 'Three-Dimensional Learning' which my son's B&B STEM teacher is teaching him through many photos, explanations and hands-on learning. He is studying math in a new way which is useful for him. My son enjoyed the shark that he had made and a funny picture which he brought home!"

Parent of G1 student, St Paul's Co-educational College

" My daughter enjoys the class very much and she told me about the Chinese Cinderella story that was read and discussed during the class. I am very pleased to hear about the constructive feedback her B&B teacher continued to give her and received effective and consistent updates. My daughter has settled in so well that I signed her up for the next module too."

The English Department, French International School

"Our deepest gratitude for all aspects of the workshop Baker & Bloom ran with our Year 12s at FIS. The teacher's calm and authoritative professionalism was invaluable. More specifically, I've been stopped in the corridors by students who not only spoke about how much they enjoyed the workshop and how much they learnt, but also the curriculum content as a whole. Our department noticed how the B&B teacher 'tapped into cultural associations' of the texts so well, and how the strength of his questioning was so effective in scaffolding the students' analysis'"

Parent of K2 student, Concordia International School, Shanghai

"The [B&B] teacher's warm and friendly nature helped our daughter feel at ease from the beginning. How wonderful that we are able to refer to stories they've read and discussed, to remind our child that no matter how small, our contribution can make a big difference! It will help her confidence in the moments in which she questions herself. Our whole family has enjoyed these classes very much. It gives us such joy to see our daughter light up and be enthusiastically engaged during the online lessons. As a teacher myself, I appreciate the reference to the standards addressed in the lessons."

Kindergarden & Primary English

inspirED READER & WRITER

The inspirED Reader & Writer Primary Program addresses the fundamental academic English needs of students aged 4-12, and gives them the skills and necessary knowledge to become the best versions of themselves, inside and outside of the classroom.

Our program is unparalleled for FIVE REASONS:

1

Tailor-Made for Hong Kong Students

Our carefully chosen course materials address common challenges that Hong Kong students face, as identified by our experienced teachers.

2

Research-Based Curriculum

Our curriculum incorporates research from some of the most reputable names in education, including the Teachers College Reading & Writing Project at Columbia University, Dr. Jan Richardson's The Next Step Forward, Dr. Tim Rasinski's The Fluent Reader, and more.

3

Personalized Teaching

Our small class sizes allow teachers to personalize their support for each student's needs as identified by our in-house assessments. This consistent feedback loop ensures that our students are learning the skills they need.

4

Strategies, not Formulas

More often than not, writing is taught through generic formulas and ends with students mimicking model texts with little thought (and learning) involved. We teach strategies and skills that allow students, through deliberate practice, to write confidently for different purposes.

5

The "Whole Package"

There is more to language learning than reading and writing. As befitting our Four-Leaf Approach, our curriculum develops students' creativity, critical thinking, and willingness to learn. We help our students become disciplined, self-motivated learners.

Course Goals

Our courses are organized by modules (7-9 weeks) and terms (2 modules). Each module features a different theme and has grade-level specific thinking, reading, and writing goals to enhance and further a students' understanding. Accoding to your child's year band, students will:

Kindergarten (K2-3): Grow

- Discover the inspiring and powerful world of literature
- Develop strong foundation skills, including phonics
- Practice decoding skills as emergent readers
- Reflect, grow, and express themselves

Grade 1-2: Develop

- Read diverse texts to foster an appetite for learning
- Master decoding strategies to expand vocabulary
- Develop reading strategies to increase comprehension and critical thinking
- Write and edit a range of texts with different purposes

Grade 3-4: Solidify

- Read a variety of texts and genres to fortify comprehension
- Learn and utilize proper writing structures and literary techniques to create intriguing personal narratives
- Think critically and form opinions about real world issues
- Incorporate advance language abilities and refine the basic mechanics of writing

Grade 5-6: Expand

- Read and analyze authentic texts with real-world relevance
- Write expository, narrative, and persuasive essays, as well as poetry
- Learn strategies to expand vocabulary
- Develop critical thinking abilities

Public Speaking

Speech is an important part of language development. Throughout their school years, students use speech to communicate, persuade, and negotiate with their teachers and their peers. This course builds speech confidence and equips students to give execellent presentations at school. Activities will include:

- writing and crafting effective speeches
- Exercises to develop delivery skills
- Discovering and building upon their own unique speaking style

In our Public Speaking program, we explore ways to write and deliver narrative, informative, group, persuasive, and academic speeches.

Secondary English Program

In the secondary phase of education, the academic focus and needs of students become more specific. Our courses provide students with targeted instruction to meet the knowledge requirements for many different senior secondary examinations, including the IGCSE, IBDP, and AP. Wherever possible, we take students beyond their learning at school.

Students read, analyze, and critique challenging literary and non-literary texts so that they can develop transferable skills for school and beyond. Additionally, many parents consider boarding school for their children, so our courses provide students with the rigorous knowledge that will allow them to succeed in these contexts. We also develop course materials to suit the text selections of specific, individual schools.

The excellent results of our program come from:

1. Our teachers' decades of experience teaching senior certificate examinations
2. Our demanding text selections, which develop intellectual, aesthetic and character growth.
3. Our insistence that students grapple with important and interesting ideas that will allow them to continue learning independently in the future.

Our Academic Writing courses rigorously prepare students for the writing they will do throughout high school and university, as well as into the professional world. The skills learned and the exclusive learning materials provided in Academic Writing apply across all major curricula (AP, IB, IGCSE, DSE, etc.) and all academic fields, including college admissions and other professional applications. Students will:

- Be exposed to respectful academic discourse
- Generate and develop their own ideas on topics such as English, art, history, and science
- Put ideas into words in ways that are clear and appropriate for an academic audience
- Practice every step in the writing process – from brainstorming to the final draft
- Read challenging texts to analyze how professional academic writers present their ideas
- Structure sentences, paragraphs, and essays to more effectively convey their perspectives
- Participate in group discussions that strengthen communication skills

In our **G11-12 IBDP English program**, students will:

- Learn the skills and technical terminology that will allow them to succeed in Paper 1, Paper 2, and the Individual Oral
- Receive additional support and feedback on their HL Essay and Learner Portfolio.
- Receive additional instruction and support with the texts they study in their school's courses

STEM program

Baker & Bloom's STEM program is inquiry-based, student-directed, and project-based. This means students have choices regarding how to approach and complete their projects. All projects involve at least two disciplines from the STEM acronym: Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math. What makes our program special is the integration of these subjects into transdisciplinary lessons that are based on real-world problems.

Jobs are increasingly interdisciplinary and we believe that 21st-century education should teach students how subjects integrate and work together. Skills need to be taught in an applied way, as part of a greater whole, rather than the traditional approach of individual subject silos.

inspirED STEM

Localized & Up-to-Date

Explore topics relevant to the latest techonological advances in Hong Kong and our region. Make connections between technology and current events.

Project-Based

Develop the knowledge and skills to design and build projects that solve real-world environmental, social and economic challenges.

Standards-Aligned

Practice academic skills that are fully aligned with IB, (I)GCSE, Next Generation Science Standards, and Common Core Math curricula.

Past students have **won NASA competitions, Math Olympiads**, applied for **patents for inventions**, and **built expansive personal** digital and non-digital **portfolios**.

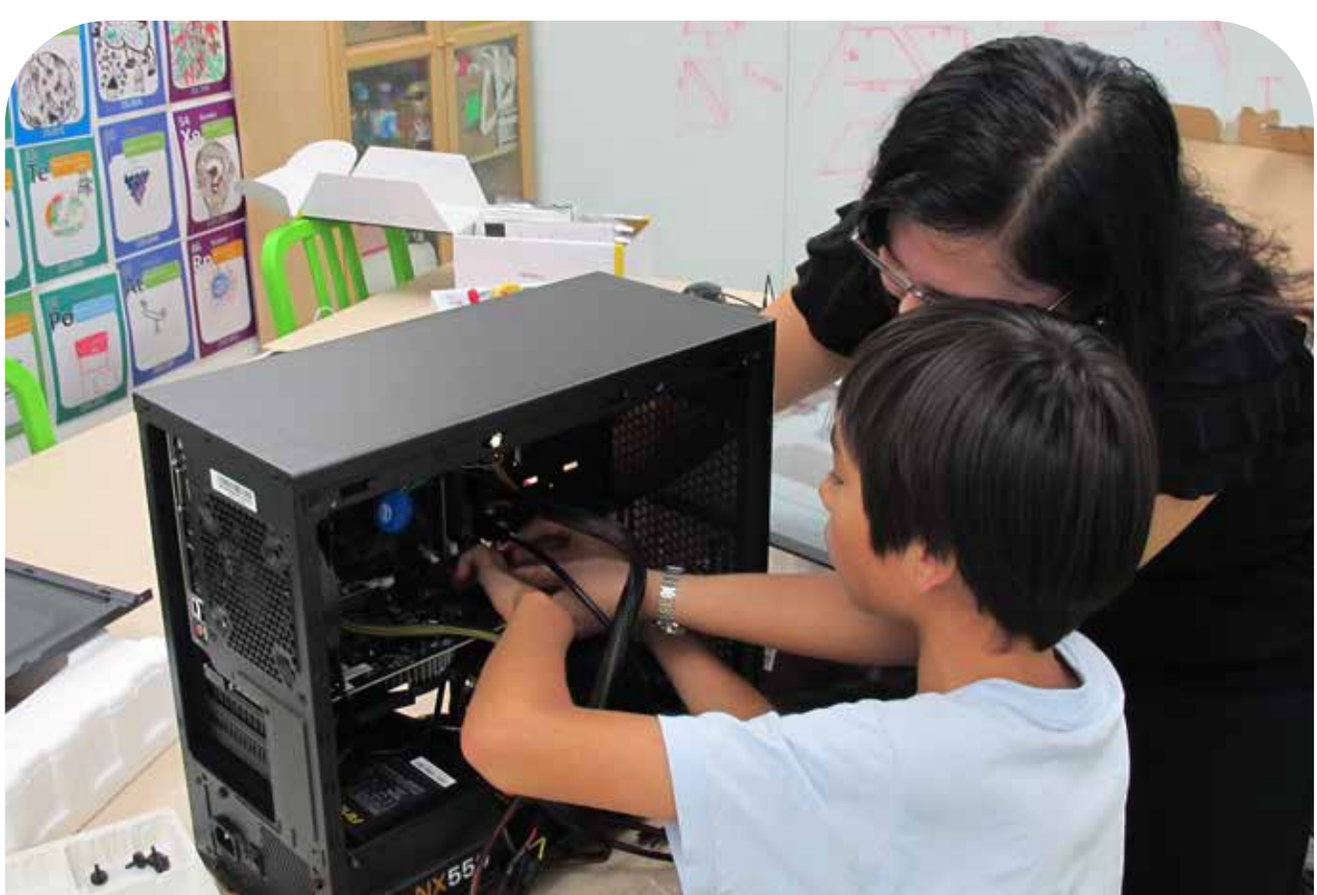
In our dynamic and pioneering STEM courses, students will:

inspirED STEM: Mathematics

- Learn math concepts through familiar activities
- Complete math drills through interactive exercises with other students
- Use storytelling to reinforce math, science and engineering concepts
- Learn to think scientifically and employ the scientific method
- Understand the application of math in real-world situations and current events
- Use STEM concepts to solve problems

STEM Private courses and One-on-One Academic Support

Does your child want to learn how to code computer games, or create their own robot? How about designing their own gadget prototypes, or learning about space?
Our expert teachers can tailor-make a program that suits your child's interests and needs. Our STEM faculty has a wide range of interdisciplinary knowledge and skill sets across technology, design thinking, software engineering, organic farming, math, robotics, graphic design, project management, entrepreneurship, and more... Let us help you design your child's personalized STEM adventure!



啟。創。中文
inspirED CHINESE

課程採用創意互動的沈浸式教學模式，將引導學生充滿自信的運用中文交流，使用創造性思維去理解及欣賞中國文學。

Baker & Bloom's inspirED Chinese Program empowers children to speak, comprehend, appreciate and communicate in Chinese with confidence and creativity.

針對中文的特殊性，精心設計的語言項目。

我們常常聽到這樣的聲音：中文是世界上最難學的語言。與字母語言相比，中文確實難：尤其是聲調和漢字。我們必須認識足夠的漢字才能達到基本的中文讀寫能力。而被譽為天生語言學習者的孩子，則能以自然的方式輕鬆習得。因此，我們獨創一種有趣、多感官，適合學生身心特點的拼音學習方法，讓孩子在輕鬆愉悅的環境中習得拼音；在沿用行之有效的漢字教學法的同時，我們還研發了涵蓋故事、遊戲、創意學習工具等多感官漢字教學法，以幫助孩子奠定扎實的識字能力及閱讀功底。

Our program addresses the unique, typological features of Chinese. We hear that Chinese is a difficult language, but if taught well, two of its hardest aspects – its tonal nature and character system – can be learned quite naturally when children are young. We have designed an original pinyin learning method that engages the whole body and use songs and games to encourage stress-free, playful learning. We use time-honored strategies to teach characters but also embrace stories and creative learning tools – such as Montessori toys to help kids absorb and recognize characters.

優化主題課程及項目式學習模式。

我們的幼稚園和小學的課程採用精心設計的主題教學模式，以兒童發展里程碑及學習興趣作為教學目標來組織教學活動。我們高年級的課程結合了項目式學習法，旨在鍛鍊學生知行合一的能力，激發學生的學習能動性，培養學生使用語言技能解決現實問題的能力。

We use theme and project-based learning. Our kindergarten and elementary program adopts carefully chosen themes that target developmental milestones and interests to organize content and skills. Our higher level classes incorporate differentiated project-based learning that urges students to use language skills to solve real-world problems and pursue their own interests.

以學生為中心的創意教學法。

我們相信，孩子有利用天生好奇心來構建知識體系學習的潛力。這種情況發生的最好時機是：他們對事物擁有強烈的探索欲、對所學知識感興趣、對主題活動參與度高。針對這些特點，我們設計了以學生為中心的創意教學法：學生將在角色扮演和戲劇活動中，自然習得主題詞彙和句子結構；我們將詩歌朗誦、歌曲吟唱、故事演繹等活動置於我們的課堂教學，由經驗豐富、口語純正的普通話教師引導活動。我們以培養學生的聽說能力為起點，加強閱讀和寫作能力為基礎，最終達到學生能夠自主鑒賞語言文化的目標。

Our teachers use a creative, student-centered and nurturing approach. We believe in a child's natural curiosity and potential to learn through constructing knowledge for themselves. Through role-play and games, students will pick up curated vocabulary and useful sentence structures. They will also learn poetry and songs, listen to and read stories, all the while guided by Chinese teachers modeling native pronunciation and clear enunciation. We begin with building oral fluency, then to the fundamentals of reading and writing, and ultimately cultivate an appreciation for the richness of Chinese literature and culture.

學前班 (K2-3)

- 創意拼音和識字
- 創意互動唱遊和故事演繹
- 情境角色扮演
- 讀者劇院
- Active, multisensory pinyin learning method
- Interactive singing and storytelling
- Situational role-play
- Tang poetry recitation
- Reader's theater

初小班 (G1-G2)

- 建立拼音技巧，掌握中文發音
- 學習中文字，為獨立閱讀做準備
- 項目式學習，融入現實世界，接受挑戰，以激發好奇心和參與度
- Build pinyin skills to master pronunciation
- Recognize characters to prepare for independent reading
- Incorporate real-world challenges and situations to stimulate curiosity and engagement

Admissions Support United States

BOARDING SCHOOL

Every person – every family – has a unique story. At Baker & Bloom we take a personalized approach to help you develop the little stories you have accumulated over time into a narrative that will bring out your child's personality, as well as showcase their achievements.
As studying abroad becomes increasingly popular and competitive, Baker & Bloom is here to help by making US boarding school applications less daunting. Whether you need a comprehensive approach to the entire process or simply some help with essays or interviews, we are here to help.

Our services:

- School selection
- Academic enrichment and project advising
- Extracurricular activity assessment and recommendations
- Summer activity recommendations and support
- Application assistance
- Interview prep
- Personal statement brainstorming and editing
- Portfolio advising -- creating and editing
- Parent statement support

Our students have received offers from the following schools:

- Andover
- Fay
- Choate
- Groton
- Deerfield
- Lawrenceville
- Exeter
- Hotchkiss
- Middlesex
- Milton
- St. Paul's
- Taft

and so much more...!

CHECK OUT OUR BACK PAGE FOR MORE SCHOOLS!

UNIVERSITIES

US colleges are now looking for students that have demonstrated interest in their preferred field of study both inside and outside the classroom. At Baker & Bloom, we strive to get to know you beyond your grades and your test scores – your interests and your goals – to understand your future plans and your ambitions and help you craft an application that shows off your achievements in the best possible light.

Our services:

- School selection
- Academic advising, course selection, enrichment and project advising
- Extracurricular activity assessment and recommendations
- Summer activity recommendation and support
- Test prep recommendations
- Application assistance
- Interview prep
- Personal statement brainstorming and editing
- Portfolio advising, creating and editing

Our students have received offers from the following colleges:

- Boston U
- Brown
- Cornell
- Carnegie Mellon
- Chicago
- Claremont McKenna
- Columbia
- Princeton
- Duke
- Georgetown
- Harvard
- NYU
- Northwestern

and so much more...!

CHECK OUT OUR BACK PAGE FOR MORE UNIVERSITIES!

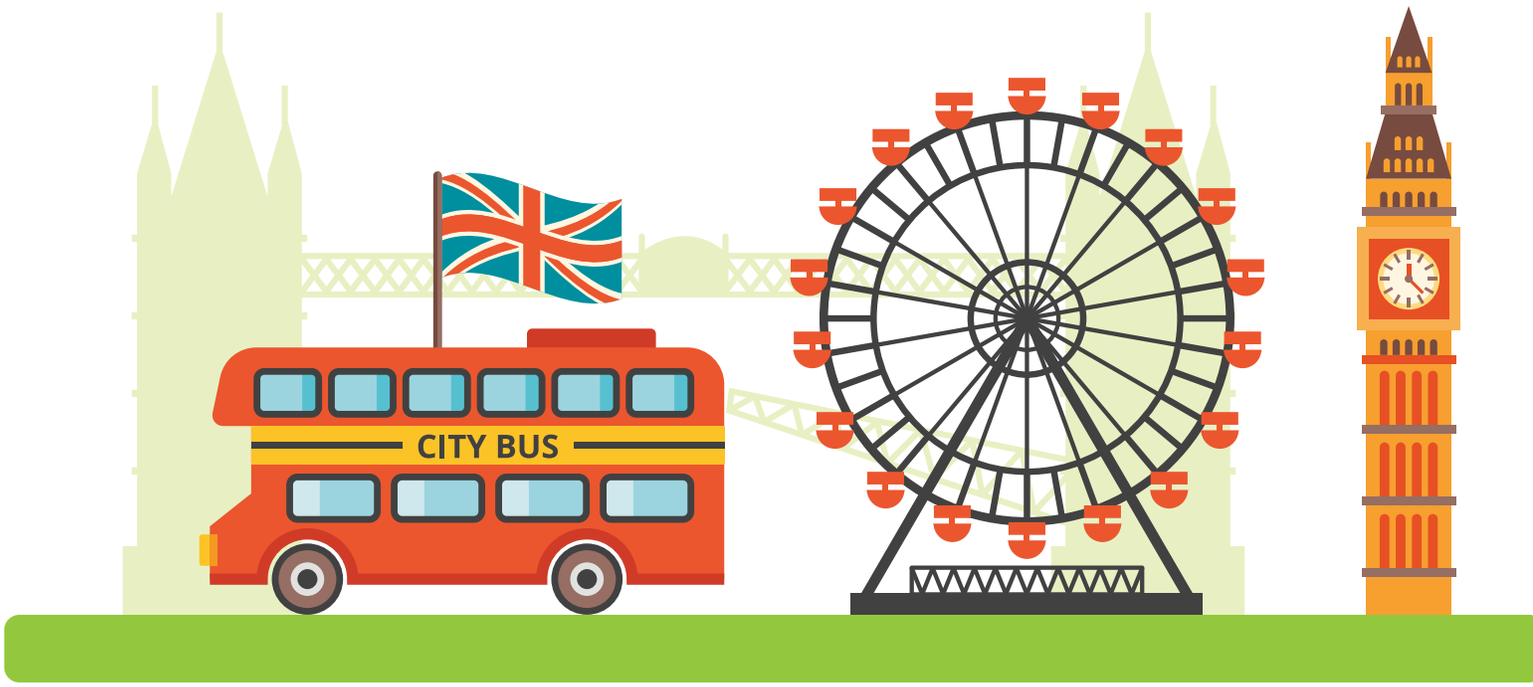
Admissions Support United Kingdom

What type of students do UK boarding schools look for?

They want variety and diversity, i.e. students who will contribute to the wider community of the school; those who engage with what is offered, and add to the culture of the school. They are always hunting for students who have a passion or a genuine interest. This could be in sport, art, music, hobbies, drama, making films, etc. They want more than simply highly-trained pupils. Even in the world of music they will be hunting for real musicality rather than just qualifications. A passion or love of some activity is often more important than numbers and grades.

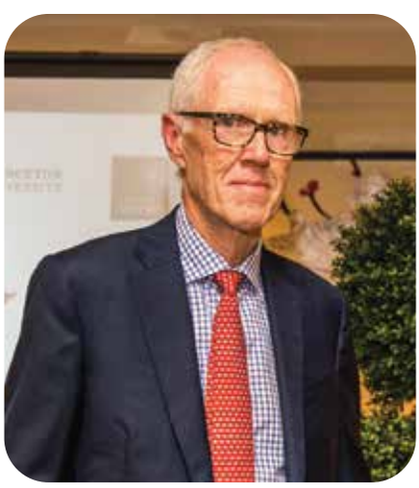
Our services:

- Consultation and guidance through the complete admissions process
- Mock assessments and interviews
- One-on-one or semi private coaching for UKISET, 11+ & 13+ Common Entrance exams, and school-specific entry exams
- Accompanied school visits



OUR COUNSELOR

Mr Rory Reilly



Rory Reilly has over 30 years of experience as a teacher, registrar, and Oxbridge interviewer. A graduate of Trinity College Dublin, Rory has held teaching positions at King's Hospital School, Dublin, King's College School, Wimbledon, and The King's School, Canterbury. In his 10 years as Registrar at The King's School, Canterbury, Rory was instrumental in establishing and developing The Registrar's Conference, an annual meeting for Independent Schools. Rory has a deep understanding of candidate selection at both school and university levels. He was a member of the geography interview panel at Hertford College, Oxford for twelve years and has acted as an Oxbridge advisor to a number of schools in the UK and abroad. He now runs a private consultancy and specializes in preparing and placing pupils in top UK and European Swiss independent boarding and day schools.

Over many years, Rory has built a network of contacts across all the major UK senior and preparatory schools. Part of his brief at The King's School was to build close relationships with the Heads of all the prep feeder schools and, as a result, he knows personally the Head Teachers of almost all of the significant prep schools in the south of England (including in London). He also developed a very strong bond with the Registrars and Directors of Admissions of all the major UK boarding schools. In the summer of 2015, Rory was entrusted with setting up the Late Application Process for the top boarding schools and was the only person to have an overview of late vacancies across all of the major schools. This breadth of experience gives him a clear understanding of the difficulties facing parents when seeking places in this environment, making him ideally positioned to advise them.

Building on his wide experience and range of contacts, Rory's team includes specialist advisors in the areas of Admissions and Assessment, Music, Drama, Mathematics, Science, and the Arts.

Creative Writing

Writing is too often is taught with a narrow goal: to equip the student with a tool for communication when it comes to exams or work. So writing skills are honed with assignments that serve that end: persuasive essays, informational articles, biographical sketches, reviews, and how-to's. We believe those same genres and others can be approached in a way that teaches limitless curiosity and discovery and goes beyond basic communication. Our students learn, from day one, that they are powerful authors. The writing process itself is the goal. Through the process of making books: picture books, graphic novels, chapter books, or whatever books they can envision, students are encouraged to explore and experiment, allowing them to develop invaluable life skills and become deeper human beings.

Students will:

- Learn to think and work independently through the use of a writer's notebook
- Gain confidence to make decisions and to follow through by using writing and editing strategies
- Become risk-takers in learning that asking the right questions are more important than having the right answers
- Learn problem solving in the hard, but joyful, work done during write-alouds and shared/interactive writing
- Celebrate their resourcefulness in finding ideas, information, and inspiration from many different sources, and not just by asking the teacher or a friend for help
- Identify themselves as authors, with big ideas and important things to say
- Go beyond the day's topic because it got them SO excited about something else that they cannot wait to run after it!

Academic Coaching & Private Courses

Baker & Bloom offers **flexible arrangements** for students who wish to work independently on academic work, personal projects, and goals not covered by our core course offerings.

ONE-ON-ONE ACADEMIC SUPPORT

Our knowledgeable coaches support students in a variety of subjects, including:

- English Language and Literature, Chinese, History, Geography, Latin, Physics, Economics, Math, and Humanities
- IB Theory of Knowledge (TOK)
- Academic development in research, study skills, essay writing, oral presentations, vocabulary, and test-taking

PRIVATE COURSES

Form your own group of 3-6 students for a tailor-made course or short workshop to suit your interests, schedule, and learning needs. Private classes can cover:

- Any of the academic subjects offered for one-on-one coaching
- Interview prep, presentation skills, and debate
- Topics derived from our popular holiday workshops such as Mystery Story Writing, Minecraft Writing, and more

If your child and their friends have their own interests or learning goals, email **info@bnb.edu.hk** or whatsapp **44623419**, and we can discuss how to help!

inspirED Programs

inspirED PROJECTS

Our inspirED Projects program provides **unique opportunities** for students to turn personal interests into real-world experiences. This 6-month program helps students **stand out in boarding school and college admissions** and empowers them to **create positive change** in their communities.

Baker & Bloom's coaches, as well as experts in the field, are available to mentor projects in various areas of engineering, the humanities, the sciences, and business.

Past projects include:

- Publishing research papers
- Creative writing and art portfolios for admissions
- Launching school-wide service programs
- Designing mobile apps

inspirED INTERNSHIPS

Jointly designed and taught by Baker & Bloom and CoCoon, this **exclusive** and **personalized** program combines skills training, entrepreneurship education, and **opportunities for professional networking**.

As a leading startup incubator, CoCoon has a **network of over 30,000 entrepreneurs** who have collectively raised over HK$5.5 billion. CoCoon has hosted over 600 events and trained 260+ students from top universities. As a participant in our program, students will have automatic **access to CoCoon's network and events** for one year.

Key Features:

- Bootcamp training in entrepreneurship and career skills
- Placement at a startup that matches students' individual interests
- Mentorship and feedback from a startup's founding team
- Post-internship resume and college essay workshop

Test Prep

Test-taking is made interesting and engaging at Baker & Bloom. Why? Because we understand that there is **much more to it than just rote memorization**. Practice is important, but if a student is not equipped with the right test-taking skills, then repeated drilling just solidifies the negative habits.

Our students complete our test-taking courses with **transferable skills and knowledge**. We help our students improve their **active reading skills** while **broadening** their **general knowledge** in history, science, literature, social sciences, and the humanities.

Our **fun and interactive classes** are aimed at increasing engagement and interest in test-taking. When classes are enjoyable and the test is no longer daunting, your child will feel confident and thrive on test day.

We help students prepare for a range of exams, including:

- SAT
- SAT Subject Tests
- ACT
- ISEE (All levels)
- SSAT (All levels)
- UKISET
- UK Common Entrance Exams 11+ and 13+
- MAP
- School Admissions Exams

Our students come from:

Local

Braemar Hill Nursery School
Diocesan Boys' School
Diocesan Girls' School
Kiangsu-Chekiang College
La Salle College
Marymount School
Po Leung Kuk Choi Kai Yau School
Sheng Kung Hui Kindergarten
St. Catherine's International KG
St. Joseph's College
St. Mary's Canossian
St. Paul's Co-ed College School
St. Paul's Convent School
St. Stephen's College
Victoria Kindergarten
Wah Yan College

International & ESF

American International School
Australian International School
Canadian International School
Chinese International School
French International School
German Swiss International School
Harrow International School
Hong Kong International School
International Christian School
Island School
Li Po Chun United World College
Little Dalton
Malvern College
Nord Anglia International School
Shatin College
Singapore International School
The ISF Academy
Victoria Shanghai Academy
West Island School
Yew Chung International School
York International Kindergarten

Boarding & Overseas

Benenden School (UK)
Cheltenham Ladies College (UK)
Choate Rosemary Hall (US)
Deerfield Academy (US)
Hotchkiss School (US)
Lawrenceville School (US)
Milton Academy (US)
Phillips Academy Andover (US)
Phillips Exeter Academy (US)
Roedean School (UK)
Sevenoaks School (UK)
St. Paul's School (US)
Taft School (US)
Wellington School (UK)
Westminster School (UK)
Winchester College (UK)
Wycombe Abbey (UK)

Our students have been accepted to:

Secondary Schools

Berkshire School
Choate Rosemary Hall
Deerfield Academy
Fay School
Groton School
Harrow School
Loomis Chaffee School
Middlesex School
Milton Academy
Miss Porter's School
Northfield Mount Hermon School
Oundle School
Phillips Academy Andover
Phillips Exeter Academy
St. Paul's School
Taft School
The Hotchkiss School
The Lawrenceville School
Tonbridge School
Williston Northampton School
Winchester College

Universities

Brown University
Carnegie Mellon University
Claremont McKenna
Columbia University
Cornell University
Duke University
Georgetown University
Georgia Institute of Technology
Harvard University
LSE
Middlebury University
New York University
Northeastern University
Pepperdine University
Princeton University
Rhode Island School of Design
Stanford University
Tufts University
UC Berkeley
UCLA
University College London
University of Cambridge
University of Chicago
University of Oxford
University of Pennsylvan
University of Toronto
USC
Wesleyan University

Baker & Bloom Education Center

1/F and 6/F China Hong Kong Tower, 8-12 Hennessy Road, Wanchai, Hong Kong
info@bnb.edu.hk | www.bakerandbloom.com | (852) 2110-4788
@bakerandbloom | @bakerandbloomedu