



Bell

EST 1955

Bell International School

Nursery, Preschool and Primary School



BellSchoolGeneva



bell.switzerland



BellLanguageSchool

Bell International School

Welcome to the Bell International Nursery and Primary School in Geneva, where we offer a caring and well-balanced learning experience which will prepare your child for future educational success, equipping them with high-level personal and academic skills as well as a natural fluency in English.

“For my child, it has been a wonderful experience. I have observed a steep rise in her cognitive and physical skills. She just loves the school!

RIYA, INDIA (PARENT)

Contents

Why study with Bell?	4
Our teaching expertise	6
Our approach to learning	8

Courses

Supporting your child at nursery	10
Nursery 1 (Bilingual)	13
Nursery 2	15
Pre-School Class	17
Preparing for success at primary school	18
Primary Reception	21
Key Stage 1 & 2	23

Location

School life	24
Travel information	25
Our other services	26
For more information	30

Why study with Bell?

We are a leading language school and education provider – delivering unforgettable learning experiences that transform lives. Here are just a few reasons why we are confident that Bell is the right school for your child.

1

Excellent care

Your child's safety and welfare is our top priority. We have dedicated and caring staff members on hand throughout the day with a ratio of staff to students as low as 1:6 in Nursery classes, up to a maximum of 1:12 in Primary.

2

Learning The Bell Way

Alongside an Emeritus Professor from the world-renowned University of Cambridge, Bell has developed six core learning principles called 'The Bell Way', designed to build your child's confidence and make them better learners.

3

Track record of success

We are regularly reviewed by independent industry regulators and local authority departments who conduct a comprehensive assessment of our school and ensure we achieve excellence across all that we do.

4

65 years of experience

For over 65 years, Bell has been helping more than one million students and teachers around the world change their lives and achieve their learning goals. Bell Switzerland has now been operating for over 25 years.

5

Diverse nationality mix

We believe a diverse nationality mix is very important to a child's overall learning experience. In the last year, Bell's Nursery and Primary welcomed young students from over 20 different countries and 7 languages are spoken by the team.

6

Ideal locations

Our school is based in the heart of the international district in Geneva and just a few minutes walk from the United Nations Palace. The school has bright, spacious classrooms and contemporary facilities.

7

Year-round courses

Our courses run throughout the academic year from August to June with additional holiday weeks available. Plus, we also have summer courses and playgroups available for all levels, so your child can accelerate their learning.

8

Teaching expertise

All our teachers are highly qualified in their fields and are dedicated to continually innovating their classroom teaching, maximising the impact of learning on students and transforming their school experience while at Bell.

9

Student-focused approach

We strongly believe that giving each student constructive and personalised feedback to help them achieve their goals, is fundamental to their success.

Minimum staff
to student ratio

1:6 

In the last year,
we welcomed young
students from over

20 different
countries.

“Great
teachers, good
infrastructure,
small class sizes,
all positive for us
and our child.

LAETITIA, SWITZERLAND (PARENT)

Our teaching expertise

Children's learning at the Bell Nursery and Primary School follows the curriculum for UK Early Years and Primary education and is underpinned by our own set of educational principles – The Bell Way – which aims to enhance your child's progress and ensure their success in a fun and caring environment.



Céline Tomasso
Head of Nursery

Céline joined Bell in 2016 with 25 years' experience in children's education. She has a qualification in pre-school education and speaks fluent English and French, as well as having a good level of German. Céline has played a key role in the development of our Nursery programmes.



Roseanne Casalaspo
Head of Primary School

With over a decade of experience in primary education, Rosie joined our team in 2021, bringing her expertise and a deep commitment to nurturing young minds. Originally from London, she is passionate about creating a dynamic and inclusive environment where every child can reach their full potential.

Our theme-based approach to teaching creates variety, interest and motivation for the students. Each theme is carefully selected by the academic team depending on the level of the class and changes on a monthly or termly basis.

“There is no better place for your child to develop their English language skills and flourish as an all-round successful student.”

PAUL, BELARUS (PARENT)

Our approach to learning

The Bell Way is core to everything we do. We encourage your child to be curious, enjoy learning and become a confident and independent learner.

The Bell Way

UNIQUE INDIVIDUAL

We will adapt teaching to suit your child

We are expert at working with children of different needs, levels and languages. We know every student is unique and our teachers are skilled in different approaches to learning.

Our flexible programmes offer different levels of challenge to children depending on their age and experience.

LEARNING EVERYWHERE

We teach inside and outside of the classroom

Children learn faster and more successfully when they use English all the time and in a range of situations.

Learning takes place inside and outside the classroom with all members of staff. We show parents how to help their children continue the learning process at home.

ORGANISATIONAL LEARNING

We never stop learning

We believe in lifelong learning and always strive to be the best for our students. Our teaching scored highly in recent inspections, but we are always looking to improve.

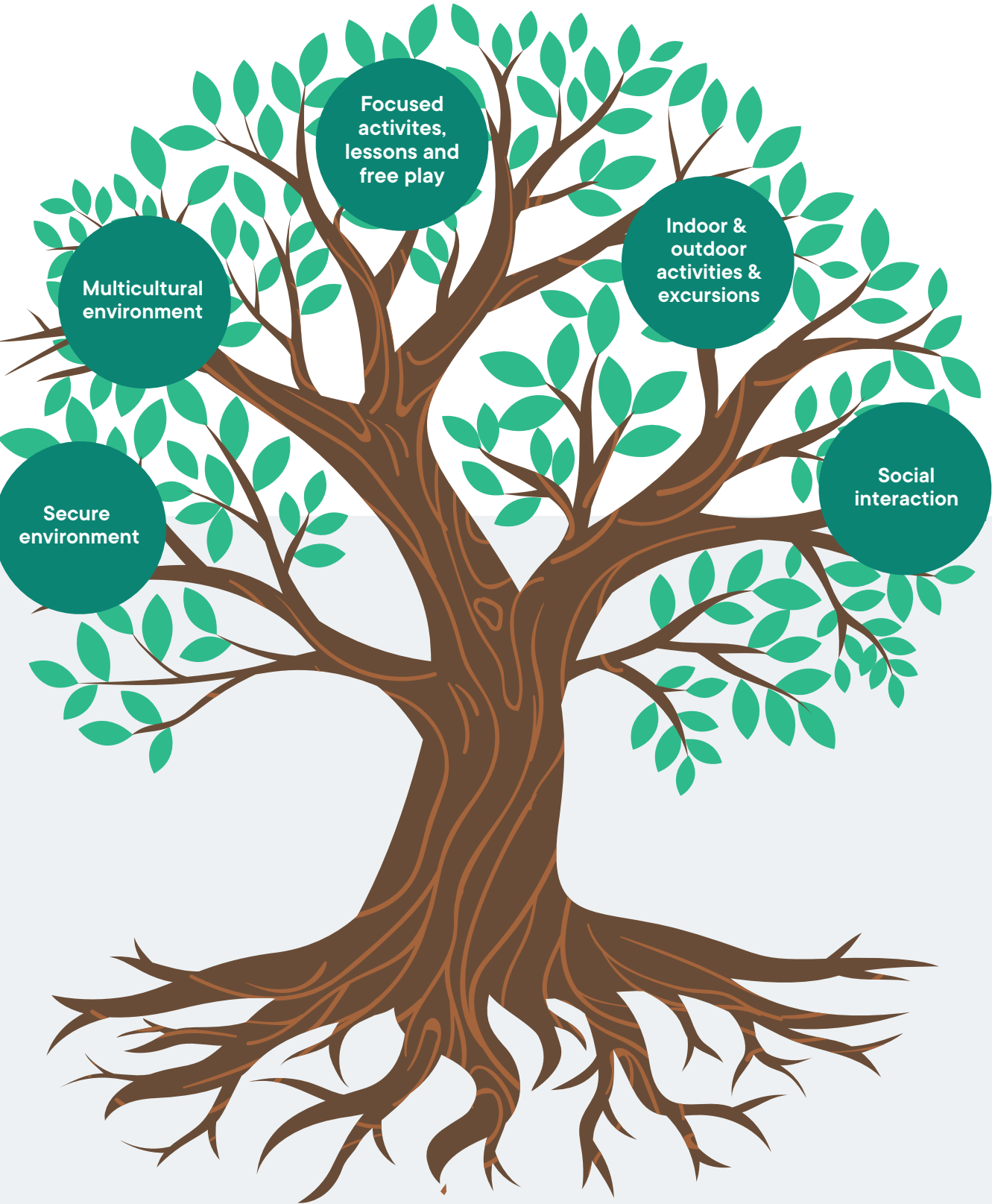
We encourage innovation and develop our staff so that their approach to learning is always fresh and new.

HIGH EXPECTATIONS

We show students a clear path to success

We want our students to be the best they can be and have the confidence to accomplish anything.

We strive to make outstanding the norm and inspire each child to be the best they can be. We expect our teachers to be the best in the business.



ASSESSMENT AS LEARNING

We give your child regular feedback

We continually check each child's progress and help them move to the next level.

We regularly provide feedback to parents through reports and parent meeting.

CLARITY OF LEARNING

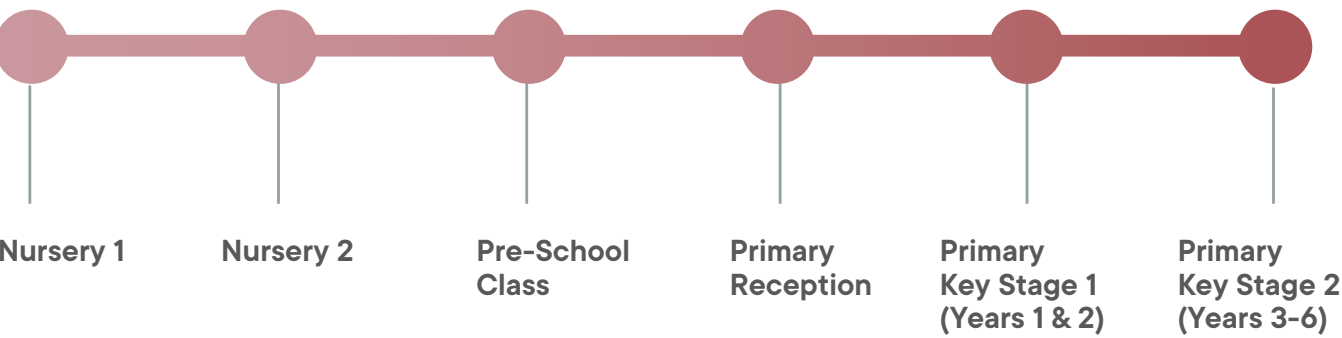
We want students to dream big

We make aims clear to children in engaging ways that inspire them to share their achievements.

Our Parent-Teacher communication and interaction help our parents understand their child's development.

Supporting your child at nursery

Our safe and supportive nursery environment is designed to complement your child’s development at home – helping them to develop lifelong skills, self-confidence, and a strong foundation for future educational success.



An important part of our approach is theme-based learning. This fully integrated approach to your child’s development provides them with cross-curricular opportunities for learning everywhere, inside and outside the classroom.

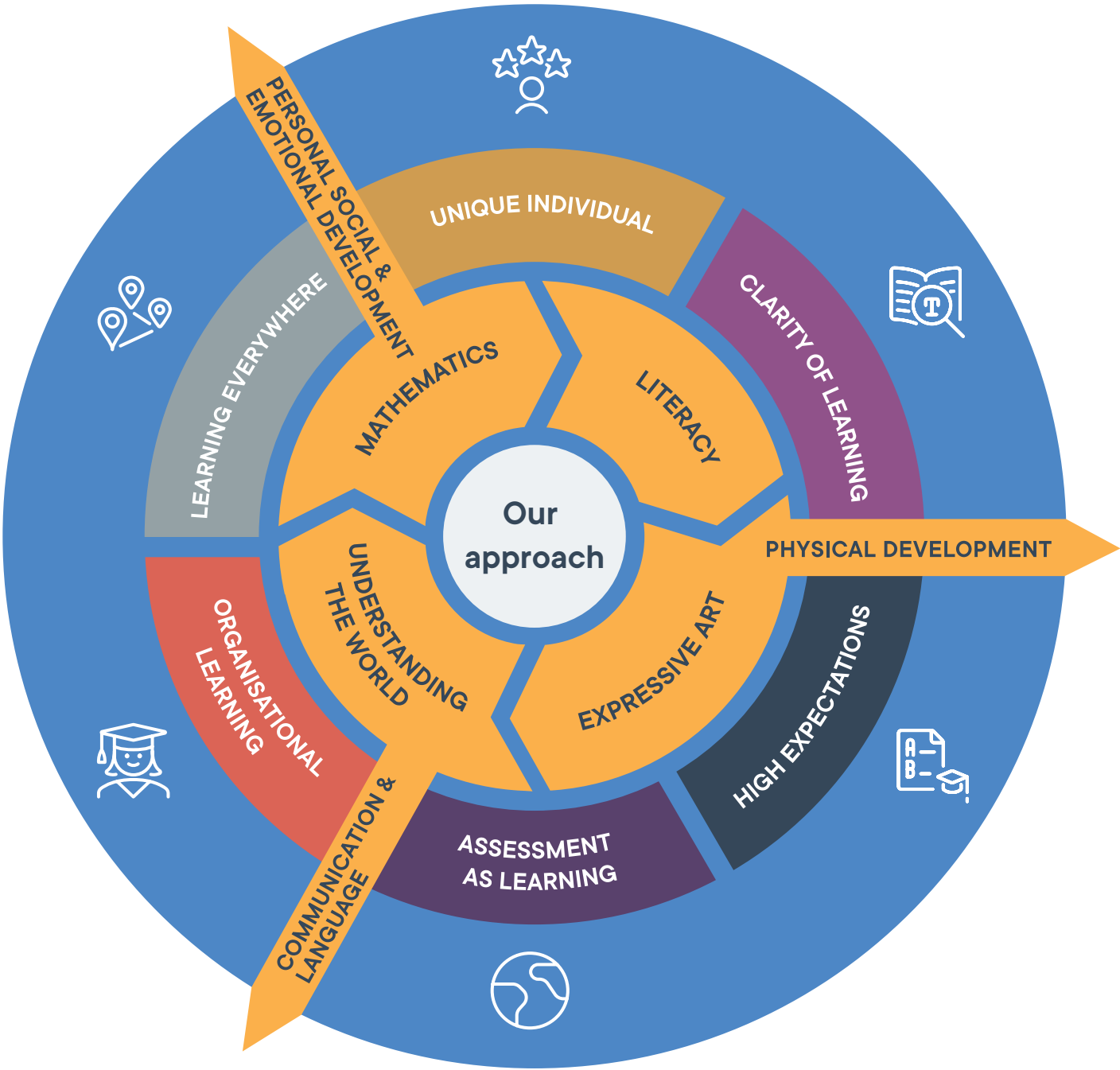
With new themes carefully selected by our Academic team and incorporated into each week, month, and term, we ensure that their learning experience is consistently fresh, motivating and engaging.

Early Years Foundation Stage

All our nursery school classes follow the Early Years Foundation Stage Framework – a UK standard.

All learning is underpinned by seven areas of learning and development, which complement the Bell Way principles. These are split into three prime and four specific areas.

Activities are set through planned, purposeful play and a vital mix of adult led and child-initiated play. The three prime areas are time-sensitive in the development of the child as they cover crucial goals to be achieved by the 5th birthday that will set its learning path for the coming years. Our teaching will focus on the prime areas although not exclusively, as none of the areas can be developed in isolation.



Prime areas of learning and development

The prime areas will help them to develop skills in three areas.

- These are:
- ▶ Communication and language
 - ▶ Physical development
 - ▶ Personal, social and emotional development

Specific areas of learning

The development in the specific areas is tied and underpinned by those in the prime areas.

- These are:
- ▶ Literacy
 - ▶ Mathematics
 - ▶ Understanding the world
 - ▶ Expressive arts and design



BILINGUAL

Nursery 1

This class is for:

- ▶ Children of 2 to 3 and a half years old (children must be at least 2 years old on their first day of class).
- ▶ Parents looking for socialisation for their child.

Class objectives:

- ▶ Develop language skills.
- ▶ Learn basic rules about social integration in society, including sharing, listening and respect.
- ▶ Learn new vocabulary in English and French.
- ▶ Develop confidence and independence.
- ▶ Improve motor skills.
- ▶ Discover new materials and new games.
- ▶ Develop social skills.

Pedagogy

The programme in Nursery 1 is specially designed for children of 2 to 3 and a half years of age.

We particularly focus on language skills and social-emotional development.

Children are immersed in a bi-lingual environment, alternating each week with native speaking French and English teachers.

Children learn new words and songs, and join in with stories, music, experiments, crafts, games and outings all of which provide a stimulating environment for learning.

We have a ratio of 1 adult to 6 children which allows us to take each child's individual rhythm and needs into consideration.

We schedule an individual settling in period for each child taking into account their specific needs.

We want your child to feel happy confident and secure.

Activities

In an environment adapted to the needs of 2 -3 year-olds, our teachers put varied and stimulating activities in place to do in groups or individually.



Free play



Guided activities



Crafts



Motricity activities



Songs



Stories



Dancing



Walks



Small world play

Minimum staff to student ratio

1:6

Course summary

Location	Bell Colombettes
Min. age	2 years old*
Class size (avg / max)	8 / 15
Term start dates	August January March
Enrolment option	From 2 half days to 4 full days per week

**Children must be 2 years old before entering the class*

Typical day

Morning session

- Welcome and free choice of activities
- Activities / Lessons
- Snacks & Recreation
- Activities / Lessons
- Goodbye and collection of children

Lunch break

- For children staying the whole day

Afternoon session

- Welcome and free choice of activities
- Activities / Lessons
- Snacks & Recreation
- Activities / Lessons
- Goodbye and home time



Nursery 2

Course description

Learning through play, with native level English teachers, children are taught in English and follow the Bell EYFS curriculum. This programme is mapped to the UK Early Years Foundation Stage framework, which develops the children's intellectual, social and motor skills.

In this class, your child will:

- ▶ Practice social skills.
- ▶ Develop awareness of letters and their sounds.
- ▶ Explore numbers.
- ▶ Develop creative expression in music, movement and art.
- ▶ Have the opportunity to continue learning in French.
- ▶ Have a greater understanding of their immediate environment.
- ▶ Develop an enquiring mind.
- ▶ Develop fine and gross motor skills.
- ▶ Gain autonomy.
- ▶ Become more independent.

Our approach

The Nursery 2 class is using the natural inquisitive minds and increased skills of the children to further their development and guide them through activities and lessons. Teachers are driving engaging learning activities that make the most of what your child can do while encouraging exploration. Within the context of play, traditional subjects such as mathematics, science and literacy alongside social skills are taught and integrated into the activities undertaken.

Parents of children attending the class will be allowed a tailored settling period to ease the transition and to allow you and your child to make sure you're both feeling happy and comfortable with the new surroundings.

Bilingual option

Children can benefit from a bilingual environment 2 afternoons per week. Sessions are led by a native French speaker and will integrate into the current nursery theme with simple stories, songs, games and crafts to support learning.



Free play



Guided activities



Crafts



Motricity activities



Songs



Stories



Dancing



Walks



Small world play

Minimum staff to student ratio

1:8



Course summary

Location	Bell Colombettes
Min. age	2 ½ years old
Class size (avg / max)	12 / 16
Term start dates	August January March
Required	Students need to be toilet-trained
Enrolment option	From 2 half days to 4 full days per week

Typical day

Morning session

- Welcome and free choice of activities
- Activities / Lessons
- Snacks & Recreation
- Activities / Lessons
- Goodbye and collection of children attending morning sessions only

Lunch break

- For children staying the whole day

Afternoon session

- Welcome and free choice of activities
- Activities / Lessons
- Snacks & Recreation
- Activities / Lessons
- Goodbye and home time



Pre-School Class

Course description

Learning through play, with native level English teachers, children are taught in English and follow the Bell EYFS curriculum. This programme is mapped to the UK Early Years Foundation Stage framework, which develops the children’s intellectual, social and motor skills and incorporates early concepts in mathematics and literacy.

In this class, your child will:

- ▶ Begin to recognise and use letters and sounds (phonics).
- ▶ Develop an understanding of mathematical concepts.
- ▶ Build their creative expression in music, movement and art.
- ▶ Further develop their knowledge of French.
- ▶ Have a greater understanding of their immediate environment.
- ▶ Develop an enquiring mind.
- ▶ Develop fine motor skills.
- ▶ Grow in autonomy and confidence for a smooth transition into obligatory education.

Our approach

By introducing phonics and developing a deeper understanding of early mathematical concepts we support intellectual curiosity and lifelong learning in pre-school children. Our teachers will be facilitators in the learning process as your child starts to learn independently.

Bilingual option

Children can benefit from a bilingual enrolment option two afternoons per week. Sessions are led by a native French speaker and will integrate into the current class theme with simple stories, songs, games and crafts to support learning.



Free play



Guided activities



Crafts



Motricity activities



Songs



Stories



Dancing



Walks



Small world play

Minimum staff to student ratio
1:8

Course summary	
Location	Bell Colombettes
Min. age	3 ½ years old
Class size (avg / max)	8 / 10
Term start dates	August January March
Required	Students need to be toilet-trained
Enrolment options	From 4 mornings to 4 full days per week



Preparing for success at primary school

Our primary school programmes will support you and your child in taking those critical next steps in their learning and development.

Our teaching approach draws from the UK Early Years Foundation Stage and the National Curriculum. Key principles of the Bell Way underpin everything they do. Your child will be encouraged to aim high, exceed their expectations and develop a strong foundation of life-long skills for their future education, life and work.

Students will learn through play and meaningful activities in a school environment, developing their core skills in listening, speaking, reading, writing and mathematics to maximise their success when transitioning into Key Stage 1 and 2 schooling.

Primary School Reception Class

Our Reception class prepares pupils to continue their English language learning journey and for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of later life.

Children turning 4 years old before 31 July must attend Primary School from the beginning of the next school year.

Our Reception class support students through this important transition. For children who do not speak English at home and are 3 years and over, we offer additional classes on Wednesdays. Please contact the Head of the Nursery and Primary School for further information.

Key Stage 1 and 2 curriculum

Your child will be making the exciting transition from Early Years Education to primary school where they will enter formal education and study core curriculum subjects, including:

Core subjects:

- ▶ Mathematics
- ▶ Science
- ▶ English

Foundation subjects:

- ▶ Art and design
- ▶ Computing
- ▶ French
- ▶ Design and technology
- ▶ Geography
- ▶ History
- ▶ Music
- ▶ Physical Education





Primary Reception

Course description

The Primary Reception class curriculum completes the final year of the UK Early Years Foundation Stage Framework. The curriculum, incorporating the Bell principles, is mapped to the local education authority's requirements. A Reception class marks most children's very first step into formal schooling. This can be an exciting time as children in our Primary Reception class start to prepare for the next stage of their education.

Your child will continue learning through play. They will be busy exploring, discovering, and listening to stories. They will be getting used to a more formal school environment, learning to concentrate and listen to the teacher.

Our approach

Our teaching approach draws from the UK Early Years Foundation Stage framework underpinned by the Bell Way.


On this course, your child will:

- ▶ Express themselves confidently in a range of situations.
- ▶ Apply mathematical skills for basic problem solving and functions.
- ▶ Develop strong phonic awareness.
- ▶ Develop vocabulary and language awareness.
- ▶ Develop early reading and writing skills.
- ▶ Develop a rich understanding of their culture and environment.

Bilingual Option

Children can benefit from a bilingual enrolment option two afternoons per week. Sessions are led by a native French speaker and will integrate simple stories, songs, games and crafts to support learning.

Activities and lessons

 **Reading & Writing**

 **Story time**


 **Maths**

 **French**

 **Arts & Crafts**

 **Physical activity**

 **Visits & excursions**

 **Music, songs and rhymes**

Minimum staff to student ratio

1:12       

Course summary

Location	Bell Colombettes
Min. age	4 years old
Class size (avg / max)	7 / 12
Term start dates	August January March
Required	Children must be toilet trained
Class schedule	4 mornings and 2 afternoons
Enrolment option	2 additional afternoons

Typical day

Morning session

- 8:30 : Welcome and Registration
- 9:00 : Activities / Lessons
- 10:15 : Snacks & Recreation
- 10:45 : Activities / Lessons
- 12:00 : Goodbye and collection of children attending morning sessions only

12:00 - 13:15 : Lunch break

- For children staying the whole day

Afternoon session

- 13:15 : Welcome and Registration
- 13:30 : Activities / Lessons
- 15:15 : Snacks & Recreation
- 15:45 : Activities / Lessons
- 16:30 : Goodbye and home time



KEY STAGE 1

Key Stage 1 & 2

Course description

Primary Years 1 to 6 are based on the curriculum for England at Key Stage 1 (a 2 year cycle) and Key Stage 2 (a 4 year cycle). It provides pupils with an introduction to the essential knowledge they need to become educated citizens, inspires their learning and stimulates an appreciation of human creativity and achievement.

Our approach

Our teaching approach draws from the National Curriculum for England, underpinned by the Bell Way.

In these stages, your child will:

- ▶ Express themselves competently in a range of situations.
- ▶ Build on phonic awareness to become fluent readers.
- ▶ Compose narratives.
- ▶ Develop skills in addition and subtraction, multiplication and division, fractions, measurement, properties of shapes, position and direction.
- ▶ Develop a rich understanding of their culture and environment.

Activities and lessons



English



Maths



Science



Languages
(French)



Geography



Personal, Social &
Health Education



History



Arts



Physical Education



Design and Technology



Computing



Music and Drama



Visits & excursions

Minimum staff to
student ratio

1:12       

Course summary

Location	Bell Colombettes
Min. age	5 years old
Class size (avg / max)	8 / 12
Term start dates	August January March
Class schedule	4 full days

Typical day

Morning session

- 8:30 : Welcome and Registration
- 9:00 : Activities / Lessons
- 10:15 : Snacks & Recreation
- 10:45 : Activities / Lessons
- 12:00 : Goodbye and collection of children attending morning sessions only

12:00 - 13:15 : Lunch break

- For children staying the whole day

Afternoon session

- 13:15 : Welcome and Registration
- 13:30 : Activities / Lessons
- 15:15 : Snacks & Recreation
- 15:45 : Activities / Lessons
- 16:30 : Goodbye and home time

School life

At Bell, we believe that education goes beyond the classroom. We aim to instil this love of learning in our students through our extra-curricular programmes, which complement their learning in class as well as offer parents the opportunity to enrol your children in activities outside of school hours.

Educational Visits

Our Preschool, Reception and Primary classes attend an educational visit at least once per half term, adding excitement and real-life learning opportunities to the topics studied in class. Recent trips have included visiting the Bioparc, the Natural History Museum, art exhibitions and the theatre. To enrich our students' learning experiences further, we also invite members of our local community – authors, architects, actors, and professionals from all walks of life, to share their expertise and passion through engaging workshops and talks.

Early doors

Every child at Bell School is also offered the opportunity to join our Early Doors programme from 08:00 – 08:30 every morning.

What we offer:

Nutritious breakfast: A variety of wholesome options including cereals, fresh fruit and milk, to ensure children are energised and ready to learn.

Active Play: Opportunities for physical play to wake up young bodies and minds, including games and movement activities.

Creative fun: Quiet, creative activities like drawing, puzzles and reading for those who prefer a calm start to their day.

After School Programme

Our after-school club programme runs from 16:45 – 18:00 every Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, offering flexible options for busy families. Our vibrant programme is designed to enrich, engage and inspire students beyond the classroom, offering them a variety of activities where they can develop their personal, social and educational skills. All clubs are supervised by trained and caring staff, ensuring your child is safe, happy and well cared for.

School Restaurant Service

At Bell, we are proud to partner with iSensi, a local and trusted provider of healthy and nutritious meals for our students. This service ensures that every child has access to balanced, delicious food that supports their learning and wellbeing. Lunch times are a chance to refuel, connect with friends, and recharge for the afternoon ahead.

Fresh, quality ingredients: iSensi focus' on using fresh, seasonal produce to provide hot meals with protein, vegetables and healthy grains. Fresh fruit or a wholesome dessert is included to complete their lunch.

Catering for all: Vegetarian, vegan, allergen-free and culturally inclusive meal choices are offered, ensuring that every child can enjoy a meal which is right for them.

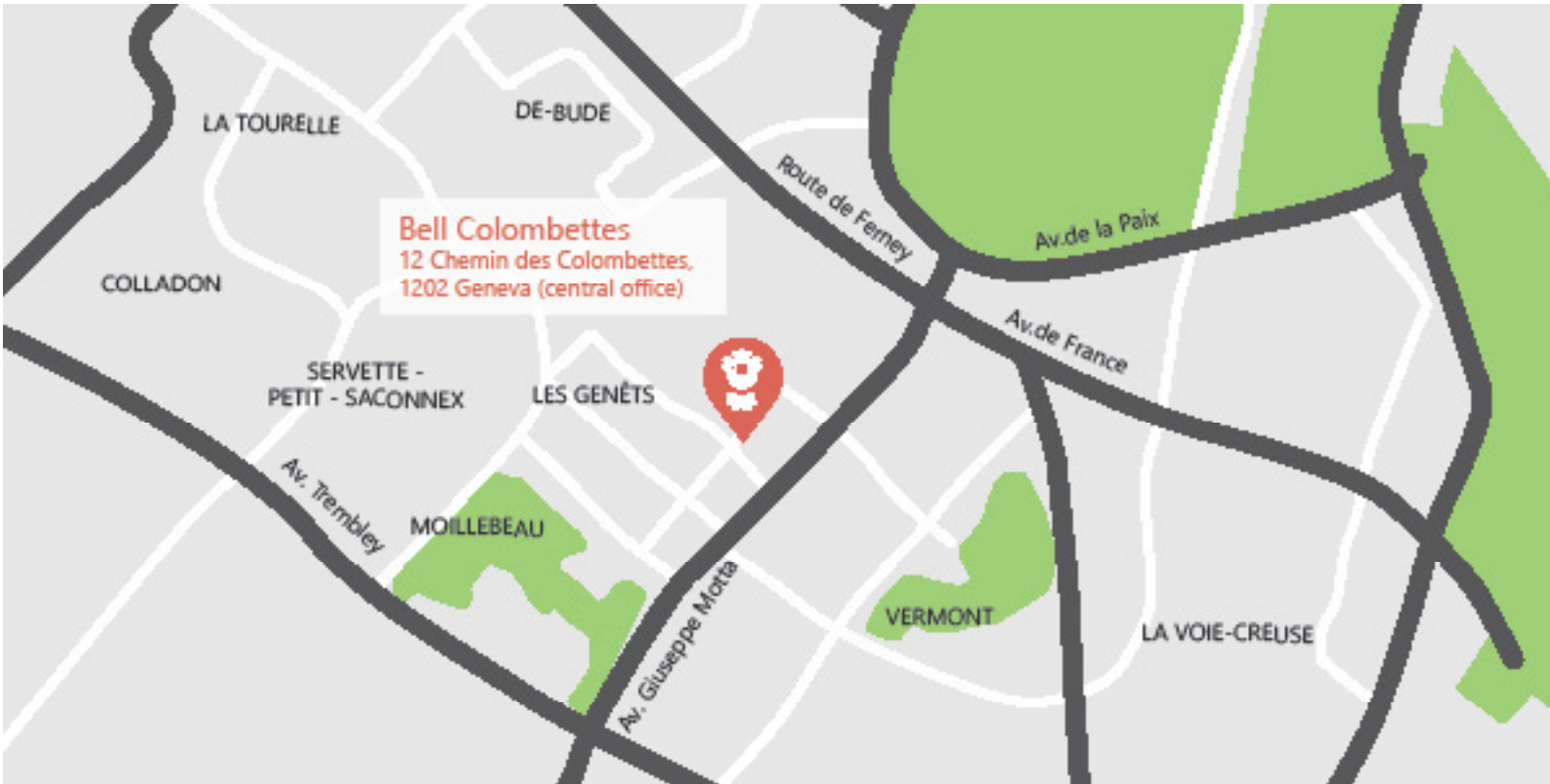
School Camps

Keep the fun going during the school holiday with our Winter, Spring and Summer Explorer camps. Our programmes focus on developing core English language skills through project-based learning activities and interactive learning. Designed for children of all ages, our camps offer an engaging environment where children can make memories, learn new skills and have a great time.

Action packed activities: From sports and games to arts and crafts, there's something for everyone to enjoy.

Outdoor fun: Weather permitting, children can enjoy fresh air with outdoor sports, nature walks and playground games.

Creative workshops: Explore drama, music or painting with creative activities tailored to spark imagination.



Bell at Colombettes

We have been delivering impactful learning experiences across all ages at Bell Colombettes for almost three decades – starting at nursery and primary through to adults, professionals and even English language teachers.

Travel information

The school's ideal location offers fantastic transport links – whether you are travelling by car, bus, or tram.

For up-to-date travel information, please visit our website.



Our other services

With over 65 years of international teaching experience, we can support you, your child, your group, or your entire institution to achieve their full potential.

Whatever your age or language level, our full range of courses will support you in achieving your goals in learning, life and work.

Here are just a few of the other courses we have on offer.

Young Learner programmes Evening, Wednesday and Saturday

Available for students aged 3-18 years, our young learner English courses for native and non-native speakers set your child up for a bilingual future.

- ▶ Students learn through a combination of classes and activities, so they can put their new linguistic skills into practice.
- ▶ For children between 3 to 14 years old, we also provide camps in English and German during the school holidays, in autumn, winter and over at Easter and the summer.

Teacher Training programmes

Whether you are brand new to the world of teaching, want to upskill or continue your professional development with our global community of teachers, we have the perfect course for you.

- ▶ Teachers that train with Bell have an outstanding reputation in the English language teaching industry.
- ▶ Train with our teacher training experts and open doors to teaching opportunities all over the world.

Adults and Professionals

Develop your language skills, build your confidence and boost your professional career with our extensive choice of language, business and exam preparation courses.

- ▶ Choose from 12 different language courses, including French, German, Italian, Spanish, and more.
- ▶ Want something more personal? We also offer fully tailor-made in-company course or private session to focus on your individual goals.



EXPERIENCE · OVER 65 YEARS OF TEACHING



For more information



Visit our website

www.bell-school.ch



Contact us by phone

Call 41 (0)22 749 16 00



Visit our office

At Chemin des Colombettes 12, 1202 Geneva

 nursery@bell-school.ch

 [BellSchoolGeneva](#)

 [bell.switzerland](#)