## STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES



BBIS, SCHOPFHEIMER ALLEE 10, 14532 KLEINMACHNOW, GERMANY

July 2025

Dear New Secondary School Gr. 6-9 Day Students and Parents,

## Words of Welcome from the BBIS Grade 6-9 School Counsellor

A warm welcome back to you all and *Herzlichen Willkommen in Deutschland*, to our new families! My name is Mr. Steve Gregory and it is both my pleasure and privilege to be the School Counsellor for MYP Grades 6-9 here at BBIS, where I work with our day students. Beyond my role in advisory teaching and facilitating parent workshops, I offer a confidential brief counselling service, providing consultations to parents and staff and social and emotional wellbeing support to help ensure a smooth transition and a barrier free educational experience for our students so they may flourish and thrive in our international learning environment.

I cordially invite you to come and meet with me in my office, room 3407, at the top of house 3 in the School Counselling Hub. Parents, feel free to drop by any morning or during pick up, if you are in school. My lovely office is packed full of resources to support you and your children with your transition into your new life here in Berlin and Brandenburg. Please lean on me for support and reassurance, when you need it. Students, my door is always open to you, so do drop in and introduce yourself, morning and afternoon breaks are often a good time for me.

This is my eighteenth academic year as a School Counsellor at BBIS and my 24th year of working in the field of school based mental health services here in Berlin, Germany, so I am well connected and very familiar with the family support and welfare services here in the city.

I came to Berlin in 2001, as a Clinical Social Worker/Social Pedagogue and have additionally trained since as a Solution Focused Brief Therapist and Clinical Supervisor. I am originally from the UK, where I was born and raised in the beautiful county town of Shrewsbury in Shropshire on the Welsh borders, one hour west from the City of Birmingham, where I attended University. I have just celebrated my 20th wedding anniversary in July with my wife Nora, who teaches English and German at a local state grammar school and we have two sons, Hugo (14) and Rupert (13) and I proudly became a German citizen in 2016.

Beyond my core role in the school counselling team, I help coordinate the Student Ambassador Programme and run the Dungeons and Dragons (D&D) Club after school each week and, sometimes I can be found roaming the hills and mountains of Germany, as a trainer for our Duke of Edinburgh's (DofE) International Award.

BBIS BERLIN BRANDENBURG INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL GMBH

Schopfheimer Allee 10 14532 Kleinmachnow Germany

Phone +49(0)33203 8036-0 Fax +49(0)33203 8036-121 E-mail office@bbis.de www.bbis.de





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I can be best reached either via my school e-mail <u>steven.gregory@bbis.de</u> or in the office on +4933203 8036 320 or via my Calendly link here: <u>Book an appointment</u>.

I am very much looking forward to meeting some of you at the New Families Welcome Day on Monday, 18 August 2025 and hope that we get a chance to get to know each other during your time in this amazing city and at our great school. I sincerely hope that you will come to love your time here in Berlin, as much as I continue to do so. Explore, be open to new ideas and experiences and have fun with it. All the very best with your move and I wish you safe travels and I will see you in August.

Yours in Guidance,



Mr. Steve Gregory
Secondary School Counsellor (MYP Gr. 6-9)
Student Support Services
steven.gregory@bbis.de
Office Tel. +49 33203 8036 320
Room 3407, Haus 3
Book an appointment

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Phone +49 (0)33 203 80 36-0 Fax +49 (0)33 203 80 36-121 E-mail office@bbis.de www.bbis.de