

About Mahatma Gandhi International School (MGIS)

Mahatma Gandhi International School (MGIS) founded in 1998 by the educationalists Dr. Pascal Chazot and Ms. Anju Musafir, is a pioneering school with many precedences. It is the first school in India approved to deliver the BTEC program. It was the first authorized International Baccalaureate World School in Gujarat, INDIA.



Photograph by Lissa Chazot

MGIS is a successful Public-Private Partnership model where both the municipal authorities and educationalists collaborated to create an international school in the city of Ahmedabad.

The school counts approximately 260 students from all socio-economic classes of the local community as well as expatriate children seeking an internationally recognized education. The Mahatma Gandhi International School community is run by a democratic self-government in which the children are looked upon, and consulted as valued equals. The student body of MGIS is intentionally diverse. One fifth of our students come from socio-economically disadvantaged backgrounds; the foundation bears the costs of these children's education. We also integrate children facing difficulty in learning into the classroom.

Our pedagogy is experiential, and utilizes the body, all five senses, space and movement as well as abstract thinking. Through our project-based approach, learning is guided not by subjects, but by challenges and the need to overcome them. Learners construct their projects and confront problems that help them develop creative problem solving a much-needed skill in later professional life. This founding philosophy is on the same tangent as that of BTEC which promotes hands on experience to acquire and apply real life knowledge.

Quote from the Founder & Head of School



It is a programme that I approve wholeheartedly because it caters to the future of education. Since it focuses on skill-based learning, I think that it is the need of the hour. This programme will provide students with real life knowledge and skills that they can apply in their profession as well as their every day life. Edexcel believes that this will make them employable but I think such a training course has the potential of creating competent and useful individuals.

Dr. Pascal Chazot, also an Elected Member of Parliament for the French overseas



Photograph by Lissa Chazot

Introducing BTEC @ MGIS

The education system at MGIS reflects many Gandhian values. In fact, "Naye Talim " was an educational movement started by Mahatma Gandhi, the movement insisted on real world oriented vocational education. Therefore we find a very close and clear connection between the MGIS educational values and those of BTEC. MGIS believes in the need for vocational and skill based training and feels privileged to be associated with Edexcel, one of the world's premier centres for vocational qualification.

The First School authorized to offer BTEC in India

Mahatma Gandhi International School is the first school in India authorized to deliver the BTEC Program. Currently, MGIS is offering the BTEC Level 3 in Creative Media Production. With the launch of the BTEC program, MGIS is now a centre for vocational training in creative media production. The first batch commenced from 2 October 2011, 'Gandhi Jayanti'. This is apt, considering that MGIS was founded on 2nd Oct 1997, is named after Mahatma Gandhi and believes in the relevance of skill based education (Naye Talim).

The BTEC Core Team



Photograph by Arthur Mercier

Dr. Pascal Chazot

pascal@mgis.in

Ms. Meenakshi Ganeriwala

meenakshi.g@mgis.in

Ms. Lissa Chazot

lissa@mgis.in

Ms. Isha Javeri

isha.j@mgis.in

Ms. Sukriti Syal

sukriti.s@mgis.in

The BTEC Extended Team

One of the strategies followed since the inception of the BTEC Program at MGIS, was to rope in esteemed faculties related to media from the city's premier institutes like IIMA, NID, MICA, CEPT, AMA, IIT and others of the kind. So the extended team consists of :

Mr. Shekhar Mukherjee - Coordinator, Animation at NID
Mrs. Rita Kothari - Communication lead, MICA
Mr. Paco Wiser - French Cinematographer (international faculty)
Prof. Rajeev Sharma - Associate Professor at IIMA
Mr. Jayant Murthy - Director, Kaizen
Mrs. Anita Karwal - IAS, an author and a newspaper columnist.

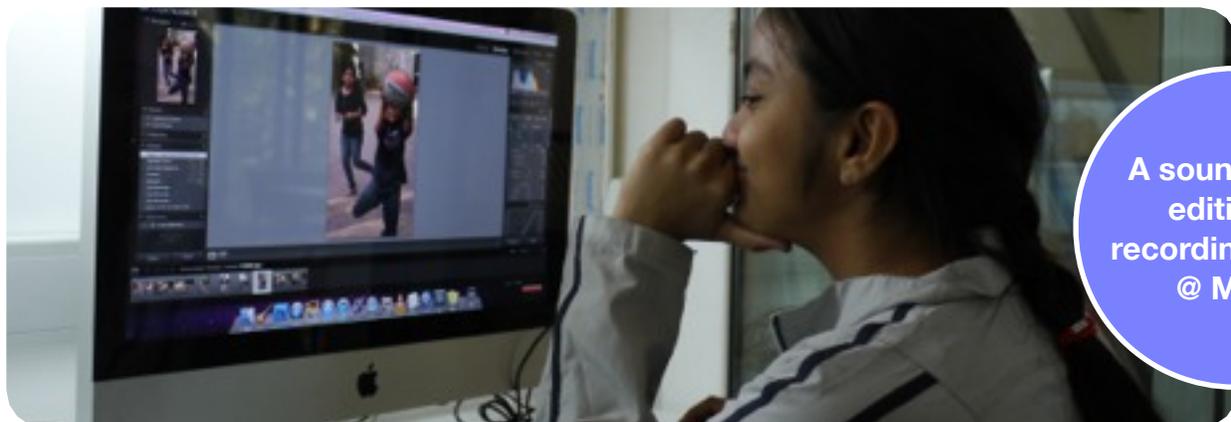
What we want to deliver via the BTEC program

The BTEC program is designed to provide specialist work-related qualifications in a range of sectors in the Creative Media industry. These qualifications have been developed to provide an introduction to the knowledge, understanding and skills necessary to prepare learners for direct employment. This course is provided for full-time MGIS IB DP students and MGIS Alumni who are either working or studying at University. It is the first certification for vocational skills for entry level jobs like sales, retail etc

Key Features

- Hands on experience with professional audio-visual equipment
- Close Interaction with the Media Industry and professionals
- Increased Credibility in the market due to job specific know-how and skill sets
- Journeying through the essential steps in the pre-production, production and post production aspects of the film-making process

Infrastructure that MGIS provides for the BTEC in creative Media and Production.



The Edexcel editing and recording studio at MGIS is fully equipped with two high performance Macintosh computers, Final cut pro and other professional softwares, automatic scheduled back up hard disks (Drobo) etc.

Some of the other equipments include

- A fully equipped projection room with surround sound system
- Canon EOS 7D (A digital SLR that captures HD video)
- Sony HD Movie Camera (A professional video cam)
- Zoom H4N4 Sound Recorder (A professional sound recording device)
- Boom used by professionals
- Sennheiser Microphones and Headphones
- 800w Mandarin Red Head Lights with filters (professional lights)
- iPads
- Canon Powershot G12 (A powerful photo camera)
- Wireless Microphones
- Bose Speakers
- 40 Apple Computers
- Entirely Wifi enabled campus

Future Plans for BTEC @ MGIS

- Adhering to the school multi-disciplinary philosophy, we would like to present the students with the opportunity of exploring the Level 4 BTEC in Creative Media Production. So that the students get an opportunity to go for higher levels within the same school
- As MGIS has a strong inclination for sports, given the infrastructure, we are looking forward to offering the Level 3 BTEC in Sports. The goal is to launch BTEC sports the first batch starting from the 2nd of Oct 2012.
- MGIS is the school of application of a doctoral research in education by Dr. Pascal Chazot. The school is housed in the same building as the center for professional training for teachers and academic research. Hence, MGIS is also envisioning to offer the BTEC in Teacher Training. An international equivalence for the Bachelors Of Education offered according to the Indian Universities.

Anticipating the need for a revolution in education in the future BTEC has the answer...



Now with the demographic changes of the country, we are anticipating the new emerging needs, and again in a pioneering effort, we are ready to meet the challenge of a vast population in the country that needs skill based education. We need to break free from the shackles of a colonial education, this is the reason why education today needs to become skill based and application based.



Anju Musafir, Director and Founder of MGIS



Photograph by K D Bhatt

The experience of the first batch of BTEC students at MGIS

"Although BTEC is a lengthy and complex process of gaining knowledge about filmmaking yet it is lots of fun, enriching and motivating..."

- Anant Dedhia

"When I'm asked to quote something about BTEC, I always get confused about whether I should say something about its organized teaching techniques, about it being an amazing medium for those who want to approach filmmaking or should I say something about it being a tedious process of process journals, ideation, editing and so forth, so I just tell them that its a dish that has a proportionate amount of every ingredient, which tastes good."

- Ansh Baid

Photographs by Ansh Baid

"BTEC has given me the knowledge and experience that will help me in the future and it has increased my passion towards making movies. No matter what profession I take up, this knowledge will always be useful... thank you."

- Chandrika Makwana

"BTEC unleashes the best in me. It pushes me to think beyond the extraordinary. I can finally let the star shine in me. Thank You BTEC."

- Wafa Refai

"The simple thing is 'one man's idea is another man's novel,' the same thing is with filmmaking. You may have a wonderful idea but if you can't put it in the frame then someone else will. The same was the case with me before I joined BTEC. Now that I'm deep into it, not only am I able to share my stories but I have also learnt to put them in a frame."

- Tarunn Toprani

Profile

Pascal Chazot

Pascal is an expert in Education and International Cooperation. He has had a long career as a French Civil Servant, Category A officer with the French Ministry of National Education. He is an elected Member of Parliament for French overseas representing the constituency covering Iran, Afghanistan, Pakistan, Nepal, Bangladesh, India, Sri Lanka and Maldives. Currently, he is the founder and Head of School as well as Director of Training and Research at Mahatma Gandhi International School (MGIS), Ahmedabad. He is also the Head of Center of BTEC at MGIS. He is also a published author, columnist and teacher trainer. He has been a Member of the French diplomatic and consular mission in India, Africa and Nepal.

Pascal has a PhD in Psychology of education from the University of Paris and an M. Phil in International relations and comparative psycholinguistics from the University of Paris. He received a Doctorate of honour in Education from University of Paris (rewarded as best doctoral Research). He also has a Masters in Sciences of Education from University of Paris, a Masters in Sanskrit from Sorbonne Nouvelle (Paris), a post-graduation degree in Linguistics with French as a Foreign Language from the University of Strasbourg, a post graduate degree in Sanskrit from Tribhuvan University (Nepal), a post graduate degree in Newari language from Tribhuvan University (Nepal) and a Bachelor in Applied Mathematics and Social Sciences from University of Lille (France). He has done doctoral research in the Indian System of Medicine from the University of Sorbonne, Ecole Pratique des Hautes Etudes, College de France, Paris.

Pascal is founder trustee of the International Education and Research Foundation, a trust settled by Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation and is a trustee of Sarvodaya International Trust, Gujarat Chapter. He is a Member at the Research Laboratory in psychology EXPERICE at University Paris 13 (France) and is also a member of International Mind, Brain and Education Society (IMBES), with the Graduate School of Education, Harvard University (USA). He just completed a term as Member of the Education Committee of Board of Governors of the International Baccalaureate Organisation in 2011.

Meenakshi Ganeriwala

Meenakshi is currently the Head of BTEC and the Strategy Analyst in MGIS. She is also the Senior Manager and the Lead Internal Verifier for the BTEC in Creative Media Production at MGIS. She is a certified Six Sigma Black Belt Holder and Mentor. She has 22 years of work experience in both National and international IT industries, out of which 10 years are from the education sector. She has worked in educational Institutions like LD College Of Engineering, Government Polytechnic and Indian Institute of Management Ahmedabad (IIMA). She has been the Senior Manager Quality Assurance & Manager Research and Development at Ace Infoway (India), IT Manager at IIMA (India), Support Lead and Application Management Analyst at Dell Inc (USA), Build and Configuration Manager and Senior Developer at AT&T (USA) and lecturer at LD College (India).

She holds a Masters degree in Engineering from Gujarat University, a Computer degree from IGNOU and a BE in Electrical Engineering from L.D. College Engineering. She has several professional certifications including computer certification from Computer campus, Hi- tech in C, C++ and VB. She is an ETI Tool certified Integration Analyst, Austin (USA) and a BPI certified from Dell Inc Austin (USA). She has written and published research based articles on IT and Management for NACLIN in 2008, the 2nd World Congress Information and Knowledge in Santo Domingo City in 2009, ECDL in 2009 and IIMA in 2011.

Meenakshi is an accomplished Kathak dancer, a researcher, a devoted mother and a committed mentor.

Lissa Chazot

Lissa has two Masters degrees. One in Linguistics, Literature and Civilisation with Honors in Film Studies from the University of Toulouse, France and one in Arts Critique and Journalism from CEPT University, India.

She is an IB trained teacher with eight years experience teaching students aged 12-18 at Mahatma Gandhi International School (MGIS), India and has extensive training from experts in Second Language Learning, Neuro-Linguistic Programming, Generated Resource Learning, Active Pedagogy, Technology Infused Learning etc. Currently she is the Academic Head of BTEC in MGIS and the Quality Nominee and Lead Internal Verifier for the Creative Media Production vocational qualification course at MGIS. She uses iPads and audio & videos editing softwares such as Final Cut Pro, GarageBand, iMovie etc. as tools to help her students hone their creative expression. She is a teacher trainer for integrating technology in education and teaching French as a Second Language.

She has successfully completed the Coach Development Course offered by Harvard University Graduate School of Education, USA in 'Teaching for Understanding'. She has done research on education, visual arts and technology. Some of research documents include- 'The pedagogical uses of Film Studies. A case-study at Mahatma Gandhi International School, India' and 'The Blue Lama. Reconstructing a disappearing Buddhist tradition'. She has scripted, shot and edited a few documentaries: 'Mahudi Tales: Teaching at a Municipal School', 'No Teaching, Just Learning at MGIS', 'Patan Patolas: Documenting the story of a Gujarati textile'. She has trained under and assisted French Line Producer, Mr. Bernard Marescot, on three film projects at MGIS. Along with the student film makers she presented these films at India Habitat Centre, Delhi; Kala Ghoda Festival, Mumbai; IIM, Ahmedabad and Shamiana Film Club, Ahmedabad. Her students have scripted, directed, filmed and edited short advertisements, fictional short films and social awareness videos. These are currently with the Traffic Department, Government of Gujarat; Ministry of Home Affairs, Delhi; the Chief Election Officer & Secretary, Gujarat Government as well as local NGOs. The creative audio podcasts made by her students have been published in the national audio magazine for the visually impaired by Blind People's Association, Ahmedabad. Her pedagogical project - 'Teaching Using the City As a Resource' uses multimedia and has been presented at the International Symposium on Heritage Management organized by Ahmedabad University in Gujarat. She was the teacher and line producer for the pedagogical project- 'The Body Module' which was filmed and produced into two 20 minute films.

Lissa has been collaborating with professionals from the film industry in France and India on film projects since 5 years. Presently she is working with the French cinematographer Mr. Paco Wiser as the line producer and production manager on a series of educational films. She is also translating a doctoral thesis on education from French to English.

Isha Javeri

Isha is an MGIS alumni holding an International Baccalaureate Diploma. Isha holds a Bachelors degree in Business Administration and is currently pursuing a Masters Degree in Psychology. She joined MGIS in June 2010 and presently is the Exam Officer and Programme Leader for the BTEC in Creative Media Production at MGIS.

Contact Details

Address:

Mahatma Gandhi International School
Mithakali
Ahmedabad- 380006
India

Website: www.mgis.in

Email: btec@mgis.in

Phone number: 0091 (79) 2646 3888