



Beyond The Box Education

NEXT GENERATION EDUCATION

2019-2020



Dear Parents,

Dear Students,

Beyond The Box Education is a school based around each child's individual needs and where a team of specialists and experienced teachers work together to come up with the ideal learning plan for each student. We stream students based on their academic abilities in each subject, not based on their age. Students are expected to move forward at their own pace, not at the pace of their peers.

The environment at Beyond The Box is one of inclusion, where everyone is able to work and play together no matter their strengths or weaknesses. Each child receives the support they need both academically and emotionally.

- Gabrielle Logan

Who We Are

Beyond The Box Education, a member of the Big Picture Learning network, is a school that has been created to focus on one child at a time. We have formed a safe, secure and nurturing environment for all of our students. At BTBE we believe in the power of creativity and the innovation that each child holds within. We understand that no child is alike so no Learning Plan or lesson plan can be alike. We are here to tip the scales and offer something to each of our students that they won't find in any other schools on the island.

We have worked for two years to come up with what we think are the best learning strategies and have implemented them. This does not mean that we are done. BTBE will never stop learning or evolving as a school and this is just the beginning for us. We understand that as the world moves forward so must we.

This is the next generation of education.



What We

Promise

To build a school program around your child, who they are and what they need.

To make changes to that plan and our teaching strategy in order to adapt to your child.

To provide a safe and inclusive environment for everyone.

To make sure each child is taken care of emotionally and physically when in our care.

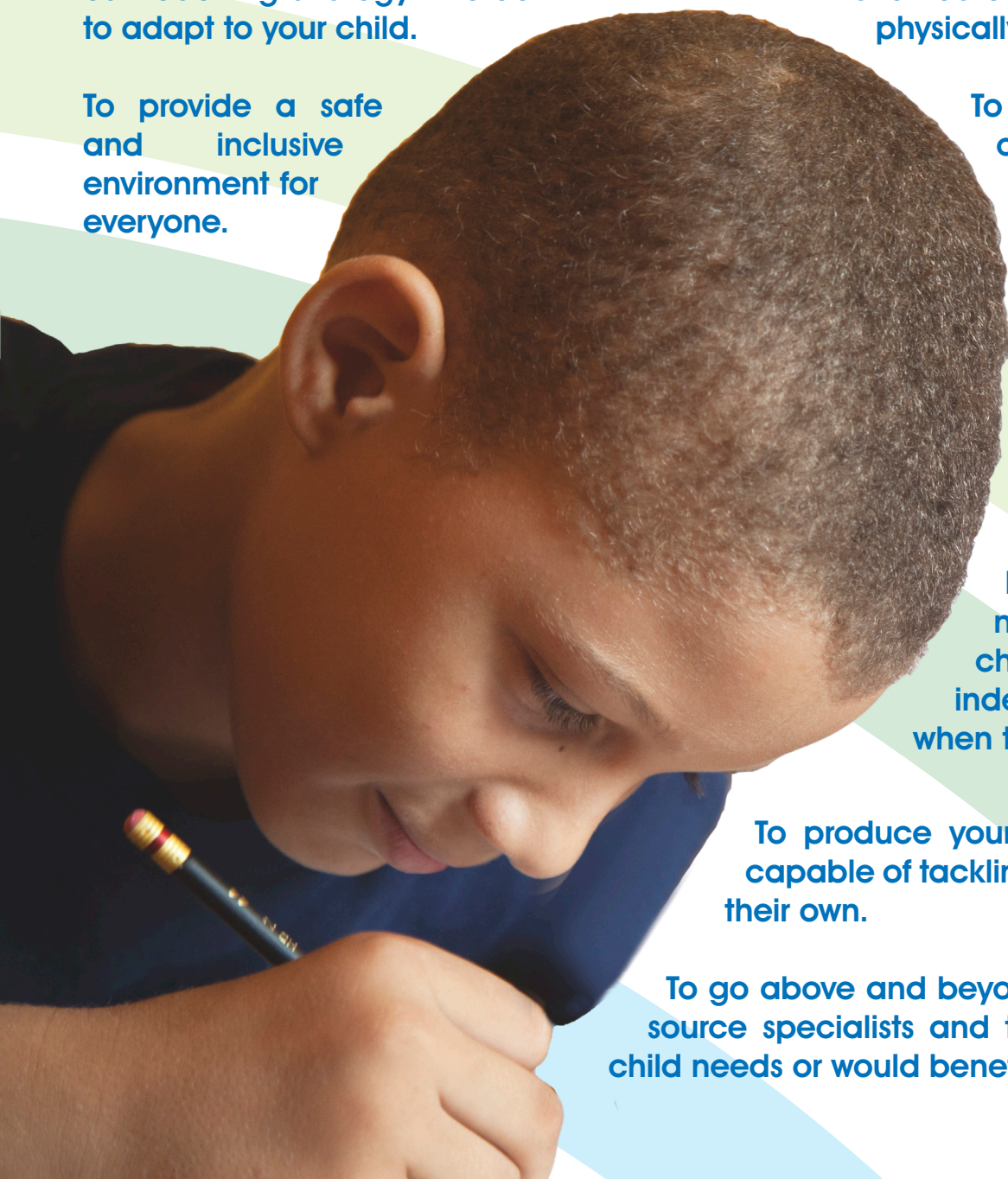
To keep our doors open to you, the parent, at all times.

To include you and your child in all decision making that may affect them.

To use all the tools and resources we have available to make sure that your child leaves us more independent than when they came in.

To produce young adults that are capable of tackling the real world on their own.

To go above and beyond to bring in and source specialists and teachers that your child needs or would benefit from.



Our Team

- ✓ Counsellor on staff
- ✓ Hold degrees for the subjects they teach
- ✓ Ongoing professional development (on and off island)
- ✓ Trained in Big Picture Learning strategies and the 10 Distinguishers
- ✓ Teachers with special-education training and experience
- ✓ Teachers trained in strategies to teach students with dyslexia
- ✓ Termly performance reviews
- ✓ Open relationships between teachers, students and parents
- ✓ Teachers are all hand-picked and go through a rigorous training period before they become full time employees



STRATEGIC DIRECTION

STRATEGIES



ONE STUDENT AT A TIME

Students are looked at individually through a holistic approach to determine what they need both academically and emotionally in order to succeed.

Students are looked at individually and holistically to determine what they need both academically and emotionally in order to succeed.

Students are assessed academically to see what level they are at in each subject.

Students are assessed, where necessary, by various therapists and all areas of weakness are addressed and included in an individualised plan for the school year.

Each student has an individualised plan created at the beginning of the school year by a learning team (including parents and students), that includes academic targets, social goals, physical goals, independence goals, emotional goals, leadership goals, real world learning opportunities/ internships and personal interests.

Plans are followed and monitored closely throughout the year, specifically at the end of each school term and adjusted where necessary.



LEARNING THROUGH INTERESTS AND INTERNSHIPS

We believe that students learn best when they are engaged and involved in their learning process.

Junior students are given both independent and assigned projects throughout the year to help them engage in personal interests and topics being covered.

Senior students have internships every year with mentors for their chosen areas of interest.

Senior students are expected to produce authentic projects bi-annually and make public presentations based on their work and research. Their internships are included in the project.

Year 12 students who are graduating have to create a thesis project throughout their senior year that is based on their internship work.



AUTHENTIC ASSESSMENT

Each student is assessed according to their own abilities and never compared to another.

Individual projects are presented throughout the year in front of peers, teachers and outsiders in order to receive constructive feedback.

Students' grades and academic achievements are compared to no one's other than their own. A student should never feel that they are lesser than another based on anything but their own effort.

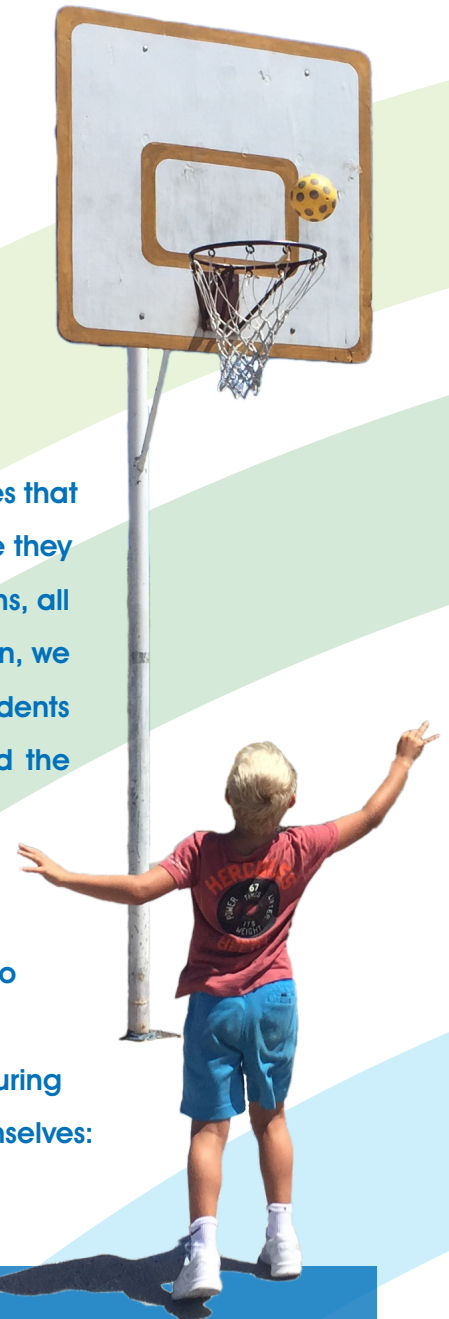
Students build strong portfolios throughout their school life at BTBE that show their progress to themselves and others.

Teachers give individual feedback to students based on their work rather than just awarding grades.

Our Perspective

“As a mother of two boys and an experienced teacher, I know the struggles that our kids face. My simple philosophy is that all children are geniuses; once they are allowed to be. I have always questioned outdated educational systems, all the while, trying to find my place within them. At Beyond the Box Education, we do things differently. Our passion for education is magnified by our students having the freedom to express themselves creatively and being offered the opportunities to actively engage in the world around them. My role as a teacher at Beyond The Box Education gives me the chance to provide my students with the tools to let their curiosity and imagination come to life. This is the key that opens the gateway for a child’s innate ability to actively learn, through doing.

A child’s passion and spark should never be stifled. With guidance and nurturing support, our students are allowed to become the best version of themselves: Confident, happy and passionate about their work.”



STRATEGIC DIRECTION

STRATEGIES



MODERN TEACHING METHODS

Teachers are well versed in the Big Picture Learning model and the strategies that help to follow their 10 distinguishers, meaning that they are able to teach our students in the most effective way possible

Teachers are given the freedom to teach the curriculum in whatever way they see fit for their students.

They are able to adapt lessons to each students needs.

Teachers are all taught to be creative and innovative and apply the skills to every class they walk into.

Teachers make use of the newest online resources and technologies to make sure our students’ learning experiences are engaging and current.

Our teachers are constantly going through professional development and work together to share all of their knowledge and teaching tools.

The great outdoors is at the heart of what we do to promote fitness and focus. We hold outdoor classes whenever possible and encourage our students to be outside as much as possible during their free time.



STUDENT AND PARENT INCLUSION AND SUPPORT

At BTBE, we view our school as a family unit. We wish to involve parents in their children's educations as much as we can and give them a front row seat to their development.

From the time they come to us, each student is given the opportunity to choose elective subjects and their own personal interests according to what they wish to explore.

Before we begin each school year a meeting is held with each student's parents, teachers, any therapists necessary and themselves to formulate the best learning plan possible.

This plan can be viewed throughout the year by both parents and students so that they can track progress.

There is a counsellor on staff that is here to help with all issues that come up in any student's life, whether at home or at school, and provide career and college counselling.



LEADERS OF TOMORROW

Our students are taught to think for themselves, to have ideas and questions that challenge the norm and make them stand out. We do not create "cookie cutter kids;" we create individuals that are ready for the real world.

Students are given opportunities throughout the year to showcase their work and share their interests and passions with their peers and others.

Speaking up and out is a must and is taught and encouraged from day one.

Our students are all given the responsibility of having structured "jobs", whether working in internships, on the farm or simply doing chores.

We place emphasis on both creative and critical thinking and they are included and taught across the board.



School Life

“For me this school differs from others because it allows me to be able to chase my dream of being a pro-surfer by creating a very flexible system that keeps me up to date with my work whilst I am missing days of school to surf, train and travel.”

Age 14

“I love it when Gaby or any of her teachers walk in the room to teach me, I am never bored, even when the topics are boring.”

Age 13

Counseling provided to deal with academic goals, college/university choices, career choices, and life choices.

A portfolio of work to graduate with.

A broader range/scope of areas/interests to excel in.

Exposure to the “real” working world.

Building of self confidence and independence.

Emphasis on creative and independent thinking.



“When I first came to this school I thought it would be boring and kind-of like others schools, but it became fun and I realised that I like this school! I like that they have a yard and that they’re going to have a whole farm and they have lunchtime and break time, exercise time and chore time when you can go outside. The other students are also really nice.”

Age 11

- A full report at the end of the year on the outcome of each learning plan.
- Real world learning experiences.
- Ample access to the outdoors.
- Detailed reports at the end of each term.
- Small class sizes.
- World; opportunities to explore their futures.
- Real choices and general support for issues arising both in and out of school.



Structure

Full time Senior (11-16) & Upper Senior (17+)

- All books, stationery, technology and school materials are provided.
- One-on-one lessons daily.
- Personalised learning plan, detailed reports at the end of each term, in depth report at the end of each year with reference to learning plan.
- Internship Coordination

Full Time Junior

Full time Senior (11-16) & Upper Senior (17+) - Online

- All books, stationery, technology and school materials are provided.
- One-on-one lessons daily.
- Personalised learning plan, detailed reports at the end of each term, in depth report at the end of each year with reference to learning plan.

What our teacher say

“Thanks to BTBE, I’ve been challenging every day to come up with exciting creative ways to engage each student and encourage them to grow as learners and individuals.”

“Each student here is motivated in all grades on a report card. I listen to them about their passions, what motivates them and help them turn their dreams into realities.”

“I have the opportunity to work with innovators and their expansion is not squashed.”



Testimonials

Moving our son to Beyond The Box Education has been one of the best decisions we have made. Matthew's confidence in himself and his abilities have blossomed over the past school year.

Gaby and her team have helped challenge and encourage him academically, socially and emotionally and have helped to draw out his creative side.

Their very detailed report cards show that they have gotten to know his personality, both his strengths and weaknesses and their individual guidance has been seen in his results so far.

Very pleased with our decision.

- Lara Hadley

"BTB has been a great success for our son's education and experience for real world learnings. There is a lot to be said for learning engagement as opposed to memorizing to test. The current affairs and Friday excursions help create a global view with life experiences."

- Shari Lobo

"Gabby has worked with both of my kids for about 3 years now and she has been an incredible help. Her patience and dedication to celebrating and recognizing different learning styles is evident in EVERY lesson. My kids have totally different strengths and are very strong-willed but Gabby has tailored her lessons finding ways to get the best from them and make learning more fun.

- Betty Cathrow

The way Gaby taught her was not just by rote but by challenging her and having her think outside the box. We were very impressed. Her fun and caring nature allowed my daughter to learn without realising she was being taught. I would recommend her very highly and without hesitation".

- Anna Hosford

BTBE's commitment to Nelson has been unwavering, they stayed the course and refused to give up on him. It is paying off now, not only in his academics, but also in his becoming a young man, Gaby has been schooling Nelson in life and preparing him for what lies ahead.

My only one regret is that I did not start with BTBE sooner. I feel Nelson has wasted time in his other academic institutions where he could not function or reach any potential, and yes I do have to shoulder the blame on that. But as his father I am eternally grateful for everything Gaby has done up to this point and continues to do for Nelson both in teaching academics and social skills/life skills. I look forward to Nelson's final year and seeing him blossom into the young man that we all know he can be. Thanks BTBE and team, that word really does not do justice."

- Mark Blades

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Beyond The Box
+1(246) 231-1741
beyondtheboxededucation.com
facebook.com/beyondtheboxededucation