



## BSB contributes to finding a COVID-19 vaccine through Folding@home (FAH) project

The British School of Bahrain (BSB) is proud to join the global fight to find a vaccine for COVID-19 by contributing to the Folding@home(FAH) project, which has recently become the biggest supercomputer on Earth. The BSB Senior School Deputy Head, Academic, Mr Adrian White, initiated the ambitious idea of joining the project. The combination of innovation, community support, and global partnerships are aligned to BSB's ethos and it was clearly a programme the school felt compelled to join.

BSB's Head of IT, Mahesh Maniyeri said, ***"The world is working together to fight against COVID-19, and BSB is keen to do its part within the global struggle. We realised that distributed computing would significantly speed up the research for a vaccine for COVID-19 and so we felt compelled to utilize BSB's extensive campus-based computing power to fight coronavirus. We have over 300 computers on campus which are not currently being used during the school's physical closure, and realised that this is a great opportunity for BSB to contribute to FAH's search for a new vaccine."***

BSB is using its powerful ICT suites to join the global distributed computing platform to help scientists and researchers understand how the protein that makes up the COVID-19 virus works. Proteins are the key component of the virus and understanding this part of it informs us how the virus functions. FAH performs molecular dynamic simulations of protein dynamics by using a virtualized supercomputer, which is an integration of thousands of computers worldwide. Researchers and scientists send tasks to the network of computers which run simulations and send the data back with their individual results. FAH has become one of the world's largest supercomputers and this power is being used to great benefit in the search for a vaccine.

Executive Headmaster, John Maguire expressed his pleasure, saying ***"The school has invested heavily in ICT over recent years and we are pleased that it can be used even when campuses are closed across Bahrain. Everyone must do their part, and I am very pleased that BSB is contributing to both the global and local communities."***

The British School of Bahrain (or BSB), was established in 1995 and this year it is celebrating 25 years of delivering outstanding English National curriculum to students based in Bahrain. Today, BSB is using cutting edge technology to deliver a full virtual school entirely online to all age groups. As a proud member of Inspired, a leading global premium schools group operating on five continents with over 70 schools worldwide, BSB is able to access partnerships and programmes which individual schools cannot access. Over nearly a quarter century BSB has evolved and grown considerably and today it is one of the most sought after schools in Bahrain. The school's credo is to place the student at the centre of their own education, as expressed in the school's vision: ***Excellence, Responsibility, Individuality.***

