

2025 -
2026

Primary (Prep – Grade 5)



**INTERNATIONAL
SCHOOL OF
BUDAPEST**

Smart Education.
Smart Life.

Informational Booklet

Welcome to the International School of Budapest!

At the International School of Budapest (ISB), we are dedicated to nurturing well-rounded, confident, and culturally aware students. Our unique blend of rigorous academics, supportive learning environments, and international perspectives makes ISB the ideal choice for families seeking an exceptional education. Whether you're considering ISB for your child or you're new to our community, this guide will provide you with an overview of what makes our school special.

Why Should My Child Go to ISB?

A Global Education

ISB offers a truly international education that prepares students for a global future. Our curriculum integrates the best practices from around the world, fostering critical thinking, creativity, and cross-cultural understanding.

Individualised Learning

We recognise that each child is unique. Our dedicated teachers work closely with students to tailor learning experiences that meet individual needs, ensuring that every student reaches their full potential.

A Welcoming Community

ISB is more than just a school; it's a diverse, inclusive community where students, parents, and staff come together to create a warm, supportive environment. Your child will feel at home here.

Bilingual Advantage

In a world that increasingly values multilingualism, our bilingual program offers students the opportunity to become fluent in both English and Hungarian, setting them apart in a competitive global landscape.

Grade Equivalencies

At ISB, we use the Hungarian numbering system for our grades, though our Cambridge International curriculum follows the UK national curriculum based on the children's age.

<u>Children's age</u>	<u>ISB Grade/class</u>	<u>Hungarian Grade</u>	<u>UK Year</u>
5-6	Preparatory: Int'l	Ovoda (nagycsoport)	Year 1
6-7	Grade 1	1. osztály	Year 2
7-8	Grade 2	2. osztály	Year 3
8-9	Grade 3	3. osztály	Year 4
9-10	Grade 4	4. osztály	Year 5
10-11	Grade 5	5. osztály	Year 6

Preparatory Program

Our Preparatory Program is designed for our youngest learners, providing a strong foundation for future academic success. We focus on holistic development, emphasising not only academic skills but also social, emotional, and physical growth.

Key Features:

- **Age-Appropriate Learning:** Tailored activities that foster curiosity, creativity, and a love for learning.
 - **Small Class Sizes:** Personalised attention ensures that each child's needs are met.
 - **Play-Based Learning:** We believe in the power of play as a vehicle for learning, helping children develop problem-solving skills and social relationships.
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Bilingual Program

Our Bilingual Program offers a unique blend of English and Hungarian instruction, ensuring students are proficient in both languages and with full Hungarian national curriculum accreditation. This dual-language approach opens doors to greater opportunities and a deeper understanding of both cultures.

Core Subjects:

- **Hungarian Language and Literature:** Following the Hungarian national curriculum, students cover all the required subjects (nyelvtan, fogalmazás, olvasás, írás)
 - **Mathematics:** Taught in Hungarian and following the Hungarian national curriculum
 - **English Language and Literature:** Building strong language skills to ensure fluency in English through phonics, grammar, spelling, reading and comprehension and writing.
 - **Science (Biology, Chemistry, Physics):** Hands-on experiments and inquiry-based learning in English
 - **PSHE:** Personal, Social, Health and Economic education which includes topics such as health and wellbeing, relationships and living in the wider world
 - Other subjects in English include Music, Art and PE
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International Program

The International Program at ISB is designed for students who aim to continue their education in international settings. With English as the primary language of instruction, this program prepares students for further studies and careers worldwide.

Core Subjects:

- **English Language and Literature:** Advanced study of English to develop strong communication and analytical skills through phonics, spelling, grammar, reading and comprehension and writing.
- **Mathematics:** Comprehensive coverage of international math standards, preparing students for global challenges. Cambridge Primary Mathematics encourages analytical and rational thinking. Students focus on principles, patterns, systems, functions and relationships.
- **Science (Biology, Chemistry, Physics):** In-depth exploration of the natural sciences with a focus on inquiry and experimentation.
- **History and Geography:** Understanding global history and cultures through a critical and comparative lens.
- Other subjects include Music, Art, PE, Drama and Hungarian as a foreign language (HFL)

Cambridge

The Cambridge International Curriculum is a globally recognised program known for its excellence and high standards, offered by the world's largest provider of international education for children aged 3 to 19. Being part of the University of Cambridge, it boasts over 160 years of expertise in delivering fair, valid, and reliable assessments.

Key Benefits:

Global Recognition: Cambridge qualifications are respected by the world's top-ranked universities and higher education institutions, providing Cambridge learners with a wide array of opportunities for future studies.

Flexible Curriculum: The curriculum is adaptable to the needs, culture, and context of schools worldwide, allowing for a tailored educational experience that meets individual learning requirements.

Holistic Development: Cambridge learners gain not only subject knowledge and conceptual understanding but also develop a broad range of skills, learning habits, and attributes to prepare them for global challenges.

High-Quality Resources: The curriculum includes top-tier teaching and learning materials, supported by trusted baseline assessments and insights, which enable schools to make informed decisions and improve student outcomes.

Collaborative Community: Cambridge International brings together experts and educators from 160 countries, fostering a diverse and supportive community that shares ideas, resources, and best practices.

This curriculum is designed to equip your child with the knowledge, skills, and confidence to excel academically and thrive in an ever-changing world.

The Cambridge curriculum is a spiral curriculum, which is an educational approach where key concepts are revisited at intervals throughout the student's education, with each encounter increasing in complexity and building upon prior knowledge. This repetitive reinforcement ensures deeper understanding and retention of the subject over time.

Key principles of a spiral curriculum

Cyclical: students return to the same topic several times

Increasing depth: Each time, the topic should be learned at a higher level

Prior knowledge: prior knowledge should be used when returning to a topic to build from students' foundations

What is Phonics?

Phonics is a method of teaching children to read and write by connecting sounds (phonemes) with letters or groups of letters (graphemes) in English as it is not a phonetic language. Through phonics, children learn to recognise the relationship between spoken sounds and written symbols, enabling them to decode words and read independently.

For example, by learning that the letter "c" often makes a "k" sound, and the combination "sh" produces the "sh" sound, children can begin to sound out and read words like "cat" and "ship." Phonics is a foundational tool that helps young learners develop strong reading skills, build their vocabulary, and improve their spelling.

At ISB we use the Read Write Inc. Phonics (RWI) program. RWI is a structured literacy program designed to help children learn to read and write fluently and confidently. The program uses a systematic approach to teaching phonics, where children learn to associate sounds with letters and blend them to read words. It also includes writing activities that help children practice spelling and sentence construction.

The program is designed to be engaging and interactive, using a mix of lively lessons, colourful resources, and regular assessments to ensure that each child progresses at their own pace. Read Write Inc. Phonics is particularly effective for early readers, providing them with the skills they need to become independent, enthusiastic readers and writers

EAL (English as an Additional Language)

Our EAL program is tailored for students who are either new to English or need extra support to achieve fluency. This program ensures that all students,

regardless of their starting point, can fully engage with the curriculum and excel academically.

Program Features:

- **Individualised Support:** EAL instruction is adapted to meet the specific needs of each student.
 - **Small Group Learning:** Students receive attention in small groups, allowing for more focused teaching.
 - **Progress Tracking:** Regular assessments help us monitor progress and adjust teaching strategies to ensure continual improvement.
 - **Collaborative Learning:** EAL students are integrated into mainstream classes, promoting language acquisition through interaction with peers.
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Join the ISB Family

Choosing ISB means choosing a future full of possibilities for your child. We invite you to become part of our vibrant, dynamic community where students are encouraged to explore, achieve, and grow into global citizens.

For more information or to schedule a visit, please contact our admissions office. We look forward to welcoming your family to ISB!