



Welcome to ISB Secondary School

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At the International School of Budapest (ISB), we are excited to welcome you and your family to our dynamic and inclusive Secondary School. We are committed to providing an enriching educational experience that fosters academic excellence, personal growth, and global citizenship.

Structure of ISB Secondary School

Secondary School at ISB comprises Grades 6 to 12 and is divided into three distinct stages, each tailored to meet the needs of students at different phases of their academic and personal development:

- 1. Lower Secondary School (Grades 6 to 8)**

A transition period where students build a strong foundation of knowledge and skills while developing independence and critical thinking, following the Cambridge international curriculum

- 2. IGCSE (Grades 9 and 10)**

Students engage in the internationally recognised Cambridge IGCSE curriculum, preparing them for advanced studies and offering a wide array of subjects tailored to their strengths and interests.

- 3. International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma Programme (Grades 11 and 12)**

A rigorous, globally respected program that challenges students academically while emphasizing creativity, critical thinking, and community engagement, preparing them for university and beyond.

Our Vision and Mission

At ISB Secondary School, we aim to continue the ISB vision of creating lifelong learners through quality education that is globally minded within the local community. Our programs are designed to inspire curiosity, encourage collaboration, and empower students to make meaningful contributions to their world. We take pride in offering a supportive and stimulating environment where every student can flourish. The members of our school community are inquiring, respectful, motivated, community-minded, and responsible.

Why Choose ISB Secondary School?

- **Academic Excellence:** With a curriculum grounded in global standards, we equip students with the knowledge and skills to succeed in an interconnected world.



- **Individualized Support:** Small class sizes and a dedicated team of teachers from around the world ensure personalized attention to each student's unique learning needs.
- **Diverse Community:** Students from over 50 nationalities enrich our school culture, fostering understanding and respect for different perspectives.
- **Extracurricular Opportunities:** From sports and arts to woodworking and debate, we offer a wide range of activities to nurture talents and interests beyond the classroom. We also offer exam preparation after school.
- **Pathway to Success:** Our graduates are well-prepared for top universities worldwide, supported by a strong focus on academic rigor and holistic development.

A Glimpse of Life at ISB Secondary School

- **Engaging Learning Environment:** Modern classrooms, science labs, and technology resources enhance the learning experience.
- **Creative and Performing Arts:** Opportunities for self-expression through music, art, drama, and creative projects.
- **Community and Leadership:** Student councils, clubs, and service projects empower students to take initiative and make a difference.
- **Wellbeing and Support:** Our pastoral care program ensures that every student feels safe, valued, and supported in their academic and personal journey.

Grade Equivalencies

Child's age	ISB Grade	Hungarian Grade	Year based on the UK system
11-12	Grade 6	6. osztály	Year 7
12-13	Grade 7	7. osztály	Year 8
13-14	Grade 8	8. osztály	Year 9
14-15	Grade 9	9. osztály	Year 10
15-16	Grade 10	10. osztály	Year 11
16-17	Grade 11 - IBI	11. osztály	Year 12
17-18 and above	Grade 12 - IB2	12. osztály	Year 13



Teaching and Learning in Secondary

Our lower secondary students follow the framework of Cambridge allowing our International and Hungarian Bilingual students to integrate equally.

The International Programme

Students who choose the international stream in Cambridge Lower Secondary at ISB are offered several extra subjects in English which ISB can offer due to the design of the programme.

The Cambridge Pathway

The Cambridge Pathway helps students develop the deep subject knowledge, conceptual understanding and higher order thinking skills that they need for success at school, at university and in employment.



If you would like to find out more about the Cambridge Pathway, please follow the link below.

<https://www.cambridgeinternational.org/programmeme-and-qualifications/>

Cambridge Lower Secondary and Upper Secondary develop skills in ten subjects, including English, Mathematics, and Science. It is designed to help schools deliver a broad and balanced curriculum that suits their context, culture and ethos.

The curriculum sets clear learning objectives and focuses on developing knowledge and skills in all subjects, providing excellent foundations for the next stage of education. The programme is flexible, so schools can offer any combination of the subjects available.

<https://www.cambridgeinternational.org/programmes-and-qualifications/cambridge-lower-secondary/>

International General Certificate of Secondary Education

Cambridge IGCSE is the world's most popular international curriculum for 14-16 year olds, leading to globally recognised and valued Cambridge IGCSE qualifications. Cambridge IGCSE is taken in over 100 countries worldwide and is widely accepted by higher education institutions and employers around the world as evidence of academic ability.

Schools worldwide have helped develop Cambridge IGCSE, which provides excellent preparation for the IB Diploma Programme, A/AS Levels and U.S. AP exams, as well as other progression routes. The IGCSE programme incorporates the best in international education for learners at this level. It develops in line with changing needs and is regularly updated and extended.

Cambridge IGCSE encourages learner-centered and enquiry-based approaches to learning. It develops learners' skills in creative thinking, enquiry and problem solving, giving learners excellent preparation for the next stage in their education. Schools can build a core curriculum, extend it to suit their learners and introduce cross-curricular perspectives. Clearly defined learning outcomes and content mean Cambridge IGCSE is compatible with other curricula and is internationally relevant and sensitive to different needs and cultures.

Cambridge IGCSE develops learner knowledge, understanding and skills in:

- Subject content
- Applying knowledge and understanding to familiar and new situations
- Intellectual enquiry
- Flexibility and responsiveness to change
- Working and communicating in English
- Influencing outcomes
- Cultural awareness

To learn more, visit the Cambridge IGCSE Website.: <https://www.cambridgeinternational.org/>

This is an excellent preparation for the International Baccalaureate programme for which as much as academic rigour, several other skills are required. Our teachers ensure that the students



are ready for the final two years by preparing them throughout the years leading up to the IB programme.



International Baccalaureate

The IBDP is a comprehensive and challenging pre-university course of study that demands the best from motivated students and teachers. The program culminates in externally assessed examinations and is widely recognized for its high academic standards.

The two-year curriculum is rigorous and intellectually coherent, encouraging critical thinking through the study of a wide range of subjects in the traditional academic disciplines while encouraging an international perspective.

Beyond completing high-level courses and examinations, DP students are also required to engage in community service, individual research, and an inquiry into the nature of knowledge. The two-year course of study leads to final examinations in six subject areas and a qualification widely recognized by the world's leading colleges and universities.



The subjects ISB provides the students with for the 2024/25 academic year:

Group 1 Studies in Language and Literature	Group 2 Language Acquisition	Group 3 Individuals and Societies	Group 4 Sciences	Group 5 Mathematics	Group 6 The Arts
1. English A 2. Chinese A 3. Hungarian A 4. Self-taught	1. English B 2. German B 3. Spanish B 4. Spanish ab initio	1. Geography 2. History 3. Business and Management 4. Psychology	1. Biology 2. Chemistry 3. Physics 4. Sports, Exercise and Health Science	1. Mathematics: Analysis & Approaches 2. Mathematics: Applications & Interpretations	1. Visual Arts

- 1 subject from each group, group 6 can be replaced
- 3 subjects studied at higher level (HL)
- 3 subjects studied at standard level (SL)

Detailed information about all aspects of the IB Diploma Program is available on the website of the International Baccalaureate Organization: www.ibo.org

External Examination Programs

IGCSE - International General Certificate of Secondary Education

The International General Certificate of Secondary Education (IGCSE) is one of the most recognized qualifications around the world. ISB has adopted the IGCSE courses offered by Cambridge International Examinations (CIE: www.cie.org.uk) a subsidiary of Cambridge University. IGCSE courses are renowned for developing vital educational skills including recall of knowledge, oral skills, problem solving, initiative, teamwork and investigative skills. The resulting qualification provides an excellent foundation for higher-level courses, such as the International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma Program.

International Baccalaureate

Student work is meticulously assessed both internally and externally. Internal assessments form a significant percentage of the final mark. In each IB examination, the student is graded on a scale of 1 (minimum) to 7 (maximum). The award of the diploma requires students to meet defined standards and conditions. These include a minimum total of 24 points and the satisfactory completion of three compulsory core components:



- 1) Theory of Knowledge (TOK);
- 2) extended essay; and
- 3) Creativity, Action, Service (CAS).

Thus, the program has the strengths of a traditional and broad curriculum, augmented by the three requirements shown at the center of the program model above.

Worldwide, approximately 80% of students are awarded the diploma. A student who does not satisfy the requirements of the full Diploma Program, or who has elected to take fewer than six subjects, is awarded a certificate for the examinations completed.

Prior to enrolling in the 1B Program, students are issued an International Baccalaureate Handbook detailing all the necessary information related to obtaining the 1B Diploma at ISB. Throughout the entire two-year program, the 1B Coordinator provides information, advice, resources and support to students and parents.

Where have ISB students secured places?

IB Students - where have they secured places?



USA	The Netherlands	Germany	China
Belgium	The UK	Hungary	Australia

Semmelweis University
Corvinus
University of Szeged
International Business School
University of Leuven
University of Amsterdam

McDaniel College Budapest
Bournemouth University
University of Gloucestershire
Delft University of Technology
RWTH Aachen
Budapest Gazdasági Egyetem

University of Warwick
UNSW Sydney
University of Western Australia
University of Brighton

95% post-secondary studies

Medicine
Sociology

Veterinary Medicine
Engineering

Pharmacology
Computer Science

Business
Fine Art

Law



Join the ISB Family

We invite you to explore everything ISB Secondary School has to offer. Together, let's inspire your child to achieve their fullest potential and embrace the exciting opportunities of the future. Welcome to the ISB family – where excellence meets community, and lifelong learning begins.