



Admissions Policy

English Secondary and IB

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Introduction

Admission into English Secondary is based on our capacity to achieve the school mission of forming young people to be multilingual, articulate, independent thinkers. Acceptance into our programmes relies on our ability to fully support each learner in their academic and social development.

Broadly speaking, English Secondary offers the following programmes, contextualised to meet the requirements of our community:

Years 7 - 9: English National Curriculum¹ / Cambridge Lower Secondary programme²

Years 10 - 11: Cambridge International General Certificate of Secondary Education (IGCSE) programme³

Years 12 - 13: International Baccalaureate® (IB) Diploma Programme⁴

English is the primary language of instruction for most subjects so students must have a good working knowledge of English to be accepted into English Secondary.

In Years 7 - 9, some subjects are taught in French. In the IB Diploma Programme, there are options in French along with Mother Tongue language support allowing students to prepare either for the Bilingual⁵ or the Advanced Bilingual (French/English) IB diploma.

Admissions Process for External Applicants

First contact with the school involves the completion of a statement of interest⁶, where parents are requested to supply relevant information such as their child's previous schooling, languages spoken and most recent school reports. They are also required to signal if their child has a known history of learning differences that require specialist support. The statement of interest is reviewed by the school Admissions department.

Once a statement of interest has been received, families may be invited to an interview with either the Director of English Secondary and/or the IB Diploma Programme Coordinator. The interview can take place either in person or online. After the interview, interested families are invited to complete a full application form and may request for their child to attend a trial day with their peers.

¹ https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/5a7b8761ed915d4147620f6b/SECONDARY_national_curriculum_-_English2.pdf

² <https://www.cambridgeinternational.org/programmes-and-qualifications/cambridge-lower-secondary/curriculum/>

³ <https://www.cambridgeinternational.org/programmes-and-qualifications/cambridge-upper-secondary/cambridge-igcse/curriculum/>

⁴ <https://www.ibo.org/programmes/diploma-programme/>

⁵ <https://www.ibo.org/programmes/diploma-programme/assessment-and-exams/understanding-ib-assessment/>

⁶ <https://ent.iil.ch/public/index.php?url=visitForm&changeLangue=en>



All applications to English Secondary are reviewed by the Director of the section. In addition, all applications to the IB Diploma Programme are discussed with the IB Diploma Programme Coordinator. Offers are made subject to availability of places and suitability for the desired programme. The Head of School formally approves all admissions decisions.

The year into which a student can be admitted is dependent on their age and academic history. Entrance tests may be required to assess a student's level in key subjects such as English, Mathematics and Science before a decision can be made. In some cases, additional lessons (e.g. English support) may be required as a prerequisite to a student being accepted.

Students can only be accepted into Year 11 if they have already completed the first year of the Cambridge IGCSE program at their previous school, with subjects similar to those taught in Year 10 at IIL. If this is not the case, students may be offered a place in the IB Preparation Year.

Admissions Process for Internal Applicants

Students from English Primary are normally accepted automatically into English Secondary, unless the school does not consider that it would be unable to meet the specific learning needs of the child.

Students from Year 11 or the IB Preparation Year are generally accepted into the IB Diploma Programme, if appropriate subject choices can be agreed upon which support a successful outcome. This decision is based on the student's specific learning needs along with their social development, academic strengths, and career aspirations.

For transfers between the French and English sections, parents contact the Director of their current section to make the request. A meeting is then arranged with the Director of the desired section, and, in some cases, assessments may be required. Students wishing to transfer into the IB Diploma Programme must also meet with the IB Diploma Programme Coordinator. A mid-year change of section is considered irregular and is only be considered in exceptional circumstances.

Admission to IB Diploma Programme Classes

All students entering Year 12 begin on the full IB Diploma Programme.

Once a new student has been admitted, they meet with the IB Diploma Programme Coordinator to discuss option choices aligned with their academic strengths and career aspirations. Entry level tests may be carried out before option choices are validated.



Internal applicants meet with the IB Diploma Programme Coordinator and the University Guidance Counsellor during Year 11 to choose their IB subjects.

All students are advised to select subjects and levels that are challenging, yet appropriate to them as individual learners. Guidance is given based on career aspirations, report card grades and teacher recommendations. Entry into some IB Diploma classes is dependent on achieving a minimum grade in the corresponding IGCSE examination if appropriate.

Entry into Year 13 can only be considered if the subjects the student has taken in the first year of the IB Diploma at their previous school are available as options at IIL, subject to availability.

This policy forms part of the English Secondary Staff Handbook and the IB Student and Parent/Guardian Handbook.