

# **ADMISSION POLICY**

## The IB Diploma Programme

Document prepared by ISO staff

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Contents based on:

School Law (Act 561/2004) of the Czech Republic and related legislative documents

## **The International Baccalaureate's Mission Statement**

The International Baccalaureate aims to develop inquiring, knowledgeable, and caring young people who help to create a better and more peaceful world through intercultural understanding and respect. To this end, the organisation works with schools, governments, and international organisations to develop challenging programmes of international education and rigorous assessment.

These programmes encourage students across the world to become active, compassionate and lifelong learners who understand that other people, with their differences, can also be right.

## **The 1<sup>st</sup> International School of Ostrava Mission statement**

Our mission is to create an engaging inquiry-based learning environment where students can excel, develop vital life skills, fulfil their potential, and ultimately maximise their success in today's world to become dynamic, competent, compassionate, and caring members of a global society.

## **The Learner Profile**

**Inquirers** - We nurture our curiosity, developing skills for inquiry and research. We know how to learn independently and with others. We learn with enthusiasm and sustain our love of learning throughout life.

**Knowledgeable** - We develop and use conceptual understanding, exploring knowledge across a range of disciplines. We engage with issues and ideas that have local and global significance.

**Thinkers** - We use critical and creative thinking skills to analyse and take responsible action on complex problems. We exercise initiative in making reasoned, ethical decisions.

**Communicators** - We express ourselves confidently and creatively in more than one language and many ways. We collaborate effectively, listening carefully to the perspectives of other individuals and groups.

**Principled** - We act with integrity and honesty, with a strong sense of fairness and justice, and with respect for the dignity and rights of people everywhere. We take responsibility for our actions and their consequences.

**Open-minded** - We critically appreciate our own cultures and personal histories, as well as the values and traditions of others. We seek and evaluate a range of points of view, and we are willing to grow from the experience.

**Caring** - We show empathy, compassion and respect. We commit to service, and we act to make a positive difference in the lives of others and the world around us.

**Risk-takers** - We approach uncertainty with forethought and determination; we work independently and cooperatively to explore new ideas and innovative strategies. We are resourceful and resilient in the face of challenge and change.

**Balanced** - We understand the importance of balancing different aspects of our lives - intellectual, physical and emotional - to achieve well-being for ourselves and others. We recognise our interdependence with other people and with the world in which we live.

**Reflective** - We thoughtfully consider the world, our ideas and experience. We work to understand our strengths and weaknesses to support our learning and personal development.

## Admission principles

1<sup>st</sup> International School of Ostrava - mezinárodní gymnázium, s.r.o (the School) is a school registered under the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport of the Czech Republic. Therefore the School follows all national legislative procedures and requirements in its admission process. School Law (Act 561/2004) describes in detail all procedures.

The School offers an 8-year education programme (Grade 6 - Grade 13) with continuous preparation for the IB DP study in Grade 12A and Grade 13A. The programme is based on the Czech national curriculum, and it is combined with the DP requirements and elements of the particular subjects and areas. This School Educational Programme was approved by the Czech Ministry of Education, Youth, and Sport; and it serves as the official curriculum of the school. The students are prepared for and take the final examination both from the IB DP and the Czech system. Passing the Czech system Maturita exam serves as the official high school diploma of the Czech Republic.

The School also offers a 4-year educational programme (Grade 10B - Grade 13B) which follows the Czech curriculum, as well as a different School Educational Programme. The programme is focused on the Maturita exam only as the official exit examination.

All applicants take entrance exams. Those applying for Grade 6 and Grade 10 must take the national standardised tests in the Czech language and Maths, as well as the School English exam, to determine the level of English of the applicants. All applicants must pass all three parts of the Entrance Exams to be accepted. These exams take place in April in accordance with the Ministry Resolution.

Applicants to grades other than Grade 6 and 10 take the Entrance Exams from English and Maths. These tests provide basic skills and knowledge diagnostics of the applicants and help the School prepare for various support future students may need during both their personal and educational development.

All applicants are informed about the option to study the IB DP in Grade 12A and Grade 13A. We also organise regular meetings with students and their parents in Grades 9A and 11A to inform them properly about their options, including, when appropriate, informing them about the Admission Policy for entering the Diploma Programme.

## **The IB Diploma Programme**

### **Choice of programme**

- Having considered the test results, the academic school counsellor and the IB coordinator will recommend an appropriate programme for each student. Students may be admitted to the full Diploma programme or advised to follow a Certificate programme that is tailored to their needs and abilities. The IB Programme can also be combined with the final Czech Maturita school examination.

### **Candidates**

- a) Internal students refer to students who are enrolled in Grade 11A at the school.
- b) External students refer to students who are enrolled in different schools.

### **Admission process**

In order to be accepted to the IBDP programme, candidates should take the following exams:

- i) English Placement Test
- ii) MFL (German, French, Spanish) Placement Test
- iii) Mathematics Skills

Subject teachers give students and their parents specific feedback on their test results, along with suggestions for areas to improve over the summer break,

## **Entrance requirements**

- a) English test (B1-B2)
  - i) Part 1: Writing on a given topic
  - ii) Part 2: Language test
  
- b) Mathematics Skills
  - i) Mathematical techniques, including applying mathematical techniques to solve problems. Contents are:
    - 1) Number systems and set notation
    - 2) Algebraic simplifications
    - 3) Factorization
    - 4) Product expansion
    - 5) Surds and radicals
    - 6) Scientific notations
    - 7) Linear equations and inequalities
    - 8) Adding and subtracting algebraic fractions
    - 9) Formula rearrangement
    - 10) Pythagoras' theorem
    - 11) Coordinate geometry
    - 12) Right-angled triangle trigonometry
  
- c) MFL (German, French, Spanish) Languages (Level A2-B1)
  - i) Part 1: Grammar test
  - ii) Part 2: Essay on a prescribed topic

## **Exclusion**

Candidates with language certificates DELE (A2), Goethe Institute (A2), DELF (A2) and DALF (A2), Cambridge (B2 First) will not have to take the English and the MFL tests.

## **Time and venue of entrance tests**

- a) Internal students
  - i) The school will accept applications beginning on the 31<sup>st</sup> of March for admission in the following academic year.
  - ii) The date of the test will be set by the Head of the School.
  
- b) External students
  - i) Applications will be accepted individually by the Head of the School.

- ii) The IB DP programme will be introduced by the IB coordinator.
- iii) The date of the test will be set individually by the Head of the School.

## Regulation of subject selection in the IB Diploma Programme

### Subject Selection

- The school offers subjects for the IB Diploma Programme, and the school will try to meet student needs. Due to scheduling, however, some students may be asked to choose a different subject.

Subject Group	IB DP Course
Group 1:	Language A HL/SL, self taught mother tongue
Group 2:	English A HL/SL
Group 3:	Economics HL/SL/ History HL/SL/ Psychology HL/SL
Group 4:	Biology HL/SL / Physics HL/SL/Computer Science SL
Group 5:	Math Analysis SL/HL/ Math Applications SL/HL
Group 6:	German B / French B / Spanish B - SL

### Core components

- The three core requirements of the IBDP Creativity, Action, Service (CAS), Theory of Knowledge (TOK), and Extended Essay (EE) are compulsory for students following the full Diploma Programme and the Certificate track of the programme. Students following the full Diploma Programme can earn up to 3 extra marks for successful completion of TOK and EE.

### Self-taught mother tongue

- The 1<sup>st</sup> International School of Ostrava - mezinárodní gymnázium appreciates the variety of languages spoken by the school community. Advice and support are given to students whose mother tongues are other than the currently offered Language A, and who want to

include their mother tongue in their subjects programme. The school will assist parents in searching for suitable teachers, and it offers internal training to the latter.

### **Students transferring from other IB Schools**

- The 1<sup>st</sup> International School of Ostrava - mezinárodní gymnázium accepts students who started the IBDP at other IB schools on condition that the school currently offers the subjects they studied in their previous school. Transferring students are exempt from entrance tests. However, the transferring student needs to submit reports and/or a letter from their previous school confirming that he/she was enrolled in the IB Diploma Programme. Students who wish to carry over any Internal Assessment tasks from their previous school need all required IB forms completed and signed by their supervisors.

### **Students with special needs**

The 1<sup>st</sup> International School will consider any special needs of internal or external candidates and will take the necessary steps according to the school's inclusion policy.