

Admissions Policy

Instructions

Parents must agree to the ZIS Admissions Policy before enrollment. By signing your application for admission you agree to the terms and conditions stated below. The application forms, documents and fees need to be received by the Admissions Office within six weeks of initial application.

Principles

Zurich International School (ZIS) serves the educational needs of the internationally-mobile community in the Greater Zurich area. Admission is open to all students who, in the school's opinion, will benefit from a challenging, international, English language education which prepares them for higher education and a life of challenge, change, and purpose. ZIS prepares students for an international education and not specifically for re-entry into their respective national education system.

ZIS admits students whose academic, personal, social, and emotional needs can be met by the school's programs and services and who, together with their families, are willing and interested to integrate into the ZIS community and philosophy. In case there are more applications than places available, ZIS may apply discretion as to which students to admit.

The ZIS Learning Support programs are able to support a limited number of students. If a student requires additional support — including but not limited to external assessments, occupational therapy, speech & language therapy, a personal assistant or tutors — services are at the parents' expense.

Decisions with respect to initial grade placement, promotion, retention, and continued attendance at ZIS are determined by criteria specific to the age and development of the student. While parents' views are welcome, ZIS reserves the right to take the final decision regarding these issues. Grade and course placements are made on the basis of previous school performance and, when appropriate, placement test results. Re-enrollment is contingent upon successful school performance, disciplinary conduct and a positive overall impression.

Students who are receiving additional support will be reviewed at specific intervals to determine if ZIS will continue to provide for their needs. The review teams

usually include the divisional Principal, the Learning Support Coordinator or teacher, the counselor and the classroom teacher or advisor. All students receiving Learning Support will have an Individualized Education Plan (IEP) that is reviewed annually.

ZIS reserves the right to ask that a student be withdrawn, to cancel his/her admittance (if necessary, immediately) or to refuse tacit re-enrollment if:

- the student's best interests and needs cannot reasonably be met;
- the student's behavior is deemed to jeopardize the welfare of the school community;
- educationally significant information is withheld from the school;
- school fees or any other invoiced costs are not paid in accordance with ZIS Financial Regulations;
- parents/guardians disregard or act against the Parents/Guardians and ZIS Partnership Agreement;
- the student and/or his/her parent(s)/guardian(s) do not adequately integrate into the ZIS community and/or philosophy.

Principals will only approve applications for enrollment and grade placement when all requested documentation is complete and the application fee is paid. Students are placed in a grade compatible with their age, development, and previous school performance. To balance the student body the school may take into consideration gender, nationality, first language, any learning support needs and any other aspects deemed relevant.

Admission to ZIS will be granted following these criteria:

- 1st Priority: The applicant benefits from a company partnership agreement.
- 2nd Priority: The applicant is a returning student from outside the greater Zurich area or sibling of a current student not covered by a company partnership agreement
- 3rd Priority: The applicant is an international student not currently schooled in the greater Zurich area.
- 4th Priority: The applicant is schooled in the greater Zurich area (local or international school).

ZIS believes in keeping families together whenever possible. Therefore, within each priority group, preference may be given to students who have siblings already accepted into the school.

Lower School (Early ZIS to Grade 5)

Early ZIS Program

Students are eligible for admission as of their 3rd birthday.
Students must be toilet-trained when they enter ZIS.

Pre-School Program

Students must be 3 years of age by August 31.
Students must be toilet-trained when they enter ZIS.

Pre-Kindergarten

Students must be 4 years of age by August 31.

Kindergarten

Students must be 5 years of age by August 31.

Grade 1–5

The cut off date for age placement is August 31 for each grade.

Other Admission Requirements

Students entering mid- year Grade 7 and above need to demonstrate English proficiency. Students entering Grades 9 or 10 must also have sufficient math skills to pass an Algebra I course. Students entering Grades 11 or 12 must give evidence of near-native English proficiency. Students who are 19 years or older are not normally admitted to ZIS.

Policy

ZIS reserves the right to unilaterally change the Admissions Policy.