



Media Information

Inspiring Global Citizens and Future Game Changers

Bavarian International School (BIS) in Munich-Schwabing and Haimhausen: A School of the Future for 1,150 students from 60 nations

The guiding words, "Believe, Inspire, Succeed" shape the pedagogically rich and holistic education for the 1,150 students from 61 nations, aged 3 through to 18, who attend the Bavarian International School (BIS). An IB World School, BIS features two campuses, one in the village of Haimhausen (15 km north of Munich), and the other in Munich-Schwabing. Academic excellence, intercultural competence, collaborative learning and social responsibility characterise the spirit of this international school. In the challenging times of COVID-19, BIS blends its exemplary and well-balanced Distance Learning programme with robust onsite learning in accordance with state-mandated health guidelines.

170 teachers from 29 nations provide BIS students with an average student-teacher ratio of 7-1, allowing teachers to identify and accommodate the individual needs and strengths of each child. Evidence of the success of this approach include annual BIS student IB Diploma scores: in 2020 the average score was 35.8 points, well above the worldwide average of 29.9 (100% passing rate for IB DP and IB CP students). BIS exceeds international standards with state-of-the-art investment in interactive whiteboards, Apple TV's, and 1:1 programmes in grades 4-12 (iPads for Grades 4-6, MacBooks for Grades 7-12). Science and technology laboratories, art and design studios, sports halls, theater spaces, an auditorium and an extensive extra-curricular programme, all contribute to establishing BIS as an industry leader.

A Personalised Focus

"We provide our students with the intellectual, intercultural, social, emotional and, most importantly, with the critical perspectives they will need as adults in a global, technological world. Our students will be able to solve the challenges of the future and make the world a better place," says Dr. Chrissie Sorenson, Head of School at BIS. Each child's individual development is placed at the

very centre of the educational focus at BIS. The school is well known for excellent student support, pastoral care, well-being, and university counselling.

With typically around 75% of students coming from international families, internationalism and diversity are embedded in the DNA of BIS. Complementing English as the language of instruction are German language classes offered from Grade 1 onwards for all proficiency levels, and French, Spanish, Japanese, and Mandarin beginning in grade 6. Currently offered in an additional 17 languages is an optional "Mother-Tongue Programme", which allows students to maintain and develop literacy in their native language.

Students and parents alike regard the multitude of extracurricular activities on offer as an exceptional feature of BIS. These activities include approximately 40 sports offerings over the two campuses, as well as CAS (Creativity, Activity, Service), the Model United Nations debate team, the Eco-schools project, the Duke of Edinburgh's International Award, and a mix of fitness, scouting and expeditions. The social engagement, interdisciplinary collaboration and the exploring of new horizons plays a particularly significant role in an educational environment.

Ticket to the best Universities

BIS is one of only two schools in Germany authorised by the International Baccalaureate Organization (IBO) to offer all four IB programmes: the Primary Years Programme (PYP), the Middle Years Programme (MYP), the Diploma Programme (DP) and the Career-related Programme (CP). The IB Diploma is recognised by the best universities in Germany and the world.

Role Model for Distance Learning

The BIS is ideally prepared for situations such as the Corona crisis: Immediately after the necessary school closure, Bavarian International School opened as a virtual school. The highly praised Distance Learning Programme offers a set timetable from 9am to around 4pm, with tailored courses for each age group. The BIS pedagogical team attaches great importance to a fine-tuned balance between online and offline time and the inclusion of exercise, sport and social exchange. Sufficient face-to-face communication between teachers and students as well as between students themselves are further crucial success factors. In addition to continuous learning, the focus is on the health and well-being of the students.

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