Zurich International School

Profile 2022/23 for Colleges and Universities

ZIS Upper School at a Glance

College Board Code: 796330	IB School Code: 1170

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Moosstrasse 15
8134 Adliswil, Switzerland
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Scan QR code to view the 2022/23 Profile online

Director: Lisa Lyle, MA

Principal: David Markus, M Ed

Assistant Principals:
Alison Callaghan, MA Sc (Upper School)
Jonathan Kirkwood, MA (Curriculum Grades 6–12)

University and Career Counselors:
Ann Infante, MA — ainfante@zis.ch
Marisa Jackson, M Ed — mjackson@zis.ch
Lindsay Tosun, M Ed — ltosun@zis.ch

1250 Students on two campuses

533 Total students Grades 9–12

150 Students in the Class of 2023

Class of 2022 University Destinations (126 students)

United States 15%

Gap Year, Work or Military 11%

Other (Asia, Canada, Israel, etc.) 5%

Other Europe (Austria, Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, Scandinavia, Spain, etc.) 19%

United Kingdom 29%

Netherlands 13%

Switzerland 7%

Class of 2022 university destinations

Mission and Philosophy

We are a learning community of students, faculty, staff, and parents. At Zurich International School (ZIS), educational excellence commits us to: **Learn, Care, Challenge, Lead.**

The School

ZIS is a leading non-profit day school offering a comprehensive education program for students ages 3–18 to our mainly expatriate community. **We are an inclusive school with an open admission policy enrolling a diverse student population with a range of abilities.** Learning Support (LS) and English as an Additional Language (EAL) services are available.

Upper School Faculty

The 73 full-time and part-time Upper School faculty have taught an average of six years at ZIS, and most have taught at other international schools throughout the world.

Curriculum

All students work toward earning a ZIS Upper School Diploma. The school offers the International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma Programme, Advanced Placement (AP) courses and ZIS Upper School courses. We value AP and IB pathways equally. Our academic advising encourages students to choose the pathway best suited to their needs. **The language of instruction is English.** The integration of technology into the curriculum is a priority and is based on the International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE) Standards.

COVID-19 Response

The Class of 2023 attended class virtually in Grade 9 for the last three months of the school year. Co-curricular activities were canceled. The school resumed in person classes in 2020/21, with the exception of a return to virtual learning for two weeks in February 2021, and a limited number of no contact co-curricular activities resumed. Students needing to quarantine participated in virtual learning.

70 Nationalities represented by students

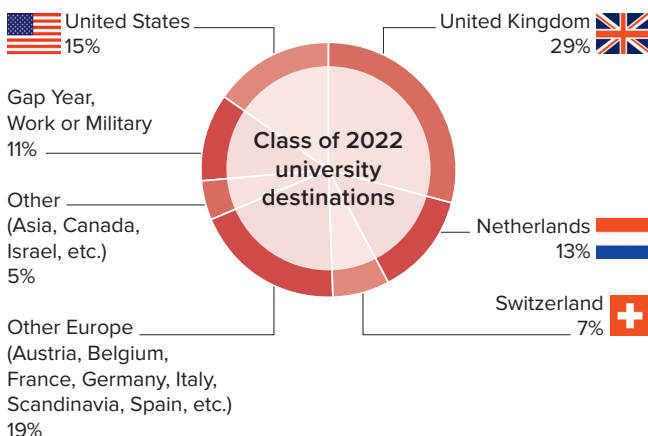**40** Mother tongue languages spoken by students

74% Teachers holding MA/MS or higher degrees

18 Average years of teaching experience

ZIS is approved by the Canton of Zurich's Department of Education

zis.ch

ZIS Upper School Programs, Grading, Graduation Requirements

Access to AP, Honors and Higher Level IB Courses

Students in Grades 9 and 10 may take the following AP courses: AP Computer Science Principles, AP Computer Science A, AP World History, AP Physics 1, AP Seminar, AP World Languages, and AP Math if appropriate. They may also take Honors Biology and Honors Chemistry. Students are strongly advised not to take four IB HL courses. Students do not take a seventh IB certificate subject.

Students are also allowed to enroll in courses offered by IB Pamoja, Virtual High School, Stanford's OnLine High School (OHS), and Johns Hopkins Center for Talented Youth (CTY).

67

Number of AP/IB/Honors courses offered in 2022/23

Policy for Reporting Disciplinary History

ZIS reserves the right to report to universities any out of school suspensions and expulsions that take place during Grades 9–12. We may also notify institutions about any changes to enrolment status.

Minimum Graduation Credit Requirements

English . . . . 4 credits
Math . . . . 3 credits
Science . . . . 3 credits
Social Sciences . . . . 3 credits
World Languages . . . . 2 credits
Creative Arts . . . . 2 credits
Physical Education . . . . 2 credits
Additional Elective Classes . . . . 4 credits
Total credits required   **23 credits**

- All students are required to take German in Grade 9
- 1 credit = 1 class year

28

Credits earned by vast majority of ZIS students

Grading Considerations

- A 4.0 scale is used to calculate GPA
- Grades are unweighted
- We do not rank
- We do not calculate a cumulative GPA
- Only ZIS grades are used to calculate GPA

ZIS Upper School Courses

Creative Arts: Foundation Art & Design; Foundation Art & Design Technology; Studio Art; Digital Graphic Design; Design Tech I; Digital Photography; Essential Theater; Acting & Directing; Actor's Workshop; Music Studio I–III; Creative Music; Concert Band; String Orchestra; Vocal & Choral Music
English: English as an Additional Language (EAL); English 9; English 10; English Literature; English Language; English Research & Composition; Digital Journalism I-III
Mathematics: Integrated Mathematics 1A–1C; Integrated Mathematics 2A–2C; Integrated Mathematics 3C; PreCalculus; Personal Finance
Physical Education: Physical Education 9 & 10
Science: Coordinated Science I–II; Honors Biology; Honors Chemistry; Design Tech II; Sports Science; Advanced Computer Science
Social Studies: History I–II; Philosophy; Contemporary History
World Language: French, German and Spanish A1–B2.2 and Fluent I & II

Advanced Placement (AP) Courses

Creative Arts: Drawing; 2-D Art & Design; 3-D Art & Design
English: AP English Language; AP English Literature; AP Seminar; AP Research
Mathematics: Calculus AB; Calculus BC; Statistics
Science: Biology; Chemistry; Computer Science A; Computer Science Principles; Physics 1; Physics 2
Social Studies: European History; World History; Psychology; Human Geography; Economics
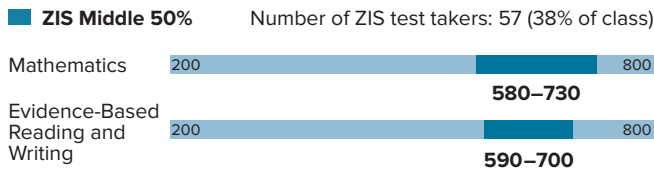
International Baccalaureate (IB) Programme

Group 1, Studies in Language & Literature: English A: Literature HL/SL; English A: Language & Literature HL/SL; French A: Language & Literature HL/SL; German A: Language & Literature HL/SL; Spanish A: Language & Literature HL/SL; IB A Literature SL Self-taught
Group 2, Language Acquisition: French ab initio SL; French B HL/SL; German B HL/SL; Spanish ab initio SL; Spanish B HL/SL
Group 3, Individual & Societies: History HL/SL; Psychology HL/SL; Economics HL/SL; Geography HL/SL; Environmental Systems & Societies SL
Group 4, Experimental Sciences: Biology HL/SL; Chemistry HL/SL; Physics HL/SL; Environmental Systems & Societies SL
Group 5, Mathematics: Mathematics SL Applications & Interpretations; Mathematics HL/SL Analysis & Approaches
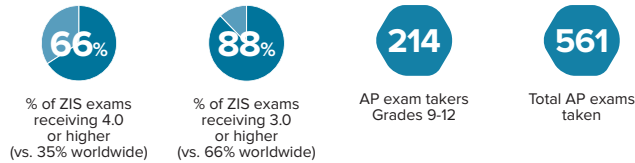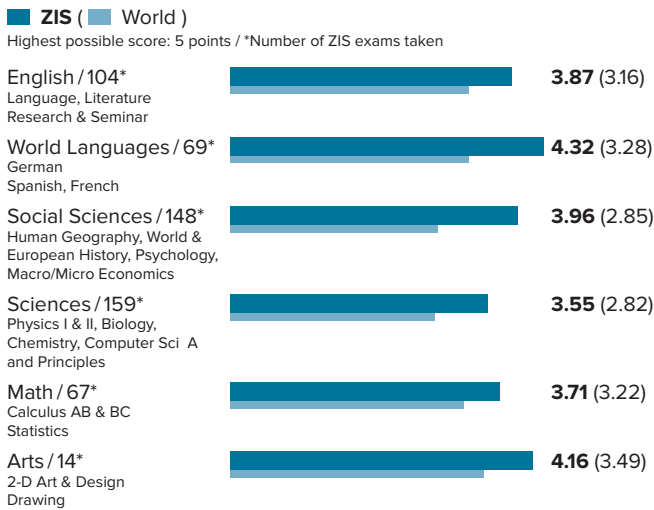**Group 6, Arts:** Visual Arts HL/SL

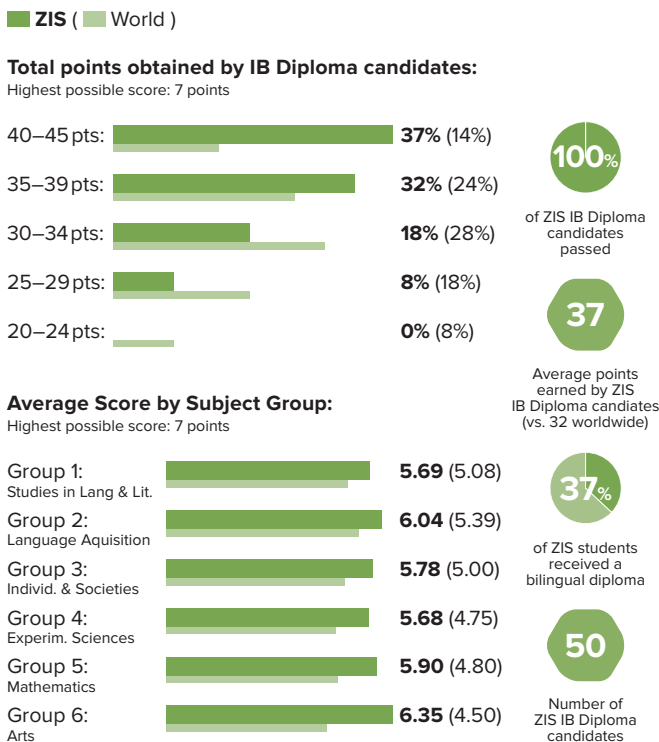| Letter Grade	Levels of achievement	Grading descriptors The descriptors are based on "Framework for the Use and Design of Grade Descriptors" from the University of Manchester	4-point scale equivalents
A **(A-)**	Excellent	The work is of exceptional quality, and demonstrates mastery of all learning objectives. It demonstrates very advanced knowledge and sophisticated application of learning. The thinking is clear and original.	**4.0** **(3.67)**
B **(B+, B-)**	Very Good	The work is of a high quality and demonstrates mastery of most learning objectives. It demonstrates solid knowledge and strong application of key skills and techniques.	**3.0** **(3.33, 2.67)**
C **(C+, C-)**	Satisfactory	The work is of satisfactory quality and demonstrates mastery of some, but not all learning objectives. It demonstrates good knowledge of certain topics and partial application of key skills and techniques.	**2.0** **(2.33, 1.67)**
D **(D+, D-)**	Poor	The work demonstrates limited mastery of the learning objectives. Multiple topics and skills are underdeveloped or inadequate. Remediation of knowledge and skills are required.	**1.0** **(1.33, 0.67)**
F	Failing	Lack of mastery of learning objectives. Inadequate demonstration of key knowledge, skills, and techniques.	**0**
NG	No grade	This designation is mainly used for transfer credits and do not affect GPA calculations.	NA
CR/ NCR	Credit/ No credit	CR (credit) indicates that a student has met the minimum requirements of a course or independent study. NCR (no credit) indicates the student has not met the minimum requirements agreed upon.	NA

Results at a Glance

SAT Reasoning Scores ZIS Class of 2023

ZIS Middle 50%   Number of ZIS test takers: 57 (38% of class)

Mathematics
200 — 800
580–730

Evidence-Based Reading and Writing
200 — 800
590–700

Advanced Placement (AP) Results 2022

ZIS (World)
Highest possible score: 5 points / *Number of ZIS exams taken

English / 104*
Language, Literature
Research & Seminar
3.87 (3.16)

World Languages / 69*
German
Spanish, French
4.32 (3.28)

Social Sciences / 148*
Human Geography, World &
European History, Psychology,
Macro/Micro Economics
3.96 (2.85)

Sciences / 159*
Physics I & II, Biology,
Chemistry, Computer Sci A
and Principles
3.55 (2.82)

Math / 67*
Calculus AB & BC
Statistics
3.71 (3.22)

Arts / 14*
2-D Art & Design
Drawing
4.16 (3.49)

66% % of ZIS exams receiving 4.0 or higher (vs. 35% worldwide)

88% % of ZIS exams receiving 3.0 or higher (vs. 66% worldwide)

214 AP exam takers Grades 9-12

561 Total AP exams taken

International Baccalaureate (IB) Results 2022

ZIS (World)

Total points obtained by IB Diploma candidates:
Highest possible score: 7 points

40–45 pts: **37%** (14%)
35–39 pts: **32%** (24%)
30–34 pts: **18%** (28%)
25–29 pts: **8%** (18%)
20–24 pts: **0%** (8%)

100% of ZIS IB Diploma candidates passed

37 Average points earned by ZIS IB Diploma candiates (vs. 32 worldwide)

37% of ZIS students received a bilingual diploma

50 Number of ZIS IB Diploma candidates

Average Score by Subject Group:
Highest possible score: 7 points

Group 1: Studies in Lang & Lit. **5.69** (5.08)
Group 2: Language Aquisition **6.04** (5.39)
Group 3: Individ. & Societies **5.78** (5.00)
Group 4: Experim. Sciences **5.68** (4.75)
Group 5: Mathematics **5.90** (4.80)
Group 6: Arts **6.35** (4.50)

Class of 2023 Grade 11 Grade Distribution (Select Grade 10 AP course grades included)

Letter Grade / 4-point scale equivalents	A 4.0	A- 3.67	B+ 3.33	B 3.0	B- 2.67	C+ 2.33	C 2.0	C- 1.67	< C- 1.33 or <
Contemporary History	3	2	2	1	1				1
German I–IV (A1–B1.2)		2	2	1			1	1	
Honors Biology	7	11	8	5	10	6	4	3	2
Honors Chemistry	9	15	6	6	6	3	6	1	3
Integrated Mathematics 3C		5	3	6	2	3	3	1	1
Pre-Calculus	7		3	2	6	1	2	1	1
Spanish I–IV (A1–B1.2)	1	2		2		1			
Sports Science	3	2	2	2	1	1			
AP 2D Art & AP Drawing	1	3	2	5	1				
AP Biology		2		1	1				
AP Calculus AB & BC	13	1	1	1	1				
AP Chemistry	3	3		2				1	
AP Computer Science / A / Principles	6	3	1	2	3				
AP Economics	7	2			1	2	1	2	
AP English Language	3	5	5	5	5	8	3		1
AP English Literature	4	8	4	1		1			
AP European History		2	1	2	3	2			
AP French Language & French IV (B1.2), IB French B SL & HL Year 1	1	4	3	2	1		1		
AP German Language	1	5	7						
AP Human Geography		2	1	1	1	2	1	2	2
AP Physics 1	5	6	6	4	5	4	1		
AP Physics 2	5	1						1	
AP Psychology	4	2	3	2	1		2		
AP Seminar	2	1	1	1	1				
AP Spanish Language	2	3	2						
AP World History	3	4	7	9	4	1	3		1
IB Biology HL Year 1	7	5	4	4	3	3	1	4	1
IB Biology SL Year 1	3	1	1	1	1			2	2
IB Chemistry HL Year 1	6	4	3	1	8				
IB Chemistry SL Year 1	1	4	3	2	3	1	1	1	
IB Economics HL Year 1	2	6	5	5	8	3	1	1	1
IB Economics SL Year 1	4	2	4	1	1		2		
IB English A: Language & Literature HL Year 1	3	12	5	3	4				
IB English A: Language & Literature SL Year 1	2	8	13	7	12	5	1	1	
IB English A: Literature HL & SL Year 1	3	3	1	1					
IB Environmental Systems SL Year 1		1	4	3	4	1	1	1	
IB French Ab In Year 1	3	1	1	1		1	1		
IB Geography HL Year 1	1	4	3	3	4	1	3		
IB Geography SL Year 1	3	3	1	1	2				
IB German A: Language & Literature HL Year 1		1	1	3	3	2	2	1	
IB German A: Language & Literature SL Year 1		3	5	2	4	1	7	5	
IB German B HL Year 1	2	4	2	4	2		1		
IB German B SL Year 1	1	3	1	3	2				
IB History HL Year 1	2	2	6	1	3	1			
IB History SL Year 1	1	4	2	1	1	2			
IB Math HL Analysis & Approaches Year 1	5	7	2	5	6	2			
IB Math SL Analysis & Approaches Year 1	2	4	5	1	9	7			2
IB Mathematics SL Applications Year 1		2	3	3	4	2	2	2	5
IB Physics HL & SL Year 1	1	8	3	4	5	2	1	1	1
IB Psychology HL & SL Yr 1	4	1	3	1					
IB Spanish A: Language & Literature HL & SL Year 1		1	2	1					
IB Spanish ab inito Year 1	2	2	1				1		
IB Spanish B HL & SL Yr 1	1	4	1	2		1			
IB ToK Year 1	16	19	24	13	5	2	1		
IB Visual Arts HL & SL Yr 1	1	2	3	1	1				

Note: Table only includes courses with 4 or more students.

University Matriculations

Colleges and universities attended by ZIS Graduates 2020–22:

Austria
Medical University of Vienna
MODUL University Vienna

Belgium
Catholic University of Louvain (2)
Ghent University

Canada
Bishop's University
Concordia University (2)
McGill University (4)
Sheridan College Institute of Technology and
    Advanced Learning
University of Toronto (3)
University of Waterloo
Western University

Finland
University of Helsinki

France
College Universitaire de Sciences Po/
    Columbia University Dual BA

Germany
University of Konstanz

Hong Kong
The University of Hong Kong

Hungary
University of Veterinary Medicine

Israel
IDC Herzliya – Raphael Recanati International
    School (2)

Ireland
National University of Ireland Galway
Trinity College Dublin

Italy
Humanitas University
Istituto Marangoni
John Cabot University
LUISS Guido Carli
Politecnico di Torino
Universita Bocconi (3)
University of Pavia

Netherlands
Amsterdam University of Applied Sciences
Delft University of Technology (3)
Eindhoven University of Technology
Erasmus University Rotterdam (4)
Hotel School, The Hague
Leiden University (2)
Technical University of Delft
Technical University of Eindhoven
Tilburg University (2)
University of Amsterdam (9)
University of Groningen (2)
University of Maastricht (8)
University of Twente
Utrecht University (4)

Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam
Wageningen University

Singapore
National University of Singapore

Spain
Ceu San Pablo University
ESADE Business School (4)
IE University (10)
Loyola University Andalusia
Universidad Catolica de Murcia
University of Navarra (2)

Sweden
Lund University
Umea University
Uppsala University

Switzerland
École hôtelière de Lausanne / EHL (2)
Franklin University Switzerland
Glion Institute of Higher Education (2)
Les Roches Schools of Hotel Management
Lucerne University of Applied Sciences
    & Arts
Schweizerische Hotelfachschule Luzern /
    SHL
Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich /
    ETH Zurich (2)
University of Fribourg
University of Lausanne
University of St. Gallen (10)
University of Zurich (4)

United Kingdom
Arts University Bournemouth
Brighton and Sussex Medical School
Bristol, University of the West of England
Brunel University London
Cardiff University (2)
City, University of London (3)
Durham University (2)
ESCP Business School (2)
Glasgow Caledonian University
Imperial College London (3)
Kent and Medway Medical School
King's College London, University
    of London (5)
London School of Economics/ LSE
Loughborough University (11)
Newcastle University (4)
Norwich University of the Arts
Nottingham Trent University
Oxford Brookes University
Queen Mary University of London (3)
Queen's University Belfast
Regent's University London
Royal Holloway, University of London
Sheffield College
The University of Edinburgh (3)
UCFB
University Centre South Essex
University College London / UCL (9)
University of Bath (4)
University of Brighton (2)
University of Bristol (2)

University of Buckingham
University of Cambridge
University of Dundee
University of Exeter (12)
University of Glasgow
University of Leeds
University of Manchester (4)
University of Nottingham (2)
University of Oxford (2)
University of Sheffield (3)
University of St Andrews (2)
University of Stirling
University of Surrey (4)
University of Sussex (2)
University of the Arts London (2)
University of Warwick (12)
University of Westminster, London (2)
University of York (2)

United States of America
American University
Arizona State University
Augsburg University
Babson College
Boston College (2)
Boston University (4)
Brigham Young University
Brown University (2)
Carnegie Mellon University
Columbia College Chicago
Columbia University Dual BA/
    College Universitaire de Sciences Po
Cornell University
Culinary Institute of America
Curry College
Dartmouth College (3)
Davidson College
Emerson College
Emory University (2)
Fordham University
George Washington University
Georgetown University
Mississippi State University
Mount Holyoke College
New York University (4)
North Carolina State University
Northeastern University (4)
Northwestern University (3)
Parsons School of Design
Purdue University (2)
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
Santa Clara University
Southern Methodist University
The New School
Trinity University
Tufts University
Tulane University of Louisiana
University of California – Berkeley
University of Chicago
University of Denver
University of Michigan
University of New Mexico
University of Northwestern
University of Pennsylvania
University of Wisconsin
Virginia Polytechnic

Note: number in parentheses = number of
ZIS Graduates