



The International School of Brussels

Everyone included. Everyone challenged. Everyone successful.



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More than a school

Since 1951, [The International School of Brussels](#) (ISB) has been preparing students for the future, welcoming thousands of families from Belgium and across the world.

We are a leading international school with a vibrant community of 1300 students aged 2.5-18 from 70 countries.

While our core values and traditions remain at the heart of the ISB culture, we recognise the importance of adapting to today's rapidly changing world. At ISB, all teaching and learning is driven by the powerful and timeless mission of developing international citizens in an environment in which everyone is Included, Challenged, and Successful. This involves providing individual and holistic support to every child, while developing a broad range of personalised learning pathways for Upper School and beyond.

Immersed in the beautiful Forêt de Soignes and located just 10 metres away from a UNESCO World Heritage Site, our campus offers a dynamic, safe, and sustainable learning environment in which our students can play, explore, and grow.

The Learning Journey at ISB

The ISB learning journey supports students from preschool to grade 12. Our school is divided into **Lower School** (Early Childhood Centre and Elementary School) and **Upper School** (Middle School and High School), each of which is specially designed to provide an environment in which students can engage, connect, innovate, and feel empowered.

Early Childhood Centre (ECC):

Preschool - Grade 2 (Ages 2.5 to 8)

Elementary School (ES):

Grade 3 – Grade 6 (Ages 8 to 12)

Middle School (MS):

Grade 7 – Grade 9 (Ages 12 to 15)

High School (HS):

Grade 10 – Grade 12 (Ages 15 to 18)



Learning at ISB

As a school, ISB is dedicated to fostering a community of independent learners who lead with empathy and will go on to become true international citizens of the world.

From the classroom to the fields, theatre, and music halls - we support and challenge our students to reach their potential, helping them discover who they are and who they want to become. We do this by connecting our resources to their passions, offering a broad range of personalised pathways that meet each student's individual needs, while celebrating their unique voice and autonomy.

At ISB, our inquiry-based curriculum is designed with the future in mind. We know that our students will need to ask questions and solve problems we do not yet know exist. Their success will rely on their ability to remain both agile and adaptable in the face of change, so that they can apply today's learning to tomorrow's unfamiliar situations.

An overview of the ISB curriculum, as well as our language programme, can be found on our [website](http://www.isb.be) (www.isb.be).



LOWER SCHOOL AT ISB

Our Early Childhood Centre

Preschool - Grade 2

The [Early Childhood Centre \(ECC\)](#) at ISB is where children aged 2.5-8 years discover a strong passion for learning that sets them up for life. We provide them with a playful and safe environment designed to meet their individual needs, while also helping them develop an understanding of and willingness to reflect on the impact of their actions and choices.

In the ECC, the experience for children is focused on supporting young learners to develop a range of social and inquiry skills. Our programme is carefully designed to foster confidence, competence, creativity, and a love for learning. To us as a school, happiness matters. We want to equip each child with a solid foundation for learning that will spark their interests and talents, and help them to flourish throughout their life.



Learning through Play

It is well researched that children have the amazing potential to learn through play. Our teachers are expert question-askers who help children think through big ideas as they play.

They design and structure the environment to ensure that children are challenged and supported to learn in creative, imaginative, and investigative ways. Through different types of play, they help young learners develop a strong sense of self-esteem and perseverance, helping them to better understand the world around them.

Our Elementary School

Grade 3 - Grade 6

The **Elementary School (ES)** at ISB is an exciting place where students aged 8-12 years explore the world around them with a greater sense of independence and sophistication. They are provided with opportunities to tap into their interests, talents, and passions, learning more about themselves and developing valuable skills in problem solving and interpretation.

At ISB, we believe that learning isn't only about finding the right answer but also being able to figure out and communicate the problem. This is why we conceptualise our learning and help students connect what they observe, read, and learn to big ideas. Our students set goals and challenges for themselves and we work hard to achieve them together.

The ES is where the Learning Journey continues. We build upon the foundations laid in the ECC and further consolidate the skills and knowledge necessary for a lifetime of learning.

Flourishing in lots of different ways

We want our students to look beyond the classroom and open doors to new and exciting possibilities. In the ES, we empower them in lots of different ways, encouraging them to use their voice and explore areas of interest they are keen to learn more about.

The ES Passion Learning project gives students a chance to grow in their knowledge of a specific topic or subject they want to investigate further. Teachers work closely with them to ensure the right level of challenge, engagement, and purpose, and at the end of the school year the students present the finished projects to parents and to the ISB community.



UPPER SCHOOL AT ISB

Our Middle School

Grade 7 - Grade 9

The **Middle School (MS)** at ISB is a place intentionally designed to meet the unique developmental needs of the adolescent learner. Between the ages of 12 to 15, choice and ownership become increasingly important as students are rapidly developing on both a personal and intellectual level. At ISB, we offer an environment that strengthens their independent learning skills, while nurturing their creativity and empowering them through personal relevance, choice, and autonomy. We provide high standards of learning combined with a range of specialised and STEM opportunities for each child.

Our Bilingual Strand of the Programme

To allow further flexibility and choice in the Upper School, we also offer a long-established Bilingual pathway that allows eligible students (native or with a minimum of 2 years in French) to study both Science and Social Studies in French. This immersion approach allows non-native speakers to reach fluency more quickly while allowing native speakers to study in their mother tongue.



Our Middle School

Grade 7 - Grade 9

Developing Independent Learners

In the Middle School, students are provided with the opportunity to pursue a range of specific learning interests and passions, building on the experiences developed in the ECC and ES.

In addition to a strong programme of challenging academic courses in traditional subject areas, we have developed a comprehensive range of specialised Arts and STEM-based courses that empower learners and support their social, emotional, and physical wellbeing. Some of these subjects include Band, Choir, Digital music, Digital Art, Drama Works, Filmmaking, Coding, Creative Writing, and Robotics.

Our state-of-the-art facilities have been designed to support these dynamic and personalised learning experiences so that we can meet the needs of every student at ISB. MS students are also offered opportunities to make a difference by contributing meaningful service to local and global communities.



Our High School

Grade 10 - Grade 12

The **High School (HS)** at ISB where students are able to use all of their previous experience to truly own their learning path. More than ever, it is a time of continued social and emotional growth for our students as they begin to prepare for life and learning beyond ISB. To support each learner in their journey, we provide multiple pathways for success, offering students lots of personal choice, independence, and the opportunity to flourish both inside and outside the classroom. The High School offers a diverse programme taught by teachers who are global experts in their field.

A personalised journey to success

With over 120 different courses, our High School offers a robust range of flexible and personalised pathway options that allow students to design their own path to graduation and beyond. As well as tailoring these options to the student's needs, interests, and learning style, in the High School a strong emphasis continues to be placed on character development and the personal skills necessary to thrive. Among the different programmes on offer, ISB students can choose to pursue Advanced Placement (AP) courses, the International Baccalaureate, and/or BTEC offerings to meet their current and future goals. All students are encouraged to advocate and speak for themselves, to be independent learners and to pursue their passions.



Our High School

Grade 10 - Grade 12

High School Counselling

At ISB, we care about our students' wellbeing at every stage of their learning journey and understand that High School can be a time of change and important decisions about the future. All of our Grades 10 to 12 students at ISB benefit from the advice and guidance of a dedicated team of college and career counsellors who support and advocate for students throughout the entirety of their High School careers.

They also proactively build relationships with universities, colleges and employers from around the world. Through our advisory and counselling programmes, students and their families are guided and supported as they navigate the journey of adolescence, grow their academic understanding, contribute meaningfully to society, and prepare for the future that awaits them.

Our goal is to ensure that students are successful, challenged, safe, and healthy, supporting them at every step of the way throughout their High School careers.



School is so much more than the classroom

At ISB, we want to prepare students for the challenges of the 21st century. We encourage and support them to challenge themselves and find joy in everything that they do.

Athletics at ISB

The [Athletics programme at ISB](#) is truly an extension of the classroom, helping to make students better athletes by supporting their individual development in a holistic, caring, and joyful way. The school believes in a multi-developmental approach for each child, and students can try out a different sport each season.

Our Athletics programme offers 15 sports and is the only school in Belgium to offer American Football, Lacrosse, Field Hockey, Baseball, Softball, and a full programme for boys Volleyball. Since its founding in the late 1950s, it has grown into one of Europe's largest and most respected programmes, and our student athletes have won over 100 ISST Championships.

Arts at ISB

The [Arts programme at ISB](#) helps students enrich their understanding of the world and learn the dispositions for a successful and fulfilled life: collaboration; shared responsibility; focus; and the importance of dedication and performance. At ISB, we host more than 70 drama, music, dance, and club performances annually on campus.

The Theatre courses at ISB challenge our students to think about their message, their audience, and their process, encouraging discovery through experimentation and risk-taking. The Visual Arts help students express their interpretations of the world through a rich range of creative media. Music drives students to deepen their understanding of the world, its cultures and its humanity, and student artists can participate in ISB's theatre productions, musicals, technical theatre, and choir concerts. ISB also works with independent professional musicians to offer private after-school music lessons.



ISB Plus

ISB Plus is our after school co-curricular programme that directly supports the school's mission, introducing students to a range of interests that provide opportunities for personal development. It is a safe, inclusive environment where students can learn new skills or perfect existing ones.

An extensive programme of ISB Plus activities runs every day for three seasons each school year. We offer a range of activities for all grades, and they fall under five general categories: Art, Outdoor, Active, Interest and Languages - there is something for everyone.

To support both parents and children, ISB also offers a flexible, safe, and fun afterschool Supervision activity for all students from Preschool to Grade 6. A range of fun and relaxing activities are available during Supervision with board games, drawing, and puzzles for older students and a monthly activity theme for the younger students, which includes story time, sing-a-longs and crafts.



Governance

As the oldest international school in Belgium, ISB's long history of success is underpinned by decades of continuity of governance and leadership.

ISB is governed by a Board of Trustees. The Board is responsible for setting the school's strategy, and is the guardian of the school's mission. This includes holding the school to account for delivering on all aspects of the mission, verifying that the school operates on a sound financial basis, and taking all necessary steps to ensure the long-term success of the school.



The Director is responsible to the Board of Trustees for all aspects of school life, and he is supported by a strong Leadership Team of heads and directors, each with strategic responsibility for different areas of school life. At ISB, all of our faculty & staff are learning leaders committed to seeing each of our students succeed. Our employees bring passion, professionalism and our core ISB values each day to their work.



A truly international community

Our Students

At ISB, we are proud to have such a warm, inclusive and welcoming community of students, parents, teachers, staff and alumni.

We take our core value of inclusion very seriously. With students from over 70 countries, it is this diversity that sets us apart and makes ISB such a wonderful home for our families. Amongst our top nationalities are Americans, Belgians, French, Israeli, Japanese, Spanish, Italian, British, Dutch, and Canadians.

Our Alumni

For over 70 years, ISB was home to so many individuals who left their mark and helped us become the school we are today. We are grateful for the bonds that exist between ISB, its alumni and former faculty and staff; they are at the heart of our success as an institution, and they will pave the way for the future that we envision at ISB. Currently we have 25,000 Alumni around the world and we cherish every opportunity we get to celebrate them and welcome them back home.

Our Family Association

As soon as your child becomes a student at ISB, your family becomes part of the ISB Family Association (FA). Led by parents in our community, the Family Association has a mission to build a well-informed school community where all families are welcomed, encouraged to participate, and all nationalities are celebrated. Our parents dedicate their time, energy, and heart to the school and organise more than 200 events each year, including the annual ISB International Festival.