

School Profile 2024-2025



International School of Berne

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CEEB code: 796030 UCAS code: 47408 IB code: 000814

The International School of Berne is an independent, coeducational school offering education with English as the primary language of instruction. ISBerne is accredited by the Council of International Schools (CIS) and the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC). The school campus is located in Gümliigen, a suburb of Berne, Switzerland's capital city.

The School Community

There are approximately 300 students from over 50 nations attending pre-school through Grade 12. Most have broad cultural backgrounds and communicate in more than one language. Many students use English as a second or third language. The average enrollment for students is three years.

The School Year

ISBerne runs on a Northern Hemisphere programme, with the school year beginning in late-August and finishing in late-June. There are 180 academic days in the school year.

The Academic Programmes

The academic programmes at ISBerne are organised as follows:

ELC 1 – Grade 5 IB PYP: International Baccalaureate Primary Years Programme (ages 3-11).

Grades 6 – 10 IB MYP: International Baccalaureate Middle Years Programme (ages 11-16).

Grades 11 – 12 IB DP: International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme & ISBerne High School Diploma (ages 16-18).

Students in ELC1 – Grade 5 focus on Units of Inquiry organised around central themes. Students have specialists for Music and Physical Education, and from KG to G5 for languages (French or German) and Visual Arts.

Students in Grades 6 – 8 complete courses including English, Mathematics, French or German, Sciences, Individuals and Societies, Visual Arts, Theatre Arts, Music, Design, and Physical and Health Education.

Students in Grades 9 – 10 complete courses including English, Mathematics, French or German, Sciences, Individuals and Societies. In addition students may choose subjects from two option groups, which include Visual Arts, Theatre Arts, Music, Physical and Health Education, and French or German or a mother tongue language.

Students in Grades 11 – 12 follow one of three possible pathways: the internationally recognised International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme, the IB Diploma Courses, or the ISBerne High School Diploma. Students can achieve a Bilingual IB Diploma by demonstrating high proficiency in two languages. All IB Diploma candidates in Grades 11 & 12 complete the Theory of Knowledge programme (ToK) and Extended Essay (a 4000-word original research paper). All students must satisfy the Creativity, Activity & Service (CAS) programme requirements of the IB Diploma.

The following IB courses are currently offered at both Higher Level (HL) and Standard Level (SL) unless otherwise noted:

- English A Literature; English A Language & Literature SL
- German A Language & Literature; German B
- French B; French ab initio SL
- Economics
- Geography
- History
- Biology
- Chemistry
- Environmental Systems and Societies
- Physics
- Mathematics Analysis & Approaches
- Mathematics Applications & Interpretations SL
- Music SL

The Extra-Curricular Activities Programme

The school offers a broad range of extra-curricular activities, including Student Council, Model United Nations, Youth Forum Switzerland, Villars Institute Fellowship, and a range of After-school Activities (ASAs). As a member of the Swiss Group of International Schools (SGIS), ISBerne is a part of a network of sports, including volleyball, basketball, soccer, cross-country running, athletics, and uni-hockey.

Grading

The school year runs from August to June and is divided into two semesters, with attainment being reported at the end of each semester. Students are assessed using the International Baccalaureate grade scale, 7 (highest) – 1 (lowest).

Due to the diversity of educational backgrounds the school does not provide class rank nor calculates grade point averages. There are no weighted grades.

Students following the IB Diploma Programme or IB Diploma Course pathways receive a final reported level for each subject in May of Grade 12. This is followed by externally assessed and moderated results from the IBO in July. Students following the ISBerne High School Diploma pathway receive a final reported level for each subject in May of Grade 12.

The graduation ceremony for grade 12 students takes place at the end of May or beginning of June each year.

IB Diploma Programme Statistical Results	Last 5 Years (Average)	May 2024
Number of DP students	17	25
Average points total (out of 45)	34.2	33.4
Average subject grade (out of 7)	5.4	5.22
Number of bilingual diplomas awarded	5	7

IB / US Conversion Chart						
7=A+	6=A/A-	5=B+/B	4=B-/C+	3=C/C-	2=D	1=F

University acceptances

Each year, approximately 90% of the graduating cohort will go on to a university or college somewhere in the world. Below is a list of the institutions (in alphabetical order) to which ISBerne students have been offered admission in 2024:

Bocconi University, Doshisha University, Durham University, EBS Universität für Wirtschaft und Recht, EHL Hospitality Business School, EU Business School in Munich, Istituto Marangoni London, Kingston School of Art, La Salle Ramon Llull University, Maastricht University, Montana State University, National College of Art & Design Dublin, Newcastle University, PFH Göttingen, Sophia University, UIC Barcelona, Universidad CEU San Pablo, Universität Bern, University of the Arts London, University of Basel, University of Birmingham, University of Brighton, University of Edinburgh, University of Geneva, University of Groningen, University of Ljubljana, University of Malta, University of Manchester, University of Reading, University of Sheffield, University of St. Gallen, University of Warsaw, University of Westminster London.