



Secondary School Profile

2025 / 2026

INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL OF HAMBURG

MISSION

Our Mission: As an international community of learners we nurture inquiring minds, compassionate hearts and balanced lives.

VISION

Our Vision: ISH is a welcoming and inclusive community where innovative thinkers teach and learn together. We believe in the power of education to develop global citizens who lead lives of purpose and meaning.



INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL OF HAMBURG

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THE SCHOOL

The International School of Hamburg (ISH) is a co-educational day school enrolling students from Early Years 1 (age 3) to Grade 12. It was founded in 1957 as the first international school in Germany. In 2010 the school moved to its present campus situated in a residential district approximately 30 minutes from the centre of Hamburg. It was expanded and remodelled in 2015. The school has over 780 students from more than 65 nationalities.



THE FACULTY

The school employs 114 teachers. It is an experienced faculty with more than 30 % having been at ISH for more than 10 years. They come from 28 different countries with most from the USA, the UK and Germany.



THE STUDENTS

The student body is highly diverse with the most represented nations being the USA, the UK, the Netherlands, India, France, Italy, Turkey and Germany. Student enrolment for grades 9 - 12 is presently (September 2025) as follows:

Grade 12: 69 **Grade 11: 73**
Grade 10: 88 **Grade 9: 61**

The average class size is 14.



ACADEMIC PROGRAMME AND CURRICULUM

The language of instruction at ISH is English. The IB Middle Years Programme is the framework for our curriculum in Grades 6 to 10. The International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme (IBDP) and the IB Career Related Programme (IBCP) are offered in Grades 11 and 12. The majority of students take the full



GPA AND RANKING POLICY

We do not compute GPA or provide class ranking. There is no appropriate ranking system that would adequately take account of the mobility of international students, many of whom have transferred from schools in countries with different grading systems. Due to the challenging and demanding nature of IB Diploma Programme courses, they are considered to be honours-level courses, particularly the ones taken at the Higher Level. Students may obtain the IB Diploma or DP courses (certificates), in addition to the ISH high school diploma. For IB diploma students, we normally limit the number of classes to 3 higher level and 3 standard level classes.



ACCREDITATIONS

ISH is accredited by the Council of International Schools (CIS) and the New England Association of School and Colleges (NEASC). In addition, ISH is a member of the European Council of International Schools, the North-West European Council of International Schools, the Association of German International Schools, the International ACAC and the International Baccalaureate Organisation. Through these, ISH is affiliated with over 600 international schools worldwide.



GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Students complete 8 semesters, have satisfactory participation in the CAS programme (Grades 11 and 12), and earn a minimum of 24 credits in grades 9-12 in:

English	3 credits	Creative Arts	2 credits
Science	3 credits	Social Studies	3 credits
Mathematics	2 credits	1 Foreign Language	2 credits
Physical Education	1.5 credits	Other (Electives)	7.5 credits (Visual Arts, Music, Theatre, etc.)

In some cases, transfer students who meet the overall credit requirements may have certain course requirements waived.

IBDP SUBJECTS CURRENTLY OFFERED

Biology (HL/SL)
Chemistry (HL/SL)
Design (SL)
Economics (HL/SL)
English A Language & Literature, Literature (HL/SL)
English B (HL/SL)
Environmental Systems & Societies (HL/SL)
French B (HL/SL)
Geography (HL/SL)
German A Language & Literature (HL/SL)
German B (HL/SL)
German ab initio (SL)
History (HL/SL)
Mathematics AA (HL/SL)
Mathematics AI (HL/SL)
Music (HL/SL)
Physics (HL/SL)
Psychology (SL) + HL newly added in 2025/26
Spanish B (HL/SL)
Theatre (HL/SL)
Visual Arts (HL/SL)

Additional mother tongue language may be available upon request.

Student Council

Students have the opportunity to run an election campaign for representative positions, or join the council as auxiliary members of working groups. Our students learn valuable leadership skills and work on meaningful projects throughout the school year, such as TEDX Youth and leading initiatives on improvements to our school.

Music Enrichment Programme (MEP)

ISH offers individual or group music lessons after the academic school day finishes, in a variety of instruments, including piano, guitar, percussion, and voice. Performances are organised twice per year, for students learning instruments to showcase their skills for friends, parents and staff.

Holiday Program

Secondary school students can participate in selected programs or

IB CAREER-RELATED PROGRAMME (CP)

BTEC Level 3 Certificate Business
BTEC Level 3 Certificate Sport
BTEC Level 3 Subsidiary Diploma Music

In addition to this, three, four or five diploma courses are taken, with at least one of these at a higher level. The CP core consists of personal and professional skills classes, 90 hours of guided service learning and 90 hours of guided language development classes over the two years. All students complete a 3000 word Reflective Project exploring an ethical dilemma related to their career-related study.

STUDENT ACTIVITIES

After School Activities (ASA)

Art
Band
Chess
French
Model United Nations
Qigong
Theatre
Young Directors

Lunch Clubs

Environment Club (GreenISH)
Sri Lanka Project
Duke of Edinburgh Award
Student groups - Art Initiative, Chess & Board Games, Debate, Entrepreneurship, European Politics, First Aid, Gay Straight Alliance, GirlUp, Movie Night, Neurodiversity, Publ-ISHed
Yearbook

workshops that are occasionally offered during ISH school holidays. Previous offers have included IB revision, Athletics, STEM and Theatre.

Athletics

ISH Falcons sports teams compete with eleven other European International Schools in the NECIS (North European Council of International Schools) conference in soccer, volleyball, basketball, tennis, golf, track and field, cross country and swimming. In addition, an intramural sports programme is offered for students in a non-competitive environment.

SAT RESULTS – GRADES 11 AND 12

SAT Reasoning Scores between 08/2024 and 05/2025

18 students, of which 78% are non-native English speakers, took the test.

SAT Summary	Evidence-Based Reading and Writing	Math	Total
Median Scores	625	665	1.290
Mid 50% Range	550–690	580–695	1.130–1.385

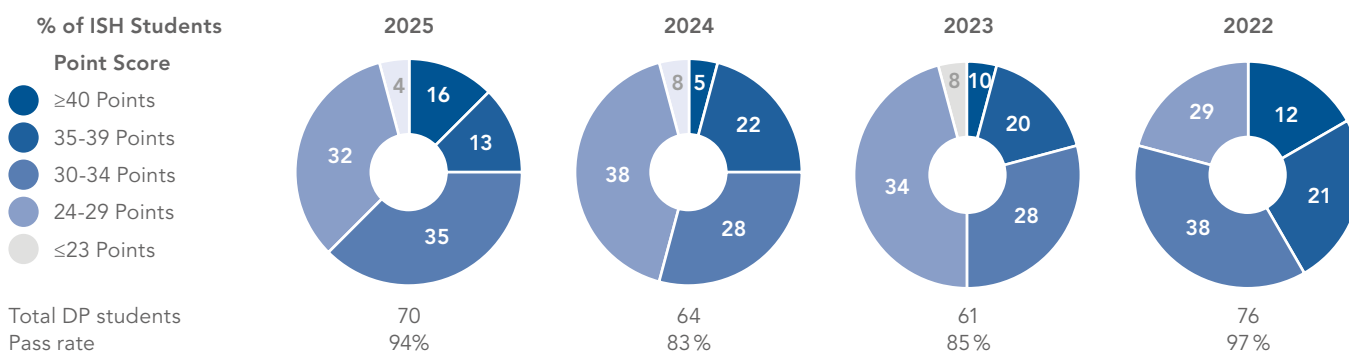
GRADING SYSTEM & SUGGESTED CONVERSION TO US SYSTEM

7	Excellent	A+
6	Very Good	A/A-
5	Good	B+
4	Satisfactory	B
3	Mediocre	C
2	Poor	F
1	Very Poor	F

DISTRIBUTION OF INDIVIDUAL IBDP SCORES

IBCP Pass Rate: 100% · Career-Related Pathways: BTEC Business, BTEC Sport. Total number of students registered for the IBCP: 7

Average IBDP scores (May 2025), International School of Hamburg: 32.0 • World Average: 30.58



College Placement

85% of ISH graduates matriculate at Colleges and Universities worldwide. Some students may decide to take a gap year. Others go on to complete an apprenticeship or fulfill their military obligations prior to entering higher education. Over the past four years, ISH graduates have been accepted at the following institutions. **Universities marked with an asterisk* indicate Class of 2025 matriculation; **denotes more than one student enrolled:**

ASIA

HKU, HKUST
Keio University, Shonan Fujisawa Campus*
Korea University
Sophia University, Japan*
Seoul National University, Korea
University of Tokyo, Japan
Waseda University, Japan
Yonsei University, Korea

AUSTRALIA & NEW ZEALAND

University of Sydney, Australia
RMIT University, Australia
University of Technology College, Sydney, Austr.
Monash University, Australia
University of Auckland, NZ
University of Tasmania, Australia
Victoria University of Wellington, NZ

CANADA

Carleton University
Concordia University
McGill University
University of British Columbia
University of Calgary
University of Ottawa
University of Toronto
University of Victoria
University of Waterloo
York University

DENMARK

Aarhus University
Copenhagen Business School*
DTU Copenhagen*

FRANCE

Parson School of Design, Paris
Sciences Po
The American University of Paris**
ESCP Business School
ESSEC, Cergy-Pontoise*

GERMANY

BIMM University-Berlin*
EBS University of Business and Law
Frankfurt School of Finance & Management
HAW, Hamburg*
HSBA
Hochschule Fresenius*
Hochschule Kempten*
Kühne Logistics University*
Macromedia University of Applied Sciences, Berlin
Medical School Hamburg**
Rhine-Waal Univ. of Applied Sciences*
TU Darmstadt
TU München**
UE Berlin*
University of Hamburg
Universität of Heidelberg
Ulm University
Zeppelin Universität

IRELAND

Trinity College Dublin
University College Cork
University College Dublin

ITALY

The American University of Rome
Bocconi University
Politecnico di Torino
Luiss University*
Cattolica International, Milan

NETHERLANDS

Amsterdam Fashion Academy
Eindhoven University of Technology
Erasmus University Rotterdam**
Hanze U of Applied Sciences
Leiden University

Leiden University College*
Maastricht University
Maastricht University College
The Hague UAS
Tilburg University*
TU Delft
University of Amsterdam
University of Groningen
University of Twente
VU Amsterdam*
Wageningen University and Research Centre

SPAIN

ESADE University**
INSA Barcelona
IE University**
Cardinal Herrera-CEU University*
Abat Oliba CEU University*

SWEDEN

Kungl Tekniska Högskolan - Royal Institute of Technology
Lund University
Stockholm School of Economics
Stockholm University
University of Gothenburg

SWITZERLAND

École hôtelière de Lausanne*
Glion Institute of Higher Education
UNIL

UNITED KINGDOM

Arts University Bournemouth
Bangor University
Bath Spa University
Bournemouth University
Buckinghamshire New University
Cambridge University
Central Saint Martins College of Art & Design
City University London
Durham University
Goldsmiths University of London
Heriot Watt University
Imperial College London
King's College London**
Kingston University
LAMDA
Leeds Beckett University*
London School of Economics & Political Science
Loughborough University
Middlesex University
Newcastle University*
Nottingham Trent University
Oxford University
Oxford Brookes University
Queen Mary University of London
Ravensbourne University London*
Regent's University London
Royal Holloway, U of London
University College London
University for the Creative Arts
University of the Arts London
University of Aberdeen
University of Aberystwyth
University of Bath
University of Birmingham
University of Brighton
University of Bristol
University of Cardiff
University of Derby
University of Durham
University of East London
University of Edinburgh
University of Essex
University of Exeter
University of Glasgow
University of Gloucestershire
University of Leeds
University of Liverpool
University of London
University of Manchester

University of Nottingham*
University of Plymouth
University of Sheffield*
University of Southampton
University of St. Andrews
University of Strathclyde
University of Sussex
University of Warwick
UWE Bristol
University of York

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

AMDA, LA
American University
Arizona State University
Babson College
Bentley University
Boston University
Brown University
Clemson University
Columbia University
Cornell University*
Dartmouth College
Embry-Riddle Aeronautical U.
Emerson College
Eugene Lang College The New School
Fashion Institute of Technology
Fordham University
Florida International University
Georgetown University
Harvard College
Istituto Marangoni, Miami
Kenyon College
Macalester College
Manhattan College
Marist College
Massachusetts College of Art and Design
Marymount Manhattan C.
Mercer University*
New York University
Northeastern University
Pace University
Parsons School of Design/The New School
Pennsylvania State University
Pratt Institute
San Diego State University
San José State University
Savannah College of Art and Design
SCAD
Scripps College
Skidmore College
Southern California Institute of Architecture
Southern Methodist University
Syracuse University
Tufts University
University of Arizona*
UC Santa Barbara
UC Santa Cruz
UC San Diego*
UC Irvine
University of Chicago
University of Colorado, Boulder
UMass, Amherst
University of Pennsylvania
University of Texas at Austin
University of Washington
Washington State U.*
Virginia Tech
Yale University

EUROPE additional countries

BI Norwegian Business School
Howest University of Applied Sciences*, Belgium
IADE*, Portugal
Medical University Sofia
University of Monaco*
University of Ostrava*, Czech R.

SOUTH AMERICA additional countries

CEDIM, Monterrey Campus, Mexico