



INTERNATIONAL  
SECONDARY  
GRAMMAR SCHOOL



International Baccalaureate (IB) |  
Diploma Program (DP)



## **MISSION STATEMENT**

The goal of education is to develop the self and find one's voice. To this aim the BME International Secondary School mentors students to reach high academic standards, engage in the school and local community and explore life ambitions while focusing on respect for the visions of others. Having a multinational student community, the BME International School stresses the integration of the student by developing meaningful relationships with other students, into the broader values and rationales of the international community.



# TEAM WELCOME

Dear Prospective Parents and Students,

The International Baccalaureate or IB at our school is exciting. Many of the students tell us that our IB program is special. The diploma and the privileges of that diploma are the same as any other IB program, but here the students seem to feel they are part of a tight family. We all work with each other, organize together, and share 25 years of tradition together. It's not unusual to see students and teachers having a working lunch or taking part in crafts, music, or sports in small groups both casually and formally.

In developing our IB program, we have kept this in mind. We have two new labs, a new library, new computer systems, new spaces all with the continuity of having the same educators guiding students or candidates in IB lingo, through our program.

In this booklet you will find what you need to know about our program. It starts with a description of our school and is followed by what is the IB and the IB in our school. We also include brief policy statements and information about fees and services.

Enjoy looking through this and we look forward to your participation in this exciting time for our school.

All this and other information about our school and school-wide policies can be found at [www.bmegimnazium.hu](http://www.bmegimnazium.hu)

Yours,

**The I B Team**



# OUR HISTORY

The BME International Secondary School opened its doors in 1993 and was the brainchild of the English Department of the Technical University of Budapest who at the end of socialism saw the need for meeting the global world head on. They thought the best way to do this was to create a private school which would be the first Hungarian school to offer all subjects in the global language, English.

The school has come a long way since then. It is now in a new building and is a fully independent educational institution. We have had more than 15 years of graduating students who come from and will study in most of the continents in the world. We now are about more than just offering the best English Language training, but within the Hungarian Secondary School diploma system, offer students of all backgrounds a place to call home.

In the last ten years, we have become a forerunner in participating in European student exchange projects, have developed the most comprehensive Hungarian as a Foreign Language program in all of Hungary, were the only school to offer both higher and standard level English Literature Exams and have developed a rich tradition of events and travel opportunities.

The future looks bright for our school as we continue to increase our services and enrollment and we look forward to the next twenty years of which the International Baccalaureate (IB) will be an integral part.

# WHAT IS THE IB?

The core of the IB is its philosophy seen through its mission statement and often repeated list of traits (learner profile ) that stem from this mission statement. It is worth stating a bit of this here.

*The IB aims to develop inquiring, knowledgeable, and caring young people who help create a better and more peaceful world through intercultural understanding and respect*



## THE PROGRAM

To realize this mission the IB offers an academically challenging and balanced two-year study course for students in their last years of secondary school. Candidates for this program take 6 different courses, choosing one from each of various categories and then take centralized exams at the end of the second year in three higher level and three standard level courses. In addition there is a critical thinking course all students take (Theory of Knowledge), there is a projects and service element (Creativity, Action, Service - CAS), and finally there is a 4,000 word research/exploration (Extended Essay) students must complete to graduate. These make up the core of the IB and are best illustrated in the IB hexagon. For more information please visit: [www.ibo.org](http://www.ibo.org).



## WHY THE IB?

The IB is international. The IB is accepted around the world. The IB is designed with a globe in the hand. IB graduates are respected and respect each other. These are the reasons for the IB, but, this program is not for everyone. If you like school, enjoy reading books, challenge your mind, and are ready for an intense two years that will test your intellect, creativity, and initiative, you can profit from this program.

## THE IB TEACHES THINKING SKILLS FOR LIFE

The IB uses a problem solving approach.

The IB teaches how to judge information.

The IB gives students a chance to produce.

The IB stresses personal responsibility

The IB believes in empathy and making moral judgments

*In other words, the IB prepares students for the work world and life.*

## UNIVERSITIES LOVE THE IB

The IB program is accepted all over the world and in much of the world is the preferred diploma of universities. Admissions departments know that the IB diploma means more.

To learn more about the successes of IB students visit the IB website:

<http://www.ibo.org/en/section-benefits/benefits-for-students/>

# THE IB AT OUR SCHOOL

## INTRODUCTION

The BME International Secondary School is proud to be an IB school. Our facilities continue to expand as we have just opened a special extension to our campus for many of the IB classes



## OUR IB FACILITIES

Our school has everything necessary for the IB. The teachers have all been trained to be IB teachers. A special IB laboratory has been constructed. Vernier sensors are used in small groups. There is a new library that features Questia on-line library system (<https://www.questiaschool.com>). Students, parents, and teachers can follow their progress through Managebac (<https://bme.managebac.com/login>)

## COURSE CHOICES FOR THE IB

### **The following courses may be offered at standard level:**

#### **Studies in Language and Literature:**

English Language and Literature, English Literature, Hungarian Literature, Independent Studies in Literature, Literature and Performance

#### **Language Acquisition:**

French, French ab initio, German, German Ab Initio, Spanish, Spanish Ab Initio

**Individuals and Societies:** Business and Management, Environmental Systems and Society, Global Politics, History, Psychology

**Experimental Sciences:** Biology, Chemistry, Computer Science, Environmental Systems and Society, Physics, Design Technology

**Mathematics:** Analysis and Approaches, Applications and Interpretations

**The Arts:** Visual Arts

### **The following courses may be offered at higher level**

#### **Studies in Language and Literature:**

English Language and Literature, English Literature, Hungarian Literature

#### **Language Acquisition:**

English, French, German, Spanish

#### **Individuals and Societies:**

Business and Management, History, Psychology

**Experimental Sciences:** Biology, Chemistry, Computer Science, Physics

**Mathematics:** Analysis and Approaches, Applications and Interpretations

**The Arts:** Visual Arts

## OUR IB DESIGN

Students will be in the school working for 3 or 4 blocks each day. This allows for intensive, varied practical work. In addition there are individual consultations and time after school to work on projects, essays, and CAS. Students have the opportunity to take part in clubs and after school programs related to science, social sciences, creative arts, and service.

The school year runs from September 1st to June 22nd with special days aside for working on self-designed assignments.



# ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Applying for our IB Diploma is a selective admissions process for which students may start applying on rolling admissions from the end of the first semester (January) through April. Students will be informed of acceptance to the program by June 1st or within 2 weeks of completing all application elements.



### **The applicant must demonstrate and complete the following:**

1. A completed application form including a pre-selection of diploma courses (bearing in mind that there is no guarantee that they will be offered by the school).
2. An essay on one of the prescribed topics listed in the application-
3. An interview by the DP coordinator and the school management
4. The student must have a strong command of academic English, which will be assessed in an in-house test.
5. The student must demonstrate moral values and academic honesty in-line with the IB program.

### **To demonstrate these the student must complete the following:**

1. A motivational Statement (personal statement explaining his/her reasons for wanting to join the IB DP)
2. An interview by the DP coordinator and the school management
3. A pre-selection of diploma courses (bearing in mind that there is no guarantee that they will be offered by the school).

A student should not have a grade below four in any subject s/he wishes to take at a higher level.

Successful applicants and their parents will get detailed information about the content and nature of the IBDP, which they must accept before enrollment.

## **SERVICES AND FEES:**

### **TUITION**

The tuition fee for the program is 2 500 000 HUF/year

### **INCLUDED IN THE FEE:**

Instruction (35 hours/week), laboratory time, consultancy with DP coordinator, CAS and EE coordinator, Questia online library, Managebac information System, Travel Discounts

### **NOT INCLUDED IN THE PROGRAM**

Textbooks, graphic calculator, laptop, examination fees, CAS expenses

### **SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES**

There are scholarship opportunities for in-house applicants or 2nd year IB students. These are given for both academic and service elements. Well over 1,000,000 HUF have been distributed to students every year so far.

# WHAT TEACHERS AND STUDENTS THINK

## Teacher Statement:

I like the creativity of the classes most - the fact that the students have to work towards goals by coming up with their own ideas. It's great to see how much the students enjoy the lab work and animated experiments. You can really see them making progress.

**Vegh Veronika: Biology**



## Student statement:

The osmosis lab was fun - everyone got their own vegetables and of course helping classmates is enjoyable. At times the independence can be stressful, but I get to work on what really interests me.

**Li Fang Ge** - Class of 2017.





## **CONTACT US**

If you have any further questions contact us:

### **BME International Secondary School**

Egry Jozsef Utca 3-11  
1111 Budapest, Hungary

**Phone:** (36)1-209-4983

**Email:** [bme.isgs@gmail.com](mailto:bme.isgs@gmail.com)

**Web:** [www.bmegimnazium.hu](http://www.bmegimnazium.hu)