

# IB Diploma Programme

## Advantages

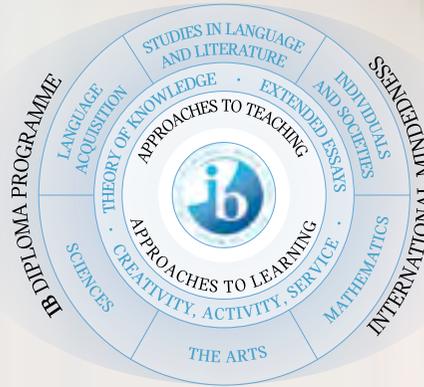
- Streamlined syllabus leading to **dual certification**: IB Diploma, Swiss Matura.
- Immersive teaching in English in multiple subjects which leads to an **outstanding language ability** as well to knowledge of specific academic language.
- Simplified **access to higher education**: More than 2000 universities in over 100 countries recognize the IB Diploma.
- Strengthening of **international awareness**.
- **Enhanced reflection** on one's individual **strengths and weaknesses**.
- **Additional challenge** in coordination with the Swiss Matura. Ideal add-on in terms of contents, methods and practice-orientation.
- Standardized final examinations allow a **comparison of individual performance** with that of other young people **around the world**.
- **Widening of the educational focus** beyond the academic performance measurement and inclusion of individual inclinations and talents promote the **development of a balanced personality**.
- **Excellent preparation** for the Swiss Matura as well as **for university studies**.

## Drawbacks and limitations

- If a student chooses the IB Diploma Programme, the **elective minor subject** must be either Geography or History.
- An above-average **willingness to work** and to participate in the lessons is expected.
- The **programme is an option** and nobody is entitled to get a place in it. In the event of an exceeding number of applications, the participants will be selected by the headmaster based on the averages of the school reports of the last lower secondary school year.

# IB- What does it stand for?

## International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme



The International Baccalaureate offers educational programmes for children and adolescents between the ages of three and nineteen, challenging students to excel in their studies, and encouraging both personal and academic achievement. This non-profit organization was founded in 1968 and now educates approximately one million students according to its internationally recognized standards.

Having introduced the IB in 2011, the Gymnasium am Münsterplatz is the fifth state school in Switzerland and the first institution of this kind in the Basel region to be named an official IB World School (school code 6416). This official status authorizes the school to grant its students either the full IB Diploma or certificates in individual subjects for those not wishing to take the entire course.

These certifications have an outstanding reputation and are recognized by universities worldwide. The students of the Gymnasium am Münsterplatz not only obtain two diplomas, but also optimize their chances of being accepted at foreign universities, especially in English-speaking countries.

## The Gymnasium am Münsterplatz



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Erziehungsdirektion des Kantons Basel-Stadt  
Mittelschulen und Berufsbildung

► Gymnasium am Münsterplatz

# Gymnasium am Münsterplatz

Tradition and Innovation

The Gymnasium with More than just One Diploma  
Bilingual Matura with IB option

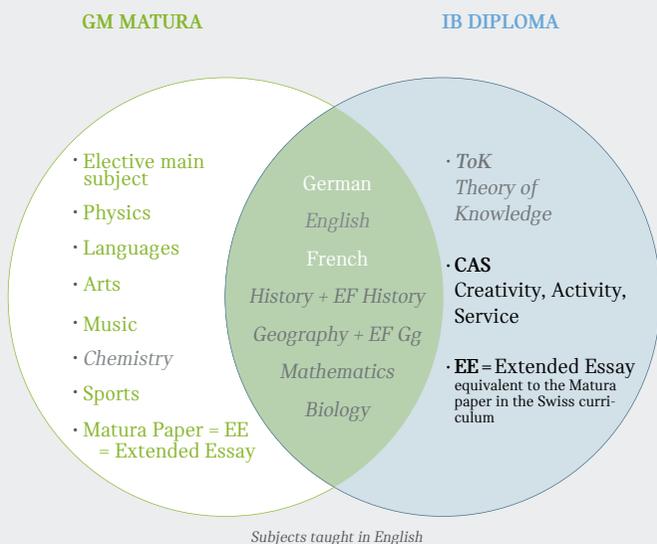


# IB and Matura

## Does that work?

The IB Diploma Programme is a holistic educational programme, which was developed for the last two years of pre-university education.

### IB DIPLOMA PROGRAMME



In order to obtain the IB diploma, in addition to the six basic diploma subjects (at the Gymnasium am Münsterplatz: **German, English, French, Geography or History, Biology and Mathematics**), three additional core subjects must be successfully completed: **Theory of Knowledge (ToK), Creativity, Activity, Service (CAS)** and the **Extended Essay (EE = Matura Paper)**.

This educational philosophy is nearly identical with the Swiss model, with only the core subjects ToK and CAS being new to the curriculum. These two innovative elements entail the participation in charity events, creative activities and sports or in investigating the limits of what can be known.

In the IB Programme, 5 to 7 subjects (depending on whether you choose Option 1 or 2) are taught in English, which guarantees a language acquisition at a very high level for non-native speakers.

# IB at the GM

## Diploma or certificates with the option of English as main subject

At the end of secondary school, students can apply for a place in a bilingual class when they enter Gymnasium. They have the choice between the following two options:

### OPTION 1 IB DIPLOMA PROGRAMME

The regular Swiss Matura lessons are combined with the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme (IB) so that in addition to the bilingual Swiss Matura diploma, the students can obtain the IB Diploma at the end of their school career.

**The IB subjects are**  
German, English, French, Biology, Mathematics and Geography or History

**as well as the three core elements**  
ToK, CAS and EE.

→ Swiss Matura with the predicate “bilingual”<sup>1</sup> and the internationally recognized IB Diploma<sup>2</sup>

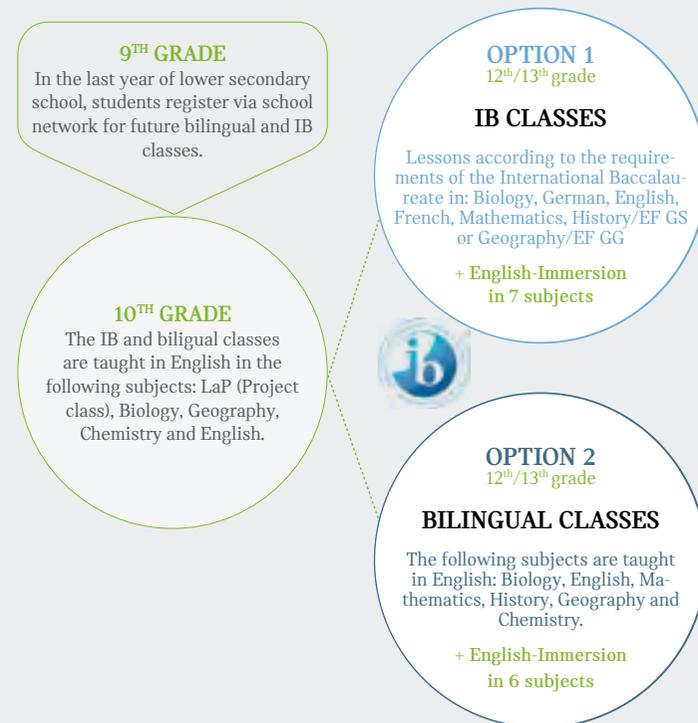
### OPTION 2 BILINGUAL CLASS WITH IB CERTIFICATES IN ENGLISH AND FRENCH

This is a bilingual class in which 5 subjects are taught in English. The curriculum is based solely on the cantonal requirements for Swiss Gymnasien and students are awarded a Matura diploma with the predicate “bilingual Matura”.

The only lessons based on the IB curriculum and requirements are English, French and, optionally, German. Students have to pass the IB certificate examinations in English and French and receive two internationally recognized certificates in these languages.

→ Swiss Matura with the predicate “bilingual” and the optional IB certificates in the subjects English, French and German.

1) June, 2) May



### ADDITIONAL OPTION: MAIN SUBJECT ENGLISH WITH IB

Exclusively at the Gymnasium am Münsterplatz, English can be selected as main subject. This must be combined with either of the IB options (Diploma of Certificates). In addition to achieving an outstanding command of the most important global and scientific language at the Matura level, English as main subject provides an excellent educational opportunity for the integration of non-German-speaking students. In combination with the IB Diploma Programme (option 1), the main subject facilitates school success for foreign students, since they can focus on German and French language acquisition.

Another main pillar of integration of the Gymnasium am Münsterplatz is our fully developed learning support centre whose main objective is to provide individual didactic counselling, subject-specific backup courses, as well as various integrative measures in German and French for pupils with diverse educational biographies. It also aims to provide high-talented pupils with individual guidance. Over 100 students are benefitting from the learning support centre, to which parents contribute financially.