



High School Profile 2025



Our School

The International School of Bologna (ISB) is an independent co-educational, International Baccalaureate (IB) continuum school offering a high-quality Early Years to Grade 12 international education to day students residing in the Italian Emilia-Romagna region. Since its inception in 2004, ISB has been committed to high quality learning through a holistic and balanced inquiry-based university preparation educational program delivered in the English language medium. ISB is situated in the historical center of Bologna. The current school population is 275 students with around 55% expatriate families and 45% local families with one or both parents being Italian. ISB is strongly defined by the rich local culture. Bologna is home to the oldest university in the Western World and ISB takes pride in using its unique location as an educational resource, making authentic real-life connections for students at all grade levels and in all subject groups, and exposing students to conceptually connected learning experiences that make Bologna our extended classroom.

Accreditation

ISB is accredited by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC), and by the Council of International Schools (CIS). ISB is also fully authorized by the International Baccalaureate Organization (IBO) as an IB World School offering three IB programmes, PYP, MYP and the DP. Furthermore, ISB is proud to be the first Google Reference School in Italy, a founding member of the regional IB Association in Italy (AIBWSI) and a member of the Educational Collaborative for International Schools (ECIS).

 **280+** Students
Currently Enrolled

 **38** Nationalities
Represented

 **70** Faculty
& Staff Members

 **70** Students
In High School

 **1:6** Ratio
Of Teacher-Student

 **32.71** Average
IBDP Score All Year

Our Mission

We foster academic excellence in a challenging, inclusive, and supportive environment where students feel able to reach their potential while preparing for higher education and beyond.

Academic Programme

ISB provides a challenging college preparatory high school curriculum. All courses taught at ISB are based on the International Baccalaureate (IB) curriculum framework. Taking into consideration the host country context and our international student body, the IB curriculum offered at ISB has its own unique character, influenced by the particular context of Bologna which itself has a rich cultural and educational heritage. ISB students engage in a well-rounded educational journey through the successful completion of the IB Middle Years Programme (MYP) in grades 9–10 and the rigorous IB Diploma courses in grades 11–12. ISB students can choose to pursue graduation with the full International Baccalaureate Diploma (IBDP) or our NEASC accredited ISB High School Diploma.



International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme (IBDP)

The IBDP is a two-year programme of study for students aged 16–19, and is globally recognized by universities for the holistic and rigorous education it provides. In addition to the 3 higher level and 3 standard level subjects, IB Diploma candidates are required to complete the following three core components of the programme: Theory of Knowledge (TOK), Extended Essay (EE), and Creativity, Activity and Service (CAS). In order to be awarded the IB Diploma, all assessment components for each of the six subjects and the core requirements must be completed.

ISB High School Diploma Requirements

To be able to obtain the ISB High School Diploma, Students are required to gain a total of 23 credits from grades 9 to 12 (in accordance with the below chart). This includes taking a minimum of 5 courses in the final two years of high school, as well as satisfying the learning outcomes for CAS. A year-long course is worth 1 credit.

Credits Requirements Are

4 Credits English	2 Credits Additional Language
3 Credits: Math (4 recommended)	1.5 Credits Visual/Performing Arts
3 Credits Science	1.5 Credits PHE
3 Credits Individuals and Societies	5 Credits Electives

Mission Statement

The International School of Bologna aims to develop students with the essential skills and knowledge required to make an active contribution as they take their place in our ever-evolving global society.

Contacts

School Counsellor
Ms. Maartje Koster
mkoster@isbologna.com

Head of School
Ms. Janecke Aarnaes
headofschool@isbologna.com

DP Coordinator
Ms. Nazanin Nikanjam
nnikanjam@isbologna.com

Course Offering

Grade 9 Courses

MYP English Language and Literature	MYP French Language Acquisition
MYP English Language Acquisition	MYP Italian Language and Literature
MYP Mathematics	MYP Italian Language Acquisition
MYP Science	MYP Physical and Health Education
MYP Individuals and Societies	MYP Music/Visual Arts/Drama
MYP Spanish Language Acquisition	

Grade 10 Courses

MYP English Language and Literature	MYP French Language Acquisition
MYP English Language Acquisition	MYP Italian Language and Literature
MYP Mathematics (Standard and Extended)	MYP Italian Language Acquisition
MYP Science	MYP Physical and Health Education
MYP Individuals and Societies	MYP Music/Visual Arts/Drama
MYP Spanish Language Acquisition	

Grade 11 & 12 Courses

Group 1 Language and Literature	Group 3 Individuals and Societies	Group 5 Mathematics
English A: Language and Literature HL/SL	History HL/SL	Mathematics Analysis & Approaches HL/SL
Italian A: Language and Literature HL/SL	Business Management HL/SL	Mathematics Applications & Interpretations HL/SL
School Supported Self-taught Language A: Literature SL	Psychology HL/SL	Group 6 The Arts
Group 2 Language Acquisition	Economics (online) HL/SL	Art HL/SL
English B HL/SL	Philosophy (online) SL	Computer Science (online) HL/SL
Italian B HL/SL	Environmental Systems and Societies SL	Digital Society (online) HL/SL
Spanish B HL/SL	Group 4 Experimental Sciences	Film SL
French B HL/SL	Biology HL/SL	
Italian ab initio SL	Chemistry HL/SL	
Spanish ab initio SL (online)	Physics HL/SL	
French ab initio SL (online)	Environmental Systems and Societies SL	
Mandarin ab initio SL (online)		

IB Statistics Table

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Total Number Of Students Sitting Exams	6	7	16	16	13	20	16	22
Number Of Registered IB Diploma Candidates	5	5	13	16	13	18	15	22
Number Of DP Candidates To Obtain An IB Diploma	5	5	13	16	12	14	13	19
Number Of Course Candidates	0	2	3	0	0	1	1	0
ISB Pass Rate	100%	100%	100%	100%	92%	77%	87%	86%
Global Pass Rate	78.18%	77.81%	85.18%	88.95%	86.11%	79.67%	80.5%	81.26%
ISB Average Diploma Points Awarded	32	30	33	35	34	30	32	30
World Average Diploma Points Awarded	29.76	29.65	31.34	32.98	32	30.24	30.32	30.58

Rank and GPA: Courses are graded using the IB-scale 1 - 7. The International School of Bologna does not rank students or calculate an official GPA due to student turnover and the diversity of assessment practices and procedures in the systems from which our students come.



ISB University Acceptances



United Kingdom



Aberystwyth University	Northumbria University	University of Greenwich
Anglia Ruskin University ●	Nottingham Trent University	University of Hertfordshire
Bangor University	Queen Mary University of London	University of Kent
Bath Spa University	Regent's University London	University of Leeds
Brunel University London	Royal Holloway, University of London	University of Manchester ●
City, University of London ●	SOAS University of London	University of Reading
Coventry University	St Mary's University, Twickenham ●	University of Roehampton
Durham University ●	The University of Edinburgh ●	University of Southampton ●
Edinburgh Napier University	University College London	University of Stirling ●
Hult Business School ●	University of Bath	University of Strathclyde
Imperial College London	University of Bristol ●	University of Sussex ●
King's College London ●	University of Cumbria	University of the Arts London
Lancaster University ●	University of Derby ●	University of Warwick ●
Leeds Arts University	University of Dundee ●	University of West London ●
Leeds Beckett University	University of East Anglia UEA	University of Westminster, London ●
London Metropolitan University	University of East London	University of York
London South Bank University	University of Essex	UWE Bristol ●
Newcastle University	University of Exeter	



Europe



American University of Paris ●
EDHEC
Erasmus University ●
ESADE ●
Essec Business School
IE University ●
IED-Istituto Europeo di Design ●
John Cabot University Rome ●
Maastricht University
Politecnico di Milano
Radboud University
SUMAS
Tilburg University ●
TU/e Eindhoven University of Technology
Universidad Europea ●
Università Bocconi ●
Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore ●
Università di Bologna ●
University College Maastricht ●
University of Groningen
Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam
Politecnico di Milano



United States



Bates College
Boston College
Boston University
Fordham University
George Washington University
Loyola Marymount University ●
New York University ●
Smith College
Stanford University ●
Temple University
UC San Diego
UCLA ●
University of California Santa Cruz
University of Chicago
University of Michigan Ann Arbor ●
University of Michigan Flint ●
University of San Francisco



Canada



HEC Montréal
McGill ●
OCAD ●
University of Toronto ●
Western University
York University



Rest Of The World



National University of Singapore

● - indicates where one or more students matriculated.

