



INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL OF BUDAPEST

Smart Education.
Smart Life.

MIDDLE SCHOOL

Informational Booklet 2019-2020

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Welcome to the ISB Middle School Programme!

Within the story of a young person's educational experience, the transition from Primary School to Middle School is a notable turning point. The changes are obvious: more teachers, more classrooms, more subjects, more homework. When the additional factors associated with adolescence are included – more hormones, more choices, more pressures – it is unsurprising that these years can be tumultuous.

Nonetheless, with all the challenges, these can be exhilarating times. It is during these years that boys and girls make giant strides to adulthood. It is during these years that they lay the foundations of work habits that will underpin academic achievement in later years. It is during these years that they entrench the character traits that will shape the decades to come.

Our Middle School culture recognises the distinctiveness of these early and mid-adolescent years. This culture recognises that our students are not little versions of Year 12, but have their own specific learning and maturation needs at this formative stage. We therefore aim to build challenge in order to extend capacity. The Middle School is established with the students in mind; we want to make these years good years for them.

In this information Booklet, you will be able to find practical information about the Middle School including sample daily schedule, subjects offered in the Middle School and EAL in Middle School among others. In our school, skills, competencies and values taught in our Middle School years prepares the students for a future and jobs that are yet to be created. Focus of soft skills, which include **communication**, creative thinking, problem-solving, critical thinking, and conflict resolution, enable our students to become confident high schoolers who are able to meet the challenges of High School and IB.

The Cambridge international curriculum sets a global standard for education, and is recognised by universities and employers worldwide. Our curriculum is flexible, challenging and inspiring, culturally sensitive yet international in approach. Cambridge students develop an informed curiosity and a lasting passion for learning. They also gain the essential skills they need for success at university and in their future careers (<https://www.cambridgeinternational.org/why-choose-us/benefits-of-a-cambridge-education/international-curriculum/>). I welcome you to explore this booklet with your child and will be happy to answer any additional questions you may have regarding our Middle School Curriculum and the International and Bilingual Programmes offered.

Sincerely,
Dhanya Seshan
Vice Principal- Middle School

Daily Schedule

Period	Timing
Registration	8.15 to 8.25
Period 1	8.30 to 9.15
Snack break	9.15 to 9.25
Period 2	9.25 to 10.10
Period 3	10.15 to 11.00
Morning Break	11.00 to 11.20
Period 4	11.25 to 12.10
Period 5	12.15 to 13.00
Lunch Break	13.05 to 13.45
Period 6	13.50 to 14.25
Period 7 (all days except Fridays when the school ends at 14.25)	14.25 to 15.15
Grade 5 and 6 students can join a club until 16.00 pm or remain in the Study Hall until this time, after which they can remain at school, supervised, until 17.00 pm	
Grade 7 and 8 students can either join a club, stay unsupervised in the Library until 17.00 or go home, on prior parental (guardian) written agreement	

Subjects Offered

Within the framework of Cambridge, ISB Middle School comprises of the final Grade of Key Stage 2 (Grade 5) and key Stage 3 (Grades 6, 7 and 8). This division has been designed to cater to the unique needs of our students and enabling our bilingual and international students to integrate equally. Cambridge Pathway helps students develop the deep subject knowledge, conceptual understanding and higher order thinking skills that they need for success at school, at university and in employment. Merging Cambridge Primary and Secondary Pathways has allowed for a smoother transition at ISB.

At ISB, students can choose to follow a purely International Stream or a Bilingual International Stream

Subject	International Stream	Bilingual International Stream
English	6 lessons a week	6 lessons a week
English maths	6 lessons a week	2 lessons a week
Hungarian maths	None	4 lessons a week
Hungarian history	None	4 lessons a week
Hungarian language	None	4 lessons a week
Hungarian as a Second Language	2 lessons a week	None
Spanish or German as a foreign language	3 lessons a week in Grade 5 2 lessons a week in Grades 6, 7 and 8	3 lessons a week in Grade 5 2 lessons a week in Grades 6, 7 and 8
Science in Hungarian	None	1 lesson a week
Science in English	3 lessons a week	3 lessons a week
Social Sciences in English	3 lessons a week	2 lessons a week
Global perspectives	3 lessons a week in Grades 5 and 6 2 lessons a week in Grades 7 and 8	None
Ethics in English	1 lesson a week	1 lesson a week

Cambridge Global Perspectives

Cambridge Global Perspectives is a unique, transformational programme that helps students at every stage of school education develop outstanding transferable skills, including critical thinking, research and collaboration.

This innovative and stimulating skills-based programme places academic study in a practical, real-world context. It gives students aged 5 to 19 years the opportunity to develop the skills that they need to be successful at school and university as well as in their future careers.

The programme taps into the way today's students enjoy learning, including group work, seminars, projects and working with other students around the world. The emphasis is on developing students' ability to think critically about a range of global issues where there is always more than one point of view.

EAL in Middle School

Support for students with limited or very limited English is possible in the Middle School through EAL- English as an Additional Language.

An EAL student is someone whose main language is not English and therefore require some support in order to succeed in an English-speaking school. Typically, these students fit one of the following profiles:

- A complete beginner in English
- A student with some experience in English but who is not yet fluent and has not yet reached social proficiency level
- A student who speaks English fairly fluently but is not yet achieving his or her full academic potential in an English-speaking environment

At ISB, in Middle School, students are accepted conditionally into our Bilingual or International Programmes, with additional EAL support and their performance is evaluated periodically to ascertain the students' ability to cope with the programme.

Possible support strategies for EAL students within the middle and high school

- Modified test questions, homework assignments, and in-class assignments
- Graded language in the classroom
- Abundant use of visual aids to make ideas clear for students
- Pull-out lessons
- Push-in lessons

What's Next?

International General Certificate of Secondary Education

Cambridge IGCSE is the world's most popular international curriculum for 14-16 year olds, leading to globally recognised and valued Cambridge IGCSE qualifications. Cambridge IGCSE is taken in over 100 countries worldwide and is widely accepted by higher education institutions and employers around the world as evidence of academic ability.

Schools worldwide have helped develop Cambridge IGCSE, which provides excellent preparation for the IB Diploma Programme, A/AS Levels and U.S. AP exams, as well as other progression routes. The IGCSE programme incorporates the best in international education for learners at this level. It develops in line with changing needs, and is regularly updated and extended.

Cambridge IGCSE encourages learner-centered and enquiry-based approaches to learning. It develops learners' skills in creative thinking, enquiry and problem solving, giving learners excellent preparation for the next stage in their education. Schools can build a core curriculum, extend it to suit their learners and introduce cross-curricular perspectives. Clearly defined learning outcomes and content mean Cambridge IGCSE is compatible with other curricula and is internationally relevant and sensitive to different needs and cultures.

Cambridge IGCSE develops learner knowledge, understanding and skills in:

- Subject content
- Applying knowledge and understanding to familiar and new situations
- Intellectual enquiry
- Flexibility and responsiveness to change
- Working and communicating in English
- Influencing outcomes
- Cultural awareness

To learn more, visit the Cambridge IGCSE Website.: <https://www.cambridgeinternational.org/>

You can also find more information about IGCSE and IB in our High School Brochure.