

# School Profile 2022-2023



## International School of Berne

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Founded in 1961, the International School of Berne is an independent, coeducational school offering an education in English to meet the needs of the international community. ISBerne is accredited by the Council of International Schools (CIS) and the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC), and is authorised to teach three of the programmes of the International Baccalaureate (IB); the Primary Years, Middle Years and Diploma Programmes. It is located in Gümligen, a suburb of Berne, Switzerland's capital city. The school is a test centre for IB, PSAT and SAT.

## The School Community

There are approximately 250 students from over 50 nations attending pre-school through grade 12. Students come from business, professional and diplomatic families. Most have broad cultural backgrounds and are fluent in more than one language. Many students have English as a second or third language. The average tenure for a student is three years.

## The School Year

ISBerne runs on a Northern Hemisphere programme, with the school year beginning in late-August and finishing in late-June. There are 180 academic days in the school year.

## The Academic Programme

The academic programme at ISBerne is organised as follows:

**ELC 1 - Grade 5 & 2** IB PYP: International Baccalaureate Primary Years Programme (age 3-11).

**Grades 6 – 10** IB MYP: International Baccalaureate Middle Years Programme (11-16).

**Grades 11 – 12** IB DP: International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme (age 16-18).

**Students in ELC1 – 5** focus on Units of Inquiry organized around central themes. Students have specialists for Music and Physical Education, and from KG to G5 for languages (French or German) and Visual Arts

**Students in Grades 6 – 8** complete courses including English, Mathematics, French or German, Sciences, Individuals and Societies, Visual Arts, Theatre Arts, Music, Design and Physical and Health Education.

**Students in Grades 9 and 10** complete courses including English, Mathematics, French or German, Sciences, Individuals and Societies. In addition students may choose subjects from two option groups, which include Visual Arts, Theatre Arts, Music, Physical and Health Education and French or German or a mother tongue language

**Students in Grades 11 – 12** complete the internationally recognised International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme, leading to the IB Diploma or IB Diploma courses, and/or the ISBerne High School Diploma.

The following IB courses are offered at both Higher Level (HL) and Standard Level (SL) unless otherwise noted:

- English A Literature HL; English A Language & Literature SL; English B HL
- French A Language & Literature; French B; French ab initio SL
- German A Language & Literature; German B
- Economics
- Geography
- History
- Biology
- Chemistry
- Environmental Systems and Societies SL
- Physics
- Mathematics Analysis & Approaches
- Mathematics Applications & Interpretations SL
- Visual Arts

All IB Diploma candidates in Grades 11 & 12 complete the Theory of Knowledge programme (ToK) and Extended Essay (a 4000-word original research paper). All students must satisfy the Creativity, Activity & Service (CAS) programme requirements of the IB Diploma.

### The Extra-Curricular Activities Programme

The school offers a broad range of extra-curricular activities, including Student Council, CAS, After-school Activities and sports (e.g. volleyball, basketball, soccer, uni- hockey, skiing/snowboarding). As a member of the Swiss Group of International Schools (SGIS), ISBerne is a part of a strong network of competitive sports.

### Grading

The school year runs from August to June and is divided into two semesters, with attainment marks being awarded at the end of each semester. Students are assessed using the International Baccalaureate grade scale, 7 (high) – 1 (low).

Due to the diversity of educational backgrounds the school does not provide class rank nor calculates grade point averages. There are no weighted grades.

### University acceptances

Each year there is a graduating class of approximately 25 students and of these students 90% will go on to a college or university somewhere in the world. Below is a list of the institutions (in alphabetical order) to which ISBerne students have been offered admission in the last three years.

#### Europe:

Aberystwyth University, Bern University, Birmingham City University, BHM Hospitality Management School, Arts University Bournemouth, Breda University of Applied Sciences, Brighton University, Bristol University, Chester University, City University, Derby University, Durham University, East Anglia University, Ecole Hôtelière Lausanne, Edinburgh University, EPFL, Erasmus University, ESSEC Business School, Essex University, Exeter University, Franklin University, Fribourg University, Glasgow University, Greenwich University, Groningen University, Hochschule Bern, HTMI Hotel and Tourism Management Institute, Hult Business School, IE University, Innsbruck University, King's College London, Lancaster University, Leiden University, Leipzig University, London Metropolitan University, London School of Economics, Maastricht University, Manchester University, Manchester Metropolitan University, Oxford Brookes University, Queen Mary University, Regents University, Royal Holloway University, St. Andrew's University, St. Gallen University, Sheffield University, SOAS, Staffordshire University, St. George's University, Stockholm University, Szeged University, Tilburg University, Trinity College Dublin, Vienna University, Webster University, York University, York St. John University, Zurich University

#### North America:

Alberta University, Austin College, Ball State University, Bryn Mawr College, Carleton College, Columbia College, Chicago Emory University, Drexel University, Guelph University, Loyola Marymount University, Michigan State University, Northwestern University, Ottawa University, PRATT MWP Institute, Purdue University, Ringling College of Art and Design, Rochester Institute of Technology, Rochester University, Savannah College of Art and Design, School of Art-Institute of Chicago, SUNY Buffalo University, Stern Business School (NYU), Syracuse University, Texas A&M University, Toronto University, University of Alabama at Tuscaloosa, University of Arizona, University of British Columbia, University of California San Diego, University of Chicago, University of Georgia, University of Massachusetts, University of Michigan, University of Nebraska Lincoln, University of Texas, Utah State University, Virginia Commonwealth University, Wagner College, Washington & Jefferson College, Waterloo University

#### Rest of the world:

National University of Singapore, Delhi University, India; RV College of Engineering, India; Engg Institute, India; National Institute of Technology Jalandhar, India; Assumption College, Philippines, Universidad de Monterrey, Mexico; Sophia University, Japan

IB Diploma Statistical Results	Last 5 Years	May 2022
Number of full DP students	19	12
Pass rate	95.7	100
Average total (out of 45)	33.8	34
Highest total (out of 45)	41.2	45
Average subject grade (out of 7)	5.2	5.4

### IB/US Grade Conversion Chart

**7 = A+**

**6 = A / A-**

**5 = B+ / B**

**4 = B- / C+**

**3 = C / C-**

**2 = D**

**1 = F**