

International School of Basel

Reinach, Switzerland



Basel's only full-continuum IB school, where 2025 Diploma candidates outpaced the world average pass rate, 96.6% to 80%.

RANKING DIMENSIONS

Overall	69/100
Academic outcomes	71/100
University placement	69/100
Prestige & heritage	69/100
Alumni network	68/100
Facilities	73/100
Transparency	64/100

EDITOR'S VERDICT

International School of Basel earns its place on a shortlist for one clear reason: it is Basel’s only school offering the full International Baccalaureate continuum, from the PYP through the MYP to the Diploma, in English. In a city with a deeply international professional population, that matters. Families who want one coherent academic system from age 3 to 18 do not need to stitch together separate phases or accept a curricular break at 11 or 16. The school’s headline academic datapoint is strong and specific: in 2025, Diploma candidates recorded a ****96.6%**** pass rate against a world average of ****80%****. That does not settle every question about academic depth, selective university outcomes or score distribution, all of which the school does not publish here, but it does establish a serious sixth form rather than an IB badge

attached to middling results.

What distinguishes ISB is less flash than structure. It runs across three campuses in Reinach, with modern classrooms, libraries, arts spaces, sports facilities, on-site canteens and medical care. Junior School offers the PYP in two language combinations, English and English-German, which gives younger children a more grounded local fit than many expatriate schools manage. The school pushes wellbeing hard; plenty of schools say that, but here it is embedded directly into how Middle and Senior School are described, alongside kindness, compassion, health and character development. Parents should read that as a sign of a **deliberately balanced** school rather than a **hyper-competitive** one. If you want relentless public signalling on exam metrics, scholarships and elite university lists, ISB is less satisfying. If you want a stable, full-range IB education with visible pastoral intent, it is **plainly compelling**.

The price places it in the upper tier of the Swiss international day-school market without tipping into absurdity: the average annual day fee across the full age range is ****CHF 31,631****. That is expensive, but not outlandish for a non-religious, English-medium, all-through international school in the Basel area. The school will suit internationally mobile families, academically capable students who do well in inquiry-led teaching, and children who need consistency over a long school career. It will also suit families who value English as the main language of instruction but want some German exposure in the early years. It is less well matched to students who want a **hard-edged**, exam-drilled culture or parents who insist on dense public disclosure of outcomes beyond one strong IB pass-rate figure. ISB's appeal is coherence, continuity and a **serious** international brief, delivered without much theatricality.

STRENGTHS

- Three IB programmes from ages 3-18.
- English teaching; English-German option in Junior School.
- 9:1 student-teacher ratio allows close attention.
- Three campuses with canteens and medical care.

TRADE-OFFS

- Day school only; no boarding option.
- English-medium may not suit non-English-speaking families.
- Average class size 18, not especially small.

ADMISSIONS

International School of Basel is a day school in Reinach for ages 3–18, offering the full IB continuum: PYP in Junior School (3–11), MYP in Middle School (11–14) and the Diploma in Senior School (14–18). The obvious entry points are therefore nursery/kindergarten, the start of Junior School, Middle School and Senior School, though the school also appears to admit across year groups where places exist. Instruction is in English, with an English-German option in Junior School. The school states that it is the only IB World School in Basel offering all three IB programmes.

The school's public-facing material in the source provided does not set out admissions deadlines, assessment format or a distinctive selection process in enough detail to be precise. Nor does it publish bursary or financial-aid information in the extract supplied here. Parents should therefore expect availability-led admissions rather than a single annual deadline, but should verify directly with the school how applications are handled, whether age-appropriate assessments are required, and whether any fee support exists.

WTS RATING 

This profile summarises editorial research by World's Top Schools. Verify all admissions dates directly with the school before submitting. Sources are cited in the full online profile at WorldsTopSchools.com/schools/sch_055524353e.