

International School of Zug and Luzern

Baar, Switzerland



A 17th-century manor anchors the full IB continuum here, with its own alpine outdoor campus tucked away in Wengen

RANKING DIMENSIONS

Overall	69/100
Academic outcomes	71/100
University placement	69/100
Prestige & heritage	70/100
Alumni network	68/100
Facilities	76/100
Transparency	66/100

EDITOR'S VERDICT

The hook here is not hard to spot: a full IB school founded in 1961, anchored in Baar and spread across three locations, including a mountain chalet in Wengen. That combination gives ISZL a profile few Swiss international schools can match. The school runs the PYP, MYP and Diploma in English for ages 3 to 18, and it does so as a non-profit rather than a chain outpost. The setting matters too. The Zug campus serves early years, primary and middle school; the Riverside campus in Hünenberg houses the high school; and Chalet Bergheim adds an outdoor dimension that is more than brochure scenery. In a market crowded with polished international schools selling Alpine air, ISZL has an **unusually grounded** sense of place.

What puts it on a shortlist is the mix of continuity, scale and character. Parents who want the full IB ladder without a school switch at 11 or 16 get that here. So do families who value facilities with substance rather than theatre: the high school campus alone includes over 20 classrooms, science labs, a library, art atelier, music rooms and a triple gym, serving **400 students** aged 14 to 18. The school also trades on a strong community line, and in this case the non-profit structure and long institutional life give that claim more weight than it gets at newer entrants. At an average annual day fee of **CHF 39,700**, ISZL sits in the *expensive but defensible* tier of the Swiss international market: not cheap, plainly, but not priced as a vanity purchase either.

The right student for ISZL is internationally mobile, comfortable in English, and suited to an IB education that asks for consistency across the years rather than last-minute exam cramming. This is a good fit for children who benefit from a *stable all-through environment* and who will use the outdoor and co-curricular side of school life rather than treat it as decoration. It also suits families who want a school with a *clear international identity* but not a transient hotel-school atmosphere. Students looking for a narrow, intensely traditional national system are better elsewhere. ISZL's appeal rests on something else: an established Swiss international school with **3** distinct sites, a full IB continuum, and a *genuinely distinctive* mountain campus that gives the school an identity beyond its prospectus.

STRENGTHS

- Full IB continuum: PYP, MYP and Diploma.
- English-medium teaching suits mobile international families.
- Day school suits families based in Zug.
- 9:1 student-teacher ratio allows closer attention.

TRADE-OFFS

- No boarding; unsuitable for families needing residential provision.
- English-only instruction may not suit German-priority families.
- Average class size 18 may feel large to some.

ADMISSIONS

ISZL is a day school for ages 3-18, with the usual entry bands aligning to Early Years and Primary at the Zug campus in Baar, Middle School from 11-14, and High School from 14-18 at the Riverside campus in Hünenberg. It offers the IB through PYP, MYP and Diploma. The school's website makes clear that visits can be booked and that there is a formal admissions process, with published fees, term dates and admissions policy, but the public excerpts here do not give cut-off dates or named intake points beyond the age ranges.

On selection, the school does not publicly spell out, in the material provided here, the precise assessment format, whether testing is standardised, or how interviews are handled. Nor do the available sources mention bursaries or means-tested financial aid. What is distinctive, and worth noting, is the school's scale across two main campuses and its non-profit status, with a stated emphasis on belonging, diversity and safeguarding; parents will need to go to the admissions policy and guidelines for the operational detail.

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_62b1a3b621.