

# Berlin International School

Berlin, Germany



*Born from the Bonn-to-Berlin embassy move, blending IB inquiry with Germany's own Rahmenlehrplan in the heart of the capital.*

## RANKING DIMENSIONS

|                      |        |
|----------------------|--------|
| Overall              | 62/100 |
| Academic outcomes    | 64/100 |
| University placement | 62/100 |
| Prestige & heritage  | 63/100 |
| Alumni network       | 62/100 |
| Facilities           | 65/100 |
| Transparency         | 53/100 |

## EDITOR'S VERDICT

Berlin International School is a Berlin school in the full sense, not an expatriate enclave dropped into the city. It opened in 1998 out of the post-reunification embassy shift from Bonn to Berlin, and that history still explains its shape: an English-medium, secular day school for ages 3 to 18 that serves both internationally mobile families and local families who want an international route. The academic offer matters more than the branding here. BIS runs as an IB World School, but in the primary years it also works to the educational goals of the state of Berlin, and in Grades 6 to 10 it prepares pupils for the MSA before moving into the IB Diploma in Grades 11 and 12. That combination gives it a \*usefully anchored\* identity: international in language and outlook, but not detached from the German system around it. For

families who want an English-speaking education without cutting every tie to local structures, that is the point.

The school's strongest distinguishing feature is its mix of cosmopolitanism and academic clarity. More than **70+ nationalities** on one campus is not unusual by international-school standards; pairing that with a programme that culminates in externally examined IBDP courses in English is more substantial than the usual "global mindedness" rhetoric. BIS also publishes hard outcome data: an average of **35 IBDP points** in 2025 and a **98% IBDP pass rate**. Those figures put the school in solid academic territory, even if they do not place it among the *relentlessly elite* IB factories. The campus in southwest Berlin also reads as a serious all-through operation rather than a boutique start-up: libraries, digital provision, arts, sport and an extended activities offer all feature as core parts of school life. The school holds IB World School accreditation, and the site also notes CIS reaccreditation in 2018.

For parents building a shortlist, BIS earns its place because it offers a coherent answer to a common Berlin problem: how to secure an internationally portable education without sacrificing structure, pastoral coverage or access to the life of the city. At an average annual day fee of **€14,700**, it sits in a *strikingly accessible* price band for an international school serving ages 3 to 18 in a European capital. That pricing changes the comparison set. BIS is not selling scarcity, old-world prestige or a gilded university pipeline. Its published university destinations for the Class of 2016 — 59 leavers, with named destinations including Modul University, the University of Vienna and Webster University — are modest and international rather than *status-obsessed*. Parents who want a school that shouts about Oxbridge numbers will not find that here; parents who want a grounded, academically credible, multicultural school in Berlin will.

The right student for Berlin International School is intellectually steady, internationally minded and comfortable in a community where cultural mix is normal rather than staged. This suits children who thrive in inquiry-led learning, who value discussion and independent thinking, and who want a broad school life that includes arts, sport and activities alongside academic work. It also suits families who prize *practical internationalism* over prestige theatre. A child looking for a highly selective pressure-cooker or a deeply traditional national school experience will find stronger fits elsewhere. A child who wants an English-medium education with genuine diversity, a clear IB endpoint and a school that is woven into Berlin rather than insulated from it will fit well here.

#### STRENGTHS

- IB pathway from Primary through Diploma Programme
- 70+ nationalities on campus suits mobile families
- 98% IBDP pass rate is reassuring
- MSA preparation alongside IB broadens local options

#### TRADE-OFFS

- No boarding mentioned for families needing residential option
- IBDP exams are in English only
- Secondary years culminate in MSA and IB, not Abitur

## ADMISSIONS

Berlin International School serves classes 1-12, so the clearest entry points are at the start of primary (Years 1-5), secondary (Years 6-10) and the final two years for the IB Diploma Programme. The school describes itself as an IB World School, with the PYP in primary and the IBDP in Grades 11-12; in the middle years, pupils are also prepared for examinations such as the MSA. English is the language of the externally examined IB Diploma, and the school says it promotes both English and German. Its campus is on Lentzeallee in south-west Berlin.

The school's public overview does not set out admissions deadlines, testing format, interview stages or any distinctive selection sequence, so families should expect these details to be handled directly by the admissions office rather than published in full. Likewise, no bursary or financial-aid provision is mentioned in the material provided here, so it would be unwise to assume that support is available without checking. In short, the broad age range is clear; the operational admissions detail is not publicly specified in these sources.

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\\_9714a14f23](https://WorldsTopSchools.com/schools/sch_9714a14f23).