



academia
Schools



A Personal International School for a Global Future

Rooted in Zurich – Connected to the World



**Get prepared for
the adventure
of moving to
Switzerland.**

Welcome to Switzerland!

Relocating to a new country is a big step – especially for families. Finding the right school plays a key role in helping children settle in, feel confident and thrive in their new environment.

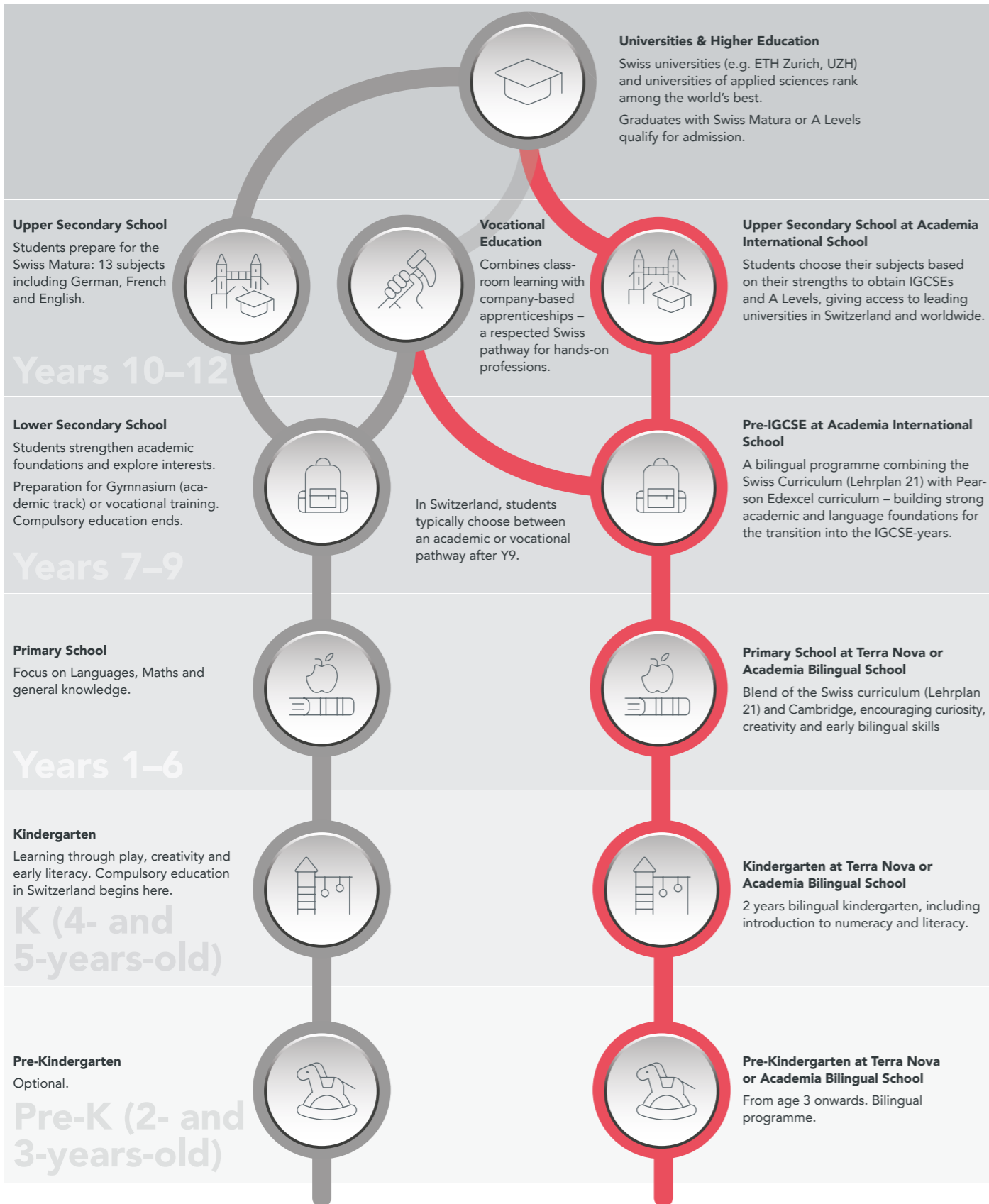
At Academia, we offer bilingual and international education rooted in Swiss quality and global perspectives. Our schools combine strong academic standards with personal support, helping students feel at home academically, socially and culturally.

With internationally recognised qualifications, flexible pathways and close guidance, we support globally mobile families throughout their transition to life in Switzerland.

Swiss Education Landscape	4
Checklist – What to Consider When Choosing a School	5
Academia Schools in the Zurich Region	7
Academia International School Zurich	8
Terra Nova Bilingual School	10
Academia Bilingual & International School Winterthur	11
Moving & Living in Zurich	14

Understanding the Swiss Education Landscape

The Swiss education system offers multiple pathways after compulsory schooling – academic or vocational. At Academia we help students choose the route that best fits their strengths and future goals, ensuring flexibility both within Switzerland and internationally.



Checklist – What to Consider When Choosing a School

Choosing the right school is an important part of settling in Switzerland. These questions can help families compare options and find the right environment for their child.

Learning Pathways & Curriculum

- ✓ What type of curriculum does the school follow – Swiss, bilingual or international?
- ✓ Are the qualifications officially recognised in Switzerland and abroad?
- ✓ How flexible are the pathways for future study or relocation?
- ✓ How are different languages of instruction – for example English and German – integrated into daily learning?

Environment & Support

- ✓ How large are the classes, and what is the student–teacher ratio?
- ✓ How does the school support students' individual learning needs and wellbeing?
- ✓ Are there mentoring or guidance systems to help students stay on track?
- ✓ What extracurricular or enrichment activities are available beyond the classroom?

Culture & Community

- ✓ What are the school's values, and how do they shape everyday life?
- ✓ How does the school encourage a sense of belonging, respect and inclusion?
- ✓ How are parents involved in school life – through communication, feedback or community events?
- ✓ Are there opportunities for students to develop leadership and social responsibility?

Practical Considerations & Future Options

- ✓ Is the school easily accessible by public transport or car?
- ✓ What is the typical length of the school day, and are meals or after-school care provided?
- ✓ What are the possible next steps after completing the programme?
- ✓ Do graduates have access to universities or further education both in Switzerland and internationally?



**Academia Schools
combine Swiss
educational values
with internationally
recognised
qualifications.**

Academia Schools in the Zurich Region

**One Group. Three Schools.
Individual Pathways.**

Every family arrives in Switzerland with different expectations, backgrounds and plans for the future. Across the Zurich region, Academia offers three schools that reflect these diverse needs – bilingual, international and rooted in Swiss educational quality.

What all our schools have in common is a personal approach, strong academic standards and a learning environment where children feel supported, challenged and at home.

Academia International School Zurich

Personal. Connected. Future-ready.

Academia International School Zurich is an international secondary school (Years 7–12) for globally mobile and Swiss families with international ambitions.

The school offers bilingual (English/German) and English-medium pathways, leading to internationally recognised IGCSE and A Level qualifications. These open doors to universities in Switzerland and around the world.

Learning at Academia International School is personal and purposeful. Small class sizes, individual mentoring and academic guidance ensure that each student's strengths, interests and goals are taken seriously.

Students are encouraged to think critically, act responsibly and grow with confidence – in the classroom and beyond.

Learning and School Life

More than academics – Across all Academia schools, learning goes beyond subject knowledge. Students benefit from:

- Personal coaching and mentoring
- Life Lab programmes focusing on resilience and wellbeing
- Project-based learning and Design Thinking
- Language booster courses in English and German
- An inclusive school culture that values diversity and belonging

Through partnerships with universities, social initiatives and local organisations, students connect learning with real life – developing responsibility, empathy and teamwork.

Curriculum Overview



Pre-IGCSE (Years 7–8)

A bilingual programme combining the Swiss Lehrplan 21 with the Pearson Edexcel curriculum. Lessons in English and German build strong academic, linguistic and cultural foundations.



IGCSE (Years 9–10)

A broad and flexible curriculum covering Sciences, Languages and Humanities. Students prepare for A Levels or further education in Switzerland or abroad.



International A Level (Years 11–12)

Students specialise in selected subjects with individual academic and career guidance. A Level qualifications are internationally recognised and accepted by leading universities worldwide.

Our Neighbourhoods

Academia International School Zurich is located in Zurich-Oerlikon, a lively, family-friendly area close to Zurich-Affoltern, Glattpark (Glattbrugg/Opfikon) and Dübendorf/Stettbach. These neighbourhoods offer convenient housing, international connections and quick access to the city centre.

Design Your Own Academic Path

Through the Academia Matura programme, students can follow a one-to-one study pathway designed around their strengths, interests and long-term goals. This individual format suits learners seeking greater flexibility or a tailored academic structure. Hybrid pathways combining Matura and Academia International School programmes are also possible, ensuring continuity while allowing maximum freedom in how learning is organised.

 www.academia-matura.com



Terra Nova Bilingual School Küsnacht

A Strong Bilingual Foundation.

Terra Nova Bilingual School Küsnacht offers a warm and nurturing bilingual environment for younger learners. Children are immersed in German and English from an early age, developing language confidence naturally through play, creativity and structured learning.

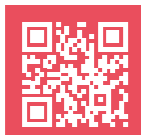
With small class sizes and close personal support, Terra Nova provides a strong academic and emotional foundation – ideal for families looking for a gentle introduction to the Swiss education system.

Best Suited for Families who Value

- early bilingual immersion (German/English)
- a supportive start to school life
- a smooth transition into further bilingual or international education

Our Neighbourhood

Terra Nova Bilingual School is in Küsnacht (ZH) on the Goldcoast of Lake Zurich. A school bus service along the Goldcoast is offered for our pupils.



Academia Bilingual and International School Winterthur

Swiss Roots. Bilingual Perspective.

Academia Bilingual School Winterthur combines the Swiss curriculum (Lehrplan 21) with international elements in English and German. The school places strong emphasis on academic foundations, language development and personal growth.

After Year 8, students can continue their studies at Academia International School Winterthur. Students benefit from a structured curriculum while gaining the linguistic and intercultural skills needed in an international environment. This pathway is particularly attractive for families planning to stay in Switzerland longer, while keeping future options open.

Best Suited for Families who Want

- a bilingual Swiss school pathway
- strong academic structure and continuity
- flexibility for future educational transitions and relocation

Our Neighbourhood

The school is located on the WIN4 campus, surrounded by sports facilities (handball, floorball, ice skating and hockey, athletics etc.).





Zurich offers everything from lakes and parks to museums, cafés and sports facilities – all within easy reach.

Moving and Living in Zurich

Zurich offers the best of both worlds – a vibrant international city and a safe, family-oriented place to live. Consistently ranked among the world's most liveable cities, Zurich combines a high standard of living with a welcoming atmosphere and outstanding education. Surrounded by nature, the city offers everything from lakes and parks to museums, cafés and sports facilities – all within easy reach.

Getting Around

Zurich's public transport is among the best in the world – punctual, clean and reliable. Oerlikon railway station and tram stops are just minutes away, and Zurich Airport is less than ten minutes from campus.

www.zvv.ch

Language & Integration

German is widely spoken, but English is common in daily life, making it easy for newcomers to settle in. For those wanting to learn German, Academia Languages Zurich offers tailor-made courses for adults and children.

Further resources for integration and community engagement:

- ✓ Internations Zurich
- ✓ Hello Switzerland
- ✓ Zurich Together – local community and volunteer network

Libraries & Learning Spaces

Many neighbourhoods have public libraries (Stadtbibliotheken) offering English-language books, events and children's activities.

www.stadt-zuerich.ch

Culture & Free Time

Zurich has a lively cultural scene with museums, theatres and galleries. Families can enjoy everything from concerts to local festivals.

www.zuerich.com

Sports & Outdoor Life

Zurich invites an active lifestyle – from swimming in the lake to hiking or cycling through forests and hills around the city. Families enjoy easy access to parks, playgrounds and sports facilities across all districts.

There are more than 400 sports clubs for children and adults, plus many scenic hiking routes in the Zurich region.

www.sportamt.ch – sports clubs and facilities

www.wanderwege.ch – hiking and family trails in Switzerland

Family Activities in Zurich

Zurich offers a wide range of family-friendly activities and leisure opportunities. Discover more ideas on these official websites:

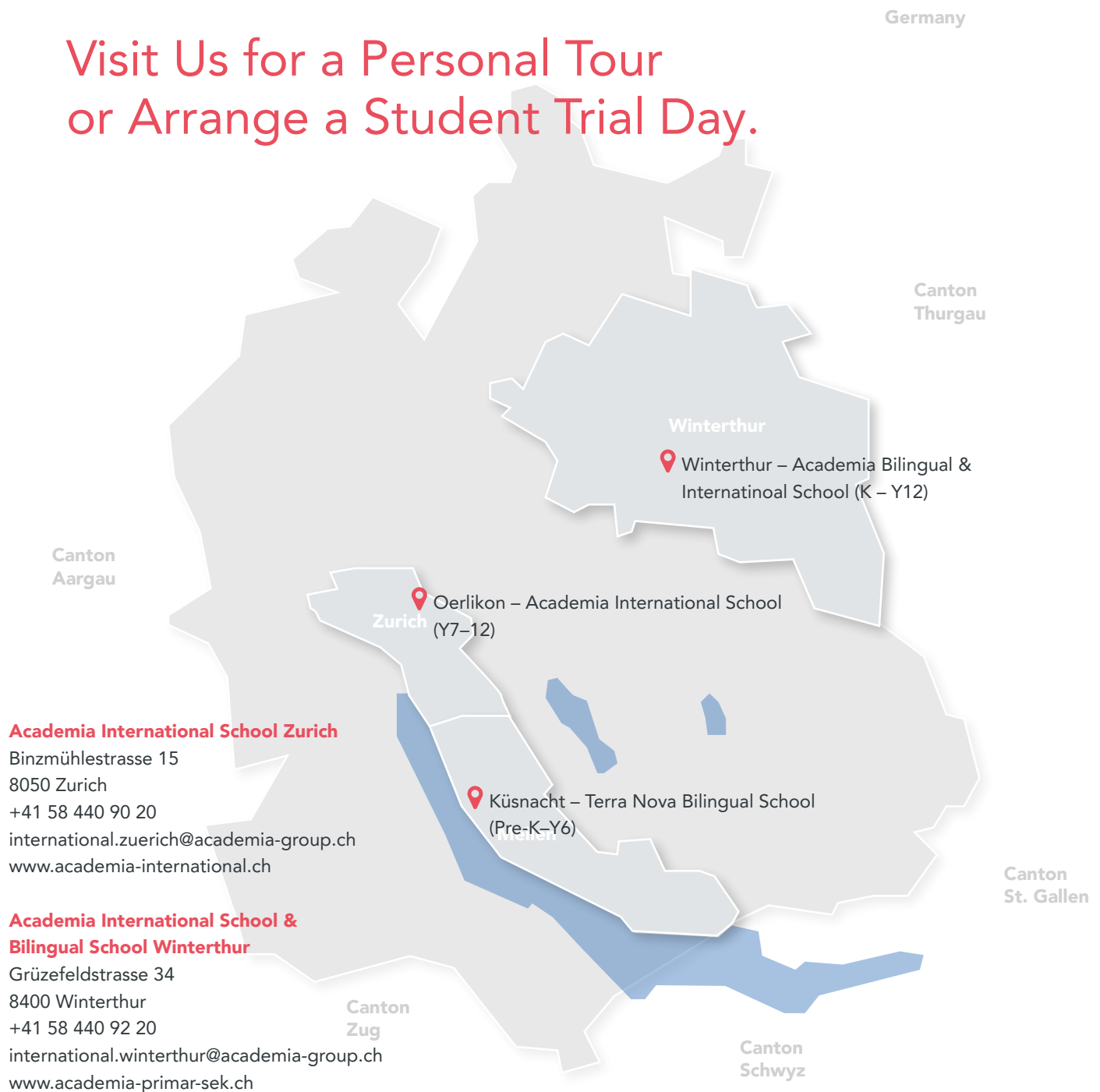
www.zuerich.com/family – Zurich Tourism family guide

www.stadt-zuerich.ch – city programmes for children and parents

www.kinderregion.ch – regional platform for family events and excursions

Experience our Community Firsthand:

Visit Us for a Personal Tour
or Arrange a Student Trial Day.



Academia International School Zurich

Binzmühlestrasse 15
8050 Zurich
+41 58 440 90 20
international.zuerich@academia-group.ch
www.academia-international.ch

Academia International School & Bilingual School Winterthur

Grüzefeldstrasse 34
8400 Winterthur
+41 58 440 92 20
international.winterthur@academia-group.ch
www.academia-primar-sek.ch

Terra Nova Bilingual School

Florastrasse 19
8700 Küsnacht
+41 58 440 93 50
info@terra-nova.ch
www.terra-nova.ch