



**Fact Sheet**  
Academia International School Basel



# Academia International School at a glance

Our mission is to provide a warm-hearted community where students feel safe to develop academic inquiry in a context underpinned by respect and care. We endeavor to provide a school community, where children and young people reach their potential with a majority reaching academic excellence.

## Excellence in teaching

- ✔ Highly qualified international teaching staff
- ✔ Excellent examination results
- ✔ Investigation of broad themes across the curriculum
- ✔ SEN and enrichment programmes

## Building on individual strengths

- ✔ Flexible curriculum on all levels
- ✔ Educational rigour combined with tailored support
- ✔ Broad range of subjects to choose from at our upper levels (IGCSE, IAL)

## Preparation for life in an international world

- ✔ Follow the worldwide renowned Cambridge International Primary Curriculum (K to Y6)
- ✔ Transition to public or other international schools at every stage possible

## Broad range of extracurricular activities for all ages

- ✔ Art, music, sports, cooking and much more
- ✔ Duke of Edinburgh award for our older students
- ✔ School excursions, camps and expeditions

## A small school by design

- ✔ Small classes (average size 16)
- ✔ State of the art school facilities:
- ✔ City-centre location

# Educational pathway

Studying at Academia International School opens doors to various educational pathways.

Students concentrate on their main strengths and choose three subjects to study in depth.

## Year 11–12 A-Level-programme

While continuing to study a broad range of subjects, students start to focus on their strengths by choosing their individual mix of subjects.

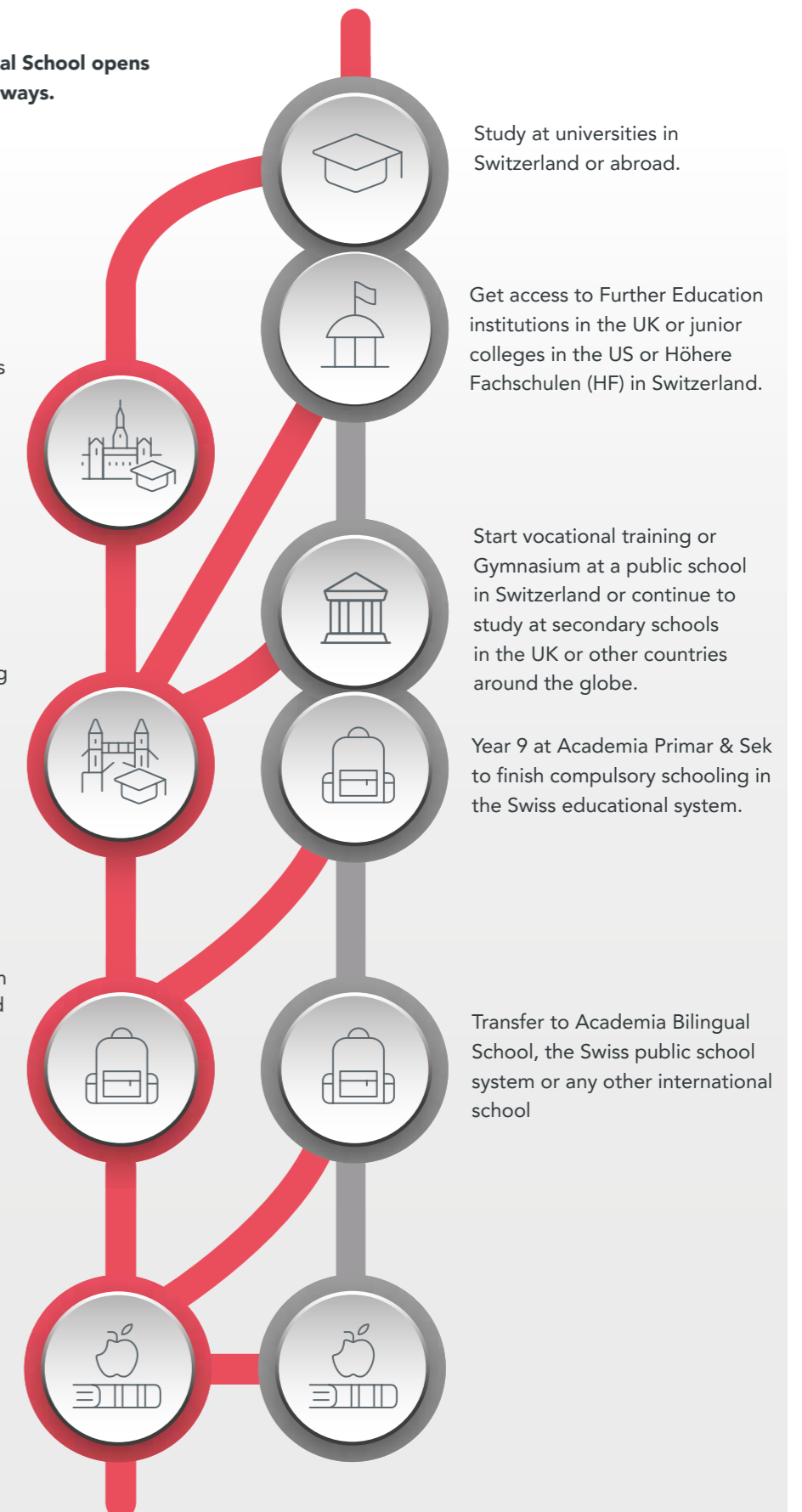
## Year 9–10 IGCSE-programme

Lay a solid foundation in English and German for further education in Switzerland or other schools around the world.

## Year 7–8 Pre-IGCSE-programme

Our pupils follow the flexible and renowned Cambridge International Primary Curriculum. German and French are additionally taught to allow a smooth transition into the Swiss school system after Y6.

## K–Year 6 Kindergarten & Primary School





Discovering  
the world  
in a playful  
manner.













# Kindergarten and Primary (K – Y6)

In our kindergarten and primary school, we offer your child a safe and motivating learning environment. Our pupils' strengths are encouraged and challenged. Our aim is for every child to embrace new things, to recognise mistakes as an opportunity for learning and to grow up to be a confident, responsible young person.

## This makes us unique

- ✓ Follow the broad, balanced and highly flexible Cambridge Primary curriculum
- ✓ Comprehensive day school structure with homework-time, lunch, clubs and leisure activities
- ✓ Qualified, native-speaker teachers
- ✓ Educational rigour combined with tailored support
- ✓ School bus for a safe journey to and from school.

## Subjects

- |  |  |
|--|--|
|  <b>English</b>           |  <b>Geography</b>               |
|  <b>Mathematics</b>       |  <b>History</b>                 |
|  <b>Science</b>           |  <b>Music</b>                   |
|  <b>German</b>            |  <b>Media &amp; PC Science</b>  |
|  <b>French</b> (from Y 5) |  <b>Art &amp; Design</b>        |
|  <b>Sport</b>             |  <b>Health &amp; Well-being</b> |

## Timetable

08:00 – 08:30	Arrival of students
08:30 – 10:00	Lessons
10:00 – 10:20	Recess
10:20 – 11:50	Lessons
11:50 – 13:15	Lunch
13:15 – 14:45/16:00*	Lessons
14:45/16:00 – 18:00	Flexible after school care: free play and clubs

\* On Wednesday, classes end at 11.50 p.m., followed by flexible after school care from 11:50 p.m. – 6.00 p.m

## Before and after-school care

Competent and caring supervision of our younger pupils outside lessons is an integral part of our concept. We are happy to help you organise your family's work, school and leisure activities efficiently.

- ✓ Flexible before & after-school care from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- ✓ School bus for a safe journey to and from school
- ✓ Healthy lunch option in our canteen
- ✓ Supervised homework time
- ✓ English booster lessons for students whose English is not yet on the required level
- ✓ Holiday programme during part of the school holidays

## After school supervision

Spoilt for choice: experienced and motivated staff are responsible for our extensive range of afternoon activities. The different clubs are not only fun, but also promote social competence, empowerment, personal responsibility and creativity.

## Other school activities

Special highlights during the school year are various activities related to public holidays and customs: Santa Claus visits us; we celebrate Halloween; and our winter open day excites the whole school community with the artistic and musical creativity of our pupils. From Year 3, pupils also go to the class camp, while pupils from Year 4 spend a week at the ski and snow camp.

Our well qualified and highly motivated teachers make use of modern methods and didactics.










## Pre-IGCSE (Y7 & 8)

Our Pre-IGCSE-programme offers a unique curriculum blending the well-established British international curriculum with a highly innovative and unique approach to German. All academic subjects are taught in English. However, a considerable part of our teaching time is dedicated to German by layering our curriculum with project-based learning. This means that students not only attend language lessons, but also work on projects for other academic subjects, thus building a rich specialised vocabulary. Furthermore, students build the foundations in key competencies, such as critical thinking, kindness, collaboration and creativity.

### This makes us unique

- ✓ The best from two worlds: International British Cambridge curriculum combined with the Swiss curriculum (Lehrplan 21)
- ✓ Unique teaching concept with a focus on German and STEM subjects
- ✓ Warm and caring environment
- ✓ Focus on key competencies

### Subjects

 English	 Science
 French	 Art
 Geography	 Music
 History	 Sport
 Mathematics	













## IGCSE (Y9 & 10)

The focus at this stage is on a well-founded general education. We follow the IGCSE-curriculum of Cambridge Assessment International Education. The broad range of subjects on offer meets the individual interests of our students.

### This makes us unique

- ✓ Broad general education with different options
- ✓ Tailored support in a warm and caring environment
- ✓ Holistic approach with innovative teaching and learning methods
- ✓ Consistently high success rate in examinations for more than 15 years
- ✓ Possibility to leave after Y10 with an internationally recognised qualification

### Subjects

 German	 Biology
 English	 Chemistry
 English Literature	 Physics
 French	 Mathematics
 Geography	 Art
 History	 Music

Other subject on request.













## International A Level (Y11 & 12)

During the last two years at our school, the students concentrate on three to four subjects which they explore in depth. They learn to work independently, which is the ideal preparation for university studies.

### This makes us unique

- ✓ Strength-orientation through wide range of subjects
- ✓ Qualification recognized by universities worldwide
- ✓ Individual support in a friendly learning environment
- ✓ Holistic approach with innovative teaching and learning methods
- ✓ Consistently high success rate in examinations for more than 15 years
- ✓ First and only secondary school with an A-Level-programme in Basel

### Subjects

 Biology	 Mathematics
 Chemistry	 Physics
 German	 Psychology
 English	 Geography
 French	 Economics
 History	 Art

On request, we offer the Edexcel Extended Project, a practice-oriented, independent study qualification, as a special subject.

### A small school with high academic standards

Exam	Grade	Results
IGCSE	B/5 +	81%
IGCSE	A +	34%
A Level	C+	96%
A Level	A+	33%

### Awards achieved by our students

- ✓ Highest mark in the world in Advanced German
- ✓ Highest mark in Switzerland in Science
- ✓ Highest mark in Switzerland in Advanced Maths
- ✓ Highest mark in Switzerland in English

# Additional offers

## German Booster

For students wishing to apply to Swiss universities or simply to integrate into the community more easily we offer a Swiss university track for an additional school fee.

## German and English pathways

To ensure that our native-speaker students receive the best possible support, we conduct German and English lessons in separate classes.

## Supervised homework and study time

Supervised homework and study sessions provide students with the opportunity to complete homework with the support and guidance of a teacher who maintains a calm and focused atmosphere during these afternoon sessions.

## Arts and project based learning

We have a specialist art teacher who works closely with subject teachers to provide an extra layer to the curriculum through Art and Design so that students can express their understanding of a topic through drawing, modelling, film, drama, painting or design construction. In addition to having visible application, this concept deepens learning and allows students who learn best through doing to better access the curriculum.

# Elective and extracurricular

We offer a variety of electives and extracurricular activities for students to explore an area without the pressure of assessment.

## Duke of Edinburgh

The Duke of Edinburgh Award, which is a highly regarded international award for students, includes sport, new skill development, voluntary work and expeditions. Our students can gain the award on bronze, silver and gold level.

## Art & Design

In the past we had some amazing artists among our students: a dedicated atelier allows students interested in the Arts to explore their creativity.

## Student council

The members of our student council represent the wider student body. They can raise issues and communicate with staff. They also contribute to the school by organising games evenings, bake sales and charity events.

## Prom and event committee

In this committee, senior students learn about event management. They play a major role in planning the end of year prom and are involved in everything from deciding the prom 'theme' to ordering food.

## Model United Nations

Model United Nations (Model UN or MUN) is an extra-curricular activity in which students typically role-play delegates to the United Nations and simulate UN committees.

## Sports

Regular sport promotes the ability to concentrate. We therefore offer a range of sporting activities that provide a balance to the school day. The offer varies depending on the interests of our students. In the past we offered football, basketball, yoga, karate and meditation and stretch.

## Other extracurricular activities

Our academic curriculum is complemented with educationally interesting excursions (mainly day trips). In addition, we organise annual school trips overseas and ski camp specific to particular year groups. Other electives may include music, gardening, book or cooking clubs, based on the interests of our students.



The Duke of Edinburgh Award is highly regarded by universities in Great Britain and the US.



**The combination of a rigorous academic curriculum and strong holistic school care helps prepare our students for life.**

# Our staff

## Experienced and caring staff

Our qualified subject specialists come from the UK, the US, Australia and Canada; teachers for modern languages teach in their mother tongue. As an international school following an English-speaking curriculum many of our teachers have QTS (Qualified Teacher Status) and are experienced UK teachers. A high proportion are educated to Master's level and we have several examiners on staff who know the IGCSEs and A Levels very well. Aside from their experience and qualifications, one of the most important attributes is a sense of care and commitment.

## Pastoral care

Our tutor team provide close care and guidance for students in every year. They are also the first point of contact for parents. The team provides

- ✓ individual guidance to all students,
- ✓ relevant focus groups and workshops on important issues (social and emotional wellbeing) and
- ✓ forms individualised study plans for all students.

## Higher and further education counselling

Our small team of staff including our head of school take great care to help students and families in choosing further educational pathways in Switzerland and the rest of the world.

- ✓ Families moving back to their home country
- ✓ Preparing students for UK, US, European and Swiss universities
- ✓ Advising on vocational pathways within the Swiss educational landscape

## Recent graduate destinations

Our graduating students have accessed a variety of universities, such as:

**Switzerland:** ETH Zurich, University of Basel, University of St. Gallen

**Worldwide:** Cambridge University, Cardiff University, Durham University, Edinburgh University, Glasgow University, Liverpool University, University of Massachusetts

# Our school

From **October 2024**, we shall take advantage of a rare opportunity and move into new premises at Hochstrasse 16 just 150 m from Basel SBB. In short, this location, spaced over 3 levels, will together comfortably house Academia International School and Academia Matura under one roof – from kindergarten to A Levels.

## Features of the Basel campus

- ✓ More than 25 bright, well-equipped classrooms in tailored sizes for a diversity of lessons
- ✓ Various specialist rooms: Art & Design, Science labs, Music classes, Exams, Library, and much more
- ✓ A large multifunctional auditorium with a stage, which will adapt conveniently between sport, theatre, or canteen areas
- ✓ Spacious indoor and outdoor recreation areas
- ✓ Easy to reach by public transport
- ✓ Shops, cafés and city centre in walking distance



A small  
school by  
design.

## Registration



### Contact us

Contact us to arrange an admission meeting.



### Admission meeting

The admission meeting gives us the opportunity to get to know the student and the family.



### Individual assessment

Depending on subject choice and language skills, students must undergo entry assessments.



### Report cards

We ask for school report cards and grades from previous schools (copies are sufficient).



### Insight week

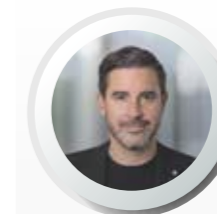
Students can register for non-binding trial days at our school.



### Decision

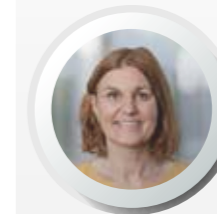
Students, families and the school then decide whether our school is the right choice for the student.

## School representatives



### Dr. Ludovic Allenspach

Managing Director



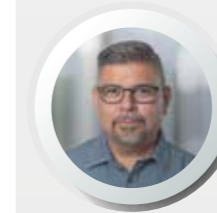
### Steph Wimmer

Head of School, Pre-IGCSE, IGCSE, A Levels



### Jarrod Brauer

Head of School, Kindergarten, Primary



### Michael Martinez

Deputy Head Pastoral, School Counselor



«I just want to say how grateful I am to the Academia teachers who have taught my son these last 3 years. It is amazing what he has achieved and this would not have been possible in the local school. He was in the lower group and told he would never make university. I am so happy that he has proved them wrong. I know he is not there yet, but the fact that he may have that option is wonderful. I am overjoyed to say the least: You all do such a brilliant job.»

***Mother of a student at Academia International School Basel***

«I am an American parent and I have two daughters in Academia. I have a daughter who will be graduating this year and going to university in the United States. Academia's IGCSE program definitely prepared her for applying for many universities in the United States. She is actually getting to go to college at the age of 17 because of how well the IGCSE program prepared her for applying for college. She is going to Penn State University and actually got early admission as a 16 year old because she completed the IGCSE level of classes and exams. Now she is taking AS level classes in her last year and those will afford her a few extra college credits in the United States.»

***Mother of two daughters at Academia International School Basel***

«We joined Academia School from its very early stages and both our boys stayed for 7 years. Both passed the highest level of schooling (VWO) in the Netherlands with excellent grades in their first year back. Besides the language challenge they also had a Corona challenge to overcome. I believe this is a testament to the wonderful educational experience both our boys got at Academia. Having had the both the academic freedom as well as the ownership discipline, it clearly equipped them for this new challenge.»

***Father of two sons at Academia International School Basel***