

«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*



# Factsheet

## Academia International School Basel

# Offer

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 all students reach their potential with a majority reaching academic excellence.

## With International A Levels to university

Academia International School follows the British International Curriculum for:

- ✓ Secondary School qualification (IGCSE)
- ✓ Advanced qualifications (A Levels)

## Academia International School at a glance

### Excellence in teaching

- ✓ Highly qualified international teaching staff
- ✓ Excellent examination results
- ✓ SEN and enrichment programmes
- ✓ Explicit teaching of cognitive and metacognitive strategies

### Preparation for life in an international world

- ✓ Leave after 2 years (YR10) with an internationally recognised qualification
- ✓ Leave after 4 years (YR12) with an internationally recognised advanced qualification
- ✓ Guidance on further and higher education
- ✓ Explicit teaching of competencies such as critical thinking, collaboration and communication

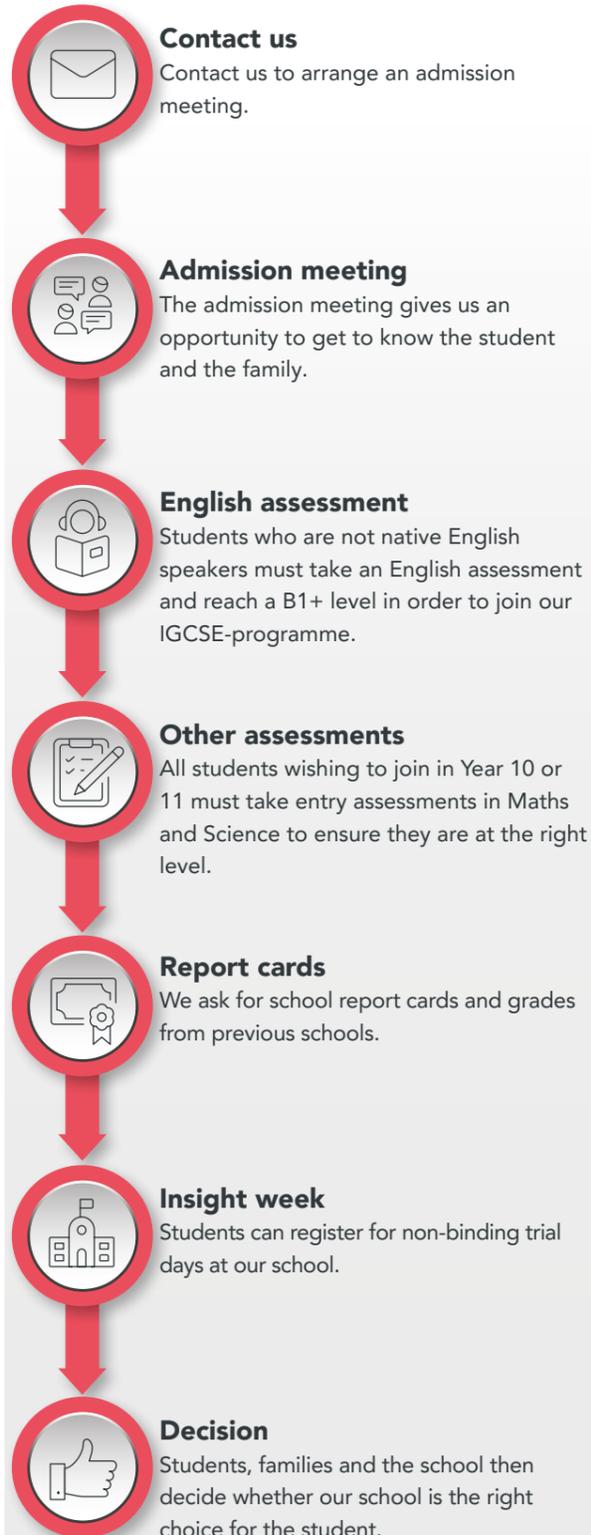
### Building on individual strengths

- ✓ Broad range of subjects to choose from
- ✓ School counsellor
- ✓ Art and extracurricular activities
- ✓ English immersion programme
- ✓ Investigation of broad themes across the curriculum

### A small school by design

- ✓ Small classes (average size 16)
- ✓ Located in the city center – downtown school

# Registration



# School day

## Pre-IGCSE-programme

We provide 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, such as Sciences or Humanities, thus building a rich specialised vocabulary.

### Academic subjects

English

French

German

Maths

Sciences (Biology, Chemistry, Physics)

Geography

History

Computer Science

Art

Music

Sports

Social and Emotional Learning

Dance and Movement

## Arts and project-based learning

We have several specialist art teachers who work closely with subject teachers to provide an extra layer to the curriculum through Art and Design. This means students are able to 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.

## Supervised study & learning hall

Supervised study and learning 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.

## IGCSE-programme

In Year 9 and 10 students follow the IGCSE-curriculum of Cambridge Assessment International Education.

| Academic subjects                                   | Weekly enrichments                      |
|---|---|
| <b>Double Science (Biology, Chemistry, Physics)</b> | Lunchtime Science review slots          |
| <b>Maths</b>  |   |
| <b>English Language</b>                             |   |
| <b>English Literature</b>                           |   |
| <b>French</b>                                       |   |
| <b>German</b>                                       |   |
| <b>German Booster</b>                               |   |
| <b>Geography</b>                                    |   |
| <b>History</b>                                      | History through Drama and Essay Writing |
| <b>Art</b>  |   |
| <b>Music</b>  |   |

## A-Level-programme

In Year 11 and 12 students follow the advanced programme of Pearson Edexcel.

| Academic subjects | Weekly enrichments             |
|-------------------|--------------------------------|
| <b>Biology</b>    | Lunchtime Science review slots |
| <b>Chemistry</b>  |                                |
| <b>Physics</b>    |                                |
| <b>Maths</b>      |                                |
| <b>English</b>    |                                |
| <b>French</b>     |                                |
| <b>German</b>     |                                |
| <b>Economics</b>  |                                |
| <b>Geography</b>  |                                |
| <b>History</b>    |                                |
| <b>Psychology</b> |                                |



# 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.

The German Booster track means students will receive 5 German lessons a week: 3 lessons at A1 beginner level, which will progress to A2 level, and 2 lessons that follow the IGCSE syllabus.

## Higher and further education counselling

Our small team of staff including our head of school take great care to guide students through their final few years at school. We look at student's interests and abilities to help them in choosing higher and further educational pathways in Switzerland and the rest of the world. We have successfully guided a great many students through these pathways and have experience counselling and preparing students for UK, US, European and Swiss higher education. We also have a sound knowledge of the Swiss educational landscape and can advise on how our qualifications can lead to vocational pathways.

## Sports

Apart from football, yoga and stretch, which we offer as electives, we can link you up with well established local sports clubs some of which are English speaking.

**Cricket, rugby, tennis, football, karate, golf, ice hockey, ice skating**

In winter, our students from Year 7 and 8 can take part in a 5-day ski camp.

# Electives and extracurricular activities

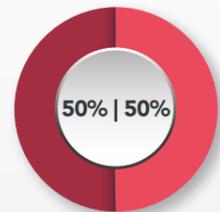
| Elective  | Description  |
|---|--|
| <b>Art</b>  | We offer over 2 hours of art a week in our 7th floor art studio. The studio is also available to keen artists most of the week so that they can develop their work and portfolios in a relaxed manner.                         |
| <b>Computer Science</b>                                   | Our ICT teacher follows the IGCSE Computer Science curriculum in a relaxed manner. Students learn coding and can work at their own pace.   |
| <b>Drama and Literature in German for Native Speakers</b> | Explore German literature in combination with Drama lessons with our German teacher who has a professional acting background.  |
| <b>Duke of Edinburgh Award</b>                            | We run the Duke of Edinburgh Award which is a highly regarded international award for students. The award includes sport, new skill development, voluntary work and expeditions.   |
| <b>Educational excursions</b>                             | We complement our academic curriculum with educationally interesting excursions which are mainly organised as day trips. In addition we organise annual school trips overseas and ski camp specific to particular year groups. |
| <b>Football</b>   | We provide weekly football training at Rankhof stadium in Basel. The stadium has all the facilities needed for year-round Football training.   |
| <b>Gardening Club</b>                                     | In our hugely popular Gardening Club our students can design and develop inner city balcony gardens, indoor green spaces and plant based decorations.  |
| <b>Mindfulness Meditation</b>                             | We have several qualified and experienced mindfulness and wellbeing coaches on staff who are able to offer Mindfulness Meditation on request in both English and German.   |
| <b>Model United Nations</b>                               | Model United Nations, also known as Model UN or MUN, is an extra-curricular activity in which students typically roleplay delegates to the United Nations and simulate UN committees.  |
| <b>Music</b>  | We offer a weekly music class which is designed so that a variety of students can access and enjoy music. The class is not exam driven or theoretical but focuses on music, creativity, relaxation and expression.             |

| Elective                        | Description   |
|---------------------------------|---|
| <b>Newsletter</b>               | The school newsletter is edited by one of our English teachers. Budding journalists and reporters from the student body can participate in the creation of the monthly on-line newsletter.  |
| <b>Peer Tutoring</b>            | We have an active peer-tutoring-system in our school. Many of our older A-Level students who are participating in the Duke of Edinburgh Award peer tutor younger students particularly in Maths, Science and German.  |
| <b>Prom and Event Committee</b> | This committee is a group of senior students who spend the year learning 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.  |
| <b>School Basketball club</b>   | Our school basketball club meets weekly after school to train and develop their basketball skills. We benefit from using the facilities of neighbouring Gymnasium school and work with an experienced and inspiring coach.  |
| <b>STEAM</b>                    | <b>Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Maths.</b> Our Science teachers lead this weekly elective where students work in the art studio to produce 3D models, robots and other physical representations of their work in science. Students are able to apply their mathematical and scientific understanding to exciting inventions and creations. This year they are involved in the challenging, yet exciting balloon launch to space. |
| <b>Student Council</b>          | The Student Council comprises a cross section of students who 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.   |
| <b>Yoga and Stretch</b>         | We have a dedicated 'movement room' in our school. The room has soft mats and basic gym equipment enabling students to do gentle exercises. There is also a boxing punch bag which can be helpful to release energy. The room is always under adult supervision.  |

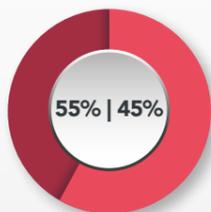
# Our students

## Students at Academia

We have a mixed student body. Our international students are from countries outside of Switzerland, including the UK, US, Italy, Germany, France, India, Japan, Russia and Pakistan.



50% Female | 50% Male



55% International | 45% Swiss

## 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

- ✓ The highest mark in **the world in Advanced German**
- ✓ The highest mark in **Switzerland in Science**
- ✓ The highest mark in **Switzerland in Advanced Maths**
- ✓ The highest mark in **Switzerland in English**

## 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 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 of our teachers 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.

## Full time school counsellor

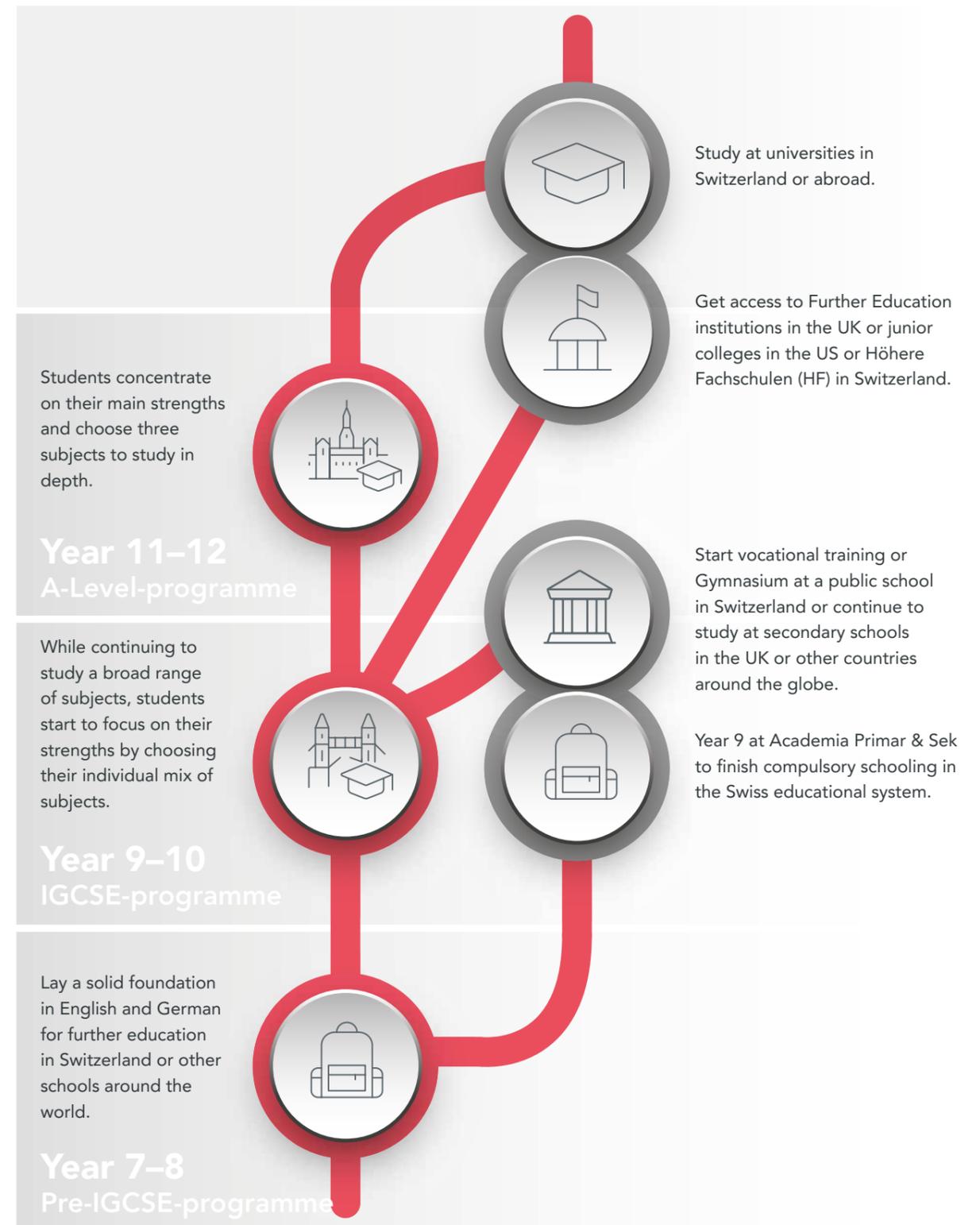
- ✓ Provides individual guidance to all students
- ✓ Forms individualised study plans for all students
- ✓ Provides relevant focus groups and workshops on important issues (social and emotional wellbeing)

## Our partners



# 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

Study at universities in Switzerland or abroad.

Get access to Further Education institutions in the UK or junior colleges in the US or Höhere Fachschulen (HF) in Switzerland.

Start vocational training or Gymnasium at a public school in Switzerland or continue to study at secondary schools in the UK or other countries around the globe.

Year 9 at Academia Primar & Sek to finish compulsory schooling in the Swiss educational system.