

We don't know what the future holds for our students, but we know it will be extraordinary.

Welcome to the International School of Milan.

Boarding House Handbook

INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL OF MILAN

Inspiring the extraordinary

IB CONTINUUM

INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL OF MILAN

Inspiring the extraordinary



I am delighted that you have decided or are considering to come and board with us here at the International School of Milan. We know that starting at any new school can be a daunting process but we also know that the staff here will always help you to adjust and thrive in your new 'home from home'.

Being part of a Boarding school will allow our boarders to develop independence both away from their families but also in managing themselves as part of an extended family.

Being part of a community means being respectful and tolerant of others, enjoying oneself but also not being afraid to speak their mind and share their views on things. Indeed we actively encourage our Boarders to develop in this way and thus support their development into adulthood as confident, considerate and responsible global citizens.

The guide you are reading is intended to give you a taste of what is on offer and also to help you understand what to expect when you board with us in Milan.

Our school is based upon principles of respect, honesty and tolerance. We understand the necessity for hard work but also the need for relaxation and fun. We are proud of our growing international school as well the history of ISM as the oldest international school in Italy but we are even more proud of the future you will undoubtedly be a part of.

We look forward to welcoming both you and your family to our school and I know that you will enjoy your time with us hugely.

My very best regards.

Stephen Rogers,
Headmaster
International School of Milan



Why choose the International School of Milan?

High Standards, International Values and Active Citizenship

These core values are embedded in our mission statement and experienced every day by students of all ages, coordinated by an outstanding team of educational leaders and implemented by our **highly skilled and dedicated professional staff**. Learning at our International School is exciting and engaging, as students strive for excellence in a climate that is caring and responsive to their personal needs and goals.



Five key reasons to set your child on course for the future

1 International perspectives and values

Learning at the International School of Milan is an international experience. It leads to a perception of the world that merges understanding of our global context with the development of **skills and attitudes** that young people require **to participate fully in the world of tomorrow**, both as national and global citizens. The school community extends to parents and staff and to our network of partners across Italy and throughout the world. We encourage our students to feel **part of a dynamic enterprise, committed to development and cultural interaction**.



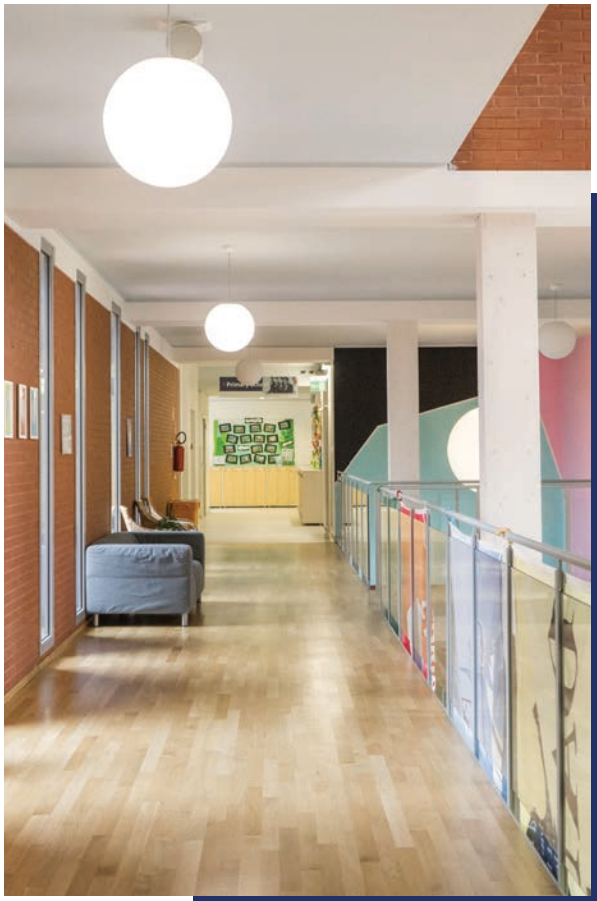
2 Top class facilities for successful schools in the heart of their community

The school is uniquely designed and developed in response to its environment and location. Our schools provide an **excellent education** in every case **for both local and international students** in each community.

The campus is extremely attractive, functional and designed around students' needs and is equipped with:

- **libraries**
- **professional science laboratories**
- **creative arts centers**
- **music studios**
- **a wide range of indoor and outdoor sports facilities**

We are committed to incorporating technology to support our educational vision and enable students to integrate the use of personal mobile devices to assist learning. At every stage of education we stress the importance of **balance between traditional and contemporary skills** to ensure that young learners are fully equipped to face future challenges.



Outdoor football field



Indoor Sports Centre



Indoor swimming pool



Spacious and bright auditorium




okeo



The IB Curriculum Framework

The International School of Milan was the first school in Italy to be authorised by the International Baccalaureate to **offer all three of its curriculum programmes**:

- Primary Years Programme (PYP)
- Middle Years Programme (MYP)
- Diploma Programme (DP)

Its programmes are internationally recognised for their quality and innovative approaches. There is a high value placed on learning through inquiry, which engages students to participate actively in the learning process and provides students with some of the most challenging and rewarding experiences available in schools today.



4 Outstanding results and a proven track record

In the 30 years since we introduced the International Baccalaureate, our results have been consistently outstanding. All graduates have an **excellent record of academic success** and go on to the world's most renowned universities to study in a wide range of faculties and specialisations. The IB was created for internationally mobile citizens and is recognised worldwide, allowing students an enviable breadth of choices for their future studies and ensuring global opportunities for their future professions. Alongside our international programme, Italian students follow mother-tongue courses that prepare them for the **Licenza Media Level** with lessons that are fully integrated into the IB Curriculum.



LATIN AMERICA - 4 SCHOOL
EUROPE - 12 SCHOOLS + 2 ELS

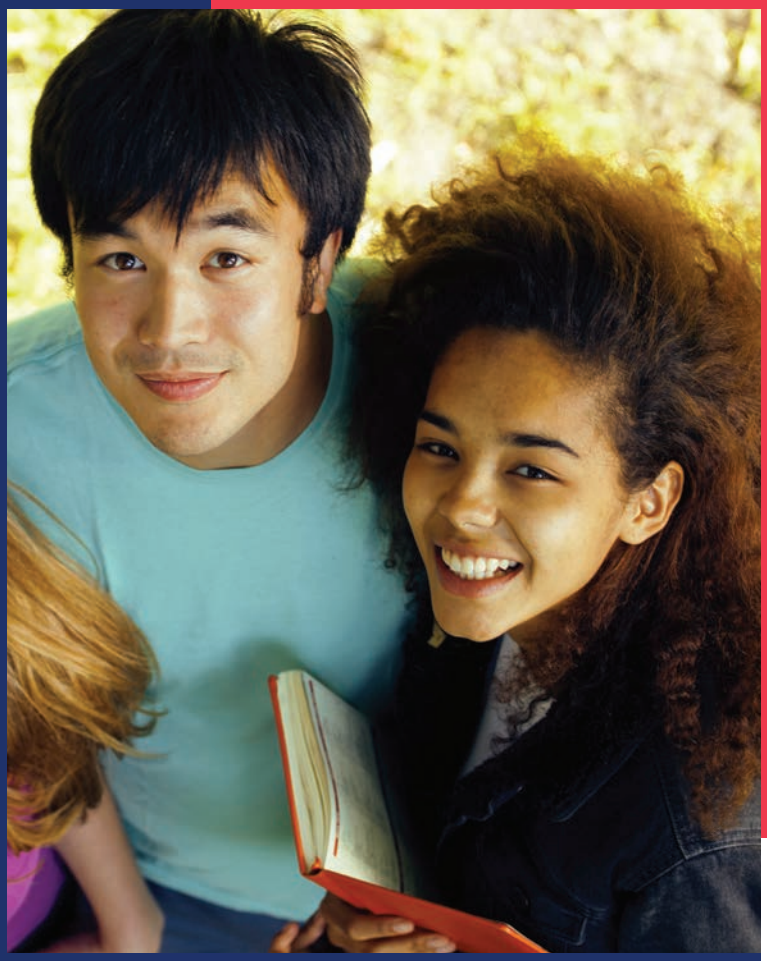
AFRICA & MIDDLE EAST - 14 SCHOOLS
AUSTRALIA - 3 ELS

Member of Inspired, a leading international group of 33 schools.

Inspired sets a new standard in premium private education with hand-picked teachers and a dedication to excellence that permeates every aspect of each school. **Integrating innovative, challenging and enriching academic, performing arts and sports programmes**, Inspired's students leave with outstanding results, a love of learning, confidence and a firm value system that prepares them to embrace the challenges life throws at them in their future endeavours.

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Exceptional Locations

Milano metropolitan campus

Our campus, the largest of its kind in Italy, hosts the Early Years, Primary, Middle and High Schools of the International School of Milan. The architectural design reflects the multi-purpose, multi-functionality of the campus, which is complete with an auditorium, an indoor swimming-pool, a sports centre, three libraries, coffee bar, kitchen (on-site chef) and canteen, outdoor spaces for social use and sports activities and green areas dedicated to games for younger children. Accessibility is guaranteed by numerous external public car parks and a spacious and safe underground parking.

- Well equipped laboratories for scientific and IT activities;
- 40 thousand volumes available in 3 libraries;
- A theatre that seats 350;
- Art workshops;
- Dedicated music room;
- A multifunctional gymnasium;
- An indoor swimming-pool;
- A coffee bar, kitchen (with on-site chef) and canteen;
- Ample spaces and green areas for all sorts of activities;
- External and underground parking;
- 24/7 on-site security surveillance.



Milan

Milan is the leading Italian city in terms of Fashion, Architecture & Design, Finance, and Food with a rich historical and cultural background.
Home to the impressive Duomo, La Scala theatre, some beautiful parks and an array of museums and galleries, you are sure to find something to keep you busy. Events and festivals run frequently and the Rho Fiera exhibition center hosts fairs and events all throughout the year. Outside of the city, Milan is well located for you to reach lakes, mountains or even the coast within a short journey, so whether you prefer to spend a day by the sea or your weekends skiing in the mountains, Milan is perfect! Well connected by train, the rest of Italy is easily accessible and affordable.

Milan's Duomo
The Duomo is the symbol of the city. It is located at the heart of Milan and with its gothic style it provides a unique and majestic sight. It is the largest cathedral in Italy, seat of the Archbishop of Milan.



Navigli With its lively day-and-night life, the Navigli area is one of the most attractive spots for tourists and young people. We recommend a walk along one of the two canals.



Arco della Pace This well-known entrance to Parco Sempione gives a remarkable scenery with the Castello Sforzesco in the background.





Welcome to Boarding

We find that students embrace the boarding experience because we strive to create a "home away from home" feeling, which simultaneously provides outstanding opportunities for your child. These include: cultural, environmental, academic, career-oriented and technological opportunities. Boarders are exposed to a rich and balanced portfolio of experiences at ISM's boarding school. We arrange many recreational and educational school trips and outings in addition to international trips (to various countries around the world).

Our aim is to instill meaningful values and good behaviour. Respect and consideration of others is the cornerstone of our philosophy. Rest assured that your son/daughter will not only enjoy their time with us, but thrive and blossom in this highly stimulating environment.

Here at ISM, our boarding community strives to create a homely yet structured atmosphere for our resident students. We believe that this allows them to achieve their best in all fields - academic, sporting and cultural.



Who's who

Houseparents

Your houseparents are in charge of your overall welfare throughout your time boarding with us at International School of Milan. Their role involves checking that you are making good use of your time, and that you are generally well-behaved and happy. They will probably get to know you quite well during your time at our school and will inevitably be there if you get into trouble or hit a 'rough patch'.

Resident tutors / Assistants

Our house tutors live and work in the boarding house. In additional, several other assistants visit the house once or twice per week to help with academic support.

House Leaders

This group of responsible Grade 13's report directly to the houseparents and help to implement the smooth running of the house systems on a day-to-day basis. Please turn to them for assistance, should you need to. Resident students who behave badly will earn demerits and can be reported by their house leaders. Becoming a house leader is a highly prestigious role in the boarding house structure. Responsible and caring students will be rewarded with this role, if, houseparents deem they have earned it.

Councils

We have a number of councils in place to assist in determining how the day-to- day operations of the boarding house will be managed. They will address issues such as the following: common room practices, international students/weekend boarders, business/careers, technology/creative, outings.

Elected Council Leaders

One senior student is elected from within these councils, by the students, to represent their interests: 6 council leaders. Two students selected by the 6 council leaders to represent the boarding house within the school structure.

Routines

Daily house Routine -Mornings

All boarding students are expected to attend breakfast every day.

House electives are responsible far checking that members of their boarding house are correctly dressed at meal times and around the campus.

They are also responsible far making sure that students keep the boarding house tidy during the day.

07:30 Breakfast
8:30 - 15:35 Lessons
15:35 - 17:00 After-school activities
17:00 - 18:00 Study Session 1 - collaboration/ quiet time for reading
18:00 - 18:45 Dinner
19:00 - 21:00 Study Session 2 - own room/ personal study/ homework
21:00 - 22:30 Free time and preparation for bed
22:30 Lights out

Evening Routine - Bedtimes

This is supervised by the house leaders and staff on duty.

Signing Out During Free Time In The Evenings

On rare occasions (and with the permission of the Housemaster/mistress) if you leave the house at any time after evening study, you must sign out on the signing-out sheets by the main entrance, indicating exactly where you are going. This is an essential legal requirement in case of fire or other emergency. You must also sign in again on your return.

Punctuality

Times are given for a reason. There will be no exceptions and punctuality is strictly enforced. Students who arrive late will face sanctions.

Television

You may watch television in your common room after prep. Please ensure that the television set is switched off if you're the last person to leave the room.



Weekend Routine
Saturday

Saturday's timetable is dependent on inter-school sporting fixtures and organised trips.

Generally, students will eat lunch at school between 12pm and 1pm before departing far various activities and outings, example:

Bedtimes
Saturday bedtimes may be altered at housepar-ent's / weekend duty staffs discretion.

Excursions options:
- The Italian Lakes
- Local towns of interest including: Bergamo, Venice and Turin
- Rho Fiera Exhibition Centre
- Italian Football League Serie A
- Aqualandia
- Painting: The Last Supper
- Palazzo Reale
- Theatre

08:30 Breakfast and register taken
09:00 - 12:00 Activities
12:00 Lunch
13:00 Bus departs for various trips and sporting fixtures
18:00 Dinner
19:30 Recreational activity (e.g. movie night in house)
22.00 All students back into houses
22:30 Room roll call

Sunday

Although the specific times may change depending on the event or excursion planned. Events/outings are arranged regularly and all boarders are expect-ed to attend.

A general timetable may be as follows:
11:30 Brunch and roll call
12:00 - 17:00 Activity/Trip/Free time
18:45 Dinner
20:00 Roll call

Please note: Sunday bedtimes follow the weekly routine.

Sunday Activity
Events/Outings are arranged regularly - all board-ers attend (Times vary depending on event)
12:00 - 17:00 Activity/Trip/Free time
18:45 Dinner
20:00 Roll call

At the start of term you should return to the house between 17:00 and 20:30 on Sunday nights.
If you are away for a weekend make sure to notify your houseparents.



- Up to 18 sqm
- En-suite bathroom
- Wifi
- Modern furniture
- Bright and peaceful environment

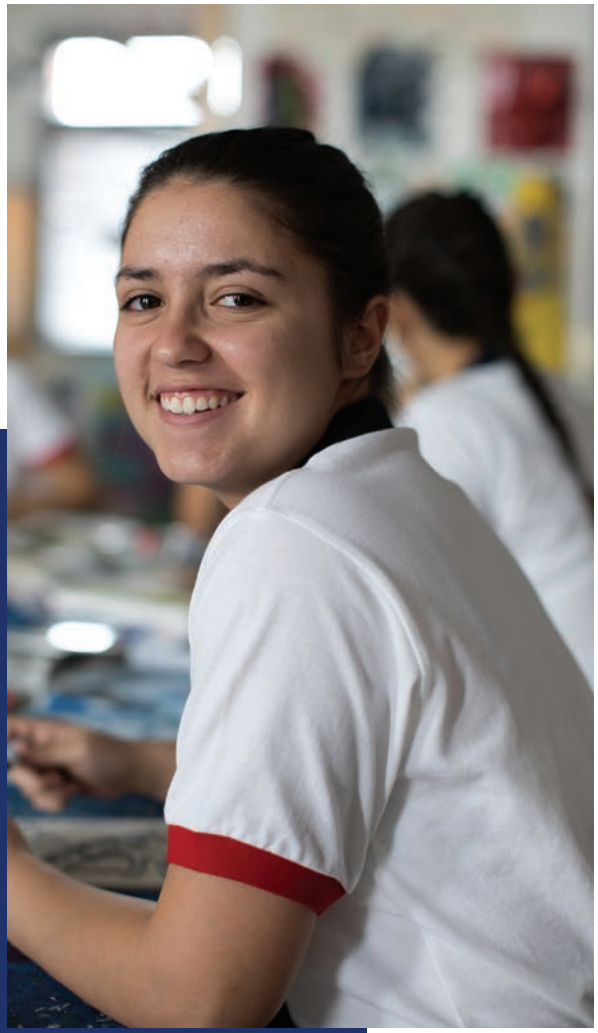
The Rooms

We try to create a feeling of home life by ensuring that students can share important parts of their own culture in the Boarding house. This might take the form of special cultural evenings where dishes from a certain country are prepared and enjoyed by our boarders or perhaps a specially themed trip (such as something during fashion week for example).
We are also keen to ensure that there are scheduled trips to places like the cinema and other recreational venues to keep our boarders happy when they are not working.



Beyond the classroom

Co-Curricular Programme



Italian Programme

Beyond our curricular educational activities, we offer a series of programmes and courses to give our students the possibilities to express their full potential. Our additional activities include the Italian Programme, Physical and Health Education, Creative and Performing Arts and Co-Curricular Activities. **Our results** in both of these state examinations are **truly exceptional** and add further weight to the argument that the IB programme offered by us prepares students well for other systems thanks to the transferrable skills it develops. As for the Maturità, our students do not sit the Italian Esame di Stato **as the IB Diploma offered by us has full legal equivalence to this qualification from the Italian Ministry of Education**, allowing students to access the Italian university system with ease. Non-native students, on the other hand, take Italian acquisition courses throughout their studies with us, to the extent that even these students often graduate from school as fluent speakers of Italian, too. **In parallel to these Italian acquisition courses, we also encourage students to continue studies in their mother-tongue language**.



Physical and Health Education

We understand the importance of intellectual, physical and emotional wellbeing. **Physical and Health Education is part of the curriculum and is integrated within the PYP and MYP curriculum**. We instigate students' intrinsic and extrinsic motivation and enthusiasm to help them discover their full potential. Lessons are planned with the aim to offer a **holistic approach including physical, social and emotional well-being**. In addition to PHE lessons, there are also countless opportunities within the co-curricular programme to develop an enjoyment of physical activity during lunchtimes and also after school. Supplementing this we have a full schedule of competitive fixtures across all sports which take place after school and occasionally at weekends in many of our schools and these will be further developed in others once new exciting facilities have been constructed.

Creative and Performing arts

Whilst **creative and performing arts are embedded into our PYP and MYP curricula via Visual Arts, Drama and Music**, we also offer students many opportunities to engage actively in these areas beyond the classroom, primarily through our co-curricula programme, visits and workshops. It goes without saying that all of these subjects are taught by **fully qualified and experienced teachers in specially designed and resourced studios**.

Whilst exciting subjects in their own right, which many of our students opt to pursue further studies in for their DP and beyond, we also believe that the skills developed in these areas are extremely useful for developing creative thought – an essential life skill for the modern workplace, no matter what their chosen career path.

We believe in the importance of **giving our students opportunities to be actively involved in the community**. We hold our yearly whole **school exhibition in public spaces** where everyone is able to witness and appreciate works of our students and at the same time collaborate with them with some community projects. Our school is equipped with specialist studios which are areas for students where they can express themselves creatively.



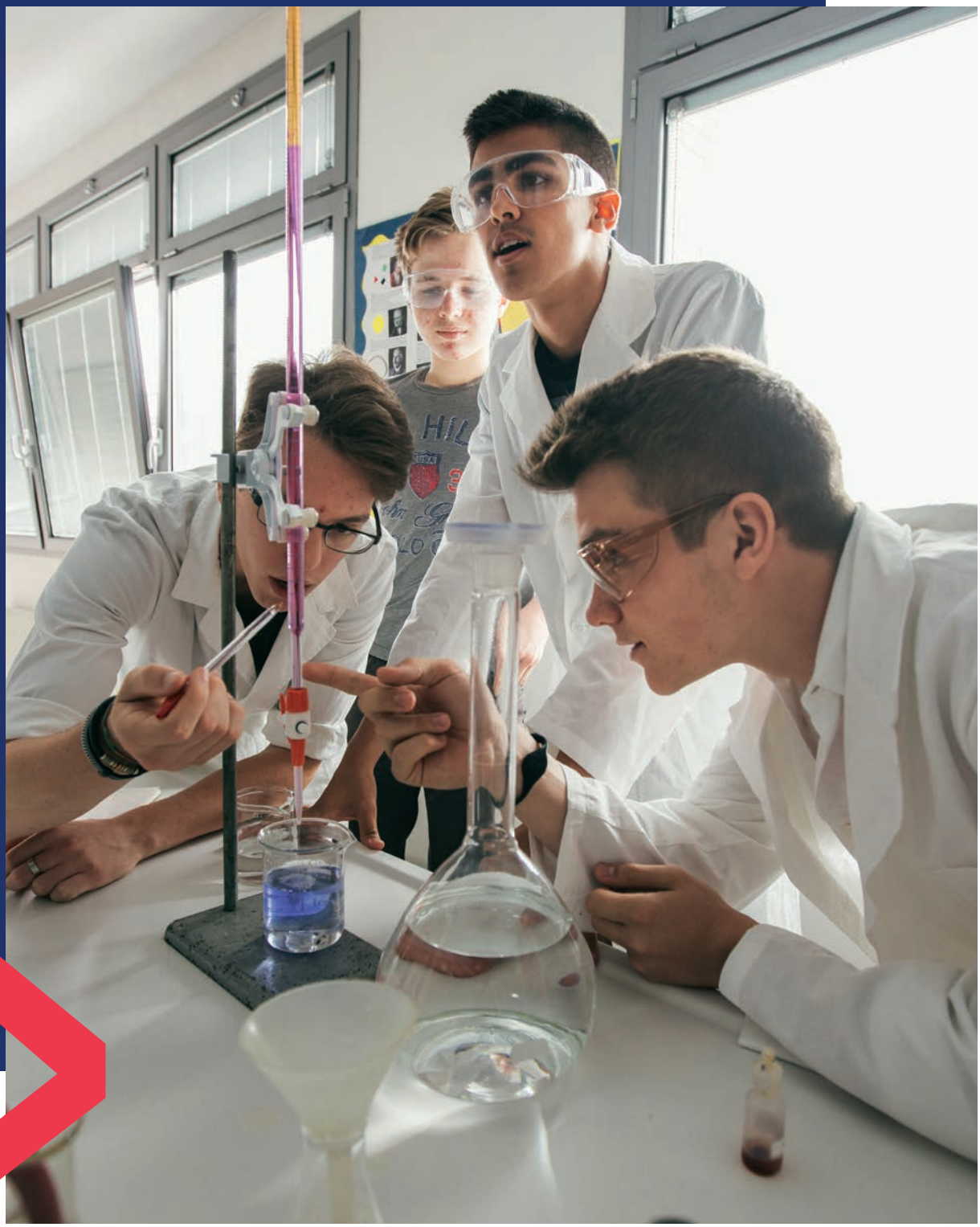


Additional Activities

The International School of Milan prides itself on being a learning community for all ages and learning styles. To this end, we value co-curricular learning which allows students to pursue talents and skills outside the classroom. We offer a range of **after school activities** in a variety of areas such as:

- **Drama,**
- **Football,**
- **Rugby,**
- **Volley**
- **Coding,**
- **Photography,**
- **Ceramics,**
- **Story Club,**
- **Writing Club,**
- **Italian and Mandarin Language Club,**
- **Judo,**
- **Dance and Musical Instrument tuition**.

In addition, there are also activities close to our core purpose of developing internally minded and active global citizens such as **MUN - Model United Nations**, **GIN - Global Issues Network**. The particular selection of co-curricular activities is dependent on the school. All activities are run by **professional, experienced teachers and coaches**, taking place throughout the week.



Academic Program

High School and the IB Diploma Programme

Our four-year high school is divided into **two distinct phases, each with a duration of two years**.

1. During the first two years, students complete the final years of the **IB's Middle Years Programme (MYP)**, with the key difference that subject specialisation takes place in some of the **eight subject groups**, allowing the biennial to be both the culmination of the MYP as well as preparation for the IB Diploma Programme.

2. In the **second two years of high school, our schools offer the International Baccalaureate's rigorous two-year Diploma Programme (IBDP) for 16-19 year olds**, which is widely considered to be the **leading pre-university qualification in the world**. We have offered the IB Diploma programme since 1987 and are proud of both our long-standing relationship with the IB as well as our **track record of academic success**, evidenced by the following statistics taken from examination sessions over the past decade:

Average score:
35-36 out of 45 (global average 29.8 out of 45)

Pass rate:
One in three students attaining 38 points or more

One in three students attaining 38 points or more (often considered as the benchmark for admission to the top rung of the world's leading universities)

These results are particularly impressive when one considers that ISM's approach to admissions is not purely based on prior academic merit. We believe that as many young people as possible should have access to this wonderful programme of study and hence our policy is that, if we believe an applicant can have an enriching experience during their time with us and that they can leave with an IB Diploma in their hand to open doors with, then we will offer a place.

Whilst preparing students exceptionally well for academic success in each of their chosen subject disciplines, thanks to a team of highly qualified teachers - many of whom are IB examiners and trainers - we endeavour to **ensure that the underlying philosophy of the IB is at the forefront of the student experience during their Diploma Programme studies**. We encourage students to be knowledgeable and inquiring, but also caring and compassionate. There is a strong **emphasis on encouraging students to develop intercultural understanding, open-mindedness, and the attitudes necessary for them to respect and evaluate a range of points of view**. To this end, the school is always commended as such when the IB conducts its evaluations of us.



The programme model

The programme is presented as **six academic areas** enclosing a central core. It encourages the concurrent study of a broad range of academic areas.

Students study:

- **two modern languages;**
- **a humanities or social science subject;**
- **an experimental science;**
- **mathematics;**
- **one of the creative arts or an additional subject from one of the aforementioned groups**.

It is this comprehensive range of subjects that makes the Diploma Programme a demanding course of study designed to prepare students effectively for university entrance and, above all, success in life beyond.

In each of the academic areas students have **flexibility in making their choices**, which means they can choose subjects that particularly interest them and that they may wish to study further at university.

Three subjects (and not more than four) are taken at higher level (HL), and the others are taken at standard level (SL). Subjects at HL are studied in greater depth and breadth than at SL.

At both levels, **many skills are developed, especially those of critical thinking and analysis**. At the end of the course, students' abilities are measured by means of external and internationally standardised assessment. All subjects contain some element of coursework assessed internally by teachers.



The core

All Diploma Programme students actively participate in the three components that make up the core of the "hexagon". Reflection on all these activities is a principle that lies at the heart of the thinking behind the Diploma Programme.

The theory of knowledge course encourages students to think about the nature of knowledge, to reflect on the process of learning in all the subjects they study as part of their Diploma Programme, and to make connections across the academic areas. **The extended essay**, a substantial piece of writing of 4,000 words, **enables students to investigate a topic of special interest that they have chosen themselves**. It also encourages them to develop the skills of independent research that will be expected at university. Creativity, activity, service involves students in experiential learning through a range of artistic, sporting, physical and service activities.

Subjects offered

We offer a wide range of subjects to cater for all needs. We offer a wide range of subjects to cater for all needs at ISM.

Group	Courses offered by ISM
1 Studies in Language & Literature	English A Literature, English A Language & Literature, Italian A Literature, Japanese A Literature, Own Language A self-taught (with private teacher)
2 Language Acquisition	English B, French B, Spanish B, Italian B, Chinese B, Mandarin ab initio, Italian ab initio, a 2nd group 1 language
3 Individuals & Societies	Geography, History, Economics, Business Management, Environmental Systems & Societies, Psychology**
4 Experimental Sciences	Biology, Physics, Chemistry, Environmental Systems & Societies**
5 Mathematics	Mathematics High, Mathematics Standard, Mathematical Studies (Standard)
6 The Arts*	Visual Arts, Theatre, a 3rd Language, a 2nd Group 3 subject, a 2nd Group 4 subject

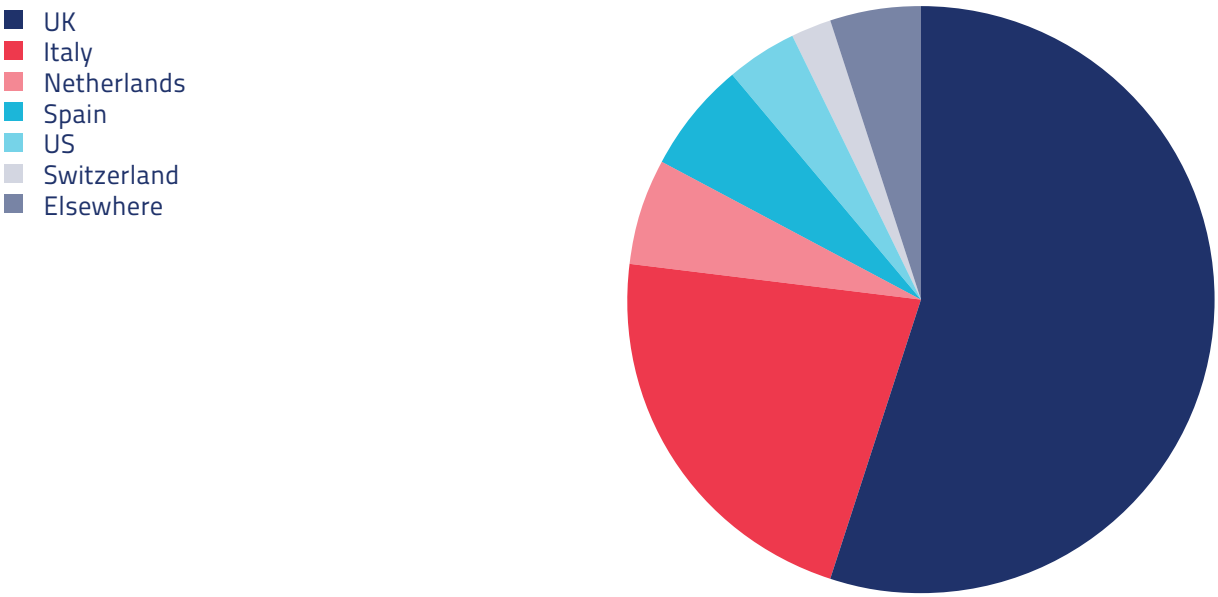
* Note that if a student does not wish to pursue an 'Arts' subject in Group 6, they have the option to study either a 3rd Language or a 2nd Group 3 subject or a 2nd Group 4 subject.

** Environmental Systems & Societies can be studied as either a Group 3 and/or a Group 4 subject - it meets the criteria for both groups. However, it may not be studied in conjunction with Biology.

Career and higher education counselling

We understand that your son/daughter is at an age where they need a great deal of support in making choices for the future. Whether related to University entrance or careers, we have a huge amount of experience in guiding young people. ISM has its own University team who can give specific advice and guidance on universities in North America, UK, Europe and Asia. All students have one to one meetings as well as having access to a range of supportive activities. For example ISM will host a number of university fairs this year with US, Canadian, UK and European universities all having their own discrete fair hosted at ISM. During this time, parents and students are free to listen to and ask questions directly to the respective universities. This is a fantastic opportunity and hugely supportive to the students. In addition, school staff also support applications with individual meetings with students, overseeing personal statements and organizing practice interviews (including for Oxbridge). We hold talks organized by experts in the field as well as employing the support of a specialized US Universities consultant to guide students through PSAT, SATs and all other US university enrollment requirements.

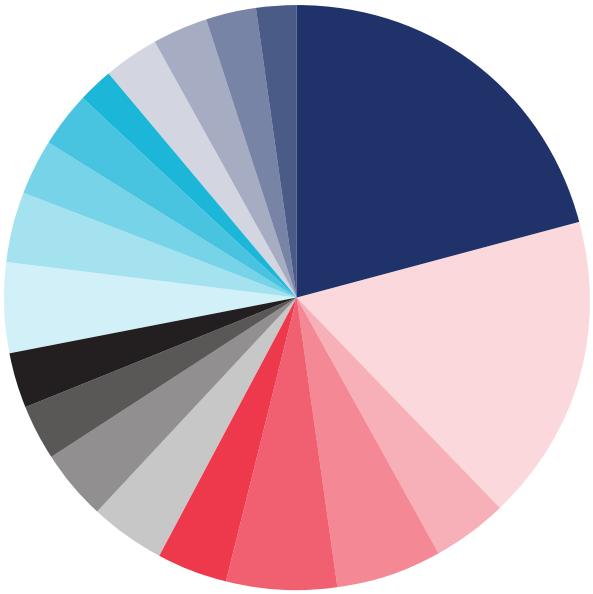
University destinations by country





University destinations by degree

- Business & Management
- Economics
- Hospitality & Sports Management
- International Relations
- Philosophy, Politics & Economics
- Criminology, Psychology & Sociology
- Law
- Liberal Arts
- Architecture & Civil Engineering
- Chemistry & Chemical Engineering
- Medcine, Dentistry & Biochemistry
- Physics & Engineering
- Environmental Sciences
- Computer Science
- Journalism
- Languages & Literature
- Film
- Fashion & Design
- Visual Arts



Where do our students go on to at University?

United Kingdom
University of Bath
University of Birmingham
University of Brighton
University of Bristol
University of Cambridge
Cardiff University
Durham University
University of East Anglia Edinburgh
University of Essex
University of Exeter
University of Hull
Keele University
University of Kent
Kingston University London
University of Lancaster
University of Leicester
University of Liverpool
University of Manchester
Newcastle University
University of Nottingham
University of Oxford
University of Plymouth
University of Reading
University of Sheffield
University of Stirling
University of St. Andrews
University of Southampton
University of Strathclyde
University of Surrey
University of Sussex
University of Warwick and York
Goldsmiths, University of London
Imperial College London
King's College London
London School of Economics
Queen Mary & Westfield College
Royal Holloway College
School of Oriental and African Studies
University College London
Royal Veterinary College
Central St. Martin's Art College
The London Institute
The European Business School London
London University of the Arts

Spain
Esade
IE

The Netherlands
Amsterdam Delf University
Rotterdam Erasmus University
Maastricht UM

USA
University of Pennsylvania
University of Chicago
University of California Los Angeles
Cornell University
Northwestern University
John Hopkins University
Emory College
University of Ohio
Tufts University
Brown University
Columbia University & Boston University
TVI Actors' Studio (NY)

Italy
Università Bocconi di Milano
Università Statale di Milano
Politecnico di Milano
Università Bicocca (Milano)
Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore (Milano)
Istituto Universitario di Lingue Moderne
Brera Art School
Politecnico del Design
Marangoni School of Fashion Design
School of Advertising and Communication
Università di Castellanza
Università di Padova
Università di Pavia
Università La Sapienza di Roma
LUISS Roma
Università di Torino
The European Business School Milan
Milan Conservatorio and Venice (Cà Foscari)

Rest of the World
Brazil (Sao Paolo)
Argentina
Canada
Chile
Czech Republic
Ireland (Trinity College)
Israel
Japan
Mexico
Monaco
Portugal
Serbia
Spain (Zaragoza and Valencia)
Sweden
Switzerland (including Lausanne School for Hospitality and Hotel Management)



Rules and regulations

Information and guidance

Full-time boarders
At ISM we offer a full boarding seven days a week during term-time option and students who board with us take part in the full programme, including weekend activities. This is for those families who live abroad or simply want their children to enjoy the benefits of a fully immersive boarding experience. Students will only usually return home during school holidays (mid term and end of term).

Weekly boarders
We also offer a weekly boarding option (Monday to Friday - 4 nights) with students leaving the Boarding house on Friday evening and returning on Sunday evening. All the weekly boarders have access to the same week day programme as our full boarders. In addition, when there are national one and two day holidays, weekly boarders may of course also return to the parental home. Weekly boarders are usually residents of Lombardy but of course benefit from being in a supportive environment but without a very long journey to and from school each day.

First Day and Induction Procedures
All new Boarders are given a special orientation programme which is held by the House master/mistress at the start of the new year and also by the school in terms of the academic work.
Boarding Houses will always be open prior to the beginning of term (usually the day before as a minimum). Our provisional dates can be found later on in this handbook.
Our staff are always happy to meet parents and the House Master/Mistress are usually the first point of contact if you need to speak to the Boarding school. All we would ask is that parents do arrange an appointment time in advance so that we can give you the proper time you need.

We know that children can occasionally feel homesick and we want to reassure you that this is entirely normal in this situation. Do know that we are very experienced in dealing with this and our staff will always be able to speak to you should you have any questions in this regard.

Overseas students

Please note that if your flights arrive early in Italy, you can contact your guardians for collection. They should bring you to the school (not before 5:00pm, please), unless you have an induction afternoon. (Please see New Pupil Pack for details). In this evening, please ensure that all parties are informed of your whereabouts.

Academic Progress

The House Master/Mistress are in regular contact with boarders' Teachers, Grade Coordinators subject teachers and tutors, and will always work closely when there are concerns. The House Master/Mistress will focus on the academic and pastoral monitoring of students, and will feed back relevant information to parents.

School Reports

Boarding students will receive three reports - Two interim reports and a final Years summative report at the end of the academic year in June.

We work with all of our boarders to ensure that they participate in our Academic Study Programme. During this time students are monitored, supervisors check work is being done and whether assistance is required. All staff members are aware of the academic work that has been set, and when it is due, so each individual is challenged (and supported) to achieve their best. The last hour of academic study is dedicated to independent learning. This system teaches and trains the students how to study/conduct research by themselves. There are close links between the academic staff, subject teachers, sporting staff and the boarding community to ensure effective communication. Within the boarding house, each grade and individual subject will have:

- Spare text books
- Each student will also be provided with an empty research file to fill with extra research when they have completed their academic study. This file is cleared and filed into the correct subject category each half-term. This enables house staff to know exactly where in the course the student is in order to structure any individual academic study sessions going forward

Parent / School communications

The House Master/Mistress should always be the first port of call for Boarding students. The Tutor and Grade coordinators will be the first contacts for academic progress (although the House Master/Mistress will obviously be part of the communications). The House Master/Mistress and the Home Room Teacher work closely together. Teachers will communicate with parents at times, as will MYP and DP coordinators. Parents are always welcome to visit school, but should contact their son/daughter's House Master/Mistress in advance to ensure that the student and any member(s) of staff the parents may wish to see are available.

Study/Homework/Assignments

Homework is set in school by teachers and is to be completed over a day or even several weeks depending on the assignment. This might take many forms including research, essay writing, calculations, reading, discussions, clarifying notes from class or revising for tests. It is important that we understand that the nature of work in IB is multi-faceted and we encourage this approach in the students as well.

There is of course set Study/Homework time but there are also a number of opportunities for Boarding students to engage in study/homework after school or on weekends.

Recreation

We know that recreation is an essential part of the successful Boarding experience. At ISM we endeavour to offer a range of activities to enhance your child's

experience of life at the Boarding school. A range of facilities at ISM are at the disposal of our Boarding students in the evenings and especially at weekends. There are occasional activities which may require additional approval by parents and we will also inform you if there are any costs involved. On some trips students will be given the option to bring pocket money to spend. All activities are risk assessed and standard operating procedures put into place, to protect the health and safety of all students involved.

Sport, Music and Drama - There is always plenty of time during the weekend for boarders to take part in a variety of sporting and cultural events. Our Sports hall is available at set times during the weekend with negotiation with the Director of Sport and the PE Department.

Swimming Pool - this is available for boarders to use at specific times during the week and weekends. Further information is posted in each House and on the PE Department notice board. Permission from House Master/Mistress and staff supervision is required. A qualified member of staff must also be on duty (we have coverage until 8.30pm most weekdays)

Sports Hall - The Sports Hall is available for use by boarding by arrangement with the PE Department and Security for activities such as Basketball, Badminton, and Five-a-side Football. Table Tennis is also available on the roof terrace. Supervision is required.

Being in Milan - We run a range of cultural visits including museum visits, cinema, meals out in town, picnics, and each term we will also take the views of students as to activities and places they might wish to visit/engage in.

School Library - The school library currently remains open until 4.00pm during weekdays. By request it may be possible to open it out of hours on occasion.





Health and Well being

Advice, Support and Counselling
If there is anything that worries you prior to your arrival or during your time at ISM, please let us know. Sometimes just talking about things can resolve the worries or issues that you have and often others will be able to help, or at least be some comfort! Please remember that for many of our students, this is the first time they have attended boarding school, and therefore many people may be feeling the same as you.

There are lots of people you can talk to: friends, peers, Heads of House, your resident tutors, your houseparents, or any other member of staff you like and trust. We recommend speaking to your houseparents or a tutor as they have lots of experience and may be able to solve your problem very quickly. In addition, we also have a trained counsellor in school during the week and she is also able to give support if you need to talk to someone who might not be one of the main staff.

Laundry
The school has an excellent Laundry service which ensures that laundry is collected daily and returned within 48 hours, washed, pressed and ironed.

Medical
During the day we have a trained nurse on site and Boarding staff are first-aid trained. In addition, we have access to doctors in the immediate vicinity and there is a modern and well-equipped hospital only 5 minutes away.

Key Boarding House Procedures

We expect all our Boarders to realise that the success of their Boarding experience relies on themselves as much as others. They must understand the rules and expectations of the School and Boarding house and attempt to follow these at all times. Poor and inappropriate behaviour is not reflective of a good boarding school and students must un-

derstand that this will be challenged and dealt with whenever it might arise. Most of the rules in the Boarding house are fairly self-explanatory and sensible and of course will be shared in full before students join us. However below is an example of what we mean by our expectations and procedures.

Pocket Money
Discretionary for Grade 12 and 13 - Your housepa-rents will put cash and valuable items in the house bank for safekeeping. Please note: We do not recommend bringing cash withdrawal cards to school.

Housefunds
For our boarders, an amount of 25€ is added to individual fee accounts each term. This covers the cost of social funds such as occasional house trips, parties and treats.

School Property
Any breakages/damages must be reported to a member of staff. You are liable if you damage school property.

Respect for Other Students
We enforce respect and care for other students. Students who bully or distress other students may be asked to leave the Boarding house.

Dresscode
The school's PE kit must be worn for physical education lessons. Other than this, students must adhere to the school dress code.

Prohibited Items
We do not allow chewing gum, aerosols, any item that could be deemed a weapon, fireworks, candles, stink bombs or any items which might cause offence (Adult movies for example). In addition, for safety reasons we do not allow Items such as kettles, toasters, fridges (and any other heating or cooking equipment) in your rooms.

Security of Posessions
If valuable items such as iPads, laptops etc., or large sums of cash are brought into the house, they remain the sole responsibility of the owner.
It is recommended that you bring a lockable tuck box and a separate, small padlock (for your desk cupboard) to the boarding house with you.
We recommend that you use your lockable tuck box to store items such as cosmetics, snacks etc.

Smoking / alcohol / drugs
ISM has a zero tolerance policy with regards to illegal drugs and alcohol. Those found in possession, consuming or supplying tobacco, tobacco products, alcohol or illegal drugs, will be dealt with according to the school's Behaviour policy which is sent to all parents at the start of each academic year.

Inspections
The School reserves the right to search any boarding bedroom or any other item in the Boarding house if we believe there is a risk to health and safety or school disclipline. Again, we are always careful and normally would do so with two appropriate staff.

Dealing with behavioural issues in the boarding house.
The boarding house follows the ISM code of conduct which is in the parental handbook and sent to all parents at the beginning of the year. It always attempts to find resolution with students over problems but reserves the right to sanction students for a range of misdemeanors which may lead to minor punishment or for very serious incidents result in the expulsion of students from the Boarding House.



We want our students to believe they will become who they want to be.

INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL OF MILAN®

Inspiring the extraordinary

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