

INSPIRING TOMORROW'S GLOBAL CITIZENS

AT BBIS, WE STRIVE TO INSPIRE A LIFELONG
LOVE OF LEARNING IN A WELCOMING,
SUPPORTIVE ENVIRONMENT

inclusive
innovative
active

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WELCOME

Welcome to BBIS Berlin Brandenburg International School, a place where students are empowered to reach their unique potential and thrive on a global stage.

As one of the world’s leading International Baccalaureate (IB) schools, BBIS proudly offers three IB programmes in the Primary, Middle and Diploma years of schooling, as well as a huge range of extra-curricular activities.

*inclusive
innovative
active*

We’re here to help each student discover and develop their passions in a warm and welcoming environment.

WE NURTURE COMPASSIONATE GLOBAL CITIZENS

While English is our language of instruction, BBIS is a truly international school. Our students come from over 65 countries across the globe, and share our values of humanity, tolerance and empathy.

Together, we are building a caring, internationally minded community of students, teachers and alumni – people who truly have the potential to leave a positive mark on our world.

WE DELIVER INCLUSIVE EDUCATION

Every year, we welcome more than 780 day students and around 80 boarding students, from 3 to 19 years of age. And we support them all in developing invaluable, life-long skills like critical thinking, languages and intercultural competencies across our early education, primary and secondary areas.

We encourage our students to be courageous and explore new opportunities, fostering a pioneering spirit that will help them succeed, no matter what the future holds.

WE CREATE A SAFE AND HAPPY SPACE FOR STUDENTS

Our overarching goal at BBIS is to help students become happy, well-rounded humans. With smaller class sizes – usually fewer than 20 students – everyone receives individual attention. And, recognising that growing up is not easy, our diverse and caring team provides dedicated support at every step of their journey.

WE FOSTER A VIBRANT COMMUNITY

Beyond the classroom, we encourage collaboration and cooperation between staff, students, parents and the wider community – and we are very proud of the inclusive, innovative and active people who contribute to our school community.

We currently employ more than 200 staff members from over 25 nations, who each bring a unique perspective and invaluable skills to the school. And our thriving Parent Teacher Association (PTA) volunteer their time throughout the school year to help foster school spirit, enrich student experiences and more.

All past BBIS students are invited to become part of our richly rewarding alumni network, which offers opportunities to reconnect, give back and get ahead.



MISSION AND VALUES

OUR MISSION

To inspire everyone in our learning community to be responsible, compassionate global citizens who make a difference through inclusion, innovation and action.

OUR VALUES

Pioneering

Pioneering students are courageous, determined and resilient. They explore the unfamiliar. They question assumptions. They seek creative solutions to the challenges they discover. They collaborate with others to achieve personal and shared goals. They put ideas into action.

Reflective

Reflective students are thoughtful, open-minded and considerate. They evaluate feedback and evidence of learning, recognising their successes and setting goals for further development. They inquire into their approaches to learning, identifying conditions and strategies that help them learn well. They learn from mistakes by analysing and attributing causes for failure. They develop growth mindsets. They take responsibility for their own learning.

Excellent

Excellent students have high expectations of themselves. They are passionate about learning, embrace opportunities, and take steps to improve themselves. They are driven to be their best selves. They take learning seriously through high levels of engagement, and commitment to self-development. Excellent students welcome and respond to feedback.

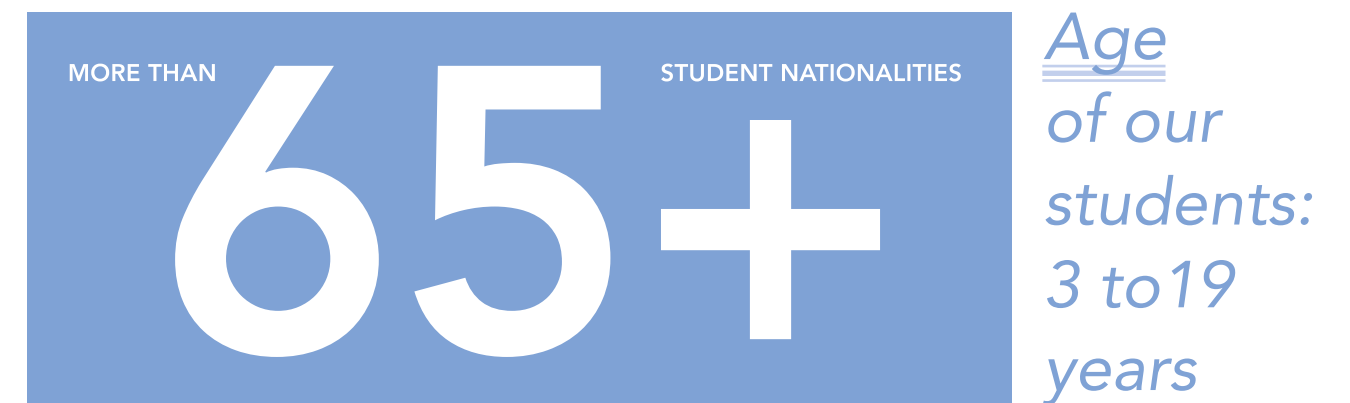
Caring

Caring students are empathic, and principled. They take responsibility for self, others and the environment around them. They are committed to service. They learn strategies to overcome impulsiveness and manage their emotions. They build and develop relationships. They manage and resolve conflict. They act as responsible digital citizens. They consider how they can share their skills to help their peers. Caring students take a stand for diversity, equity, inclusion and justice.

OUR DEFINITION OF LEARNING

Learning is a lifelong and active process of inquiry in which the learner constructs new meaning about themselves and the world around them by connecting prior knowledge with new information and experiences. Learners' knowledge, conceptual understanding, skills and attitudes develop and deepen over time. Learning is demonstrated when learners apply, transfer, and adapt their learning to new situations and problems in original ways.

FACTS & FIGURES



Average IB Diploma Score of **THIRTYFOUR**

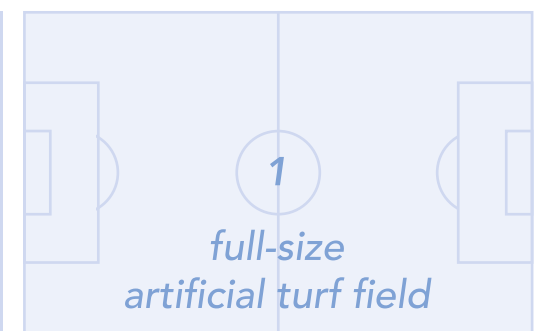
BBIS was founded in 1990

Learning space of 7,668 m²

5 school buildings



boarding house



1 full-size artificial turf field

CLASS SIZES ARE USUALLY SMALLER THAN 20 STUDENTS

1 Sports Hall with 3 separate gymnasiums

*** English is the language of instruction ***

2 libraries

over 200 staff members from over 25 different nations

9 languages

offered in the Primary Home Language Programme

4 MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGES TAUGHT IN THE SECONDARY SCHOOL



3 IB Programmes offered (IB PYP, IB MYP, IB DP)



TEACHER:STUDENT RATIO IS 1:7

BBIS CAMPUS

Ideally located in a forested area on the southwest border of Berlin, our spacious and peaceful 360,000 sqm campus is the ideal setting for growth and discovery.

While less than an hour's drive from the bustle of central Berlin and Potsdam, BBIS feels like it is a world away. The school is located in Kleinmachnow, in the Potsdam-Mittelmark district of Brandenburg, and is well connected by school buses and public transport.

WORLD-CLASS LEARNING FACILITIES

Spread across five spacious buildings, our classrooms are modern, comfortable and well-equipped to cater for a broad range of learning needs. The BBIS campus includes:

- Large classrooms in both the Primary and Secondary Schools
- Modern science labs
- Fully networked computer labs
- Art studios
- Music classrooms and practice rooms
- A multi-purpose room
- A performance and exhibition space
- Faculty and student lounges
- A purpose-built design/technology area
- Primary School library
- A learning hub, library, media centre and common room with direct access to the outdoor area for Secondary School students

Beyond the classroom, the campus features numerous playgrounds and recreational areas to give students healthy, active options during their breaks from learning.

OUTSTANDING SPORTING FACILITIES

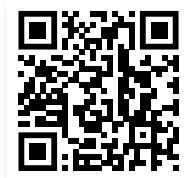
From track and field to tennis, badminton to basketball, our students can pursue their favourite sports at BBIS.

A full-size artificial-turf Sports Field

Includes a six-lane running track, a sand court for beach volleyball, basketball courts, plus facilities for high and long jump, discus and shot put. With floodlights and bleachers that can hold 820 spectators, we proudly host larger tournaments with other schools, too.

The BBIS Sports Hall

With three separate gymnasiums, audience seating and a fitness room, our multipurpose sports hall can be combined into one large space for basketball, volleyball, handball, indoor soccer and tennis. Beyond sport and fitness, the hall is also used as an auditorium, theatre and concert hall.



Scan to take a video tour of the BBIS campus.





BBIS PRIMARY SCHOOL

The BBIS Primary School is a collaborative learning environment in which children truly thrive. We nurture optimism, kindness, playfulness and personal growth – traits we believe children are capable of from an early age.

IB PRIMARY YEARS PROGRAMME

Our IB Primary Years Programme fosters a cooperative, caring environment in which children aged from 3 to 11 engage with a challenging and comprehensive curriculum.

EARLY EDUCATION

Our Early Education Programme empowers our youngest learners to follow their natural curiosity and interests. We believe children construct knowledge through interactions within their environment, and our teachers facilitate this natural learning process.

Your child will be gently challenged to test their emerging theories of the world and develop a capacity for critical thinking. Over the course of the year, they will follow units of inquiry that encourage deep exploration of concepts aligned to their interests.

Our teachers – who are all constantly observing the children – work together to discuss and interpret the children's actions and behaviours. They then share the observations with the kids themselves, and work with them to develop the next stage of learning. It's an incredibly insightful way to help our children develop their own thinking strategies.

GRADE 1 TO 5

Our Grade 1 to 5 class teachers and learning assistants work closely with the students to inquire, hypothesise and further develop their critical thinking skills. Dedicated Art, German, Music and Physical Education teachers collaborate to ensure that learning experiences are meaningful and developmentally appropriate, and to find new ways to extend our students' thinking.

Within our primary classrooms, we foster a strong sense of community. Children are encouraged to work both independently and together as they explore a range of stimulating topics. Our aim is to nurture globally-minded citizens with inquiring minds.

While we teach in English, we make sure to give our students exposure to German, our host language. Students learn German in small groups based on their level of acquisition, with both German Language and Literature and German Language Acquisition classes available in Grades 1 to 5.

BBIS SECONDARY SCHOOL

Our secondary students are given every opportunity to find the things they love and learn how to do them well. To help our students mature into responsible, compassionate global citizens – people who will make a positive contribution within the community for years to come – we balance academia with a wide range of extra-curricular activities and community service.

IB MIDDLE YEARS PROGRAMME (GRADE 6 TO 10)

We offer a challenging, holistic and engaging curriculum from Grades 6 to 10 that adheres to the IB Middle Years Programme. During this programme, students learn to think critically and solve authentic problems. They are also encouraged and supported to grow in all other areas of their life.

The IB Middle Years Programme recognises that students in early puberty and mid-adolescence are going through a critical phase of personal and intellectual development. The curriculum is designed to help students participate actively and responsibly in a changing and increasingly interrelated world. It's as much about learning how to learn as it is about learning facts.

Exploring the interrelations between various disciplines and subjects, we take a holistic view of learning that encourages students to consider issues and problems with a much wider lens. By doing so, our students quickly realise that the best solutions often come from knowledge and understanding drawn from many sources.

Every year, the Grade 10 students have the opportunity to embark on a Personal Project. During this six-month project, students pursue something they are passionate about – to showcase and celebrate their achievements, skills and interests.



Scan to find out more about the student projects presented at the 2023 Personal Project Exhibition.

IB DIPLOMA PROGRAMME (GRADE 11 TO 12)

The IB Diploma Programme (IB DP) is globally renowned and respected by leading universities across the globe. It is designed for students aged 16-19 who have excellent breadth and depth of knowledge and flourish physically, intellectually, emotionally and ethically.

The IB DP curriculum is made up of six subject groups and the core, comprising Theory of Knowledge (TOK), Creativity, Activity, Service (CAS) and the Extended Essay. Through the core, students reflect on the nature of knowledge, complete independent research and undertake a project that often involves community service.

OTHER PATHWAYS TO GRADUATION

BBIS High School Diploma with IB DP Certificates

Students who choose not to pursue the full IB DP may take up to six individual IB subjects at Higher or Standard Level, for which they complete the same coursework and assessments as IB DP students. They must also complete the CAS requirements and attend the TOK programme; however, they do not have to complete the Extended Essay. If students do not take an IB DP certificate in a course, their assessments are marked internally.

BBIS High School Diploma

High School Diploma students choose one subject from each of Groups 1 to 5 in the IB DP. They may also take an additional Visual Art or Music course from Group 6. To graduate, they must reach the required level for all their classes and complete the requirements for CAS. Their assessments are marked internally.



ALUMNI

All past BBIS students are invited to become part of our richly rewarding alumni network, which offers opportunities to re-connect, give back and get ahead.

Our students go on to universities around the world. Here's a snapshot of where our alumni are now.

UNIVERSITY ACCEPTANCES IN RECENT YEARS

North America

American University
Brown University
Duke University
Georgetown University
Hult International Business School Boston
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
McGill University
Michigan State University
Northeastern University
Northwestern University
Old Dominion University
Portland State University
Princeton University
University of Richmond
Rhode Island School of Design
The Savannah College of Art and Design
San Diego State University
The University of British Columbia
University of Central Florida
New York University
University of Toronto
Yale University
Bard College
Berklee College of Music
Boston University
Fordham University
Georgia Institute of Technology
University of California
Virginia Tech
New York Film Academy
University of Central Florida
Stanford University

Europe

Anglia Ruskin University
Bard College Berlin
Berlin Institute of Technology
BI Norwegian Business School
Bocconi University
Brunel University London
Bucerius Law School
Cass Business School
EBS Business School
EHL Hospitality Business School

Erasmus University Rotterdam
Esade Barcelona Pedralbes Campus
ESCP Business School
ESIC Business & Marketing School Madrid
EU Business School Montreux
Freie Universitaet Berlin
Geneva Business School
Glion Institute of Higher Education
Globe Business College Munich
Hotelschool The Hague
Imperial College London
IU International University of Applied Sciences
Jacobs University Bremen
Karlsruhe Institute of Technology
King's College London
Lancaster University
Leiden University
London School of Economics and Political Science
Luiss Guido Carli
Maastricht University
MetFilm School
MODUL University Vienna
Munich Business School
Nottingham Trent University
Paris School of Business
Prifysgol Aberystwyth University
Queen Mary University of London
ROC Mondriaan
RWTH Aachen University
Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Lausanne

The Glasgow School of Art
The Hague University of Applied Sciences
University of Aberdeen
University of Amsterdam
University of Birmingham
University of Brighton
University of Bristol
University of Cambridge
University of Dundee
University of Edinburgh
University of Exeter
University of Glasgow
University of Groningen
University of Kent
University of Leeds
University of London
University of Manchester

University of New York in Prague
University of Oxford
University of St Andrews
University Of Surrey
University of Sussex
WHU Otto Beisheim School of Management

Asia

Korea University
Sungkyunkwan University
Yonsei University

Australia

The University of Sydney



Join BBIS Alumni!

BBIS BOARDING

BBIS Boarding is a welcoming, diverse and supportive home away from home for around 80 students from across the globe, who join us for Grades 9 to 12 of schooling.

WHY BOARD AT BBIS?

Families send their children to BBIS Boarding School to gain an outstanding education and prepare for success – both socially and academically – in a global environment. Our boarding students focus on three main goals during their time with us:

- Fostering intercultural understanding
- Achieving their academic potential to the fullest
- Embracing a healthy lifestyle

We structure boarding life – everything from our exceptional facilities to daily routines and duties – to help students realise these goals within a nurturing and safe environment. As well as fostering lifelong learning and independence, BBIS Boarding School is a place where lasting friendships are formed.

HEALTH AND WELLBEING

BBIS Boarding promotes a culture of positive health and wellbeing, and we work hard to help students live a healthy lifestyle. We encourage participation in extra-curricular activities and provide access to mentors who offer academic and social support throughout the year.

Our school nurses are available in the boarding house each day, providing assessments and care when needed. Boarding students are also supported by the school's health team and Student Support Services. In addition, our Boarding School Counsellor is available during the day and in the evenings for academic, health and wellbeing support – and a friendly team of live-in mentors are here to help care for your child at all times.

ACTIVITIES, CLUBS AND EVENTS

Our boarding students take part in many different activities, clubs and events, both at school and in the wider community in Kleinmachnow, Berlin and Potsdam. As well as the school's extra-curricular programme, BBIS Boarding offers a full programme of weekday and weekend activities and clubs.

Many boarding students take part in off-campus activities, playing sport for local clubs and teams, or exploring surrounding areas. We regularly take students on excursions to local attractions and, twice a year, we head off on over-night trips.





BOARDING FACILITIES

The BBIS Boarding House is modern, bright and spacious. Our boarding students live in very comfortable two-person rooms, each with an ensuite bathroom. Bedrooms are allocated based on gender, grade and home language; and single rooms are occasionally available for Grade 12 students.

A range of quality facilities are available to all boarding students, with a focus on promoting a healthy, balanced lifestyle. These include:

- A common room, which is a popular space for watching films and simply hanging out
- A games room, full of fun games to enjoy with friends
- Outdoor spaces in our boarding garden, where students can enjoy mealtimes in the summer, play sports and relax
- A conference room with several computers and a student printer, as well as another large flatscreen TV (this space is also used for games, arts and crafts)
- A gym and weights room
- Wi-Fi throughout the boarding house

DINING

Boarding students enjoy meals together in our central dining room, with daily breakfast and dinner provided, as well as brunch on weekends. The dining room has a family-like atmosphere and is a wonderful space to sit together with friends and mentors to share a meal.

During the week, boarding students have lunch in our school cafeteria along with day students.

Every level of the Boarding House also includes a community kitchen where students can prepare their own snacks and drinks outside of formal mealtimes. Each community kitchen also includes laundry facilities and student fridges.





TECHNOLOGY AT BBIS

At BBIS, we are committed to teaching students how to use technology responsibly and creatively. We believe that technology is a powerful tool for solving problems and creating new possibilities, but it is also important to understand its potential risks and ethical considerations. With this in mind, we focus strongly on digital citizenship, and draw on the Common Sense Media curriculum.

Promoting STEM education is a top priority at BBIS. Doing so empowers our students to make a positive impact on the world around them and contribute to the advancement of science and technology. To encourage this, our students can participate in a range of tech-related extra-curricular activities, like World Robot Olympiad, Coding Club, STEM Club and Minecraft.

TECH IN THE CLASSROOM AND ACROSS THE CURRICULUM

We bring technology into the classroom in many ways – from 3D printers and virtual reality headsets, to coding tools and the very latest in educational robotics. All classrooms are equipped with cutting-edge technologies such as smart boards and Apple TVs, providing unparalleled learning experiences for our students.

Technology is embraced across many areas of the curriculum. For example:

- Science laboratories are equipped with a wide range of modern data logging equipment, digital data analysis tools, microscopes and more traditional lab equipment. iPads are also provided for use with FLIR infra-red cameras, to conduct video analysis of various phenomena and access a wide range of school approved applications.

- Design and Technology classrooms include computer-aided design (CAD) software and workshops equipped with machinery and woodworking tools, electronics, 3D printer and laser cutter. We also offer robotics and programming lessons where students can learn programming languages such as HTML, CSS and Python.
- Music labs are equipped with iMacs and music production software, which allow students to compose, record, edit and mix their own music.
- Our podcast studio is equipped with professional-grade microphones and soundproofing materials.

DIGITAL PLATFORMS AVAILABLE TO STUDENTS

- Google Suite used as a collaborative platform cross the school
- ManageBac as a learning management system
- iSAMS used across the school as information management system
- 1:1 iPad programme in the Primary School
- SeeSaw used for progressive reporting in our Primary School
- BYOD (Bring Your Own Devices) programme in our Secondary School
- Kognity and CENTURY as digital learning resources



Student Leadership

We believe that students deserve a genuine, democratic voice in decision-making at BBIS; and we give students many opportunities to learn about leadership.



Arts & Design

Our Visual Arts and Design programmes nurture creativity, lateral thinking, exposure to different mediums and technologies, and more.



Sports & Athletics

We encourage students to participate in a range of sports. We promote healthy competition, sportsmanship and full participation.



Music & Drama

At BBIS, students have rich opportunities to embrace the performing arts. Our Music and Drama programmes are extensive and rewarding.

CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Life at BBIS is never dull. A diverse range of activities and opportunities are on offer, to help students develop new talents, hone their current interests and explore new activities.

Throughout the year, students can join in a variety of programmes both on and beyond the campus. BBIS staff and external instructors offer their time and commitment to support students outside the classroom – whether it be coaching sports teams, producing musicals, leading field trips to Berlin or supporting student leadership initiatives in or outside school.

Our goal is to encourage all students to participate in a wide range of fulfilling activities. We're here to help each and every student find their niche – and then give them a positive environment in which to flourish.

Musical Mania
BBIS Panthers
Basketball
IB Art Exhibition
Volleyball
BIMP
Robotics
Science Club
Track and Field
Primary Art Show
Pathways to Success
Gender & Sexuality Alliance
Social Justice Committee
Role Playing Games Club
Orchestra
Football
Karate
Dance
Duke of Edinburgh's International Award
Model United Nations
Theatre Productions
Math Club
First Lego League
Badminton
Pottery and Sculpting
Creative Writing
Cross Country
Peacemaker
Choir
Student Council
Rock Climbing
Coding
Primary School Concert
Chess Club
Student Ambassadors

STUDENT SUPPORT

At BBIS, we make sure that every student feels understood, challenged, included and prepared for life beyond the school campus. Our Student Support Services team plays a key role in this important task.

In close collaboration with staff, students and parents, Student Support Services provides guidance, coaching, resources and interventions when needed. In all that we do, we celebrate diversity and inclusion – acknowledging and embracing the fact that our students all learn differently.

Our goal is to empower all learners to fulfill their individual potential. We specialise in helping students to overcome barriers to learning that may exist due to a range of circumstances – like language, learning, health, behaviour or social/emotional needs.

Equally, we support students who strive for academic, social, emotional, artistic or athletic excellence.

Learning Support

Students who may need extra support to realise their full potential can access BBIS Learning Support services.

School Counselling

Our caring, compassionate and highly experienced school counsellors help students and their families to navigate all aspects of school life.

Career and College Counselling

Planning and organising the next steps beyond BBIS can be daunting. Our extensive career and college information programme gives students the help they need.

English as an Additional Language

Many of our students receive support to build upon their English language proficiency. Our team of highly qualified English language teachers are here to help.

Academic Centre for Excellence

This programme exists to help our Grade 11 and 12 students reach their fullest potential. It includes one-on-one coaching and support, group workshops, and enrichment programmes.

Health Services

BBIS is one of the few schools in Berlin to have its own nurse on site – giving parents peace of mind that children are cared for in everyday and emergency situations.

Libraries

Our extensive libraries are full of materials to enrich and support the curriculum, catering to the diverse interests and needs of our students and staff.

Home Language

Our Home Language programme aligns with the IB mission to nurture multilingualism, intercultural understanding and global engagement.



ADMISSIONS

BBIS welcomes students of all nationalities, cultures, creeds and abilities. Our friendly Admissions Team is here to answer any questions you may have about studying with us.



Scan to meet our Admissions Team.

BOOK A TOUR



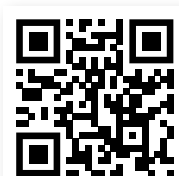
BBIS is an inclusive international school. We encourage students of all backgrounds and cultures to apply. A great first step – if you live close enough to the campus – is to come on a guided, private tour of our campus. This tour gives you a first-hand opportunity to get to know BBIS, our students and our exceptional facilities.

JOIN US FOR A VIRTUAL CHAT



We hold regular Q&A video chats with our Principals, Head of Boarding, and Admissions Team. This is your opportunity to ask us about anything – from the IB curriculum, to the admissions process or student life at BBIS. We look forward to meeting you soon.

HOW TO APPLY



If you are interested in attending BBIS, you can apply online. The Admissions team is here to help at every stage of the process.

FAQS



Scan to find answers to your questions.

IS THERE AN APPLICATION DEADLINE?

There is no deadline for Early Education through to Grade 10 but students applying for Grades 11 and 12 for the two-year IB Diploma Programme should apply no later than May.

WHAT LEVEL OF ENGLISH SHOULD STUDENTS HAVE ENTERING GRADES 10 TO 12?

According to the CEFR (Common European Framework of Reference for Languages) standard, students in Grades 10 to 12 should be at a high B2 or C1 level. In Grade 9, students should be at a minimum of a high B1 or B2 level.

WHAT ARE THE AGE AND GRADE REQUIREMENTS FOR BOARDING STUDENTS?

BBIS is home to about 80 boarding students from across the globe, who have joined us for Grades 9 to 12 (aged 14 and older).

WHAT ARE THE AGE REQUIREMENTS?

- To join our Early Education class, your child must turn three by 30 September in the year they start. Students can only start once they have turned three years of age and can use the toilet independently.
- To enter Grade 1, students must turn six by 30 September.
- Placement in higher grades will depend on both your child's age and their previous schooling system, with final decisions made by the respective Principal(s).
- Please note that BBIS does not enroll students who will reach their 20th birthday before the date of their graduation.

IS GERMAN A REQUIREMENT?

The language of instruction is English. Students in Grades 1 to 10 study German as a foreign language subject and will be placed according to their level. Students do not need to have German language skills in order to be considered for enrolment.





BBIS Berlin Brandenburg International School

Genehmigte Ersatz- und Ganztagschule Klasse 1–10, Anerkannte Ergänzungsschule Klasse 11–12

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