



International School Augsburg



ENGLISH



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IMPRESSUM

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One day at ISA



My name is Teresa and I am in grade 4 at ISA. My teacher is Mrs Bailey, she comes from Liverpool. Last year I was at school in Italy.

Monday is my favourite day at school because we do so many different things: first we start with reading (that wakens our brains up gently). After that we eat a snack and go on the bus to **sports**. We are always very excited to find out what we will be doing. Right now we are training for the sports day. This year we have done basketball, dodge ball,

softball, football, athletics, gymnastics and lots of team building games.

After sports we have German, which we have 5 times in the week. Then we have **English** language lessons. In the beginning it was hard but after a couple of weeks it got better and now it's easy to understand.

At lunchtime we eat a **warm lunch** in the cafeteria. My friend Sophia likes Monday lunchtimes because she has computer club (her teacher is a grade 7 student). Then we have playtime outside.

In the afternoon we have **music** with Mr Abbott. Some children go to orchestra after school. Right now we are preparing for the **musical**, The Wizard of Oz. We really like the songs.

On Monday afternoons we have math and art. On the other days we have Unit of Inquiry. Now we are learning about how cities are organised. We are learning a lot about Augsburg, Melbourne, London, Munich, New York and Brussels. Sometimes we work in groups, with the interactive whiteboards, research in the **library** or in the web. We present our work at **assemblies** on Fridays. At first that was a bit scary but now we don't mind talking in front of everyone.

School finishes at 15:30 and although it starts at 09:00 the day doesn't seem that long. Some children go to **After School Activities** the rest goes home by **bus or taxi**, or they get picked up. We get some homework, but not a lot. I really enjoy school at ISA. It feels a bit like home.

Sports:
from schoolyear 2011/12
we will have our own
fitnessroom in our gym.

English:
the instrucional language
at ISA is English, all
students have additional
English language support

Music:
in addition individual
instrumental lessons are
possible during the day

Assemblies:
every Friday from
09:15 – 09:45 the school
community gathers together
to celebrate successes
and share learning

Bus/taxi:
we can organize
transportation to and from
school by bus or taxi

Warm lunch:
includes soup,
a hot meal and a dessert;
Lunch is included in
the school fee

Musical:
we like to perform
and get together at ISA –
we do this several
times a year

Library:
our new and welcoming
library is fully computerised
and offers a wide range
of fiction and non-fiction
reading material

**After School
Activities:**
a variety of activities
is available to students
between 15:40-16:40 hr



Daniel Yoosefi, ELC 5

I like the building with its colourful flags and lots of pictures. My favourite subject is sports and I especially like the breaks to run around in the playground. I do not like to sit still too long except when we learn something about animals.



Naomi Lutz, G5

At ISA we learn to solve our problems ourselves but at the same time we care for one another, come together and help one another. That is a good feeling. I lived in the U.S. for one year and I like being here because we all speak English. That is good for your future.



Shannon Lutterodt, G3

A school day in English and classmates from different countries are important to me because I will move to Cuba soon. At ISA I learn to respect other cultures and to make friends. That is easy at ISA because everyone is really nice.



Yulia Dacic, G5

I would like ISA to have lots of children from different countries and to speak English with everyone all day long. I wish we had even more art classes and a second swing in the schoolyard. I really like to see what others are doing at assembly and even presenting myself at assembly, because I am not so nervous anymore, which is good.



Hannah DeFriend, G2

Coming from England sometimes it is a bit hard to understand others talking in German, therefore I like being at ISA because we speak English a lot. Although we all come from different countries it feels we are all the same. I would like to have friends all over the world.



Michelle Weckermann, G5

First I thought I will never understand anything. After 9 months I understand 99.9 % and when I go on holidays to different countries now I speak English. I look forward to different teachers and lessons in Grade 6 because it is all interesting and inspiring. And I look forward to longer school trips like going to London.



Alexandra Weidner, G11

I like ISA because students and teachers are kind to each other and we learn without pressure. The teachers have the gift to enthral their students with interesting and fun ways of doing things. Students are challenged because they can actively take part and discuss matters; they are taken seriously.



Nathan Lutz, G1

The only difference between Germany and France (where I come from) is the size of the playground: it is bigger in France. Teachers at ISA are cool; they do a lot of special stuff with us which we present at assembly so everyone knows what everyone is learning. I think that is great.



Our mission

It is our mission to create a welcoming school environment where open-mindedness

and respect are fostered. Here learners are challenged and supported to achieve

their unique potential and to become confident, caring citizens of the world.

Our philosophy

The International School Augsburg is committed to creating and maintaining a collaborative community in which learners can discover and develop their talents and fulfil their individual potential. We provide a balanced, intellectually challenging programme which fosters in students the skills, knowledge and attitudes that enable them to be successful in school and in life. We value the diversity of cultures within our school and our links to the local and global community. We recognise and accept our responsibility to promote intercultural understanding and to contribute to a sustainable, peaceful world.

At ISA we recognize and challenge each child's individual potential:

- Intellectually, through the development of curiosity, critical thinking and reflection
- Academically, through the teaching of strong skills, broad knowledge and challenging concepts
- Artistically, through the development of imagination, sensitivity and self-expression
- Socially, by fostering self-discipline, honesty, openness and respect
- Emotionally, by fostering self-esteem, courage and flexibility.

- Physically, through the promotion of health and fitness

ISA supports its students in becoming

- Enthusiastic inquirers
- Optimistic problem solvers
- Informed decision-makers
- Confident communicators
- Active contributors to society
- Respectful of the wonder and beauty of our world

The International School Augsburg is committed to preparing the minds and hearts of its students for life in a diverse, constantly changing and interdependent world.



Our objectives

The International School Augsburg aims to provide a rich and balanced programme of education for students between the ages of 4 and 18.

Our objectives are to

- Provide a secure and caring environment in which students are confident to take risks and to learn from their mistakes.
- Provide an educational programme which is balanced and flexible.
- Develop in our students a positive attitude to themselves as learners.
- Develop in our students the skills and confidence to continue learning beyond school
- Develop in our students a caring attitude to others, a knowledgeable and principled disposition and the conviction that each one of them can make a difference in our world.
- Develop an understanding of other cultures, races and religions and a respect for attitudes and traditions which may be different from their own.
- Develop in our students a genuine commitment to international understanding and responsible citizenship





How we organize ourselves

ELC

Our Early Learning Centre is attended by children between the ages of 4 and 6. Class size is generally less than 16 and each group has a teacher and an assistant. We follow the IB Primary Years Programme in which the child's natural desire for inquiry is acknowledged. Our youngest students take their first steps towards reading and writing and numeracy in an authentic environment which is both

challenging and supportive. In the ELC we aim for a good balance, remembering that these children need lots of time to move and play too.

Primary School

Our Primary School is attended by over 100 children in grades 1 to 5. Class size is generally about 16 students. Students are often taught in smaller groups for languages and sometimes for mathematics. The IB Primary Years

Programme gives students opportunities for meaningful inquiry into age appropriate concepts. Students are encouraged to share their learning at school assemblies and to reflect on how they grow and change through their learning. Subjects included in the curriculum are Language (German and English), Mathematics, Social Studies, Science, Art, Music, Drama, Sports. Learning in these subjects often takes place in the context of our 'Units of



Inquiry'. After school activities are offered four days a week and allow children to further explore the arts, languages and movement.

Middle School

Our ISA Middle School caters for students from grade 6 to grade 8. The programme aims to build on the learning of the PYP years and to prepare students for the rigour of the IGCSE (International General Certificate of Secondary

Education) examinations and the High School Diploma examinations. We aim to acknowledge the very special social and emotional needs of young people between the ages of 12 and 15 and to provide a range of opportunities that will build their confidence and independence.

High School

The ISA High School offers the IGCSE (Cambridge Examinations Centre) and IB

(International Baccalaureate) Diploma examinations. Both qualifications are internationally recognized.

Successful IB Diploma graduates are eligible to study at universities in Germany and abroad. The High School programme also offers opportunities for developing skills for work and life, such as the internationally recognised Duke of Edinburgh award.





Who we are

Teachers

Our teachers come from 14 different countries and speak many languages. They are all qualified to teach in their country of origin and have been approved by the local department of education. Several have experience in state systems and other international schools.

Parents

Our parents are enthusiastic and supportive. They have a firm belief that this school is the best option for their children and they support us in many ways towards meeting our goals. Our Parent Teacher Organisation is made up of a group of mothers and fathers who devote extra time to organising special events and celebrations which promote school spirit and enhance the students' education.



Students

More than half of our students come from local German families who have opted for an alternative to the state system. ISA is increasingly attended by the children of internationally mobile Germans who have attended international schools in other countries. We have a growing number of international children whose parents have been relocated to the Augsburg area on business.



Interview with Cathie Mullen, Head of School

How does an international school differ from a state school?

There are some obvious differences like the fact that we are an all-day school and that students can spend their whole school career with us, starting at 4 in our ELC and finish at 18 with an IB Diploma. Our commitment to international-mindedness is also a special feature.

But, I think the main difference is something that is felt rather than seen – it has to do with school culture. We have a very positive, caring environment. Visitors often say, “Wow! Everyone is so friendly here!” and even “Wow! It’s very quiet here!” It is of course not always quiet, learning can be really noisy – but there is a sort of calm about the place. I think that comes from the fact that we all feel very much at home here.

What are you most proud of?

So many things! For a long time I have believed that international schools no matter how small can go some way towards changing our world for the better. I honestly believe that our students will be better people as a result of having attended our school. It gives me great pleasure to watch them all grow and develop as caring, thoughtful human beings.

I am also very proud of the excellent education being offered at ISA. There is a very high level of engagement among teachers and students; students learn together cooperatively, demonstrate their learning with confidence and are successful in external exams.

I am personally thrilled that we are managing to create a school where the arts are

valued and celebrated. Above all, I am proud of the team of teachers and other staff whose commitment and caring makes a school environment like this possible.

What are the plans for the future?

I am looking forward to celebrating the graduation of our first cohort of students in summer 2012 and with that milestone seeing the school fully established. A further milestone will be full accreditation by the Council of International Schools of which we are already a member. Finally, I am looking forward to seeing our community grow stronger and more international over time and to experiencing continued joy as I observe our students develop into well-balanced, principled, knowledgeable and caring citizens.





FAQ

1. How will my child manage with no English?
2. Should I speak English with my child at home?
3. Will my child be expected to do homework?
4. How do you cater for "gifted" students?
5. How easily will my child make the transition back into her home country system?
6. Where are the school's diplomas recognized?



1. How will my child manage with no English?

It is seldom a problem for the child. Young children learn languages very quickly, especially if they are surrounded by the target language. The rate at which children learn will vary; for some, understanding comes very quickly, but they take time to develop the confidence to speak. Others start to speak within weeks. Often, children whose first language is close to English (eg Dutch/German) learn faster than those whose first language is further removed (eg Chinese, Korean etc). Parents and teachers need to be sensitive and patient. We provide lots of additional support for our English language learners.

2. Should I speak English with my child at home?

This is not necessary. You are your child's primary mother tongue role model. During the day your child will hear a lot of English and German. It is important that you continue to read to your child in your own language and to ensure that his/her vocabulary and fluency in the first language(s) develops. For very young children in particular, this will have a positive influence on English language learning.

3. Will my child be expected to do homework?

In the lower school, homework will not exceed 30 minutes per day. Upper school students are expected to demonstrate independence and increased responsibility regarding learning. Here the homework load increases and becomes quite intensive in grades 9 to 12.

4. How do you cater for "gifted" students?

At ISA we do not profess to cater specifically for highly able students. It is our belief that all students are gifted in some way and that all need support in some areas. Children who have been diagnosed "gifted" in other systems often succeed very well at international schools. This is because of the open-ended nature of teaching and learning, the acknowledgement of a range of learning styles, the challenging nature of the programme and the positive and familiar atmosphere within the school.

5. How easily will my child make the transition back into his/her home country system?

Transition from one international school to another generally happens easily. Students transitioning to other school systems will receive lots of support. There may be some "gaps" and some "overlaps" in skills and knowledge, but if your child has developed a love of learning, resilience and confidence he will quickly overcome any initial difficulties.

ISA is an "Ersatzschule", therefore German children may be able to transfer successfully into the Bavarian school system in the early grades. There are many factors to consider, including language. We cannot guarantee that your child will transition easily into the Bavarian system, but we promise to provide all the support we can.

6. Where are the school's diplomas recognised?

The International General Certificate of Secondary Education (IGCSE) is recognized around the world and in Bavaria this is considered equivalent to the „Mittlere Reife“. The IB Diploma is highly regarded by colleges and universities in Germany and around the world.



10 good reasons for choosing ISA



1. A clear mission and a philosophy which is practiced every day.
2. A commitment to internationalism.
3. English is the language of instruction – all students become competent and confident communicators in English.
4. An internationally recognized curriculum (IB).
5. Excellent facilities.
6. A team of experienced and committed international educators.
7. Recognition as a Bavarian "Ersatzschule".
8. A commitment to the arts, multimedia /IT and outdoor education.
9. A commitment to the arts.
10. ISA is committed to preparing the minds and hearts of its students for life in a diverse, constantly changing and interdependent world.

Parent comments

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Maria Driever, mother

At ISA, young people are challenged and supported to develop into well-rounded citizens. The school promotes internationalism in its choice of curriculum, its international student body and faculty. At ISA students are encouraged to feel proud of their own culture and heritage and to demonstrate respect and open-mindedness in relation to other cultures. Learning at ISA goes beyond the completion of school assignments; students are encouraged to question and to reason rather than to drill and cram for tests.

Antonio Fernandez, father

Actually you can feel the unique atmosphere of ISA when entering the school building. Here children and teachers feel comfortable, it is quite a unique "working" environment for both. This makes ISA very special. ISA not only focuses on academic but also on social skills, since, in my eyes, social skills nowadays are as important as academic skills. The teaching of social skills is part of the school's philosophy which we fully support. In addition I am very pleased with the work ethics of the teachers.

Jutta Heinz, mother

We chose ISA for several reasons. We wanted to prepare our child in case we have to move abroad because of my husband's business. Like this we have the possibility to go to every country in the world. We think that time and space for individual learning and trying things out is very important in educating children. Putting people first is most important. ISA is truly an asset for us as a family and for the region.



Admission

ISA welcomes students from many backgrounds. Admission to ISA is granted on the basis of previous school reports and an interview with the student and family. Older students may be required to take tests in language and mathematics. When selecting students, careful consideration is given to the resources the school has to meet the needs of the student in question. When the Head of School is of the opinion that the school may not be able to cater for the student's social, emotional or academic needs, the student will not be accepted.

Students may be admitted at any time, although local children are seldom accepted after the school year has started.

Admission Procedures

Please fill in the admission application and mail the completed form together with copies of all previous reports to:

International School Augsburg – ISA – gGmbH
 Wernher-von-Braun-Str. 1a
 86368 Gersthofen

Upon receiving the application we will get in touch with you to discuss further steps.

Responsible body:
 International School Augsburg
 – ISA – gGmbH
 Wernher-von-Braun-Str. 1a,
 86368 Gersthofen

Supervisory board members:
 Dr. Claus Gerckens
 Heribert Göggerle
 Stefan Holzamer
 Dieter R. Kirchmair

Herbert Scheel
 Ulrich Wagner

Chairman of the supervisory board:
 Karl Moser

Managing Director:
 Marcus Wagner

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The best start with a good education

The world is out there for those who want it. The key to taking it is education and a good knowledge of languages. To equip children today with the skills they need for their future career, it is essential to train their intercultural understanding.

The International School Augsburg (ISA) satisfies these requirements particularly well.

Pupils come here from all over the world to acquire an excellent education, all in the school's international language, English.

As well as teaching them extensive language skills, the ISA prepares pupils fully for life in an interconnected and continuously changing world.

“Curiosity and an open outlook on life are a decisive advantage for young people starting out on a career,” Weltbild CEO Carel Half explains. As far as the Augsburg-based publisher Weltbild, Germany's largest media retailer, is concerned, flexibility and a love of innovation go hand in hand. New markets, new customers and new demands are challenges the company's employees face every day.

The most important prerequisite to overcoming them is a good education, such as that offered by the ISA: As well as extensive knowledge and skills, it is founded on tolerance, respect and openness.



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Agriculture and forestry also contribute considerably to value

creation. Settlement and expansion plans on the part of companies are supported by a grassroots modern local community administration which is capable of top performance, quickly achieving the target. One example for this is Amazon. Companies also consistently confirm that this District Authority is one of the fastest in Germany when it comes to processing approvals.

Dynamic development over the past two decades with the establishment and expansion of numerous companies here is an impressive document to strategy of the District Authority namely, of the close solidarity of administration, local community policies and economics which has proved extremely successful. The International School in Gersthofen also represents an important location benefit for the whole of the region.

Here, the availability of a great potential of qualified and highly motivated employees,

the outstanding transport and traffic connections and the attractive industrial areas form the foundation for successful company development. The District Administration Authority is resolute in the systematic development of its infrastructure – road connections, cycle path networks and public transport – all lifelines for a pulsating economy.

Data and facts

Approx. 18,000 businesses and companies
 Approx. 57,000 places of work
 Gross domestic Product
 € 5,94 billions
 Unemployment rate 2.9
 (July 2011)
 Key branches: Chemicals, logistics, mechanical engineering, new materials and substances and the food industry.



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Children are our future

"Schoolchildren must be prepared for life in a diversified, networked and constantly changing world". The CEO, Erich Haugg, graduate engineer, is absolutely convinced of this and supports the International School Augsburg (ISA) where these principles are implemented in exemplary manner, not only in the transfer of skills and knowledge but also in terms of the formation of "heart" and character.

Children at the ISA are optimally prepared for the future by means of lessons in several languages. Moreover, the best possible qualifications for the students are in the foreground. The students should experience the enjoyment of learning by acquiring the necessary abilities, skills and the right attitude.

This enables them to be successful not only at school but also in life. Children and young people are given here every opportunity to develop their own personalities with a sense of responsibility. This is also the reason that my son is educated at the ISA.

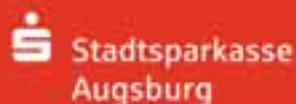
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We are strong in our support for the children in our region.

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