

School Mission, Vision and Beliefs Statement

Introduction

The International School of Amsterdam, founded in 1964, continues to be a leader in education for international understanding – inspiring our diverse community of students to learn and live with purpose.

ISA was the first school in the world to offer all three core IB programmes, and it continues to do so today.

Our challenging academic curriculum embraces global perspectives and respects the identity, experiences and aspirations of individual students.

Our strengths lie within our diverse community, world-class faculty and facilities, innovative teaching practices, and confident, engaged students.

Our Mission

To educate for international understanding.

Our Vision

To create a community of lifelong learners who value inquiry, critical and creative thinking, take informed risks, and act with integrity and compassion.

Our Beliefs

At ISA we believe in developing:

Minds

- Inquiry and reflection
- Critical and creative thinking
- Curiosity and open-mindedness
- Professional development

Character

- Integrity and compassion
- Respect and collaboration
- Choices and risks
- Balanced lives

Communities

- Unity in diversity
- Sustainable futures
- Strong connections
- Empathy



School Profile
2015 - 2016

Administration

Director:	Dr. Edward Greene
Head of Upper School:	Mr. Paul Sanders
Assistant Head of Upper School:	Mr. Jim Canavan
Assistant Head of Upper School:	Ms. Sibylle Harth
Head of Lower School:	Ms. Sarah Grace
Assistant Head of Lower School:	Ms. Susan Loban
Assistant Head of Lower School:	Ms. Carolyn Lacey
High School Counsellors:	Ms. Vikki Keulers (Grades 9-10) Ms. Shelly Tuttle (Grades 11-12) Ms. Lauren Lundin (Grades 11-12)
Registrar:	Ms. Louise Duursma
IB Diploma Coordinator:	Mr. Matt Lynch
IB MYP Coordinator:	Mr. Paul Griffiths
Head of Admissions:	Ms. Julia True

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The School

The International School of Amsterdam (ISA) is an independent, non-sectarian, non-profit, university-preparatory institution. ISA was founded in 1964 to serve the educational needs of the children of the international community in and around Amsterdam and was the first school in the world authorized to teach a complete International Baccalaureate (IB) curriculum to students from 4 to 18 years of age. The IB Diploma Programme was instituted at ISA in 1980 with the first diploma recipients graduating in 1982.

The school calendar follows a semester system with grades reported in January and June. Students attend school for 177 days. The language of instruction is English.

Enrollment

There are approximately 1,330 students from over fifty-four nations attending Nursery School through Grade 12. The average tenure for a student is 3½ years. The High School includes grades 9 – 12. Students come from professional and diplomatic families. Most have broad cultural backgrounds and tend to be fluent in at least two languages. Currently, of the approximately 330 students in grades 9 – 12, 11% are North American, 64% are European, 9% are Japanese and the remaining 16% are from a variety of other countries.

Faculty

The Upper School (grades 6-12) faculty consists of 76 full-time and 13 part-time staff. Teachers come from Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Great Britain, Hungary, India, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Malaysia, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Chile, People's Republic of China, Peru, Portugal, Romania, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, and the United States.

Accreditation

ISA is accredited by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC) in the United States, the Council of International Schools (CIS) and the International Baccalaureate (IB).

Curriculum

- International Baccalaureate Primary Years Programme (IBPYP), Pre-School-Grade 5
- International Baccalaureate Middle Years Programme (IBMYP), Grades 6-10
- International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme (IBDP), Grades 11-12

Students completing the full International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme (IBDP), Diploma Candidates, are enrolled in our most challenging course offerings. Diploma Course Candidates may elect to sit for individual IB subject exams without completing all aspects required for the full IB diploma and/or fulfill the graduation requirements for an International School of Amsterdam High School Diploma.

ISA students have the opportunity to earn the equivalent of a U.S. high school diploma. More than 90% of students in grades 11 and 12 are enrolled in the full IB Diploma Programme while the remaining students sit for individual International Baccalaureate subjects.

Grades 9 to 12 Course Offerings

LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE

Dutch: MYP Dutch A 9-10; DP Dutch A Language & Literature (SL and HL) 11-12

English: English A Adapted 9-10; MYP English A 9-10; DP English A Literature (SL and HL) 11-12; DP English A Language & Literature (SL and HL) 11-12

French: MYP French A Intermediate and Advanced 9-10

German: MYP German A 9-10

Japanese: MYP Japanese A 9-10, DP Japanese A Literature (SL and HL) 11-12

Spanish: MYP Spanish A 9-10; DP Spanish A Language & Literature (SL and HL)

MYP School Supported Self-Taught Language A Literature 9-10; DP School Supported Self-taught Language A Literature (SL) 11-12

LANGUAGE ACQUISITION

Dutch: MYP Dutch B Beginner, Intermediate and Advanced 9-10; DP Dutch B (SL and HL) 11-12

English: EAL (English as an Additional Language) Elementary, Intermediate and Advanced 9-10; DP English B (SL and HL) 11-12

French: MYP French B Intermediate and Advanced 9-10; DP French B (SL and HL) 11-12

Japanese: DP Japanese Ab Initio (SL) 11-12

Mandarin: MYP Mandarin B Intermediate and Advanced 9-10; Mandarin Ab Initio (11-12)

Spanish: MYP Spanish B Intermediate and Advanced 9-10; DP Spanish B (SL and HL) 11-12; Spanish Ab Initio 11-12

INDIVIDUALS AND SOCIETIES

MYP Individuals and Societies 9-10 (includes history, global issues, geography, and economics); DP Economics (SL and HL) 11-12; DP Geography (SL and HL); DP History (SL and HL) 11-12; DP Information Technology in a Global Society (SL and HL) 11-12; DP Global Politics (SL and HL) 11

MATHEMATICS

MYP Mathematics 9-10 and Mathematics Extended (honours) 9-10; DP Math Studies (SL) 11-12; DP Mathematics (SL and HL) 11-12

SCIENCE

MYP Integrated Science 9-10 (includes biology, chemistry, and physics); DP Biology (SL and HL); DP Chemistry (SL and HL); DP Physics (SL and HL); DP Nature of Science (SL) 11

DESIGN

MYP Product Design 9; MYP Digital Design 10

THE ARTS

MYP Drama 9-10; MYP Music 9-10; MYP Visual Arts (9-10); MYP Media 9-10; Interdisciplinary Arts 10; DP Film (SL and HL) 11; DP Music (SL and HL) 11-12; DP Theatre (SL and HL) 11-12; DP Visual Arts (SL and HL) 11-12

PHYSICAL & HEALTH EDUCATION

Physical and Health Education 9-12 (required of all students each year)

OTHER

Communication 9-10; DP Theory of Knowledge 11-12

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

All MYP students must complete a Personal Project and participate in the school-based Service as Action; all DP students must follow a course in Theory of Knowledge (TOK) and complete an extended research essay; all Grade 11 and 12 students must participate in the school's Creativity, Action, Service (CAS) Programme.

IB = International Baccalaureate

MYP = International Baccalaureate Middle Years Programme

DP = International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme

SL = Standard Level

HL = Higher Level

Language A – Mother Tongue or student's best language

Language B – Acquired Foreign Language

Ab Initio – Beginner Level (no previous knowledge)

Extra Curricular Activities

- Athletics and Team Sports
- Ballet/Dance
- Special Olympics
- Yoga
- Chess Club
- Creative Arts
- Choir
- Drama
- Music Ensemble
- Theatre Production
- Duke of Edinburgh's International Award
- Various charities including Japan Earthquake Relief, Light Up Papua, New Guinea, Amnesty International, Fair Trade Club, Hope & Homes, Animal Protection PAWS, Room to Read, CARE Squares, CASA, SOS Kinderdorp, Water Aid
- Various service groups including Tanzania Project, Soup Kitchen, Serve the City, Habitat for Humanity, Green Team (environmental group), Retirement Home Concerts, Riding for the Disabled.
- Sound & Light Club
- Student Government
- Model United Nations
- Debate
- Yearbook
- Student Magazine Voice
- Cub Scouts
- Girl Scouts
- Boy Scouts
- Global Issues Network

Graduation Requirements

The graduation requirements for an ISA High School Diploma are 22 credits including:

- 4 credits in English
- 2 credits in the same Foreign Language
- 3 credits in Individuals and Societies
- 3 credits in Mathematics
- 3 credits in Laboratory Science
- 2 credits in the Arts
- 5 additional credits of the student's choice
- Physical Education each year of attendance
- Community and Service while in grades 9 and 10
- Creativity, Action, Service (CAS) while in grades 11 and 12

Marking Scheme

The school conforms to the International Baccalaureate system with grades ranging from 7 (highest) to 1 (lowest). This grading system is used for all internal and external assessments and for transcripts. HL and SL are designated for Higher Level and Standard Level courses within the IB Diploma Programme.

7 Excellent	2 Poor (No credit given)
6 Very Good	1 Very Poor (No credit given)
5 Good	L Pass (EAL)
4 Satisfactory	P Pass
3 Mediocre	F Fail

Due to the transitory nature of our student body (average length of stay is 3½ years), the diversity of education backgrounds, grading systems and range of English language skills, we are unable to provide an accurate or fair class rank.

IBDP Examination Results 2014-2015

SUBJECT	LEVEL	Number of Candidates	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
English A Language & Literature	HL	12	3	6	3	-	-	-	-
English A Language & Literature	SL	21	2	12	6	1	-	-	-
English A Literature	HL	11	4	4	3	-	-	-	-
English A Literature	SL	6	2	3	1	-	-	-	-
English B	HL	5	-	5	-	-	-	-	-
Dutch A Language & Literature	HL	9	-	2	5	2	-	-	-
Dutch A Language & Literature	SL	5	1	2	1	1	-	-	-
Dutch B	HL	2	-	1	1	-	-	-	-
Dutch B	SL	8	-	2	2	4	-	-	-
French A Language & Literature	HL	3	1	1	1	-	-	-	-
French B	HL	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
French B	SL	5	1	4	-	-	-	-	-
Hebrew B	SL	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Japanese A Literature	HL	4	3	1	-	-	-	-	-
Japanese A Literature	SL	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Japanese B	HL	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mandarin Ab Initio	SL	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Portuguese A Literature	SL	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Spanish B	HL	3	-	1	2	-	-	-	-
Spanish B	SL	10	1	5	1	2	1	-	-
Economics	HL	27	5	8	6	7	1	-	-
Economics	SL	7	2	4	1	-	-	-	-
Geography	HL	2	-	-	2	-	-	-	-
Geography	SL	2	-	2	-	-	-	-	-
History	HL	14	-	3	10	1	-	-	-
IT in a Global Society	HL	7	-	-	7	-	-	-	-
IT in a Global Society	SL	12	1	5	4	1	1	-	-
Biology	HL	10	2	4	1	3	-	-	-
Biology	SL	22	3	6	6	5	1	1	-
Chemistry	HL	13	4	3	1	5	-	-	-
Chemistry	SL	5	1	1	1	2	-	-	-
Physics	HL	13	3	2	3	1	4	-	-
Physics	SL	9	2	-	2	2	3	-	-
Mathematics	HL	11	1	8	1	1	-	-	-
Mathematics	SL	33	-	2	9	10	9	3	-
Mathematical Studies	SL	8	-	2	4	1	1	-	-
Music	HL	2	-	1	1	-	-	-	-
Music	SL	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Theatre	HL	3	-	2	1	-	-	-	-
Theatre	SL	3	-	1	2	-	-	-	-
Visual Arts	HL	8	-	7	1	-	-	-	-
Visual Arts	SL	3	-	-	3	-	-	-	-

May 2015 IB Diploma Results Summary

	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011
Pass Rate	98%	97%	98%	91%	83%
ISA Average Points	34	34	35	33	32
ISA Average Grade	5.35	5.35	5.58	5.24	5.07
World Average Grade	4.99	5.06	5.00	5.18	4.63
Highest Score	44	42	45	44	40

Standardized Testing

Average (highest) scores for the Classes of 2016, 2015 and 2014.

Scores for non-native English speakers are included.

SAT I	Class of 2016*		Class of 2015		Class of 2014	
	Middle 50%	Mean	Middle 50%	Mean	Middle 50%	Mean
Critical Reading	480-640	564	590-680	645	530-610	584
Math	580-650	606	560-730	664	560-710	646
Writing	550-610	581	580-660	631	460-610	561
Combined	1570-1900	1751	1760-2080	1940	1590-1940	1791

ACT Summary	Class of 2016*		Class of 2015		Class of 2014	
	Middle 50%	Mean	Middle 50%	Mean	Middle 50%	Mean
English	19-34	29.4	28-31	30.9	24-36	28.3
Math	21-31	28.0	28-30	29.7	23-28	25.7
Reading	19-31	27.0	23-30	28.0	24-32	27.0
Science Reasoning	21-33	29.4	26-29	28.3	25-28	26.0
Composite	22-32	28.2	27-30	29.6	24-31	26.7

*Through Grade 11 spring testing

Recent University and College Acceptances

Nearly all ISA graduates pursue higher education. Graduates from 2013 – 2015 have been offered admission to the following institutions (university names in bold indicate those to which ISA graduates matriculated).

CANADA

HEC Montréal
McGill University
Queen's University
University of British Columbia
University of Calgary
University of Guelph
University of Manitoba
University of Toronto
University of Waterloo
Western University
York University

JAPAN

Hiroshima University
Hitotsubashi University
International Christian University
Keio University
Kwansei Gakuin University
Okayama University
Osaka University
Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University
Sophia University
University of Tokyo
University of Tsukuba
Waseda University

NETHERLANDS

Amsterdam University College
ArtEZ Institute of the Arts
Delft University of Technology
Erasmus University
Erasmus University College
The Hague University of Applied Sciences
Hotelschool The Hague
Inholland University of Applied Sciences
Leiden University
Nyenrode New Business School
University College Maastricht
University College Roosevelt
University College Utrecht
University of Amsterdam
University of Groningen
University of Maastricht
University of Utrecht
Utrecht University of Applied Sciences
Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam
Webster University

OTHER INTERNATIONAL

Escuela Superior de Administración
Dirección de Empresas (ESADE)
The Hong Kong University of Science & Technology
IE University
Istituto Marangoni Milan
Korean University
Monash University
Trinity College Dublin
University College Cork
University of Hong Kong
Université Paris VI – Pierre et Marie Curie
Yonsei University

UNITED KINGDOM

The Art Academy
Aston University
Bath Spa University
Bournemouth University
Brunel University
Buckinghamshire New University
Camberwell College of Arts
Cardiff University
Central Saint Martins College of Art & Design
City University
Coventry University
Dundee and Angus College

Durham University

Edinburgh Napier University
Exeter College
Glasgow Caledonian University
Greenwich School of Management
Hult International Business School London
Imperial College London
Istituto Marangoni, London
Keele University
Kingston University
Lancaster University
Leeds College of Art & Design
London College of Fashion
London Metropolitan University
London South Bank University
Loughborough University
Middlesex University
New College of the Humanities
Newcastle University
Nottingham Trent University
Oxford Brookes University
Regent's University London
The Robert Gordon University
Roehampton University
Royal Conservatoire of Scotland
Southampton Solent University
UCFB Wembley
University of Aberdeen
University of Abertay Dundee
University of the Arts London
University of Bath
University of Bedfordshire
University of Birmingham
University of Brighton
University of Bristol
University of Cambridge
University of Central Lancashire
University of Dundee
University of East Anglia
University of Edinburgh
University of Essex
University of Exeter
University of Glasgow
University of Greenwich
University of Hertfordshire
University of Kent
University of Leeds
University of Leicester
University of Lincoln
University of Liverpool
University of London
• Goldsmiths College
• Heythrop College
• **King's College London**
• **London School of Economics and Political Science**
• **Queen Mary**
• Royal Central School of Speech and Drama
• **Royal Holloway**
• **University College London**
University of Manchester
University of Northumbria
University of Nottingham
University of Oxford
University of Portsmouth
University of Sheffield
University of Southampton
University of St. Andrews
University of Stirling
University of Strathclyde
University of Surrey
University of Sussex
University of Warwick
University of the West of England
University of Westminster
University of Winchester
University of York

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

American University
Amherst College
Bard College
Boston College
Boston University
Brigham Young University-Hawaii
Brown University
Bryant University
California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo
Calvin College
Carnegie Mellon University
College for Creative Studies
Columbia College Chicago
Columbus College of Art and Design
Dartmouth College
Drexel University
Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University
Florida State University
Fordham University
The George Washington University
Hope College
Johns Hopkins University
Kent State University
Marist College
Messiah College
Mills College
Mount Holyoke College
The New School – Eugene Lange College
New York Film Academy
New York University
Northeastern University
Northwestern University
Pomona College
Princeton University
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
Rice University
Rollins College
Sam Houston State University
Santa Clara University
Sarah Lawrence College
Savannah College of Art and Design
Seattle University
South Dakota School of Mines and Technology
St. Cloud State University
Stanford University
United States Air Force Academy
University of Arizona
University of California, Berkeley
University of California, Irvine
University of California, Los Angeles
University of California, San Diego
University of California, Santa Barbara
University of California, Santa Cruz
University of Colorado at Boulder
University of Evansville
University of Florida
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
University of Miami
University of Michigan
The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
University of Oregon
University of Pennsylvania
University of Pittsburgh
University of Rochester
University of Vermont
University of Washington
Wake Forest University
Western Washington University
Wheaton College (Illinois)