



## **Lower Austrian International School IB Diploma Programme Admission Policy (Revised: March 2024)**

Lower Austrian International School is a branch of BORGL/BHASL St. Pölten, an Austrian state-funded school, and as such is open to students from diverse backgrounds. As a school community, we follow an open and inclusive admission policy and have a high appreciation of the range of different talents and abilities. The LAIS admissions team is committed to ensuring that our students and their parents/guardians are well advised so that they can make a well-founded subject choice within the IB Diploma Programme. As LAIS offers the Matura (“Österreichische Reifeprüfung”) alongside the IB DP, our students’ backgrounds, abilities and career plans are carefully considered, in order to help them make a conscious choice for the IB Diploma Programme.

### **Admission to the IB Diploma Programme**

Admission into the LAIS IB Diploma Programme is granted on condition that a student fulfills all criteria to rise from grade 10 (6 LAIS) to grade 11 (7 LAIS). In order to do so, all subjects a student takes in grade 10 have to be passed with a positive assessment score, at least a grade “Genügend”.

### **School-based Grading Scale**

The grades of the Lower Austrian International School Report Card range from 1 to 5, with 1 being the highest grade and a 5 denoting failing assessment score.

“Sehr gut” (1) – Excellent

“Gut” (2) – Good

“Befriedigend” (3) – Satisfactory

“Genügend” (4) – Sufficient

“Nicht genügend” (5) – Insufficient (fail)

### **Construction of an IB Diploma Programme**

In order to be admitted to the LAIS IB Diploma Programme, a student needs to construct a suitable curriculum of courses. This process underlies the following guidelines:

Students need to choose one subject course from each group (1 to 6), 3 HL and 3 SL courses. Group 6 can be replaced by a subject course from group 1 to 4. No candidate may choose the same subject at HL and SL. A candidate must not choose the same language for more than one group. One group consists of at least five students as matters stand (March 2024).

Dir. Mag. Mario Lahner  
Mag. Michael Hofbauer  
Mag. Karl Hametner

In December of the academic year prior to IB DP year 1, before a student starts constructing their Diploma Programme, they are informed about the following in a letter by the Headmistress and the IB Coordinator:

A student's IB subject choice is a formal process of choosing subjects for the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme for Grades 11 and 12. This process will commence with subject presentations by teachers in January and February of the academic year preceding IB DP year 1, during which students are given an insight into the issues covered in IB subject courses and the relevant assessment criteria.

After the presentations, students and parents are advised to consider six subject courses that make up a two-year Diploma Programme. For this significant consideration phase LAIS suggests bearing in mind the importance of both, a student's intellectual abilities and personal interest in a subject. We strongly recommend against choosing an IB higher level (HL) course in a subject that a student will predictably complete with a grade worse than 3 in grade 10.

Subsequently, a student needs to meet the respective subject teachers, present their choice and ask for subject approval. The teachers will give students an indication of the appropriate choice and discuss alternatives if necessary. By giving approval of a student's subject choice and signing their choice form, teachers do not guarantee a student's successful completion of an IB subject course.

Since an IB subject course consists of at least five students, alterations to a student's personal choice might be necessary.

A student receives ultimate admission to the LAIS IB Diploma Programme, after a decision based on the individual situation of each student has been made in a conference attended by all subject teachers and the IB Coordinator.

### **Applicants from outside the school**

Admission rules for an applicant from outside the school into the LAIS IB Diploma Programme are in accordance with the rules for students who have attended grades 9 and 10 at the school:

In order to do be accepted, all subjects a student has taken in their grade 10 have to be passed with a positive assessment score ("Genügend"). The student needs to construct a suitable curriculum of courses, and the student count of 24 must not be exceeded. Since the working language at LAIS is English, an excellent command of the English language is necessary in order to be admitted to the LAIS IB Diploma Programme.