

Bishkek International School - High School Profile

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CEEB Code: 666002
IB Code: 049262
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VISION AND MISSION

- BIS' Vision is to be the best international school in Central Asia providing inspirational education in a happy environment for globally minded students who are the leaders of the future.
- Our Mission is to enable our students to:
 - Develop their intellectual curiosity and achieve their academic, sporting and creative potential;
 - Be confident in their abilities and respectful of others;
 - Learn about local and global issues and prepare to tackle common challenges.

In a school which:

- Delivers and celebrates excellent teaching for internationally accredited education;
- Values diversity and inclusivity;
- Promotes the well-being of the whole school community;
- Contributes positively to development of the Kyrgyz Republic.

SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY

- Bishkek International School (BIS) is a liberal secular non-profit community school, founded in 2010 and opened in September 2011.
- Current enrolment is 265 students, with a High School comprising around 70 students.
- BIS employs 60 full-time and part-time teachers. This provides the learning community with a student-teacher ratio of over 5:1.
- BIS' student body includes representatives of over 30 nationalities, with 45% Kyrgyz Citizens and 55% from countries worldwide.
- There are 33 different mother tongue languages amongst our school's student body, with English as the main language of communication in the school.
- Students are offered 7 language choices across the entire school, with French and Russian offered K-12, and options for Spanish, German, Mandarin, Japanese, and Kyrgyz languages in certain grades and levels.
- Purpose built, secure, campus, with 3 fully equipped science laboratories, drama hall, indoor sports court, computer laboratory, 12,000+ book library, outdoor football field and basketball court, wi-fi accessible campus, common areas, etc.

SPORTS AND EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

- Junior Varsity and Varsity Sports are offered to both male and female teams in Soccer, Basketball, Cross Country, and Badminton.
- BIS is a member of both the Central Asia Federation of Activities, Athletics and Art and Bishkek International Schools Association.
- High School students enjoy Drama productions, Jazz Band, Varsity Sports, Debate Tournaments, Student Council, Ski Club, International Educational Visits, etc.

CURRICULUM AND ACCREDITATION

- BIS is accredited by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC) Commission on International Education (CIE).
- BIS is an authorized International Baccalaureate (IB) World School, offering IB Diploma Programme to students aged 16-19 in Grades 11 and 12.
- Students in Grades 11 and 12 normally take 6 IB Diploma Courses (options listed below) plus 3 core subjects 'Theory of Knowledge', 'Extended Essay' and 'Creativity, Activity and Service'
- Preparation for IB Diploma Programme exams is offered in the following subjects:
 - English A (SL & HL)
 - Russian A (SL & HL)
 - English B (SL & HL)
 - French B (SL & HL)
 - Spanish B (SL & HL)
 - Russian ab-initio (SL)
 - French ab-initio (SL)
 - Geography (SL & HL)
 - History (SL & HL)
 - Economics (SL & HL)
 - Biology (SL & HL)
 - Physics (SL & HL)
 - Mathematics (SL & HL)
 - Computer Science (SL & HL)
 - Visual Arts (SL & HL)
 - Options are also available for self-study Language A and for online courses with Pamoja Education.
- In Grade 11 and 12, all students must take English A or B and one other language. All must take one 'Individuals & Societies' course, one 'Science' course, Mathematics, and one other choice to fulfill IB Diploma requirements. If the full Diploma option is not chosen, any 5 courses may be chosen for IB Diploma course exams only.

- BIS is a Cambridge Assessment International Education Accredited School preparing students aged 14-16 for the International General Certificate of Secondary Education (IGCSE) in Grades 9 and 10.
- Students in Grades 9 and 10 normally take between 7 and 9 IGCSE Courses.
- Preparation for Cambridge IGCSE exams is normally offered in the following subjects:
 - International Mathematics
 - Additional Mathematics
 - Coordinated Sciences
 - Computer Science
 - English First Language
 - Russian First Language
 - Spanish Foreign Language
 - French Foreign Language
 - German Foreign Language
 - Geography
 - History
 - Economics
 - Business Studies
 - Art & Design
 - with additional subjects offered as required.
- In Grades 9, 10 and 11, students are also offered Kyrgyz Language, Geography and History options to meet national curriculum requirements, enabling them to pass Grade 9 and Grade 11 state examinations and receive a Kyrgyz High School Diploma in addition to their internationally accredited qualifications.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

The Bishkek International School 'High School Diploma' is awarded to all graduating students who meet the following minimum standards from Grade 9 to Grade 12:

- Credits (full academic year course) in the following subject areas:
 - English - minimum 4 credits
 - Other Language – minimum 4 credits
 - Mathematics – minimum 4 credits
 - Science – minimum 4 credits
 - Computer Science – minimum 2 credits
 - Individuals & Societies – minimum 4 credits
 - Creative & Elective courses (may be in the categories listed above) – minimum 4 credits
- Physical Education program completed.
- Community Service program completed.
- Minimum 2.0 unweighted GPA.

Students joining part way through high school are accepted as meeting these standards for prior years if they met the criteria applied at their previous school.

GRADING AND RANKING

- Grade Point Average for IGCSE and IB DP courses are calculated on an unweighted scale.
- The school year is divided into four academic terms and two semesters. GPA scores are awarded each semester.
- BIS' high school uses two grading scales. A*- U for IGCSE Courses and 1-7 for IB Diploma Program Courses.

- Small class sizes prevent BIS from using a ranking system for High School students.

Grade Conversion Table			
IGCSE GPA		IB Diploma GPA	
Grade	IGCSE	Grade	DP SL or HL
A*	4.0	7	4.0
A	3.8	6	3.8
B	3.5	5	3.5
C	3.0	4	3.0
D	2.0	3	2.0
E	1.5	2	1.0
F	1.0	1	0
G	0.5	-	-
U	0	-	-

EXTERNAL EXAMINATIONS

IB DIPLOMA

Exams are normally held in April/May in Grade 12, following externally assessed or moderated coursework. Results from our first graduates in 2018 were exceptional, especially considering that most students have English as a second or third language, and many only joined BIS in Grade 11.

	Worldwide 2018	BIS 2018
Number of full Diploma students	163,173	11
Pass Rate %	78%	91%
Average points obtained by students who passed	30	32
Highest Diploma points awarded to an individual student	45	42
Average grade for students who passed the Diploma	4.8	5.1
% of Students who achieved a Bilingual Diploma	23%	60%

CAMBRIDGE IGCSE

Exams are held in April/May in Grade 10. Twelve students took IGCSE exams in 2018 and 11 had 7 subjects or more including two languages. All but one was awarded the Cambridge International Certificate of Education (ICE) award, with 27% percent receiving the highest level, ICE Distinction Award, and 55% the ICE Merit Award. Taking all the exam results together, 14% were awarded A* - the top mark available in the IGCSE system. 31% were awarded A or higher; 61% were awarded B or higher; and 83% were awarded C or higher.

FURTHER SCHOOLING OF GRADUATES

Students from the Class of 2018, our first High School graduating class, are currently enrolled in the universities listed below or are taking a gap year, or are in employment prior to university.

- University of British Columbia, Canada. Computer Science (2 students).
- IE University, Spain. Business.
- University of Mannheim, Germany. Economics.
- Leiden University, Netherlands. Psychology.
- Lynn University, USA. Social Entrepreneurship.
- American University of Central Asia, Kyrgyz Republic. Psychology (1 student), Business (1 student).
- Kyrgyz State Medical Academy, Kyrgyz Republic.