

«My son joined Academia's IGCSE class in Zurich after we moved to Switzerland from Germany. He wants to study abroad, and we have found that the A Level system is more suitable in his case as it allows him to leverage his strengths and preferences. The staff at Academia are very supportive, clearly wanting students to succeed and have an enjoyable learning experience, while class contents are geared towards individual needs and getting ready for challenging and comprehensive exams. I am confident that this is a great preparation for further academic study in an international environment. Thanks to everyone at Academia.»

*Christiane J., mother of an IGCSE student, Academia International School Zürich*

«Academia is one of the best schools in the city of Zurich. The attention to the needs of individual students and a world-class international environment is a great benefit. The school provides a conducive atmosphere to students to explore their creativity, interests and encourages individual expression. It helps to develop the self-confidence of children and prepares them to excel in life. I can easily recommend the school.»

*Sanjeev Kumar, father of an A Level student, Academia International School Zürich*

«We are very happy that our son is studying at the Academia. Academia allows our son to study A Levels according to his interests and to prepare for them in small classes. The teachers attach great importance to the fact that besides the specialized knowledge, the young people also learn how these subjects are put into practice. Thus, already in the first year they participated in the "Model United Nation" in Basel and our son was awarded the prize for the best position paper.»

*Parents of an IGCSE student, Academia International School Zürich*

«I joined Academia at the beginning of the covid pandemic and it was a great decision. I am a Jazz pianist and need a lot of time and energy to practice at home. Previously, I was at a Gymnasium where I had a very tight schedule and very bad music lessons. So I decided to switch to Academia and continue my music lessons privately. Because Academia has great supportive teachers and structured lessons, I was able to achieve my goal of getting into Berklee College of Music and thereby not sacrificing my grades in school which would not have been possible for me at my previous Gymnasium. So I am very happy!»

*Raoul Schimkat, A Level student, Academia International School Zürich*



# Factsheet

## Academia International School Zürich

# Offer

Our mission is to provide a warm-hearted community where students feel safe to develop academic inquiry in a context underpinned by respect and care. We endeavour to provide a school community where all students reach their potential with a majority reaching academic excellence.

## With International A Levels to university

Our programme offers an internationally recognised qualification. The curriculum includes:

### Pre-IGCSE-programme (Years 7 and 8):

Lehrplan 21 (curriculum of the Canton of Zurich) and Cambridge Assessment International Education

### IGCSE-programme (Years 9 and 10):

International Certificate of Secondary Education (IGCSE)

### A-Level-programme (Years 11 and 12):

International Advanced Levels (IAL)

## What is unique about us

### Excellence in teaching

- ✓ Highly qualified international teaching staff
- ✓ Excellent examination results
- ✓ Innovative enrichments in various subjects
- ✓ Examination centre accredited by Pearson Edexcel and Cambridge International Examinations

### Preparation for life in an international world

- ✓ Three internationally recognised qualifications: Pre-IGCSE, IGCSE and International A Levels
- ✓ Proficiency in German and English at a near native level
- ✓ Guidance on Further and Higher Education

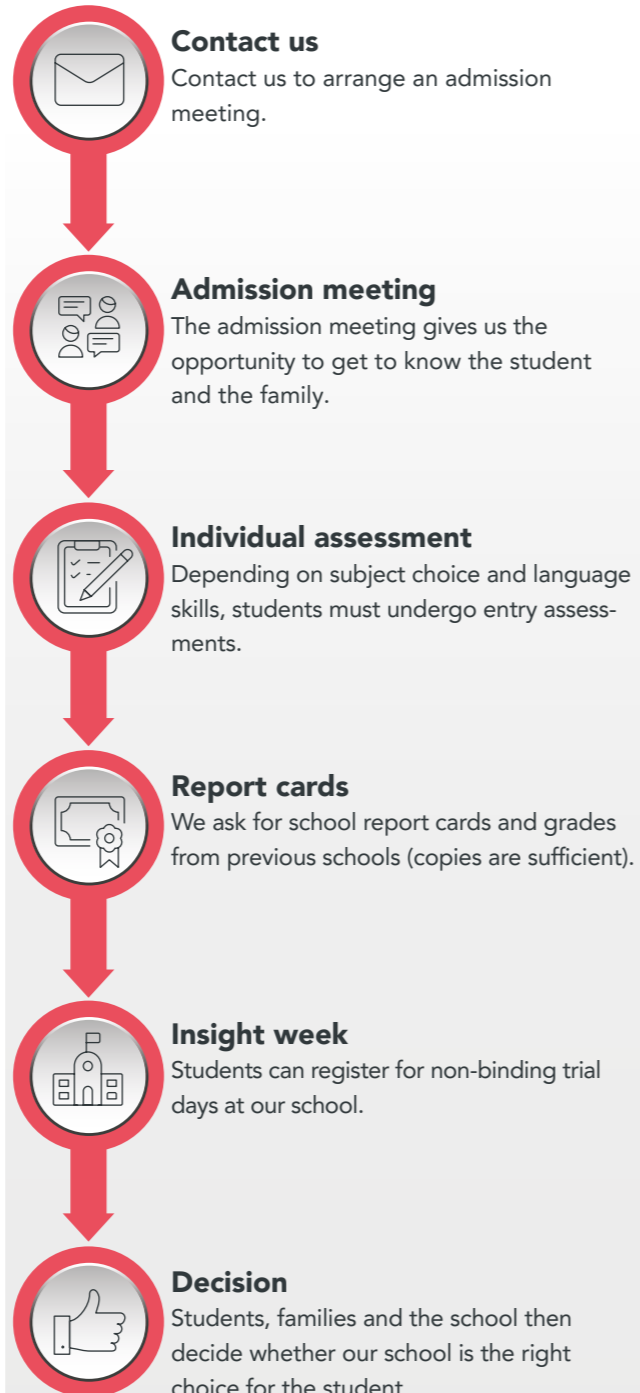
### Tailored school programme

- ✓ Broad range of subjects to choose from
- ✓ Personal learning coach
- ✓ Goal setting meetings on a regular basis
- ✓ Engaging electives and extracurricular activities

### Attractive campus with modern facilities

- ✓ Small classes with about 8–15 students
- ✓ Centrally located next to the railway station Zurich-Oerlikon

# Registration



# School life

## Pre-IGCSE-programme (lower secondary school)

Our lower secondary school in Years 7 and 8 (Pre-IGCSE) provides a unique curriculum blending the well-established British International Cambridge Curriculum with a highly innovative and unique approach to German following the curriculum of the Canton of Zurich (Lehrplan 21). All academic subjects are taught in English; however, a considerable part of our teaching time is dedicated to German by layering our curriculum with project-based learning.

Therefore, we ensure excellent preparation for further educational pathways for Switzerland and the international environment.

## Academic subjects Pre-IGCSE

- ✓ **Mathematics**
- ✓ **Science**  
(Biology, Chemistry, Physics)
- ✓ **Social science**  
(Geography, History, Environmental Education)
- ✓ **German**
- ✓ **English**
- ✓ **French**
- ✓ **Religion, Cultures, Ethics**
- ✓ **Media and ICT**
- ✓ **Professional orientation**
- ✓ **Home economics**
- ✓ **Physical education**
- ✓ **Art**
- ✓ **Music**

## IGCSE and A-Level-programme

In Years 9 and 10, our students study a broad range of six to ten subjects culminating in their IGCSE examinations. The International General Certificate of Secondary Education (IGCSE) is the world's most popular international curriculum for secondary education and provides students with an internationally recognised certificate.

In Years 11 and 12, students generally concentrate on three to four subjects which they study in depth, leading towards the A Levels, thus gaining entry to colleges and universities worldwide.

## Academic subjects IGCSE and A Levels













- ✓ **Mathematics**
- ✓ **Biology**
- ✓ **Chemistry**
- ✓ **Physics**
- ✓ **German**
- ✓ **English**
- ✓ **French**
- ✓ **Geography**
- ✓ **History**
- ✓ **Business**

# Additional offers

## Extracurricular activities

In addition to our regular classes, we offer a variety of electives and extracurricular activities. Our students can pursue their interests and passions and get involved in the school community.

## Electives and clubs

-  **Student Council**
-  **Start your own Business!**
-  **Environmental Awareness**
-  **Social and Life Skills – Find your True North!**
-  **The Art Factory**
-  **Coding and Robotics**
-  **Spoken Word**
-  **Let's Get Cookin'!**
-  **Music Club**
-  **Current Affairs – MUN**
-  **Shelf Indulgence – Book Club**
-  **School Events**  
(Sports Day, Study Trips, Prom Night)

## Study time

During the daily study time, students do their homework, receive additional material and exercises or focus on preparing their upcoming exams. They are closely attended to by our specialist teachers.

## Project weeks and learning coach

During our project weeks, our specialist teachers work closely together to give our students interdisciplinary access to practice. This allows students to deal intensively with the topic chosen and apply the principles and theories they have learned in class.

A personal learning coach is provided for each student. In regular meetings, the coach covers with the student topics that go far beyond the actual imparting of knowledge in a specific subject, such as developing individual learning techniques and dealing with exam anxiety before or during an exam.

## German Booster

With our German Booster, we offer our non-native speaking students the opportunity to expand and deepen their knowledge with additional German lessons.

## Our campus

- ✔ Over 130m<sup>2</sup> auditorium for school events (concerts, exhibitions, workshops, information evenings, etc.)
- ✔ Spacious learning and teaching rooms
- ✔ Fully equipped laboratory for scientific experiments
- ✔ Modern, well-equipped school kitchens
- ✔ Creative room for art, design and music
- ✔ Large fitness & exercise room for a balanced school day
- ✔ Inviting roof terrace

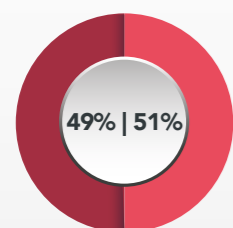
## Glimpse in our school



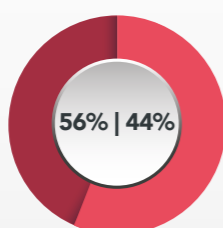
# Our students

## Students at Academia

We have a mixed student body. Our international students are from countries outside of Switzerland, including the UK, US, Italy, Germany, France, India, Japan, Russia and Pakistan.



49% Women | 51% Men



56% Swiss | 44% International

## A school with high academic standards

Level	Grade	Graduates
IGCSE	Pass (grade B/5 or higher)	89%
IGCSE	Top grade (A or A+)	57%
A Level	Pass (grade C or higher)	96%
A Level	Top grade (A or A+)	33%

As in previous years, a number of students excelled in their exams and are winners of the Pearson Edexcel prize for

- ✔ the highest mark in the world in Advanced German
- ✔ the highest mark in Switzerland in Science
- ✔ the highest mark in Switzerland in Advanced Maths
- ✔ the highest mark in Switzerland in English

## Recent graduate destinations

Our graduating students have accessed a variety of universities, such as:

**Switzerland:** ETH Zurich, University of Basel, University of St. Gallen, University of Bern, Université de Fribourg

**Worldwide:** Berkeley University, Cambridge University, Cardiff University, Durham University, Edinburgh University, Glasgow University, Liverpool University, University of Massachusetts

# Our staff

## Experienced and caring staff

Our qualified subject specialists come from around the globe (e.g., the UK, the US, France and Switzerland); teachers for modern languages teach in their mother tongue.

As an international school following an English-speaking curriculum, many of our teachers have QTS (Qualified Teacher Status) and are experienced UK teachers. A high proportion of our teachers are educated to Master's level in education and we have several examiners on staff who know the IGCSEs and A Levels very well.

Aside from their experience and qualifications, one of the most important attributes we look for in our teachers is a sense of caring, commitment and willingness to reflect on their teaching practice.

## Academic leadership team

Our academic leadership team deals with the individual needs of our students: They create tailor-made learning plans and provide support should there be any questions or difficulties. Long and short-term goals are agreed and reviewed upon in regular meetings. The focus is on the individual strengths of the students.

## Our partners



# Educational pathway

Studying at Academia International School opens doors to various educational pathways.

