

# Bi-lingual Programs at BeBe

## International Baccalaureate

### *Mission, Admissions, Language and Assessment Policies*

#### **International Baccalaureate Diploma and Course Program (IB: Grades 11-12)**

BeBe is an International World School certified for the IB Diploma Program. Students who successfully complete the IB Diploma Program graduate with two degrees: the German Abitur and the International Baccalaureate Diploma. In combination with Abitur course work, students complete additional IB courses in 7 subjects, write an Extended Essay and satisfy the Creativity, Activity and Service (CAS) requirements for the IB Diploma. Students may also select to complete individual IB Courses.

- **Courses offered:** German, English, French, Russian, History, Physics, Biology, Chemistry, Maths, Music and Visual Arts. All Diploma students must register for Theory of Knowledge (TOK) as an Abitur Grundkurs.
- **Costs:** ca. 200€ in grade 11, ca. 400€ in grade 12, which includes examination fees.

#### **Admissions to the IB Program**

All students who wish to enroll in the IB program must be matriculating students at BeBe and complete all the requirements of the Sachsen School System.

**Transfer students:** Students from other Gymnasiums and those returning from an exchange year may transfer to BeBe if they wish to participate in any of the bilingual programs. Applications are made through the Head of School. Acceptance to the school is at the sole discretion of the Head of School and dependent on the availability of open places and on the student providing sufficient evidence of potential to complete the demands of the Abitur and the bilingual program. For instance, such evidence may be supplied with past report cards and by an interview with the Head of School. Students interested in transferring may contact the IB Coordinator at [ib@bebe-dresden.de](mailto:ib@bebe-dresden.de) for more information about how to apply.

**Admission to the IB Diploma Program** is open to all interested students who prove a willingness and ability to complete the rigorous demands of the Diploma or selected courses in addition to their Abitur studies. Acceptance to the IB Program is determined by the Head of School with the assistance of the IB Coordinator. All accepted students enter the program as Candidates in Grade 11. Upon satisfactory attendance in the selected courses and completion of required assignments (normally the Extended Essay and Historical Investigation), students may, with the approval of the IBDP Coordinator, register for the IB Diploma or IB Courses in the fall of Grade 12.

## Requirements

### The IB Diploma and IB Course Program:

- **Diploma:** Diploma students select 3 Higher Level and 3 Standard level IB courses and register for Theory of Knowledge (TOK) as an Abitur Grundkurs. With the exception of TOK courses, which take place during the school day, all IB classes take place after the normal school day. Each course has its own requirements, including written and oral work, presentations, and in the arts, performances or shows. Diploma students must complete the Extended Essay, which is written in place and in satisfaction of the Sachsen Facharbeit. Diploma students must also satisfy the requirements of CAS (Creativity, Activity and Service). Written examinations occur in May of the 12<sup>th</sup> grade year. For more detailed information, please see the International Baccalaureate Organization (IBO) website: <http://www.ibo.org/programmes/diploma-programme/>
- **Course:** Course students select the number and level (HL or SL) of courses in which they are interested and satisfy the requirements of the particular class. Course students may take TOK, write an Extended Essay in place of the Facharbeit, and participate in CAS, should they so choose. As with the Diploma, classes occur after the normal school day, have their own requirements and include examinations in May of the 12<sup>th</sup>-grade year. Please see the IBO link above for more detailed information.

## Language Policy

The linguistic goal of BeBe and all of its bilingual programs is to promote good language skills across academic subjects in German, English and the student's native language, if other than German or English.

**Working languages:** The working language of the school is German and the working language of the IB program is English.

**Language skills required for admission:** IB Diploma and Course: Students interested in enrolling in the IB Diploma are encouraged but not required to participate in the English Enrichment program (EE) in grades 5-10. Those students who do not participate in the EE but still wish to enroll for the IB Diploma must offer evidence of proficiency in English to the IB Coordinator before being accepted.

**Languages offered in the IB Diploma:** Because admission to the school requires fluency in German, German is offered as Language A and it is recommended that all students take the course as Higher Level. BeBe offers English, French and, depending on demand, Russian as Language B and French as Language Ab Initio. As possible, BeBe also offers Russian as Language A Self-Taught.

**Resources:** The BeBe library has a large selection of English books and movies to support student study and language improvement.

## Assessment and Scheduling

### IB Diploma/Course:

- **Schedule**

- At the start of grade 11, all IB students are enrolled in Managebac, an online program used for all scheduling and the submission of written work. Students are encouraged to use Managebac to communicate with their teachers, supervisors and the IB Coordinator.
- The IB courses are offered weekly on a “block” schedule, so that students normally have 1-2 IB subjects per block and per week. The duration of the course varies depending on overlap with the Abitur curriculum in that subject.
- The course and assignment deadline schedules are designed to make completion of both the Abitur and the IB courses or Diploma possible. This requires that written assignment in particular must be completed on time so that students have the opportunity to give their attention to subsequent assignments in other courses.
- Parents are informed at the beginning of grade 11 of the various IB requirements and deadlines for submitting work. Those parents wishing additional information about their child’s IB performance may contact the IB Coordinator at any time at [ib@bebe-dresden.de](mailto:ib@bebe-dresden.de).

- **Grading**

- Because course work in IB is offered in addition to that of the Upper Level Abitur courses, the only official grades the IB students receive are those corresponding to written, oral, or creative work submitted to the IBO. These include the Extended Essay and all externally and internally assessed assignments.
- All students will have a minimum of one meeting with the IB Coordinator in the 11<sup>th</sup> grade to discuss their progress in the program and whether or not they have satisfied the requirements for registration for the IB examinations in grade 12. Students may always contact the IB Coordinator at [ib@bebe-dresden.de](mailto:ib@bebe-dresden.de) and request assistance in meeting their goals.
- Because the results of the IB examinations are normally not available until after the BeBe graduation, IB students receive a certificate of participation from BeBe at the graduation ceremony. Students will be notified when the IB results are available and can pick up their IB Certificates or Diplomas from the school.
- The IB grades and results do not appear on BeBe transcripts or report cards.

## Our Administrative Staff

Head of School: Marcello Meschke

IB DP Coordinator: Ilona Herrmann

IB DP Assistant Coordinator: Dr. Laura Protexor

CAS Coordinator: Eckhard Urban

Extended Essay Coordinator: Iain McKay

Administrator and Librarian: Ronald Eichler

**Our Students and Alumni.** The over 900 students at Bertolt Brecht Gymnasium come from diverse cultural and linguistic backgrounds but all share the common language of German. In 2016, there were 43 students in the IB Diploma or Course programs in grades 11-12.

Our students do great things with us, and even greater things after they leave us! Among other adventures, students from our bilingual programs do a year of service in Costa Rica or Hamburg, work as bartenders in New Zealand, serve in the German military, study medicine, math and architecture at German universities, win fabulous prizes, and study abroad. Two of our IB graduates are recipients of the prestigious Stipendium des Deutschen Volk.

## **Our Results**

BeBe has been an IB World School since 2012. Because the program runs parallel to the Abitur and in addition to those already significant requirements, it is normally the case and expected that IB students at BeBe receive IB results lower than those of their Abitur. Most IB students at BeBe apply for university study using their Abitur grades, with the IB results acting as a “bonus” and indication of their diligence, ambition and “can-do” spirit. The IB results of the preceding years are:

- 2013: 18 students, of whom 12 were Diploma. 5 Diplomas and all Certificates awarded. Diploma grades ranged from 27 to 36.
- 2014: 21 students, of whom 12 were Diploma. 11 Diplomas and all Certificates awarded. Diploma grades ranged from 27 to 38.
- 2015: 19 students, of whom 15 were Diploma. 14 Diplomas and all Certificates awarded. Diploma grades ranged from 26 to 33.
- 2016: 15 students, of whom 10 are Diploma. 8 Diplomas and all Certificates awarded.

## **Grounds for Removal from the IB Program:**

Students may be removed from the IB Program for failing to complete the required assignments, failure to attend IB classes regularly or for behavior which endangers the successful participation of other students in the program. Students in the 11<sup>th</sup> Grade who fail to submit the required written assignments, including the Extended Essay, in Grade 11 will not be registered for the IB examinations in the fall of Grade 12, unless determined otherwise by the IBDP Coordinator. The Head of School and IBDP Coordinator may at any time recommend that a student leave the Program if participation endangers the student’s successful completion of the Sachsen Abitur.