



The International School

www.internationalschool.pl

The International School - Grades 0-3

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The International School - Grades 4-8

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*Education is not the learning of facts,
but the training of the mind to think.*

Albert Einstein

The International School is unique among similar schools in Warsaw and its surroundings. Why? Because we are a community that is collaborative and sensitive to the development of young people. We are passionate about education. Specifically?

We offer:

- Original Canadian program (Canadian Curriculum)
- Bilingualism formula based on full linguistic immersion
- Cooperation exclusively with certified native speakers
- In grades 0-3, two teachers dedicated to each class – the main teacher and teacher assistant
- Effective and innovative teaching methods
- Project teaching – interdisciplinary educational projects, multimedia projects, e-learning (Kan Academy, Kids A-Z), e-twinning
- Original program preparing for the eighth-grader's exam
- English-language and Polish-language library

1. MISSION, OBJECTIVES AND TASKS

The mission of The International School is to educate, raise and support students in their comprehensive intellectual, emotional and social development.

The objective of the school is to shape the attitude of mutual respect and honesty and respect for intercultural differences as the basis of life in modern society.

The task of the school is also to prevent the appearance of risky and violent behavior and to promote an attitude of responsibility for oneself and for the quality of relations with others.

2. WHAT ARE WE AIMING FOR? OUR GRADUATE'S PROFILE

The aim of the school is to prepare students for effective functioning in society and to take independent decisions in the sense of responsibility for self-development. Our graduate has the following features:

- follows the principles of ethics and morals in daily life,
- knows and applies the principles of good morals and culture,
- respects themselves and others,
- is responsible,
- knows and understands the rules of social coexistence,
- is tolerant, open-minded, and emphatic,
- uses various sources of knowledge and information, uses the tools and information technologies reasonably,
- is interested in the world,
- is creative,
- is independent,
- is able to cooperate and is characterized by high self-discipline,
- has knowledge of the contemporary social and civilization risks, takes responsible decisions in the interests of safety of their own and others
- respects the needs of others and is willing to help,
- is focused on solution,
- is involved in class and school life.

3. TEACHERS

Canadian program teachers/English teaching

Taking care of the highest level of content of our program and guided by the mission of our school, we employ certified **native speakers**. We work with teachers from Canada and the United States.

The condition for employment in our school is to meet two overarching criteria: having a full pedagogical education and having experience gained in schools with a similar profile.

In addition, we value cooperation with charismatic and extraordinary enthusiasts, for whom teaching is more than a job, who would like to get involved in our numerous projects and enthusiastically pursue interesting ideas.

Polish program teachers

We employ teachers who are able to work in an international team, are open to changes in education and want to expand their workshop in teaching methodology.

What distinguishes us is that in grades 0-3, in addition to the homeroom teachers or subject teachers, our students are also supported daily by **a teacher assistant**.

Most often it is a teacher with a very good knowledge of English. The benefits of such a solution are enormous: on the one hand, it is to provide each student with more care and individual assistance in every everyday school situation, but on the other hand, it is also an opportunity to individualize teaching. We believe that a good quality of teaching in the junior grades will later affect the skills and achievements of the student in the older grades. This will allow the student to enter a new stage of subject education with the proper skills which is easier to achieve by offering the student an additional support.

The teacher assistant cooperates with the main teacher during the lesson - supports students who need additional explanations or more detailed instructions. His presence also gives more opportunities to work with **talented students**, i.e. the opportunity to expand the curriculum in certain areas and awaken individual passions.

The ratio of the number of students to teachers is as follows:

	TEACHERS	STUDENTS	STUDENTS:TEACHER
GRADES 0-3	16	70	5:1
GRADES 4-8	23	93	4:1

4. EDUCATION

- **GRADE 0 - important stage of starting education in our school**

In grade 0, we implement a pre-school curriculum defined by the Ministry of National Education, which includes the so-called annual preparation for school and our original program of Canadian education implemented in English.

In Grade 0, students have 35 lesson hours per week, including 14 hours with native speakers* (*details: Original Canadian education program*).

The program in Polish is implemented by a teacher with full professional qualifications and includes the following educational areas: cognitive, emotional, social and physical. In the field of cognitive education we distinguish the following educations: Polish, mathematical, natural-social, art-craft, musical and physical.

The Polish program teacher is also the homeroom teacher of the class and we assume that the same person will also lead the class at the stage of grades 1-3. This solution, in our opinion, gives younger students a greater sense of safety.

In grade 0, students also start learning a second foreign language, i.e. French, for 2 hours per week.

The student also has the opportunity to participate in religion or ethics classes.

- **1st & 2nd STAGE OF EDUCATION (Grades 1-3 & Grades 4-8)**

Primary school education lasts 8 years. During this period, we implement the core curriculum set by the Ministry of National Education and continue our original program of Canadian education in English.

- **1st stage of education includes grades 1-3**

In grades 1-3, students have 35 lesson hours a week, including 14 hours of Canadian education* (*details: Original Canadian education program*).

At this stage, early childhood education is integrated and includes the following educations: Polish, mathematical, natural, social, art, craft, IT, musical and physical. In the weekly timetable, we allocate 21 lesson hours for the implementation of this program.

Most of the lessons are conducted by an early childhood education teacher who is also the homeroom teacher. In the timetable we distinguish subjects - music and physical education because they are conducted by specialist teachers.

We also implement a second mandatory modern language of 2 hours per week. The student also has the opportunity to participate in religion or ethics classes.

- **2nd stage of education includes grades 4-8**

In grades 4-8, students have a minimum of 35 lesson hours per week, including 10-11 hours with a native speaker* (*details: Author's Canadian education program*).

According to the framework curriculum defined by the Ministry of National Education for each grade, the following subjects are implemented in the school: Polish language, history, nature, geography, biology, chemistry, physics, mathematics, music, art, technology, computer science, physical education, civics, education for safety, career guidance.

All subjects are conducted by Polish teachers with full professional qualifications.

At this stage, we also continue to teach the second compulsory modern language : French, Spanish or German.

The student also has the opportunity to participate in religion or ethics classes.

5. CANADIAN EDUCATION PROGRAM

Learning English at The International School is based on an original program based on the Canadian program of the Province of Ontario.

Our objective was to create a place combining a thorough didactic basis for learning a foreign language with a method of full immersion in language (linguistic immersion), applied worldwide for more than 50 years and based on many years of pedagogical practice.

Our program is divided into the following subject areas:

Language Arts
Mathematics
Social Studies
Science & Technology
Arts & Crafts

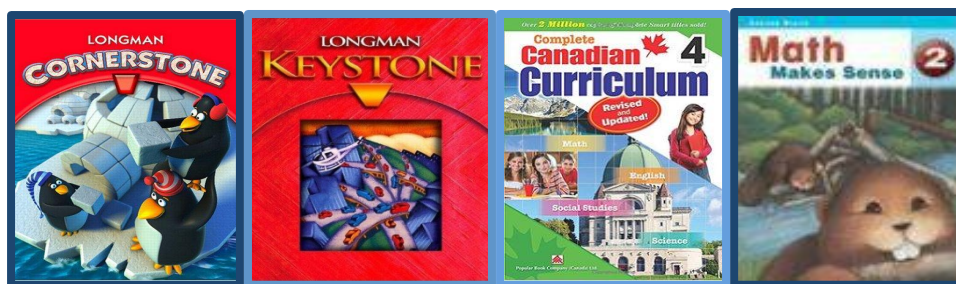
In grade 8, Social Studies is replaced by **History & Geography**.

An example of the hour grid of items within the above subject areas in subsequent grades is as follows:

	GRADE 0	GRADE 1	GRADE 2	GRADE 3	GRADE 4	GRADE 5	GRADE 6	GRADE 7	GRADE 8
SUBJECT	NO.OF PERIODS	NO.OF PERIODS	NO.OF PERIODS	NO.OF PERIODS	NO.OF PERIODS	NO.OF PERIODS	NO.OF PERIODS	NO.OF PERIODS	NO.OF PERIODS
Language Arts	Based on individual needs	8	8	8	6	6	5	3	3
Mathematics		2	2	2	2	2	2	2	1
Science & Technology		1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1
Social Studies		1	1	1	1	1	1	0	0
Arts & Crafts		1	1	1	1	1	1	0	0
IT		1	1	1	0	0	0	1	1
History		0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Geography		0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1

All Canadian education program classes are taught by certified teachers from Canada and the United States with full pedagogical qualifications and international experience. We cooperate with teachers for whom teaching and being in a multicultural environment is not just a job, but an idea for life and passion.

We work with textbooks used in schools in Canada, including the following volumes:



The requirements of the Canadian International Program are combined with the standards of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages.

We have enriched our Canadian program classes with grammar lessons covering the requirements of the Ministry of National Education core curriculum for modern languages in public schools.

The grammar program complements immersion-taught content by adding tense usage, correct variation, grammatical and phrasal forms, correct grammatical constructs and selected additional lexical content.

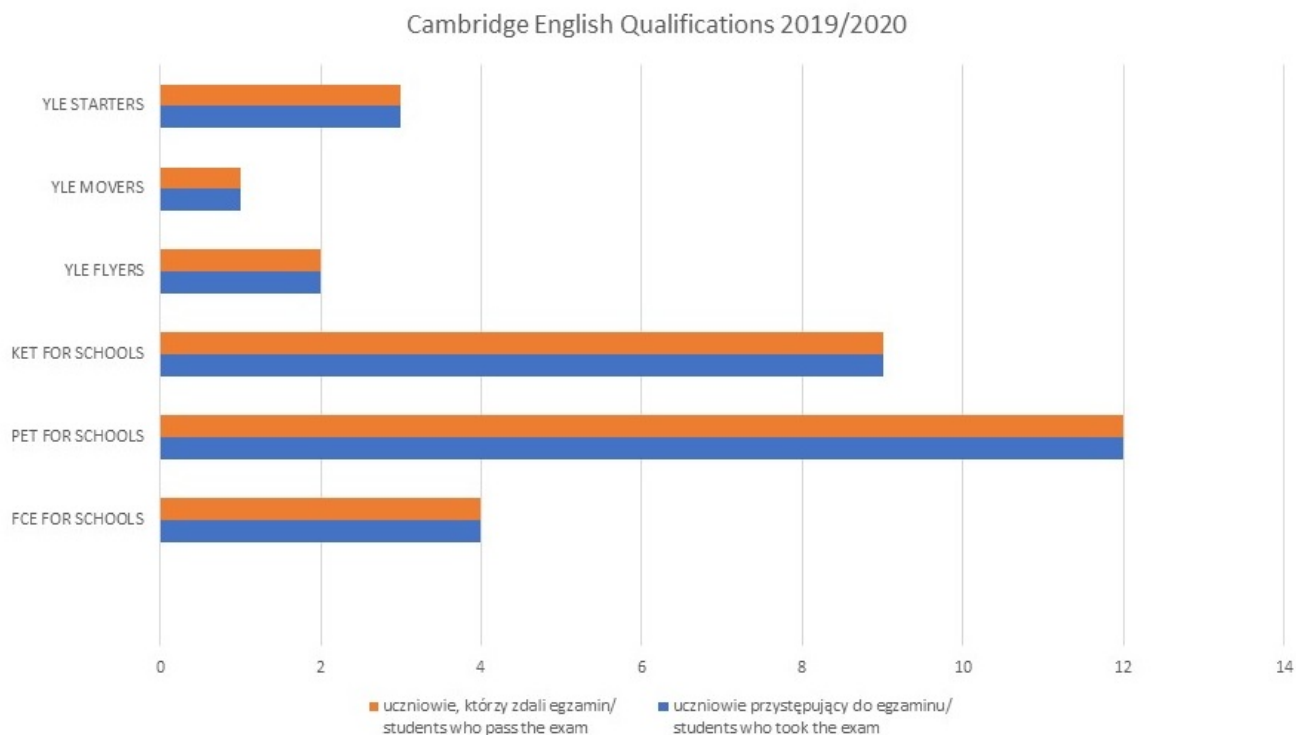
This comprehensive implementation of the program helps our students to prepare for external exams after primary school which mainly test their knowledge of English grammar based on the UK curriculum.

As experienced educators, we recognize that the ability of our students to use and apply grammar is more likely to be ahead of when we introduce these topics in grammar classes. It is the peculiarity of immersion in a language and its use on an equal footing with the mother tongue. Thanks to grammar classes, our students are given the opportunity to organize the topics they have often used fluently for years at home or at school. We give students the opportunity to familiarize themselves with Polish terminology relating to English grammar, so that the Polish naming does not cause them difficulties on the final test.

• **ADVANTAGE PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM WITH BRITISH COUNCIL**

Having worked in European area for many years in cooperation with the British Council, our students have been taking Cambridge Assessment external exams.

The results are as follows:



• **TERM REPORTS**

At the end of each term, our students receive a descriptive, highly detailed report card that takes into account their learning progress, which is valid in Canada and the USA, and at the end of the year, an additional certificate confirming the completion of the grade.

It should be noted that in the application process for schools abroad it is required to provide term reports, describing the child's progress, authorized by a licensed teacher.

Goals we set ourselves as part of the Canadian program implementation at The International School:

- ✓ developing skills useful in adulthood:
 - comprehensive preparation for work by project method
 - information management
 - ability to present and participate in the debate
 - unconventional and creative approach to the tasks
- ✓ developing students' communication skills and building their linguistic certainty

- ✓ adapting the program to the needs of students who are not native speakers
- ✓ modifying the program and meeting the CEFR (The Common European Framework of Reference for Languages) scale requirements

Having been a long-standing practitioner and operating on the Warsaw market for almost 15 years, we believe that the offer of the Canadian program that we present to you is a response to the search for all parents who care about thorough education and the world standards of international education for children.

The graduates of our school are young citizens of the world with broad horizons who are already studying at home or abroad, and because of their language proficiency, they can find themselves in any situation of life regardless of where they live.

Our graduates are scholars of international schools in many places around the world.

The most important benefits your child will gain by participating in the Canadian program classes in our school is free communication in English – the use of English will be as natural as the use of Polish. Even if he makes grammatical mistakes or chooses inappropriate words when communicating, he will easily participate in the conversation. The child will also be free to access English-speaking resources on the Internet. It is worth noting that the child will learn the language through the subject program, discussions or project classes often much earlier before he learns the grammar rules.

In our school, we do not teach language through arduous learning of vocabulary and grammar, but through "immersion" in it, that is, listening, speaking, observing, interacting and learning the content of the subject matter. However, this does not mean that we underestimate the importance of knowledge of English grammar – on the contrary, we teach the basics of grammar at the same time as the lexical-linguistic program, but the increase in the child's knowledge of the subject matter, if only because of the number of subject hours, is disproportionate to the increase in grammatical knowledge.

Often, the child uses grammatical forms fluently through imitation before they are named and will learn about them in grammar classes. This is typical for learning a language that is similar to learning your mother tongue.

• CONTESTS ORGANIZED BY THE SCHOOL



The International School is the organizer of two contests: "Spelling Bee" and "The International Speaking Contest." Obtaining points in this type of contests allows you to get additional points in high school recruitment.

The first of the mentioned contests is the world's most famous English language learning contest, which is to demonstrate the ability to spell English words. From the simplest in the junior grades to the most difficult in the upper grades. "Spelling Bee" is over 90 years old!



The International Speaking Contest is an individual presentation on any topic, lasting up to 5 minutes. The contest takes place in three age groups.

The International Speaking Contest promotes:

- discovering and enhancing language skills and competences and the English vocabulary of primary school children,
- learning self-presentation and public speaking
- promoting children's talent and stimulating creative activity
- improving the skills of beautiful word handling and workshop recitation skills
- inspiring young people to participate actively in culture
- developing expression and aesthetic sensitivity
- integrating children from different schools and institutions

Every year we apply to include our "Spelling Bee" and "The International Speaking Contests" in the list of the Board of Education contests.

6. RAISING

Comprehensive student education, raising and personal development is our school's mission. We want our students to be able to share these values. The list created by our pedagogical team does not include all attitudes but is a valuable signpost in the daily activities of our students.

We want our students not only to carry out an international bilingual educational program, but also to be able to cooperate, to build positive relationships, function in different groups, follow the rules and be sensitive to the needs of others.

Our **student behavior circle** in grades 0-3 and the **student behavior pyramid** in grades 4-8 are a visualization of our expectations - they represent important spheres of development that we focus on throughout our education.

Behavior circle grades 0-3



Behavior pyramid grades

4-8



• PSYCHOLOGICAL PREVENTION

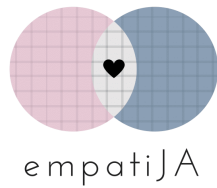
An important area of educational work in our school is preventive measures taken by a psychologist, and the most important are:

- observations of children at group level
- workshops in each grade on basic coping skills at school
- promoting psycho education for parents e.g. internet tab "An aware parent's zone" and psychological corner (newspaper, articles, books of the month)
- training, lectures or workshops for parents

The areas of support for basic psychological skills in each grade are:

- building a sense of security, integration
- recognizing and naming emotions, developing the ability to deal with difficult emotions
- shaping conflict resolution skills, learning the basics of correct communication
- promoting cooperation and discovering own potential

In grades 0-3 we implement the original project of our school psychologist "**EmpatiJA**".



The aim of the project is to learn to recognize and name emotional states of one's own and others, promote positive attitudes among students, promote cooperation as a way to success, develop the ability to use the "language of emotions", promote correct communication in the group, develop active listening, observe skills, promote volunteering as a form of influence on the surrounding reality and improve the relationship between students, deepening the bond between children, improving the quality of work in groups, integration, building a sense of security, raising children's awareness of the needs of others.

In grades 4-8 we implement the original project "**Don't hate educate**". The project involves work in the following areas:



- making students sensitive to the concept of respect according to the statement: Learn to respect yourself in order to respect others
- learning the culture of the word in the context of the Japanese proverb: "Words hurt more than a sword"
- development of the concept of "personal culture" as a guarantee of successful coexistence and communication with the world around us
- showing students how and where to seek help when they are harmed or if they see harm to others
- defining the background of aggression and violence and their types
- showing what open communication with others is all about and resolving conflicts without aggression
- learning the methods of responding to tensions and stresses.

7. PARENTS IN SCHOOL

We expect the parents of our students to:

- check Librus
- participate in meetings organized by the school
- benefit from individual meetings with teachers
- benefit from workshops and trainings organized by the school
- ask for information about their children at school
- cooperate with a homeroom teacher, teacher assistant, subject teachers and a school psychologist
- ensure that students have the right form of leisure time
- read correspondence

- actively participate in the school life
- comply with the Principles of Cooperation with Parents contained in the Regulations of The International School

All regulations are available on the www.szkolamiedzynarodowa.pl in the "download" section.

COMMUNICATION WITH PARENTS

The program of good communication with parents in our school includes:

- presentation of the school calendar on September 1, which includes the dates of the most important events planned in a given school year and the dates of holidays
- informing parents at least one week in advance of all school events resulting from the school calendar
- informing parents about the daily organization of the school work according to the needs
- organizing three class meetings per year with the homeroom teacher and Canadian teacher, and two individual meetings where the parent has the opportunity to talk to each teacher individually
- possibility of meetings with a school psychologist
- willingness to meet in person in a difficult situation
- preparation by the Canadian program teacher in grades 0-8 semester and final year reports describing the level of skills of the student
- preparation by the homeroom teachers and Polish program teachers in grades 0-3 semester reports describing the behavior and level of educational skills
- preparation by the homeroom teachers in grades 0-3 and teachers of the Canadian program a monthly summary of the implementation of program content in each grade
- in grades 4-8 preparation of a monthly Newsletter in English
- in grades 4-8, preparation by the homeroom teachers of a monthly report summarizing educational activities and the implementation of the core curriculum
- systematic posting on the school's website and on class pages of reports of interesting class and school events
- co-organizing events, school trips, charity events, educational projects with parents

8. FRAMEWORK DAILY PLAN

- At **7.50-8.45** we organize morning duty for students under the supervision of designated teachers,
- At 8.45-3.25, students take part in compulsory educational activities in 7 periods, including both curricula,
- During the day, students take 6 in-school breaks, of which a 10-minute break after the second lesson is intended for eating a second breakfast, and 25 minutes breaks after the fourth and fifth lessons are intended for lunch, taking place in two rounds, or going to the school playground,
- At **3.25-5.30** (for grades 0-3) and **3.25-5.00** (for grades 4-8) we organize afternoon duty for students staying in school after classes under the supervision of designated teachers,
- At 3.30-5.00 each student can participate in additional activities organized on the school premises,
- In older grades where new subjects are added to the core curriculum, additional compulsory lessons can be taught at the so-called 0 or 8 lesson hour,
- In addition to the framework timetable, there may also be classes to prepare for the final test after grade 8, as well as subject clubs of interest,

- For students of grades 8, we organize 5 Scientific Saturdays during which they are given the opportunity to revise the material for the test.

HOMEWORK

Most of the work students do in class, and homework in grades 0-3 is only to memorize the material. In grades 0-3, tasks are handed out on additional worksheets (textbooks and workbooks students leave at school) once a week from the Polish program and once a week from the Canadian program, and their execution takes an average of 20 minutes per day. By assigning homework, we want to build a sense of responsibility in students.

In grades 4-8, the amount of homework is gradually increased.

9. ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES

Additional activities take place at 3:25-5:30. They give the opportunity to develop the interests of willing students beyond lessons and are an alternative to spending time off on the afternoon duty. At the beginning of each school year, we prepare a new offer of activities. Invariably, every year, sports activities, painting, music club, karate are conducted. In each year, additional activities in grades 0-3 also include a variety of school interest clubs: IT (coding with Photon robots), scientific (National Geographic Explorer's Club, and in older grades historical club), artistic (dance classes, ceramics), chess, or English-language clubs of interest run by teachers of the Canadian program (Board Games Club, Cooking Club, Newspaper Club, Kindness Club, Soccer).

Depending on their individual needs, students of The International School can count on the support of our teachers during free additional support classes (grades 0-3) or subject consultations (grades 4-8). These classes are conducted at 8.00-8.30 and at 3.30-4.15.

In grades 0-3 we offer:

- Follow-up classes for students who, due to absence or transfer from another school, should fill the backlog.
- Developing classes for particularly talented students, e.g. math club, reading club for grade 0
- Corrective and compensatory classes (re-education) for students who have received an opinion from a counseling and guidance center about the need for pedagogical therapy
- English consultations with a Canadian teacher
- Additional Polish lessons for foreigners and children returning from abroad

In grades 4-8 we implement:

- Corrective and compensatory classes (dyslexia, dysgraphia, disortographia)
- English consultations
- French consultations
- Spanish consultations
- Math and science consultations: mathematics, physics, chemistry,
- Natural science consultations: biology, natural science, geography
- Humanities consultations: Polish, history, civics
- Developing classes for particularly talented students, e.g. Polish club, math club, history club, chess
- Sports clubs, school choir, art workshops
- Additional Polish lessons for foreigners and children returning from abroad

- Classes preparing for the Education Board contests e.g. of English

10. TRIPS, WORKSHOPS AND PROJECTS

Being able to explore the world around you together is an important part of class life. We try to make the trips refer to current school projects or topics of the implemented classes, thus our students can learn not only in theory but also in practice. During one school year, up to ten tours indicated by Polish and Canadian teachers are organized in each grade from the annual trip fund. We also invite well-known guests and specialists in their fields to workshops and meetings with students in the school building on the occasion of natural, scientific and literary projects, which we implement during the school year in the number of 2-3 projects per term.

11. CHARITIES

Among the students of The International School, we promote volunteering and teach them various forms of assistance to those in need. Every December, our school participates in the Noble Box action, together with the parents of students we also join in helping those in need from the home of a single mother. Students pack packages for the homeless with their own hands as part of the international Blessing Bag program and create comfort letters for them along with a Canadian program teacher. As part of the school psychological project EmpatIJa and in cooperation with the UNAWEZA Foundation, we organized a unique charity campaign "Pocket Comforter", in which funds from the sale of the school product were donated to children from Mexico.

12. SCHOOL UNIFORM

School uniform is an important element in identifying students with school. In school formal uniform, students represent the school during formal visits and school events. On the other hand, everyday school uniform, comfortable and equally neat, is worn every day from Monday to Thursday. On Fridays, the students wear casual clothes.

Formal school uniform

The jacket should have a classic navy color and cut, the formal shirt is white with long sleeves. Additional elements of the formal uniform include classic navy trousers and school skirts/dresses and navy tights for girls. A tie with the school logo is a must. We recommend shoes that match the formal uniform, i.e. formal shoes or sneakers in black or navy blue.

Orders of clothing with the school logo are carried out by Mark company (online www.mark-mundurki.pl).



Formal uniform in grades 4-8

Formal uniform in grades 0-3

The cost of a formal uniform ranges from 250 PLN in grades 0-3 to 470 PLN in older grades.

From Monday to Thursday we wear casual school uniform:

Polo shirt with school logo in navy or white variants for long or short sleeves and dark trousers or skirts.



The cost of a casual uniform (for example, 5 polo T-shirts, 2 sweatshirts) is about 450 PLN.

Sports clothes:

In physical education classes, students wear sports clothes including a white T-shirt, navy shorts and sports shoes with a bright sole.

13. SCHOOL LUNCH

During the day, there are three meal times for students:

- 10:20 – 10:30 second breakfast in the form of healthy snacks prepared by parents
- 12:10 – 12:35 (I group) or 1:20 – 1:45 (II group) lunch. At the same time, it is a long break spent in outside.
- 2.30 – 2.40 snack

Two-course lunch and afternoon snack are provided by a catering company. The cost of daily meals is about PLN 16 per person. Parents register in the STARTEDU meal ordering system, with the help of which it is possible to:

- select special diets (dairy-free, gluten-free, vegetarian, meat)
- cancel lunch for another day in case of absence from school

- make payments

The school provides unlimited access to water. We encourage children to bring their own bottles to reduce plastic consumption.

14. TRANSPORT

The school has a comfortable bus equipped with air conditioning and seat belts. We offer delivery of students in the morning from 8.00 to 8.30 and return after class, from 3.30 to 5.00. Detailed information about the prices and routes of the school bus can be found on the school's website: www.szkolamiedzynarodowa.pl in the "download" and "transport" sections.

15. ENROLLMENT

Admission to The International School is all year round. We are aware that the process of choosing a school can be very difficult for both children and parents. Therefore, we invite you to a trial day, during which the child spends the whole day with a particular class, integrates with their peers and participates in all classes and activities. Thanks to this, the child has a chance to see how he feels in our school. During the day, the candidate participates in several individual meetings diagnosing his skills and knowledge in the field of Polish curriculum, mainly Polish and mathematics, and meets with a Canadian program teacher who checks the level of English. During the day, the candidate is also accompanied by a school psychologist.

Candidates for grade 0 are additionally invited to an integration meeting.

Admission to grades 0-3 is determined by:

- filling in the admission form
- participation of the child in integration classes, trial day or competency tests
- positive opinion of the school psychologist
- conversation with the School Principal
- signing of an education agreement and making a registration fee

Admission to grades 4-8 in addition to the above, it also determined by:

- positive evaluation from the trial test
- opinion of the qualification team appointed by the Principal
- behavior grade not lower than "good"

16. EDUCATIONAL AGREEMENT AND FEES

Parents whose children have fulfilled the recruitment conditions, sign an education agreement with the school.

Up-to-date information on fees can be found on the www.szkolamiedzynarodowa.pl in the "download" and "fees" section.

