



COLOGNE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

BOARDING HOUSE PROGRAM



COLOGNE
INTERNATIONAL
SCHOOL
Internationale Friedensschule Köln



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WELCOME

from the Head of Boarding

„In our Boarding House, we inspire our students to make the world a better place by providing an excellent education and promoting an environment where diversity, empathy and integrity is lived. In our globalized world, we believe these values are crucial for success. We strongly focus on each student's personal development by nurturing students' talents and interests. In a warm, family-like environment, we strive to meet the needs of each boarder. We teach tolerance, respect, independence and personal responsibility so that the students leave us as open-minded and self-sufficient young people.

If you would like to know more about our school, we are happy to arrange a (Google Meet) appointment. Together with our experienced admissions team and the school's educational staff, we will determine which pathway best suits the student to reach their educational goals. We would love to hear from you!“

Lukas Mennekes, Head of Boarding



WELCOME



WHY US?

Our vision is to contribute to a better world by inspiring a passion for learning along with the drive to make a difference. The educational concept at Cologne International School was developed by a group of educational idealists who see the individual child at the centre of academic endeavours. The design of the school campus ideally complements and supports our pedagogical framework. Our multinational teaching staff have a great deal of experience with this pedagogical approach and are dedicated to working above and beyond the norm.

Currently, about 470 students from 52 different nationalities are learning side by side on our campus. Our students benefit from the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme (IBDP) with a choice of courses and exams in English and German. Since 2016, with our first graduating cohort, our students have achieved excellent scores on their IB Diploma exams. They consistently reached above-average Diploma scores and even top scores like 44 out of 45 points. After graduation, our IB Diploma students continue their studies in Germany and in numerous countries including the Netherlands, the UK and the USA.





WHY COLOGNE?

Cologne is one of the most interesting and important cities in Germany: it has a long and rich history, is a major business center with a vibrant cultural scene, and the people are famous for their positive, life affirming attitude. The city was founded by the Romans two thousand years ago, and the legacy of this time is evident all around the city, but the crowning glory is the UNESCO world heritage site, the 13th Century Kölner Dom (Cologne Cathedral).

In terms of industry, the area is a major hub for media, automobiles and pharmaceuticals and is home to multinational companies like Ford and Bayer. Innovation underpins developments in industry, and institutions like Cologne University (founded in 1388 with 50,000 students) and the Max Planck Institute ensure that Cologne stays at the cutting edge.

Cologne has a vibrant cultural scene that attracts international artists and musicians from around the world. In addition to excellent classical music, opera and theater, we have a large and diverse number of contemporary music concerts and festivals. Sport is also well represented in the city, with FC Cologne in the Bundesliga as well as top German teams for ice hockey and basketball.

The people of Cologne are famous for inclusivity and friendliness, and the city is green and easy to navigate, making it a great place to balance life experiences with learning. And Europe is on our doorstep: Paris, Brussels and Amsterdam are all a short train ride away, and all the other great cities of Europe can be reached within an hour or two from our local airport.



COLOGNE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL **BOARDING HOUSE:**

Your home away from home

OUR CONCEPT - Responsibility and international-mindedness

Our pedagogically qualified staff care for our multicultural boarders in a cosy, homestyle atmosphere. The rich diversity of our residents ensures different cultural, social and religious experiences within our shared community. We follow the CIS mission statement for shaping a better future by practicing respectful cross cultural exchanges, emphasising the importance of dialogue and the promotion and strengthening of individual learning potential. In addition to the school, where our students receive excellent academic education, at the Boarding House, we focus on each boarder's personal development needs. Maintaining an open and friendly climate within the residential group allows our boarders to develop their talents, abilities and personality. After graduation, we want the students to be self-confident and open-minded young adults who are able to live independently.





OUR WORK IS THEREFORE DIVIDED INTO THREE MAIN AREAS:

#1 ACADEMIC DEVELOPMENT

Our Boarding House Team is the link between students and the school and is constantly in close exchange with the teachers. Each student is appointed a mentor from our staff who focuses on the student's individual academic success.

#2 INDEPENDENCE AND INDIVIDUAL SUPPORT

We feel that the students' independent living skills are vital to their development. The boarders are encouraged to act independently and be responsible for things, such as self-care, personal living space, money management, household, leisure activities and the organization of their school as well as their private life. We look at each student's abilities and support them based on skills and motivation.

#3 DEVELOPMENT OF SOCIAL AND INTERCULTURAL SKILLS

Highly developed personal skills are linked to successful socialization with peers. At the Boarding House residential community, our students get to practice these skills. Consideration, empathy and the willingness to compromise are always necessary when individuals with different wishes and interests live together. Living in a Boarding House requires residents to be tolerant and to have an appreciative and respectful attitude towards the diversity and differences within the group. Modeling and communicating these values is another goal of our Boarding House Team.



HOUSING

Our Boarding House is a modern style accommodation with plenty of daylight. It can host up to 20 students, either in a single room with private bathroom, single room with shared bathroom or a double room with shared bathroom. All apartments have WIFI and are fully furnished with beds, closets, desks, shelving, chairs, and lamps. Basic necessities such as bedding, sheets, towels, and kitchenware are provided. The building has an extensive rooftop terrace where students can enjoy the view while sitting in deck chairs. Boarders share a common room with a kitchen where they can meet, cook and eat which creates a sense of community.

Our boarders do not just share a space, but also engage in social activities together. They are cared for 24 hours 7 days a week throughout the academic year by qualified staff. The boarders enjoy healthy, fresh meals throughout the day. On school days, our boarders have lunch together with all students in the school cafeteria. Breakfast and dinner as well as all meals on holidays and weekends are shared together in the Boarding House. As we are aware that students at the Boarding House come from all over the world and have diverse backgrounds, it is important to us to foster an environment where everyone feels at home. Therefore, all meals served at school and the Boarding House take into account these different religious and cultural backgrounds and practices.





RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES

We understand that our boarders may live far away from their families and may not be able to go home on weekends or during shorter breaks. Therefore, we ensure that the Boarding House remains open throughout most of the year.

THE BOARDING HOUSE ONLY CLOSES TWICE A YEAR:

- During the six-week summer break (starting early July)
- During the winter break (about two weeks starting late December).

The boarding fees include basic programming on weekends, such as small excursions, activities and communal cooking. In addition, we offer recreational activities and educational programs on weekends and also during school vacations.

It is part of our pedagogical concept to have our boarders participate in developing the ideas for our recreational and educational programs. This way, we make sure that the programs are tailored to their interests and have a good mixture of fun and cultural activities.

Our previous activity highlights included trips to a local amusement park “Phantasialand”, the cities of Aachen, Düsseldorf and Bonn, but also educational workshops on topics such as empowerment/racism, boy talk/girl talk or a workshop offering insight to life after school including career options.

If our boarders would like to pursue any hobbies, we are happy to support them. Close to the location of the Boarding House, there are several sports clubs and also opportunities to pursue musical and creative hobbies. However, these activities are not included in our Boarding House program. We are happy to consult with the parents if support is needed.

The Boarding House is designed to be our boarders’ home in Cologne and we want everyone to feel comfortable and safe. This can only be accomplished if all boarders act responsibly. We have strict policies regarding smoking, alcohol and drugs, which are enforced by our Boarding House Team.





A TYPICAL DAY IN OUR BOARDING HOUSE

	Monday till Friday	Weekend
Community Duties	7:15 am- 7:30 am	-
Breakfast	7:30 am - 8:45 am	9:00 am - 12:00 pm
Schoolltime	8:15 am - 4 pm	-
Lunch	from 12:30 pm (in school)	12:00 pm - 02:00 pm
Community Duties	06:15 pm-06:30pm	06:15 pm - 06:30 pm
Dinner	06:30 pm	06:30 pm
Homework assistance	Mon, Wed, Fri from 07:00 pm	as needed
Boarding House Meeting	Tue from 07:30 pm	-
Room Cleaning	Fri after School	-
Lights out	10:00 pm	12:00 am





ACADEMICS

LIVE LIFE, LOVE LEARNING

As an IB World School, we are dedicated to promoting international awareness, to foster a love of learning in a bilingual setting, as well as, promoting a commitment to shared values and excellent communication skills.

We know that the future belongs to open, creative thinkers who are curious about the world around them. It belongs to those who have learned to think independently and act responsibly.

At Cologne International School, we guide children to become internationally-minded young adults, empowering them to meet the global challenges and opportunities of today and tomorrow - all in a bilingual setting.





ACADEMICS

TO EXPLORE AND FULFIL THE POTENTIAL WITHIN OURSELVES

- focus on skills that show students how they learn and make them independent learners
- emphasis on developing good learning behaviour
- coaching to support goal setting and reflection
- pastoral and learning support; counselling
- emphasis on positive student – teacher relationships

TO CONNECT WITH EACH OTHER AND OUR WORLD

- international mindset created by an international community
- innovative bilingual programme from grades 1 – 12
- cloud-based learning platform
- trips and exchanges

TO MAKE A POSITIVE IMPACT ON TOMORROW

- social projects
- work experience
- an environment dedicated to the attributes of the IB Learner Profile: caring, reflective, knowledgeable, open-minded, principled, balanced, inquirers, thinkers, communicators and risk-takers.



ACADEMICS

We believe that students should have the flexibility to study subjects in English or German to address their interests. Students of all grades at our school have the unique opportunity to choose their own individualized learning path leading to an internationally recognized qualification for higher education and dynamic career options in Germany and worldwide.

THE MIDDLE YEARS PROGRAMME - MYP (Grade 6-10)

As a state-recognized private school, we offer the MYP certificate at the end of Grade 10 which is an official qualification marking the completion of the MYP programme and assessing the students' level of preparation for the IBDP. The students' knowledge, understanding and skills are assessed summatively at the end of Grade 10 using a combination of on-screen assessments and e-portfolio work. The MYP has been recognized by the KMK (German Conference of Ministers of Education) since 2011.

INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE DIPLOMA PROGRAMME (Grade 11-12)

The IB Diploma Programme (DP) is an academically challenging and balanced program of education with final examinations that prepares students, aged 16 to 19, for success in higher education and life beyond. It has been designed to address the intellectual, social, emotional and physical well-being of students. The program has gained recognition and respect from the world's leading universities and has been recognized by the Kultusministerkonferenz (KMK) in Germany since 1986 as a university entrance qualification (allgemeine Hochschulreife).

A key aim of our school concept is to offer the possibility of teaching and learning in English and German from Grade 1 to 12. The IB Diploma therefore offers also the possibility of studying certain subjects in German and taking the official exams in German.





ACADEMICS

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

In order to join our programs, a good command of the English and possibly the German language is required. Students entering the 10th grade need at least a B2 level in English (upper intermediate), which means that they can understand complex texts on concrete and abstract topics, can explain viewpoints and write detailed texts on a variety of subjects, and can fluently interact with native speakers of the language.

Students entering 11th grade must at least be at a C1 level in English and possibly in German (advanced), meaning that they can understand demanding texts, recognize implicit meaning, can write well-structured detailed texts on complex subjects and can express themselves spontaneously and fluently. Students without sufficient knowledge of one of the languages will need to pass a language course before they can join. We are happy to consult and help you find a suitable solution. Once students have joined our programs, we can offer support in both English and German as a second language so that they can continue to improve their language skills and receive help when needed.





EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

We offer a wide range of extra-curricular activities which are all free for our boarding students. Below, you will find some examples of our offers which are subject to change.

SPORTS

Experience how physical activity influences well-being in a positive way. Clubs currently offered in this area:

- Badminton & Tennis
- Basketball
- Football
- Inline Skating
- Kickboxing
- Volleyball

CREATIVITY

Let your imagination fly and develop your creative skills. Clubs currently offered in this area:

- Arts & Crafts
- Moviemaking
- Photography



EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

LANGUAGES

Improve your communication skills. Clubs currently offered in this area:

- DELE Spanish Exam Preparation
- Italian Mother Tongue

MUSIC

Improve your instrumental skills. Clubs currently offered in this area:

- Big Band
- Jazz Band
- String Ensemble
- Individual instrumental lessons





STUDENT VOICES

Lilit 18, Russia:

„I feel like I am at home. It's so nice to live with such different cultures under one roof. You learn to be more tolerant, open-minded and considerate. Plus, the Boarding House supervisors are very thoughtful and take care of us when we are sick and they support us with our studies. During the vacations, we go on great trips.“

Jenny, 19, China:

„It's nice to share my room with other girls. We have become good friends. In addition, the teachers and supervisors support us so that we become more independent. I feel well prepared for my independent life after school.“





TEACHER VOICES

Celine Crommelinck, Maths Teacher

"I love to accompany our Boarding House students coming from different countries on their way to the IB Diploma taking advantage of our unique school concept that allows students to grow into inspiring and balanced young adults who are confident to shape the future.."

John Battaglini, Chemistry Teacher

"Teaching at Cologne International School is a wonderful experience. The students are a great cross section of backgrounds and there is a rich atmosphere of teaching and learning. Support and encouragement at all levels of learning is a hallmark of the school and the IB program is an excellent framework for a variety of learning experiences."

Tim Strahlendorf, Geography and Environmental Systems and Societies Teacher

"I particularly enjoy the multilingual environment of Cologne International School. Having a diverse international student body as well as local German students allows us to engage both groups during extracurricular activities in the local area such as CAS (creativity, activity, service) as part of our bilingual IB programme and both groups can benefit in terms of language learning."





APPLICATION PROCEDURE

#1 Fill out our inquiry form on our website and set up an Open Apply account.

#2 Hand in the following documents via your Open Apply account:

- Copy/scan of your child's birth certificate,
- Copy/scan of your child's last school certificates from grade 5 on,
- Copy/scan of your child's passport.
- Boarding House Questionnaire (available in Open Apply)
- Medical History Form (available in Open Apply)

After receiving the application, our admissions team will ask your child to fill out a questionnaire about the reasons for choosing our school and the Boarding House.

#3 Once we have received the answers to the questionnaire and the documents listed in the section above, we will set up a meeting with the admissions team, and afterwards with the head of boarding as well as our school management team. This allows our school management and the head of boarding to get a better picture of your child.

#4 After the interview, you will receive a link for registration and school place reservation.

#5 After the completion of the application, we will review your application. Once admitted, you will receive our boarding school contract which needs to be signed.



CONTACT US



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