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## WELCOME TO THE GERMAN SCHOOL LONDON

At The German School London (DSL), teachers and parents work together to inspire students to discover and develop their personal strengths.

We consider ourselves a learning organisation in which all players – pupils, parents and staff – work hand in hand. This is one of our key missions as developed in our “Leitbild”.

As part of the worldwide network of more than 140 German Schools abroad, we are an independent school accredited and supported by the Federal Republic of Germany. We cater to pupils from Kindergarten through to Secondary School, and offer an appealing and challenging bilingual educational programme with specific emphasis on German language and culture.



With nearly 900 pupils from more than 30 nations, we are an international, open-minded community that embraces diversity and the respectful exchange of ideas. We strive to empower our pupils, encouraging them to be self-reliant and to assume responsibility on a local level within an international context.

Pupils graduate with the German International Abitur (DIA) and optionally with the International Baccalaureate (IB). The DIA is an internationally acclaimed college and university preparatory curriculum and diploma that provides an academically exceptional and culturally rich multilingual education to students of all nationalities and backgrounds; opens doors to the finest colleges and universities; and creates a world of opportunities for its graduates. Since school year 2023/24 we also offer the "Fachhochschulreife".

Please enjoy exploring our prospectus - and browse through our website, too. If you have any questions or queries, please do not hesitate to e-mail [Info@dslondon.org.uk](mailto:Info@dslondon.org.uk). You can also contact our Admissions Coordinator, or simply visit us here at our beautiful campus in London between the River Thames and Richmond Park.

With warm regards,  
the DSL Senior Leadership,

**Sonja Klotz**  
*Head of Primary School*

**Oliver Schmitz**  
*Head Teacher*

**Claudia Wolff-Lieser**  
*Deputy Head Teacher*

**Matthias Krauss**  
*Commercial Director*

**Marie Rocha**  
*Head of Kinderhaus*





## HOW TO FIND US

The German School London is nestled idyllically between Richmond Park and the River Thames in south-west London. On our park-like school grounds of over 40,000 square meters you will find a mixture of modern and historical buildings, a separate computer suite, playgrounds as well as outdoor sports facilities and our spacious multi-functional sports hall.

In this green, natural environment, our almost 900 pupils live and learn in modern, well equipped facilities, where they are being cared for by around 170 teaching and administrative members of staff.

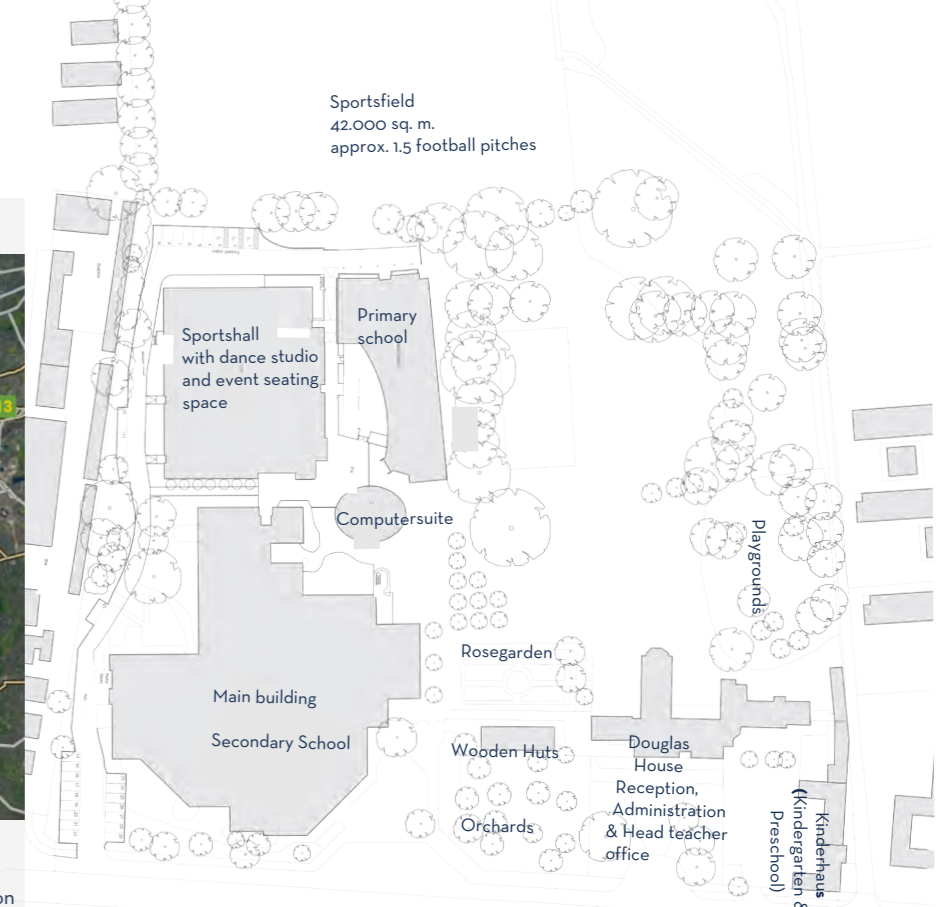
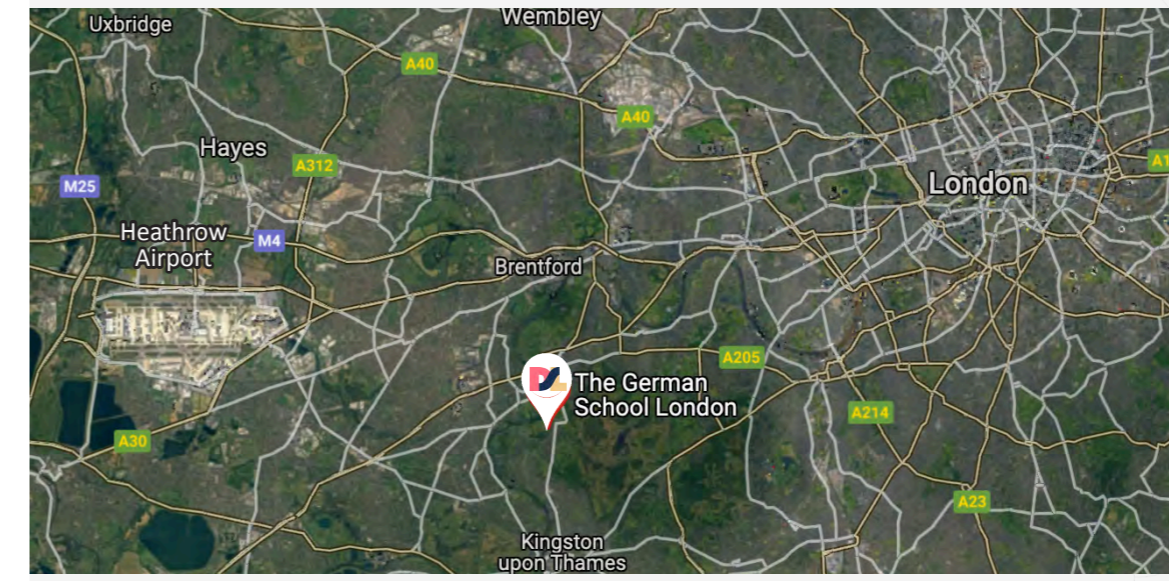


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Deutsche Schule London

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## Deutsche schulische Arbeit im Ausland



YouTube

ZfA Deutsche Schulen im Ausland - Imagefilm 2020

“German schools abroad convey something about modern Germany,” says Federal President Frank-Walter Steinmeier, “and certainly also about values and how we live and cultivate them: tolerance and diversity.” In a short video, he and Alumni of German schools abroad express their views on the important role these schools play and the excellent educational opportunities that they offer their students. You can watch the short video on our YouTube channel.



### OUR MISSION STATEMENT

Our mission statement is a guidepost for our daily interactions. The DSL enables students, from Kindergarten and Primary School through to the Secondary School, to develop as self-reliant individuals who will responsibly shape the future of our world.

#### Living Together

We consider ourselves to be an open-minded school community. Our collaborations reflect mutual respect and trust. We strive to create an educational environment in which each person can participate actively and find room for personal initiative. We embrace diversity as a source of enrichment and opportunity. Our sense of shared identity is enhanced through a wide range of cultural and sports activities. We help each other to achieve common goals within a framework of clear and consistent rules.

#### Creating Together

As an accredited German school abroad we offer a broad, demanding curriculum, based on recognised German and international educational standards. Our older students attain qualifications which correspond to those granted by schools in Germany and are provided with practical advice about possible academic and professional career paths. At all levels of our school, children and teenagers are challenged and supported according to their individual abilities and needs. The German School London actively adapts to a fast-changing world, designing flexible educational programmes that will best prepare students for their future lives.

#### Learning Together

Teachers and parents work together to inspire students to discover and develop their personal strengths. We educate pupils to think and interact democratically and with tolerance, instilling in them the core values of our community – an open mind and a sense of personal responsibility and commitment. We equip our students with the academic methodologies and social skills needed to learn and think independently and to confidently analyse and question existing paradigms and value systems. We guide pupils to make effective and critical use of contemporary media and online information. Mistakes are understood to be a vital part of the learning process, a chance to improve and achieve greater success.

#### Building Bridges Together

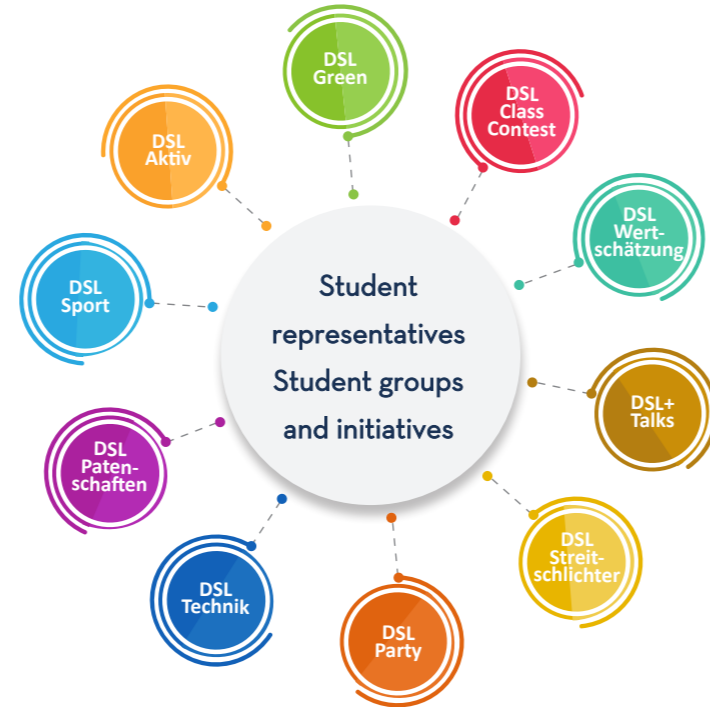
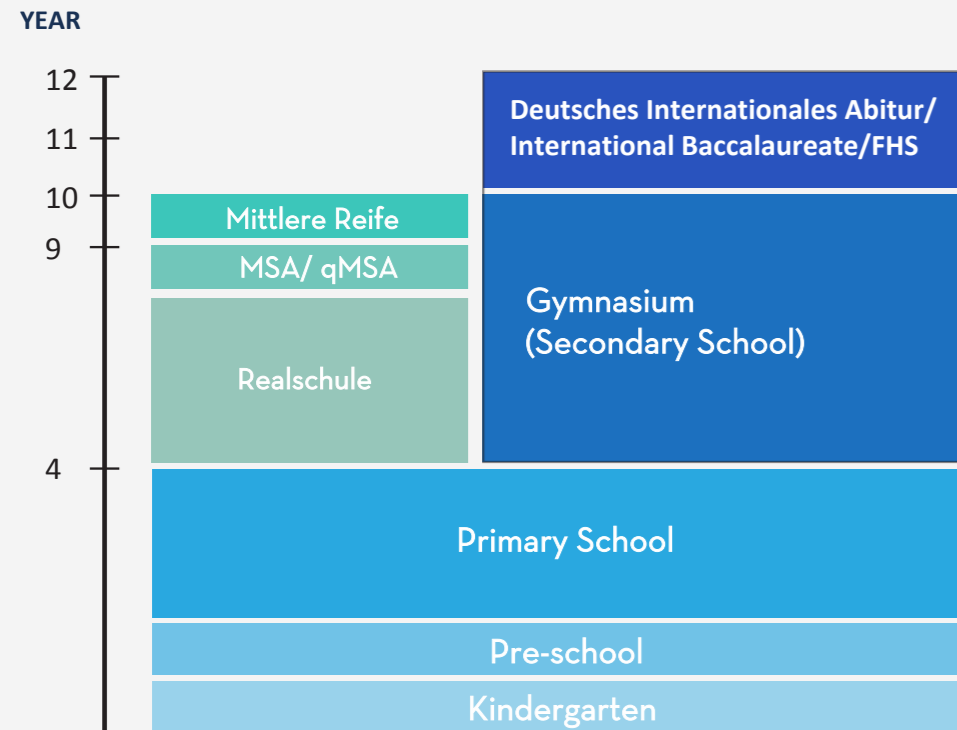
We aim to build bridges between diverse cultures within our school and beyond it. We facilitate close relations with local partner schools and regional organisations. Our bilingual language programme allows all our pupils to broaden their linguistic foundations in German and English and benefit from fluency in both languages.



## SCHOOL STRUCTURE

The German School London is a German school abroad approved by the KMK - Standing Conference of the Federal Republic of Germany - and supported by the ZfA - Central Office for Schools Abroad.

The DSL offers consecutive education from kindergarten with pre-school, a four-year elementary school and a secondary school. The latter leads to the middle school leaving certificate (10th grade) after six years and to the German International Abitur (DIA) after eight years. Pupils in grades 11 and 12 also have the option of acquiring the full double qualification DIA and the International Baccalaureate (IB) or completing the DIA as an IB "course candidate" with two or more subjects in the IB. Since school year 2023/24 we also offer the German "Fachhochschulreife" (FHS)



The SV (Schülervertretung) is the elected student body. The team represents the students' opinions and interests to teachers, school management and parent organizations.

In close cooperation with the class representatives and the liaison teachers, the SV organizes events such as sports tournaments and discos for students during the school year.

Student participation is encouraged at our school.



## KINDERHAUS

A warm welcome to our Kinderhaus. My name is Marie Rocha and have been working as the Head of Kindergarten and the Pre-school since September 2021.

The Kinderhaus is located in a two-story building on the grounds of the DSL. It consists of seven groups which are divided into four kindergarten groups with a maximum of 21 children aged 3-5 years and three preschool groups with a maximum of 23 children aged 5-6 years.

Opening Times:

Half Days: Monday - Friday, from 8.00am to 12.45pm

Full Days: Monday - Friday, from 8.00am to 1.30pm / 3.45pm / 4.45pm

Holiday times are the same as for the school.

### Pedagogical Approach

Our bilingual setting is a community, where children and educators meet, play and learn together as well as individually. Every child brings his/ her own experiences, knowledge and family's cultural background to the group. Children learn from shared experiences that no curriculum can replace.

Our work focuses on the child, his or her interests and needs as well as abilities, strengths and limits. We have a combination of adult-led and child-led activities, though the latter is of greater importance and staff inform their planning based on the interests and needs of individual children. Free-play time is an essential part of our everyday life and crucial for the holistic development of children. During these sessions children can develop freely and independently, choose their play partner and their game independently or choose to be on their own. Children are curious, they explore and test their abilities in dealing with others and like any scientist, learn also from the things they do not succeed in. We set clear rules and boundaries within which the children can develop freely and safely.

### Bilingual Education

Language is of high importance in our setting. We work according to the immersion principle. This means that our educators only speak to the children in their native German or English language. The children learn both languages in a natural context, during free play, in the morning circle, through finger rhymes, songs, stories and games.

In order to make it easier for multilingual children to enter our German-speaking primary school, we offer targeted support three times a week to children from the age of 4 as part of the "German for the School Start" programme ([www.deutsch-für-den-schulstart.de](http://www.deutsch-für-den-schulstart.de)). Active support from parents at home is important.



Marie Rocha  
Head of Kinderhaus



## GRUNDSCHULE (PRIMARY SCHOOL)

Welcome to the Primary School of the German School London. My name is Sonja Klotz and I have had the pleasure to coordinate the Primary School since the summer of 2020. In our Primary School, there is a very open atmosphere for all children respecting their diversity and their very individual strengths and weaknesses. With a vast variety of methods, offers and support, we try to do justice to the heterogeneity and to encourage and challenge all children in their learning as best as possible. We work closely together as a team and with the parents in order to foster a joint-partnership of upbringing and educating children. Every child matters to us.



Sonja Klotz  
M fi t k U v m f w X h m t q

A day at primary school offers the children a healthy variety of learning, exercise, break, social interaction and free play.

### At the Primary School:

- We follow Baden-Württemberg guidelines and have compiled the school's own curriculum for all subjects.
- Pupils receive the knowledge, skills, key qualifications and learning strategies that they need to study successfully.
- The subjects on offer are specifically targeted to challenge each pupil as an individual, thanks to various methods such as independent study, project oriented work, guided learning and presentations.
- We place particular emphasis on the development and growth of the child's overall character.
- Both German and English skills are boosted in many different ways.
- We offer extensive afternoon activities on an optional basis.





## SECONDARY SCHOOL I (SEK I, years 5 - 10)

### Structure

The Secondary School comprises years 5 to 10. Year 5 is an orientation stage at the end of which pupils are advised which school type is recommended for them. Students and parents receive regular guidance on the occasion of information events and during individual consultations.

All parents receive a recommendation on which school path best suits their child following a streaming conference in the second semester of the school year for Years 5, 6 and 7.

The DSL complies with the guidelines of the German Federal States Committee for School Education Abroad (BLASchA) and follows the educational standards of Baden-Württemberg. You can find further information regarding the choice of school type on our website.

### Gymnasium

Most students at the DSL are taught at Gymnasium level. The DSL aims to guide students methodically and didactically to the requirements of the gymnasium level of the secondary school. With the successful completion of the 10th grade at gymnasium level, pupils are entitled to enter the "Oberstufe" (6th form, SEK II).

Year 10 is not only the end of the first stage of secondary school, but it also contains many elements of years 11 and 12 as the DSL follows the G8 school system and pupils graduate after 12 school years. In the second semester, centralized exams in the subjects German, Maths and English take place. The results pupils achieve in these "Zentrale Klassenarbeiten" are double-weighted in the final report.

### Realschule

The DSL accommodates an integrative Realschule. Depending on the number of students, Realschul-students are catered for by the following standard models:

- combined lessons with Gymnasium students, with differentiated teaching within the lesson and pupils graded accordingly
- in groups with some separate lessons, especially in the subjects German, Maths and English.

### SEK I Certificates

The secondary school certificate, which is achieved after the 10th grade, not only entitles students of the DSL to a further career in the German school system, but also enables them to transfer to the best English and international schools, boarding schools and colleges.

Realschul-students finish school with two centralized written exams, chosen from the subjects German, Maths or English - and one oral exam in either one of these subjects or another one. According to the guidelines, 50% of the final mark is based on continuous assessment. If they are successful, pupils achieve middle school qualification.

If Realschul-students have achieved particularly high grades at the end of Year 10, they may, under certain conditions, switch to the Gymnasium, but they will have to repeat Year 10 on Gymnasium level. The details are determined by the appropriate regulation on promotion.



Oliver Schmitz  
Head Teacher



## UNIVERSITY & CAREERS COUNSELLING

Pupils must be empowered to make self-determined and competent career and study decisions. Only those who have concrete ideas about their future life and are aware of their strengths and weaknesses, can assess their abilities, keep informed about training and study opportunities and have gained experience in the world of work are in a position to do so.

In year 9, study and career counselling is linked to politics lessons. With the help of special self-exploration programmes, pupils have the opportunity to find out about their own areas of interest, strengths and suitable professions/vocational fields. They can gather initial ideas with a view to their professional future or consolidate certain wishes or vague ideas with the help of these special search programmes and databases. In years 9 and 10, writing application letters and creating a CV are integrated into English and German lessons in preparation for the work placement.

In year 10, a compulsory one to two-week work placement is conducted. This gives students the opportunity to gain experience in their chosen profession and gain an insight into everyday working life; internships throughout Europe open up further interesting perspectives. The impressions gained here are recorded and analyzed in an internship portfolio - supervised and graded in politics lessons. In addition to gaining specialized knowledge and getting to know a specific job profile, the internship focuses on the independent selection of the company and the application. The aim is to strengthen personal responsibility and independence. Successful participation is noted in the school report and also certified.

Every year, the German School London invites a careers counsellor from the Federal Employment Agency who offers two information events: a general introduction to career choices for grades 9 and 10 and a University counselling session for grades 11 and 12. Students also have the opportunity to obtain individual information about various professions and study programmes during a free counselling session.

At the school, an advisor specializing in the British university admissions system, UCAS, looks after those pupils who would like to study in the UK. Pupils who wish to study in Germany are also supported by a designated member of staff.

Our "Careers Advisor" organizes a comprehensive, structured programme in collaboration with the study and careers guidance team, invites external experts and is available to students for personal discussions.



Parent Information Evening



## SEK II - SIXTH FORM/ UPPER SECONDARY SCHOOL

Dual qualification programme in years 11 and 12 with the Deutsches Internationales Abitur (DIA, International German Abitur) and the IB Diploma. Since 2023/24 we also offer the Fachhochschulreife.



### Deutsches Internationales Abitur (DIA)

The German International Abitur exams are the German final exams of the twelve-year course of education at the German School London. The DIA is an internationally-acclaimed college and university preparatory curriculum and diploma that provides an academically exceptional and culturally rich multilingual education to students of all nationalities and backgrounds and enables students to apply to German, British and international universities.

By inspiring inquisitive, open-minded, independent thinking with a robust, internationally-oriented and well-rounded curriculum of languages, sciences, mathematics, arts and sports the DIA opens doors to the finest colleges and universities and creates a world of opportunities for its graduates.

Students in DIA programs learn in multicultural contexts and develop into socially- and globally-conscious citizens. They have opportunities to Learn, Earn and Connect in a way that students of other academic programmes do not.

The exams of the German International Abitur must be in German for at least 50%, the other 50% of the exams may be in a foreign or the national language, in our case English. The international character of the school's curriculum is enhanced by the inclusion of foreign languages (English, French, and Spanish) and bilingual subjects.

In addition to the written exams, students can opt for modern forms of exams, such as presentations, colloquia and research papers and demonstrate their multilingualism.

The upper secondary years 11 and 12 are taught in a classroom setting and the final Abitur exams at the end of year 12 are organized and developed according to the binding framework of the KMK (Standing Conference of Ministers of Education and Cultural Affairs). The Abitur exams are being organized and administered as a regional Abitur. The German School London is a member of the examining region 8, which also includes the German Schools in The Hague, Paris, Brussels, Toulouse, Geneva. This means that the region coordinates proposals for the written Abitur exams in eight subjects of the core curriculum (German, Maths, English, History, Geography, Biology, Chemistry and Physics).

KMK representatives then assess and select the Abitur assignments, which are set for the same dates throughout the region.



## SEK II – SIXTH FORM/ UPPER SECONDARY SCHOOL

### IB - International Baccalaureate as part of DSL's dual qualification

We believe that a rigorous preparation for university studies, with a clear focus on time management, research skills and thorough academic competences, permits each student to accept and meet the challenges of a university education.

We believe that a rigorous preparation for university studies, with a clear focus on time management, research skills and thorough academic competences, permits each student to accept and meet the challenges of a university education.

In addition to the German International Abitur, the International Baccalaureate diploma programme offers our students a second entrance qualification for university studies and an opportunity to become competent, committed, and responsible individuals and open-minded learners.

In general, students completing year 10 are eligible to apply to take part in the IB diploma or course candidate programme; nevertheless, a student's academic standing and promise will be considered when enrolment is determined.

In combination with the Abitur-subjects, IB students complete three higher level (HL) and three standard level (SL) courses as well as the core requirements (ToK, CAS, EE) for a full IB Diploma.

Students may choose between German and English as their IB Language A (HL and SL) and Spanish or French as IB Language B. Furthermore, we offer History, Economics, Geography, Psychology (SL), Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Mathematics Analysis & Approaches (SL) as well as Visual Arts (SL) and Music (SL).

All Year 12 students at the DSL take their Abitur exams between February and April, ahead of their IB exams in the May session of the same year, which promotes thorough preparation for both examinations. In addition to the full dual qualification (Abitur and IB Diploma), the DSL offers the category "course candidate" (CC), i.e. Abitur students may enrol in two or more individual IB courses and/or core elements, which allows them to study a subject of particular interest in more depth or to build a profile for their university application.

Quoting one of our 2019 alumni, "The decision to go for the dual programme at the DSL is based on two things – an interest in a variety of subjects and a wish to challenge yourself. Additionally, the DSL isn't just a school, it is a community of students, parents and teachers that one feels connected to and welcome in at all times."



## UNIVERSITY ACCEPTANCES

We are proud to be an inclusive school focusing on opening a large diversity of local and international doors for our students. We specifically prepare and support students for entry into the finest UK, German and international universities.

Every year the DSL invites a careers counsellor from the German Federal Employment Agency, who holds two information events. The first is a general introduction to career paths for years 9 and 10, the second is career counselling for years 11 and 12.

In the course of gaining free expert advice, students have the opportunity to individually find out about different career paths and university education.

Furthermore, the DSL maintains contact with universities in Germany, the UK and further abroad.

Please take a look at the list of universities our graduates have proceeded to.



The list of universities our graduates have recently been accepted to is a testimonial of our school's successful endeavours to promote internationality:

UK universities:

- University of Aberdeen
- Art College London
- University of the Arts London (UAL)
- University of Bath
- University of Birmingham
- University of Bristol
- Brunel University London
- University of Cambridge:
  - Girton College
  - Jesus College
- Durham University
- University of Edinburgh
- European Business School, London (ESCP)
- Hult International Business School, London
- Imperial College London
- University of Kent
- University of London Group:
  - Royal Holloway
  - Queen Mary College
  - King's College London
  - University College London
- London College of Communication (UAL)
- Loughborough University
- University of Manchester
- University of Nottingham
- Oxford Brookes University
- University of Stirling
- University of Oxford:
  - Exeter College
  - St. Catherine's College
  - Brasenose College
- University of Southampton
- University of St. Andrews

European universities:

- France:
  - Institut d'Études Politiques de Paris
  - Cours Florent, Drama School, Paris
- Germany:
  - Institute of Technology, Karlsruhe
  - Technische Universität München
  - Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München
  - Humboldt-Universität Berlin
  - Freie Universität Berlin
  - Technische Hochschule Aachen
  - Universität Hamburg
  - Universität Göttingen
  - Universität Potsdam
  - Göttingen, Georg August Universität
- Austria:
  - Universität Wien
- Switzerland:
  - École Hoteliere de Lausanne
- The Netherlands:
  - University of Amsterdam
  - Leiden University College, The Hague
  - University of Maastricht

International destinations:

- University of Toronto, Victoria College
- University of British Columbia, Canada
- Bocconi Milan
- University Pavia Milan

## SUPPORT PROGRAMME FOR UNIVERSITY APPLICATIONS

The German School London offers a comprehensive support programme for students applying to university. This focuses mainly on British universities through UCAS (The Universities and Colleges Admissions Service) but the general advice is also relevant for international universities.

Much preparation needs to be completed in year 11 and is finalised in year 12, but the progress begins at the end of year 10 with a detailed briefing and setting out of deadlines. Parents are also briefed on the application procedures and choices to be made.

Information sessions for year 10 and 11 students and parents are arranged each autumn, with the participation of admissions officers and former students. After an online registration session in July of year 11, applications for UCAS are submitted from September in year 12 onwards, with a deadline in the following January. Online application forms require detailed information on general background, educational achievement (including Mittlere Reife grades), a reference from the school and a personal statement from the student. UCAS passes these applications to the chosen universities and the admissions officers decide whether to offer a place or possibly call the student for an interview.

The DSL guides students through this process up to the application itself. With input from class and subject teachers, the school's UCAS advisor composes individual references, which comment on the applicant's character, academic prowess, extra-curricular activity and suitability for higher education. It includes predicted grades at International Abitur and IB.

We coach students in writing their personal statement, which enables them to present themselves favourably with reference to their intellectual achievements and personal interests, as well as their English language competency. This mentoring starts with a workshop focusing on statement composition in year 10. This provision includes working through a guidance provided by University College Oxford explaining their admissions procedure and providing recommendations and guidelines for students on how to approach an application to Oxbridge or any other university.

Most universities like to hear about extra-curricular activities, as they seek committed "well-rounded" students. Therefore, participation in the schools' offerings of music, sport, drama, arts, community work (eg DSL Aktive) and voluntary work (eg Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme) can strengthen an application.

In addition, the DSL provides Interview Skills coaching in year 11. We invite experts to provide interview training, an exercise which is designed to boost confidence and technique. We also use the services of outside agencies as required.



## ENSURING BILINGUALISM

As a German school abroad, we value the linguistic diversity of the DSL families and our surroundings and endeavour to find creative concepts and strategies to support the enhancement of the German as well as the English language skills of our students. We understand all our lessons as language lessons as well and aim to create a language-enriched environment in our daily interaction with the children and the lesson content. Working closely together, the German and English departments, together with the school leadership, have developed a concept of bilingualism, which aims to promote and develop the bilingual competences of the students at the DSL in the best possible way in order to ensure academic bilingualism: All DSL pupils should develop and enhance their linguistic skills in English and German to the best of their abilities. To this end we implement learning structures which:

- enable all students to benefit from their bilingual environment
- offer all pupils the opportunity to work on the foundation of their structural knowledge in both target languages - no stigmatisation
- emphasise an open mindset
- motivate students to consolidate basic language structures and develop a flexible approach to language acquisition
- promote the sound use of specialist vocabulary in the respective subject lessons.

### Bilingualism in the Kinderhaus - Building foundations

In our bilingual (German-English) Kindergarten and Preschool we work according to the immersion principle.

Language plays an extremely important role. This means that our educators only speak to the children in their German or English mother tongue. The children learn both languages in a natural context, during free play, in the morning circle, through finger rhymes, songs, stories and games.

In order to make it easier for multilingual children to enter our German-speaking primary school, we offer additionally targeted support three times a week to children from the age of 4 as part of the “German for the School Start” program ([www.deutsch-für-den-schulstart.de](http://www.deutsch-für-den-schulstart.de)). Active support from parents at home is important.

### Bilingualism in the Primary School - consolidating German, expanding English

In the DSL Primary School, which covers grades 1 to 4, the aim is to consolidate the German language level. It is important for the development of Grade 1 pupils that the teaching of reading and writing takes place in one language. Grade 2 - 4 children who come to the DSL from English school systems are introduced to the grade's level in specifically tailored “Seiteneinsteiger” lessons.

The English curriculum is partly based on the curricula of the English system. English lessons in Years 1 and 2 are taught in three weekly hours, in Years 3 and 4 in four weekly hours. The pupils learn in mixed abilities groups in the so-called ‘language bath’. Children who come into contact with the English language for the first time are supported by support staff in regular lessons or in small groups.

In the afternoon, the children can use and deepen the language skills they have acquired in both languages in numerous AGs.

### German Language Support in Kindergarten, Pre-School and Primary School

Children in Kindergarten, Preschool and Primary, who don't yet show an age-appropriate mother tongue level in German, are additionally supported in a small group setting in order to support and accelerate the language acquisition process.

This additional support is based on the two concepts DfdS and IFD. DfdS is short for „Deutsch für den Schulstart“ (German for starting school) and is implemented in Kindergarten, Preschool, 1st and 2nd grade. It is a German language diagnostic system and a German language support programme that was developed at the University of Heidelberg. It is based on current research in the fields of first and second language acquisition. The target group of the program are children at the age of four to eight years who are in need of language support in the core competences of German.

IFD is short for „Integrative Förderung Deutsch“ (integrated German support) in accordance with a German language support programme. A number of the German lessons will be joined by an additional teacher (the IFD teacher), which doubles the student-teacher-ratio in these lessons and allows for a more individual support of all students. The IFD lessons can take place in the regular class setting or in a small group setting.

First graders with a particularly high need for language support in German receive additional support in the “Seiteneinsteigerstunde”. Their basic vocabulary is expanded in a playful way and German sentence structure is practised.

By implementing German language support in the Early Years and introducing a continuous programme from Kindergarten to Primary we are aiming at providing the best possible start of formal education to the youngest members of the DSL community. Our language support programmes are continuously evaluated in regards to their efficiency and practicability, our findings are incorporated in the further enhancement of the programme.



## GERMAN AND ENGLISH IN THE SECONDARY SCHOOL: STRENGTHENING BILINGUALISM

In addition to the regular German and English lessons in our SEK I, we offer "Intensive courses" in either language. Furthermore there are "Seiteneinsteiger" (newcomer) courses, which can be visited as required. The low student-teacher ration of these classes provides a positive and fruitful learning environment.

The composition of the classes ensures that students learn both English and German in an environment of language immersion, as there are now equal proportions of German and English native speakers in each class.

In order to promote academic language education in two languages also from year 9 the so called language frames were developed for nearly all subjects for differentiated and stimulating language learning in all subjects to enhance appropriate academic language use, especially for written text types (e.g. historical source analysis) but also for oral formats (e.g. debating). CLIL (Content and Language Integrated Learning) is a language framework for specific linguistic functions that are meant to continually improve the academic and linguistic quality of subject-related texts by students.

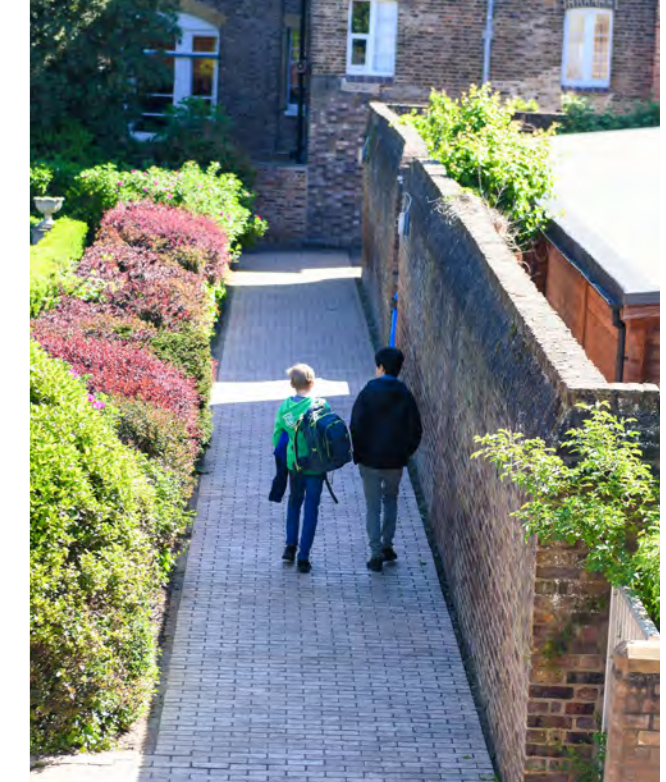
Lessons with English as the language of instruction are increasingly offered in the subjects Geography, Biology, History, Music and Politics.

ILS - Independent Language Studies are a contribution to the promotion of our particularly linguistically gifted pupils. In order to participate students must be fully bilingual on an academic level, extremely proficient in written language, highly motivated and have a strong ability to work independently.

### Bilingualism in SEK II (Sixth form) - Refining Multi-lingualism

The German International Abitur (DIA) is an internationally-acclaimed college and university preparatory curriculum and diploma that provides an academically exceptional and culturally rich multilingual education to students of all nationalities and backgrounds. The exams of the German International Abitur will have to be in German for at least 50%, the other 50% of the exams may be in a foreign or the national language, in our case English. The international character of the school's curriculum is enhanced by the inclusion of foreign languages (English, French, and Spanish) and bilingual subjects (Geography). In addition to the written exams, students can opt for modern forms of exams, such as presentations, colloquia and specialist papers and demonstrate their multilingualism.

In addition to the German International Abitur, the International Baccalaureate Diploma programme offers our students an additional entrance qualification for university studies and an opportunity to further strengthen their bi/multi-lingual language skills. In combination with the Abitur-subjects, IB students complete three higher level (HL) and three standard level (SL) courses as well as the core requirements (ToK, CAS, EE) for a full IB Diploma. Students may choose between German and English as their IB Language A (HL and SL) and Spanish or French as IB Language B.



## FOREIGN LANGUAGES

### Year 6: French or Latin

In Year 6 a second foreign language is introduced and pupils may choose French or Latin. If pupils obtain adequate marks, they receive a Latin qualification at the end of Year 10.

Generally it is not possible to continue with Latin after this, due to an insufficient number of pupils. If a student wants to take two foreign languages to leaving exam level and has chosen Latin as their second foreign language, then the student should take Spanish from Year 8 and carry on with this language in Years 11 and 12.

Alternatively, students can choose three science subjects from Year 10. French can be taken as a second foreign language up to the leaving exam and chosen as an Abitur subject.

A class trip to Paris gives students the opportunity to further practise their language skills. The Latin classes deepen their knowledge of ancient history in Rome.

### Spanish

Spanish can be added as a third foreign language in year 8 or year 10.

Spanish is offered in years 11 and 12 and can be taken as 4th exam in the Abitur.

Spanish students take part in language trips to Spain.

### Alternatives

Staff will make special provisions for pupils who come to the DSL with a different sequence of foreign languages. Staff will refer to the DSL Handbook for basic information under the different language sequences section.



Language trip to Barcelona



Language trip to Paris

Our school has exchange contacts with 13 English and international schools in the area, mutual visits are organized regularly and students from years 10/11 give German lessons in different projects at our neighbouring schools.



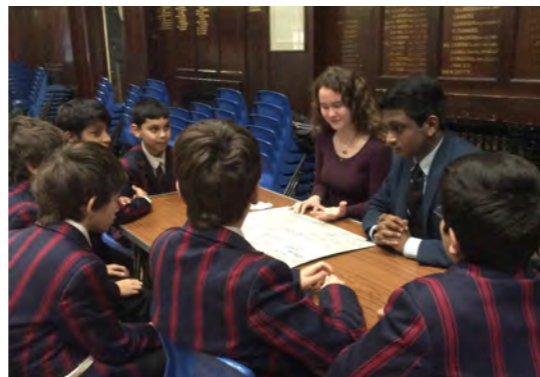
Exploring Rome



Model United Nations in Kiel



Sports tournament in Lisboa



German Fair at Tiffin Boys School

## SUBJECT TEACHING

### Geography

“The world is all around us, we just have to see it.”

As in many German federal states, geography is taught at the DSL to foster this awareness.

From the cultivation of bananas to urban planning and volcanic disasters, the most diverse phenomena of our earth are described, analysed, and evaluated in increasing complexity. In addition to actual and current examples in the classroom, excursions and trips are not neglected either. The strong practical relevance helps many students understand the connections between politics and history even better and to be able to bring them into context. Our students can always contribute and apply their own experiences of various kinds and thus help shape their learning themselves.

In many year groups, individual topics are taught in English to be able to actively use the national language and to do justice to the different language levels. This prepares the students for a possible bilingual International Abitur and IB in geography at an early stage.

### History

History is taught at the DSL from grades five to twelve. In the lower and middle secondary level with two lessons a week and in the upper level (sixth form) with 4 hours a week. History is a compulsory subject in the upper school and relevant for the Abitur.

The curriculum is based on German guidelines. In each grade, however, indigenous elements of the UK are also incorporated.

### Sciences

At the DSL Biology is taught from the 5th grade, physics from the 7th grade and chemistry from the 8th grade.

In all natural science subjects, special emphasis is placed on conducting experiments. This deepens and expands the theoretical knowledge. A great collection of good specialist equipment, models and materials insures subject areas can be made clearer and easier to understand through experiments.

The 4 brand new science rooms, which can be divided into six independent classrooms via large partition walls, are excellently set up for both theoretical and practical lessons.

All rooms are equipped with both classic and modern media for theoretical lessons and are connected to the multimedia world by a smartboard connected to a laptop.

Due to the spacious size and the progressive furnishing of the rooms, the teacher has the opportunity to optimally support small groups or the whole class in practical lessons.

New technology, bright and spacious rooms, new furniture and equipment have made this wing very popular among students and teachers alike.





## EDUCATION NEEDS EXERCISE - PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Physical education and school sports are central and indispensable elements for promoting physical activity and health for children and young people. Physical education is part of the curriculum in every German state, including at the German School in London.

Depending on the year group, it includes different goals: in primary school, the children should acquire and improve basic coordinative and conditional skills as well as tactical and technical skills in a playful manner.

In secondary school, i.e. in grades 5 to 10, they learn and deepen various types of sport, such as football, handball, gymnastics, athletics, basketball or badminton. During this time, the children should get to know the versatility of movement and learn that sport is fun.

The lessons are designed to motivate them to do sports in their free time, for example in a club. The subject also teaches social learning. This means that the children learn to play in a team, to compete against each other and to remain fair in the process.

In the upper school, i.e. in grades 11 to 12, the pupils take extra courses for specific sports and only deal with one particular sport for a longer period of time. This can be rowing, table tennis or trend sports such as skiing, climbing and fitness.

The DSL is a long-standing member of ISSA (International Schools Sports Association) together with schools from Madrid, Barcelona, Ankara, Lisbon, Aberdeen, London, Rome, Seville.

Our teams participate in soccer, basketball and volleyball. The minimum age is 14 years, so that usually students from the 9th grade train in the school teams.

Two essential principles of the ISSA organization are the idea of cultural exchange (living in host families or taking in guests in London) and the guarantee of the highest level of sporting behavior and fairness.

During the tournaments, but also in advance, there are many tasks to be mastered: putting together school teams, organising friendly games, planning travel, organising host families, appointing referees, training scoreboard teams, renting sports facilities, organising catering, getting trophies, writing the programme.

There are also friendly games against other local schools (including Greycourt, Tiffin, Southbank International School, International School London, St. Benedicts, ACS Egham)

For many students participation in an ISSA tournament, cultural exchange and bonding with teammates represents outstanding experiences in their DSL life.

The European Games between the iDSB and other German schools abroad have taken place in Brussels every two years since 2012. The respective school teams consist of twelve athletes each.

The competitions are each contested in three ball sports (volleyball, basketball, football) and three athletics disciplines (long jump, sprint, endurance run).

In addition to the competitions, there is a demanding and varied supporting programme to encourage participants to get to know each other.

Current studies (such as the MoMo study) show that more than half of the children and adolescents do not move enough. The lack of exercise, which increased during the Corona pandemic, needs to be actively, resolutely and jointly counteracted by schools and sports clubs.

We are very proud of our state of the art, spacious sports hall which can be turned into 3 parts if required and also comprises a bright dance studio. This modern, multi-functional building allows us to offer a vast variety of sports during lessons and also as an essential part of the extracurricular programme.

During tournaments or other events, a part of its 968 square meters can be transferred into a grandstand with 450 seats, making for a highly motivating setting for our teams.

The sports hall is also used by local sports clubs in the evenings and on weekends. Many of our pupils join these clubs where they further improve their skills and make friends from other schools.



Participation in the Great River Race



Charity Run



Skiing Trip to Austria



Basketball Tournament

## DSL ARTS

### Visual Arts

From Kindergarten to the International Abitur, visual arts form a continuous part in the personal development of our students.

A great variety of inspirational offers by the DSL art's curriculum and the experience of individual and collaborative creative processes are core elements of learning in the visual arts. Therefore, the DSL has a special permission for the Abitur subject "Art" being able to offer a three-hour course within the subject choices.

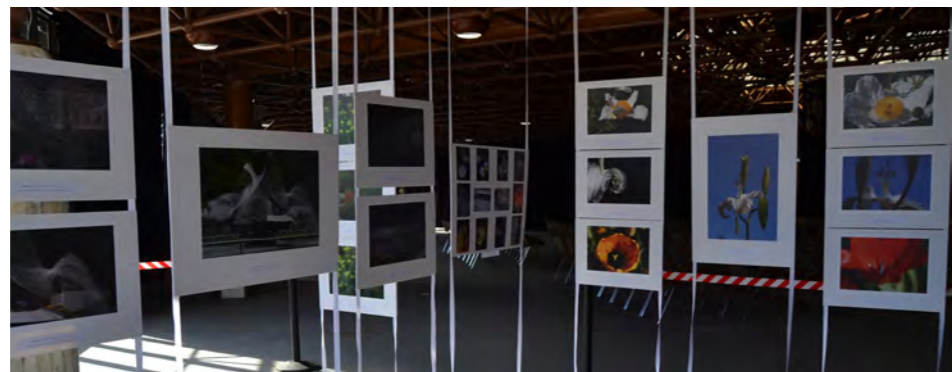
Students in the upper secondary school can also take advantage of the additional offer "IB-Visual Arts" classes and conclude this course with an exhibition of their works for the school community.

Our Arts teachers offer a weekly Open Arts Studio as an additional offer in the afternoon.

There are additional visual art's extracurricular activities offered throughout all year groups.

Some of them are material-bound like the textile or art groups or they take place in the contexts of the already mentioned Open Art Studio, in which students of all year groups can develop their own projects accompanied by a mentor.

The DSL also fosters a long tradition of support for joint and individual participation in public or internal competitions, including the annual Young Artists Competition at the Royal Academy London, where several students of the DSL are awarded the annual exhibition of their works. In our DSL-Weekly Newsletter individual classes or entire year groups exhibit their artwork on a regular basis.



## DSL ARTS

### Music

At the DSL we believe that a musical education is important and we strive to offer all pupils the opportunity to participate in a fitting setting and to add to daily school life.

During primary school has assemblies, all classes take part in musical renditions.

There are regular musical recital evenings as well as summer and Christmas concerts.

Alongside regular music lessons, the DSL offers many other opportunities for musical pupils.

One of the major opportunities is learning to play a musical instrument. Private music teachers teach at our school upon individual arrangement.

The DSL supports talented pupils by organizing the prestigious "Jugend musiziert" (young people making music) competition. Participants with a high score will qualify for the second round, the regional competition, which is coordinated by German Schools in North and Eastern Europe. (For further information, please look at the website [www.jumu-weltweit.org](http://www.jumu-weltweit.org)).

Furthermore, several afternoon clubs enhance musical life at the school, providing motivation and a sense of community.



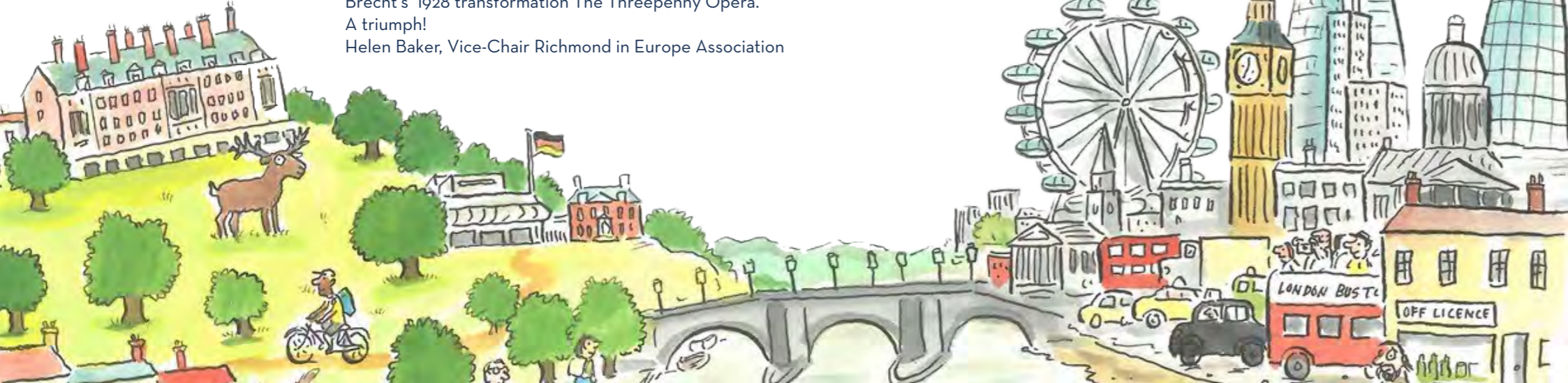
**Drama**

Each school year, musical, school play and theatre club performances add to our school's cultural life. After school drama clubs (English and German) are on offer for students of all ages (from primary to the Abitur) to put their acting chops to the test. Our own school opera, Twilight of the Beggars, was written for us by British composer James Olsen and was performed to huge applause.



**Twilight of the Beggars by Mr. James Olsen**

- A guest review  
 World premiere performances of James Olsen's opera-drama Twilight of the Beggars were performed on 12. and 13. June 2019 by secondary students of the Deutsche Schule London in Richmond, watched by representatives of the German and Swiss Embassies, John Hobley of the British German Association, (Local) Councillor Penny Frost and REA's Vice-Chair Helen Baker. The libretto graphically reworked the 1728 Beggar's Opera written by John Gay in Douglas House (home of DSL), drawing also on Bertold Brecht's 1928 transformation The Threepenny Opera. A triumph!  
 Helen Baker, Vice-Chair Richmond in Europe Association



**EVENTS, CELEBRATIONS & MORE - THE DSL COMMUNITY**



St. Martin procession



Author events



## EXTENDED SCHOOLDAY (GANZTAG) & CLUBS

The German School London offers an open Ganztag (extended school day) programme (Years 1-7). As mentioned in our Mission Statement, living together in different areas and in addition to the curriculum is part of our school's philosophy.

The Ganztag offers a comprehensive programme catering for various areas of interest.

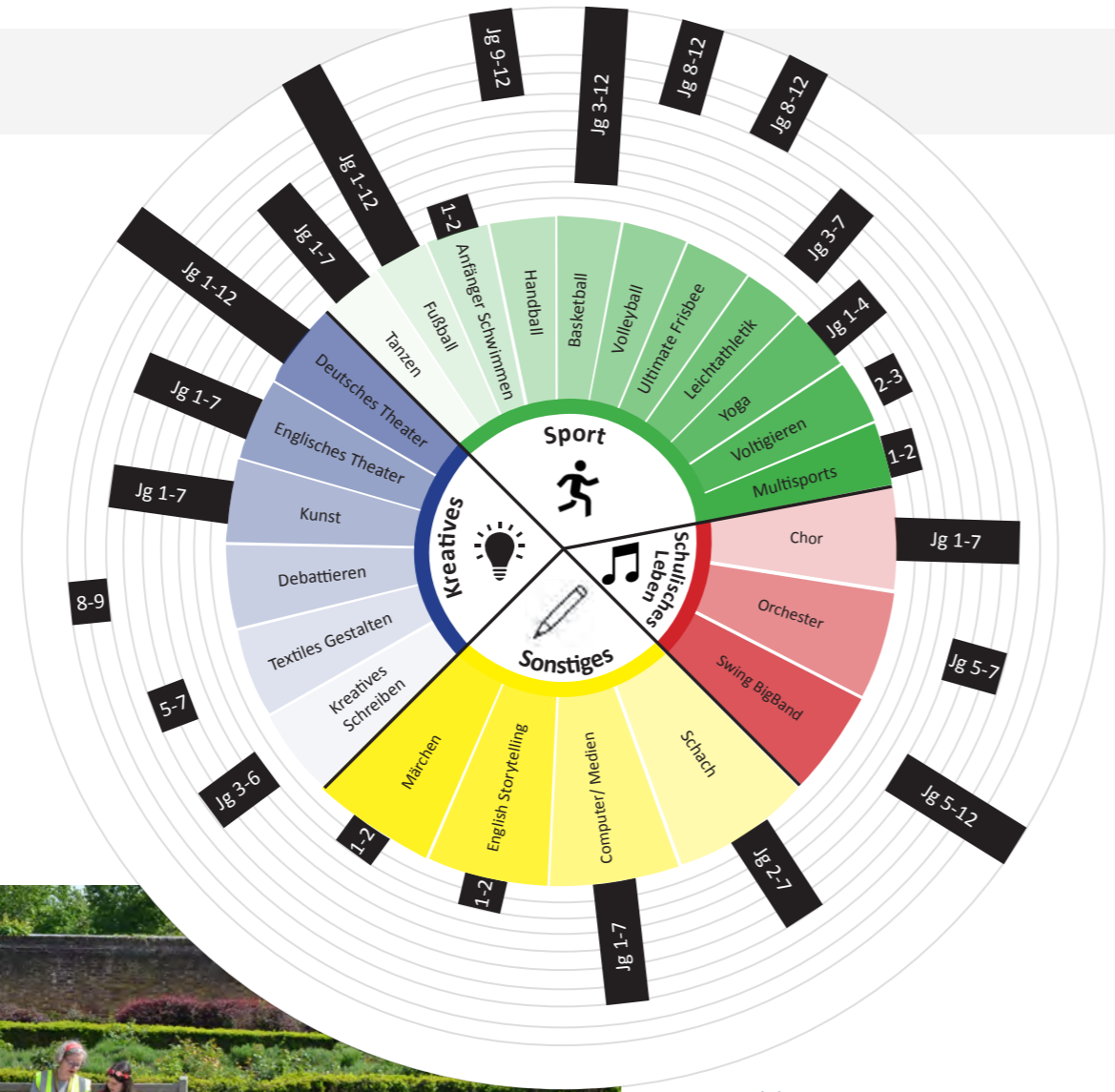
Elements of the Ganztag are:

- Cafeteria and supervision of the students during lunch breaks
- Study time in fixed groups (years 1 - 7)
- Clubs and free play in fixed groups (free play only years 1 - 4)
- Private music lessons by arrangement

Pupils pick and put together their individual afternoon schedules depending on their interests.

Ganztag bookings and payments are made separately from the school fees.

Years 8 - 12 can choose from a number of after school clubs and other extracurricular offerings. They are also welcome to use the Learning Resources Centre for independent studies.



Club programm can vary

## SUPPORT: THE "BERATUNGSQUADRAT"



The "DSL Beratungsquadrat" consists of a multi-professional team covering safeguarding, school psychology, social education and specific educational needs (SEN).

Being true to our motto "living together, learning together, shaping together, building bridges together", we support and accompany pupils, parents and employees in many questions around living and learning at our school.

The "Beratungsquadrat", which also includes the learning support team, works across departments in Kindergarten and Preschool as well as in Primary and Secondary school.

We combine different perspectives and expertise in order to develop the best possible and tailor-made approach and solutions.

Areas for advice include:

- Special needs/promoting special talents
- support in different areas of learning
- consolidating social interaction
- stressful situations at school and at home
- when a pupils wellbeing - inside or outside of school - is endangered.



Beratungsquadrat 2023/24



Learning support team 2023/24

## ADMISSIONS

### YOUR FIRST POINT OF CONTACT

Please do not hesitate to contact our Admissions Coordinator, Uta von Andrian, if you would like to find out more about the German School London. She will also be happy to make arrangements for a private tour of the school.



Uta von Andrian  
Admissions Coordinator

Deutsche Schule  
London Douglas House  
Petersham Road  
Richmond  
TW10 7AH

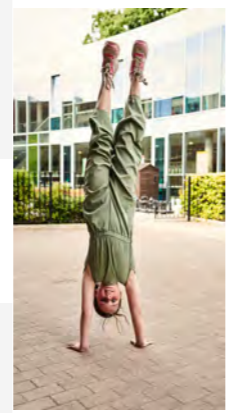
Phone: +44 (0) 20 89 40 25 10

Contact: [Uta.vonAndrian@dslondon.org.uk](mailto:Uta.vonAndrian@dslondon.org.uk)



#### Admissions:

Please fill in the admissions form on our website. Please also provide a birth certificate and copies of the latest school reports. The admission decision is taken by the Head teacher. There is no legal entitlement to be admitted to the German School London. Confirmation of admission is given in writing. We charge admission fees of 500 gbp. We are looking forward to welcome you to our school community.





**DEUTSCHE  
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LONDON**



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