



**LOUISENLUND**  
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## **IB World School Admissions Policy**

Choosing the right school is one of most critical decisions in a young adult's life. The admissions team in Louisenlund is committed to ensuring that applicants and their parents are well advised and counseled so that they can make a confident and informed choice. As a school community, we follow an open and inclusive admissions policy, welcoming students with diverse backgrounds and a range of talents and abilities. From our perspective, the most critical factors in the admissions process are the student's conscious choice for Louisenlund and that we believe we are the right school for that candidate. It is also our great responsibility to ensure that applicants for admission Louisenlund have a reasonable chance of success in the courses we offer. To this end, our school has a set of basic prerequisites for candidates applying to our Pre-IB and IB Diploma Programmes.

### **Language Requirements**

The general medium of instruction and working language in the Pre-IB and IB Diploma Programme is English. Students seeking admission to the school's international branch whose first language is not English are required to provide an English language certificate at the level B2 or the equivalent of a Cambridge English first or higher. Because we encourage the integration of international students within the wider school community, and German is the dominant lingua franca on our campus, we require all Pre-IB and IB students to speak and write basic German. Students enrolling in our international programme with little or no German competency will be required to attend DaF (German as a foreign language) lessons until the minimum standard of A2 is achieved. For further information on language requirements, please refer to our *School Language Policy*.

### **Academic Requirements:**

Candidates for admission to Louisenlund's IB World School must demonstrate that they are students who embrace and embody the *IB Learner Profile* (see Louisenlund's *IB Handbook*). We expect applicants to have inquiring and open minds, to be diligent and reliable, to be good communicators, and to have an openness to learning new things. Good time-management and organizational skills are also indispensable qualities for students to be successful in the IB. In addition to these characteristics, applicants must fulfill the following criteria for admission:

#### ***Pre-IB (Pre-DP; Year 10)***

Pre-IB students must have completed year nine (MYP 4 or the equivalent) with passing grades<sup>1</sup> and demonstrate a positive attitude and a willingness to work consistently and effectively. Students must also have a background in at least one foreign language and a willingness to take three of the languages offered (including English and German).

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<sup>1</sup> A minimum of 4 („ausreichend“) in all subjects in the German system, no grade of 2 or worse in the MYP system; no grade of D or worse in American, British, Canadian, or international schools.

## **IB Diploma Programme**

Candidates for the IB Diploma Programme will have successfully completed year ten (MYP 5 or the equivalent) and have satisfactory grades<sup>2</sup> in the six subjects they intend to select for the Diploma Programme. In addition to English, students must have a background and be prepared to take a course in one other language we offer in the DP (see our *School Language Policy*). They must likewise demonstrate a positive attitude and work ethic.

Students currently enrolled in our Pre-IB programme who seek admission to the Diploma Programme will reach the following standard in their year ten school report: a total of at least 24 points in the six subjects they wish to take in the DP. Students must also demonstrate sufficient competency in written and spoken English and obtain a grade of at least 4 in the Pre-IB English course to be admitted to the DP. Pre-IB students will also be admitted to the DP only if they are in good CAS standing and have successfully completed the Research Essay and Product (REP).

Candidates who fail to meet the above academic requirements in one or more subjects may be required to take **individual subject admissions tests** administered on campus. Such applicants will be required to pass these examinations before admission can be confirmed.

### **Students with Special Needs:**

Louisenlund's inclusive admissions policy includes welcoming students with a variety of different abilities and special needs. We have several staff members qualified to support students with various learning disabilities and have successfully accompanied such students through the IB Diploma Programme in the past. However, due to the historic nature of many of the buildings on campus, we are not in a position to accept students who require wheelchair access.

### **Admission Process:**

Prospective students and their families should direct enquiries to the Office of Admissions. The contact persons are Sigrid Redlefsen ([sigrid.redlefsen@louisenlund.de](mailto:sigrid.redlefsen@louisenlund.de) for German nationals) and Kirsten Conradi ([kirsten.conradi@louisenlund.de](mailto:kirsten.conradi@louisenlund.de) for international students). Applicants should then submit a completed application form, a short letter of motivation in English, and a school transcript (reports) from the last four academic semesters to the respective contact.

Louisenlund will then schedule an interview either with the Diploma Programme Coordinator ([Damien.vassallo@louisenlund.de](mailto:Damien.vassallo@louisenlund.de)) or with our admissions officer, Ulrike Schwarz-Axtmann ([Ulrike.schwarz-axtmann@louisenlund.de](mailto:Ulrike.schwarz-axtmann@louisenlund.de)). As a general rule, the interviews will take place on Louisenlund's campus. In exceptional circumstances, a Skype interview can be arranged. The Diploma Programme Coordinator and/or admissions counselor will provide students and their families with detailed information about the IB Diploma Programme and boarding school life in Louisenlund.

Senior management will then deliberate on the candidate's application on the basis of the Diploma Programme Coordinator's recommendation. Within one week's time, the Office of Admissions will contact applicant's family with a final decision.

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<sup>2</sup> A minimum of 3 („befriedigend“) in subjects in the German system, a grade of 4 or better in the MYP; a grade of at least C (B for Higher Level subjects) in American, British, Canadian, or international schools.

Candidates who have been admitted will subsequently receive written confirmation of their acceptance. The educational contract and all relevant paperwork, including Louisenlund's IB Policies, will then be sent to the applicant's family for consideration and signing. These documents should be signed and sent back to the Office of Admissions at the family's earliest convenience (no later than one week before matriculating at Louisenlund).

New international students are invited to attend our International Student Orientation, which begins one week before school begins. While not mandatory, the Orientation will provide new students with indispensable information for their transition to life in Germany at Louisenlund and is therefore highly recommended. All new students who are German nationals will take part in our orientation sailing camp on the weekend prior to the start of the school year.

If you have any further questions regarding our admissions policy or procedures, do not hesitate to contact our admissions team.

Respectfully,

Damien P. Vassallo

Principal, International Baccalaureate  
IB Diploma Programme Coordinator