

# Admissions policy

for use in the *International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme* at  
SZTE Báthory István Gyakorló Gimnázium és Általános Iskola



## 1. Introduction

SZTE Báthory Gyakorló Gimnázium és Általános Iskola is determined to create a space where students from all walks of life, cultures and backgrounds can participate. As the current class number is set at 15 students per year, students wishing to join the Diploma Programme must undergo an admission exam. We are expecting students aged 16-19 years.

## 2. Application process

**We are accepting applications for the following school year from February 1st to February 15th.** Students must send the application form to [int.gyakg@szte.hu](mailto:int.gyakg@szte.hu).

**Admission exams are set in March. Applicants will be informed about specific dates via email at least two weeks before the exams.** On the day of the written exam, students must present:

- a printed and signed original Application Form,
- original certificates from their school that they have completed their first year of high school, and are currently in or have finished their second year of high school,
- a picture ID
- a completed and signed Academic Fee Form.

**Applicants are notified of the results and acceptance by April 20th.** Accepted students will be informed on following procedures in writing and on the IB Admission Day (May).

## 3. Subject considerations

Students indicate which subjects they would like to select on the admission form. For the next school year, the school is offering the following subjects:

<b>Group 1</b> <b>Studies in language and literature</b>	Hungarian A SL Hungarian A HL School-assisted self-taught language A
<b>Group 2</b> <b>Language acquisition</b>	German B SL French B SL Spanish B SL German B HL French B HL Spanish B HL
<b>Group 3</b> <b>Individuals and societies</b>	History SL History HL
<b>Group 4</b> <b>Sciences</b>	Physics SL Physics HL Biology SL Biology HL
<b>Group 5</b> <b>Mathematics</b>	Mathematics: analysis and approaches SL
<b>Group 6</b> <b>The arts</b>	Film SL Visual arts SL

Students are required to choose one subject in each subject group: three SL and three HL courses. SL indicates Standard Level, and HL indicates Higher Level. They might choose another subject from groups 1-5 instead of one from group 6. In addition, students study the IB core subject Theory of Knowledge (TOK), and participate in the Creativity, Activity, Service (CAS) and Extended Essay (EE) activities. TOK is integrated in students' timetable, while CAS is an individual activity that involves personal projects and consultations with the CAS coordinator. The EE is also an individual activity which involves conducting research, consultations with students' own supervisors, as well as participation in compulsory writing workshops.

Hungarian as a foreign language is offered to non-Hungarian-speaking students as a special afternoon course. The course is led by a qualified teacher of Hungarian as a foreign language. Similarly to other language courses, it is built around IB Approaches to Teaching and Learning. It provides students an opportunity to acquire basic Hungarian language skills for everyday communication, explore Hungarian culture, traditions, and heritage, and compare and contrast Hungarian culture with their own and that of others.

#### 4. Admission exam

**The admission exam consists of a written exam assessing thinking skills and subject-specific problem-solving, and a motivational interview.** The admission period is set in April, with year specific information to be found on the school website.

##### 4.1. Written exam

Students must take a 120-minutes long exam, assessing their understanding and subject-specific skills in the target subjects. **The aim of the exam is not to quantify knowledge, but to assess the students' ability to solve problems in the Languages of Instruction as well as their proficiency in those languages.**

During the exam, students must answer two questions on each of the subjects submitted during the application process.

As an example, a student who has selected Spanish B, naturally won't have to answer questions on German, but will have to answer two questions in connection to Spanish:

Language and Literature / Hungarian A	Question 1 - 3 point Question 2 - 4 points
Language Acquisition / Spanish B	Question 1 - 3 point Question 2 - 4 points
Individuals and Societies / Geography	Question 1 - 3 point Question 2 - 4 points
Sciences / Physics	Question 1 - 3 point Question 2 - 4 points
Mathematics / Analysis and approaches	Question 1 - 3 point Question 2 - 4 points
Arts / Film	Question 1 - 3 point

	Question 2 - 4 points
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The answers are evaluated by the teacher of the respective subject based on content, comprising a maximum of 42 points. Language proficiency is also evaluated in the Languages of Instruction by a teacher of that language.

Subject-specific content		42 points
Language proficiency	Language and Literature* target language	6 points
	Language Acquisition target language	6 points
	Language of Instruction for all other subjects - English	6 points
<b>Overall</b>		<b>60 points</b>

\*Students taking on SSST, or as in this case, non-Hungarian natives, are asked to write responses to English A questions, regardless of their native language.

Language proficiency is marked on the following scale:

6 points	Grammar accuracy, vocabulary, style and organization is appropriate to a B2 level learner, with only minor mistakes that do not infringe on understanding.
5 points	Grammar accuracy, vocabulary, style and organization is appropriate to a B2 level learner, with few mistakes infringing on understanding.
4 points	Grammar accuracy, vocabulary, style and organization is appropriate to a B2 level learner, but mistakes make understanding difficult in the case of one subject.
3 points	Grammar accuracy, vocabulary, style and organization is appropriate to a B2 level learner, but mistakes make understanding difficult in the case of two or more subjects.
2 points	Failure to achieve B2 level language proficiency, with mistakes infringing on understanding.
1 point	Language proficiency is not sufficient to communicate ideas.
0 points	Illegible writing and/or failure to write in target languages.

#### 4.2. Motivational interview

Students are requested to appear in front of a committee of at least three members of the teaching staff. **The aim of the interview is to assess the students' motivation, attitude, and understanding of IB philosophy.** The interview questions aim to explore the character, personal history and mental outlook of the students, so that the committee might discover students who are most suitable to the programme, and those who can benefit the most from it.

The interview committee can allocate a maximum of 40 points for the interview, based on the following structure:

Introduction, personal background description	10 points
Positive attitude towards learning	10 points
Understanding of IB philosophy	10 points
Oral language proficiency	10 points
<b>Overall</b>	<b>40 points</b>

**During the admission exam, the maximum points a student can achieve is 100.** Previous academic achievements are not considered as a part of the admission exam, but students may find it useful to include some of their accomplishments as a part of their personal background description.

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