



# Mark Twain International School

Prospectus 2024 - 2025

Award-winning IB World  
School & a Pioneer in  
Romanian Private  
Education



*Celebrating*

**30 YEARS OF MARK TWAIN IS**  
[www.marktwainschool.ro](http://www.marktwainschool.ro)

**Caring and open-minded promoters of interculturalism, all members of the Mark Twain IS community embrace their national values and cultures within a vibrant framework of internationalism.**



An aerial architectural rendering of a modern school building. The building features a prominent green facade and large glass windows. A central courtyard is visible, containing several trees, a paved walkway, and a covered walkway. A car is parked in the foreground. The overall scene is bright and sunny.

**As citizens of one world, our graduates will have learned to face the demands of life in the 21st century with confidence, integrity, compassion, creativity and love of peace and humanity.**

Welcome



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# Introduction

# 30 Years of Mark Twain IS

As we embark on another exciting academic year at Mark Twain International School (MTIS), we're thrilled to celebrate a remarkable milestone — our 30th anniversary! It's a time of great excitement and reflection for our entire community, as this milestone is not just a testament to our longevity, but a celebration of our ongoing commitment to academic excellence and personal growth in our students.

## **A Vision Born from a Mother's Dream**

The journey of MTIS began with a mother's dream. Ms. Anca Macovei Vlasceanu wanted a better education for her daughter and son, one that adhered to international standards. She envisioned a place where children could thrive in a nurturing environment, gaining the skills and knowledge needed to succeed in an interconnected world. From this vision, MTIS was born, and over the past three decades, it has grown into one of the oldest and most respected private schools in Romania.

## **A Warm Welcome Back for Our Faculty**

This week, our dedicated faculty members returned to our vibrant campuses, preparing fervently for the new academic year launch on Monday, September 9th. The corridors of MTIS are once again alive with the sounds of enthusiasm and the hustle and bustle of preparations. Our new Head of School, Dr. Matthew Wilkens, led the charge with an inspiring kickoff, focusing on the core values and personal missions that drive our educators.

At MTIS, education goes beyond textbooks and exams. We strive to develop each child as an inquirer, both in the classroom and the world outside. With a low student-to-teacher ratio of 1:6, our highly dedicated teaching staff provides personalized attention, ensuring that every student feels seen, heard, and valued. Our emphasis on early artistic and athletic focus helps children discover and nurture their talents from a young age.

## **A Community of Growth and Belonging**

Since 2010, MTIS IB Diploma Programme students sit the International Baccalaureate, thus joining the 100,000 students in over 125 countries, representing over 205 nationalities, who participate annually in this session of IB examinations, recognized worldwide as being extremely challenging and highly complex. Beyond academics, MTIS offers over 40 co-curricular activities and on-campus tutoring options, ensuring students have ample opportunities to explore their interests and passions. Our career counseling and mentoring programs provide guidance with university applications, setting our students up for future success.

As we look forward to another academic year, the sense of community and belonging at MTIS remains stronger than ever. Our warm and inviting campuses, spread over expansive green spaces and modern buildings, provide a nurturing environment where students can thrive academically, socially, and emotionally. Our Head of School, Dr. Wilkens and the faculty are committed to fostering a positive impact, emphasizing not just academic excellence but also character and personal growth.

## **Join Us in Celebrating 30 Years of MTIS**

The 30th anniversary of Mark Twain International School is a significant milestone that highlights our dedication to providing an exceptional education. We invite you to join us in celebrating this journey and to be a part of our vibrant community.

# Head of School



# Welcome Letter

Greetings to all!

It is my great pleasure to welcome you to Mark Twain International School, one of Romania's oldest and most esteemed private educational institutions. For over two decades, we have been guiding students from preschool through grade 12 on a journey of academic excellence, personal growth, and innovative thinking.

At Mark Twain IS, we believe in the power of education to transform lives and shape the future. Our name carries a dual significance – honoring the great American author Mark Twain, and echoing the steamboat pilot's call of "Mark twain!" signaling safe passage. In this spirit, we see ourselves as guides, helping our students navigate the complexities of the 21st century with confidence, integrity, and compassion.

Our school offers two robust divisions of study:  
The Bilingual Program, seamlessly blending English and Romanian instruction  
The International Program, conducted exclusively in English

Both divisions are fully accredited by ARACIP (Romanian National Accreditation) and offer the complete continuum of International Baccalaureate programs – PYP, MYP, and DP. Additionally, we are proud to be an accredited Cambridge International School.

What sets Mark Twain IS apart is our commitment to providing a high-performing yet supportive learning environment that fosters innovation and creative thinking. We understand that each student is unique, with individual needs, learning styles, and goals. Our dedicated faculty and staff work tirelessly to tailor our approach, encouraging each child to become an internationally-minded, lifelong learner capable of recognizing opportunities and creating value in their communities and beyond.

At Mark Twain, we foster a comprehensive educational experience that extends far beyond traditional academics. Our diverse curriculum integrates STEAM initiatives, global citizenship programs, advanced language immersion, and innovative arts and athletics, complemented by over 40 extracurricular subjects. This holistic approach has cultivated remarkable achievements, including over 250 academic Olympians and award-winning students at inter-school, county, and national levels over the past 18 years.

We don't just educate; we inspire and empower. We foster creativity, critical thinking, problem-solving skills, and a love for peace and humanity. Our students don't just learn about the world – they learn how to make it better through innovative ideas and purposeful action. From Model United Nations and robotics clubs to competitive sports and community service, our students engage in a rich tapestry of activities that develop their talents and passions.

Through project-based learning, real-world problem-solving, and collaboration with local businesses and organizations, our students develop the skills and mindset needed to thrive in an ever-changing global landscape.

As you explore our website, you'll discover the myriad opportunities we offer, from rigorous academics to enriching extracurricular activities and innovative initiatives. You'll see how we're preparing our students not just for university, but for a life of purpose, innovation, and impact.

I invite you to visit our vibrant campuses to fully understand all we have to offer your students. Experience firsthand the dynamic environment where your child can thrive, grow and forge wonderful friendships. Whether you're a prospective family considering joining our community, a current member looking for information, or a curious visitor, we encourage you to explore all that MTIS has to offer in person. We're more than a school – we're an incubator for ideas, a launchpad for dreams, and a family united in our mission to nurture the leaders, thinkers, and innovators of tomorrow.

We look forward to partnering with you on this exciting educational journey that will empower our students to shape their own futures and make a positive difference in the world.

With gratitude,  
Matthew D. Wilkens, PhD  
General Director & Head of School  
Mark Twain International School



# What Makes Us Unique



Mark Twain International School delivers the complete International Baccalaureate continuum through two distinct educational pathways united as one vibrant community.

Our Global Bilingual Division empowers students to master English while excelling in the Romanian national curriculum through an international lens, creating confident bicultural learners. Meanwhile, our International Division transcends the traditional expatriate school model, welcoming students with strong English proficiency who seek authentic cultural immersion beyond the typical international school bubble.

While following different academic paths, students from both divisions learn, grow, and collaborate together, creating a unique educational ecosystem where global perspectives meet local insights, multiple languages flourish, and lasting cross-cultural friendships thrive. This intentional integration of pathways prepares our students not just for academic excellence, but for meaningful participation in our interconnected world.

# Mission Statement



**Mark Twain International School is committed to offering its students a high-performing, yet supportive learning environment, tailored to their individual needs, styles and goals, that will encourage them to become informed life- long learners.**

Caring and open-minded promoters of interculturalism, all members of the Mark Twain International School community embrace their national values and cultures within a vibrant framework of internationalism.

As citizens of one world, our graduates are ready to face the demands of the 21st century with confidence, integrity, compassion, creativity and love of peace and humanity.

# Our Beliefs

## **The Spirit of Achievement**

Our longstanding goal is to offer students a high-quality international educational experience by creating an environment where learners from all walks of life thrive, grow and develop in the spirit of exploration, innovation and achievement.

## **A Global-Minded School**

Mark Twain IS has emerged and grown naturally as an expression of the local community's need for a global-minded school where teaching is either carried out in English or in a bilingual English-Romanian programme of study. Now, students from all over the world join our international school.

## **Inspiring Students and Teachers**

We pride ourselves with caring, responsible and open-minded teachers, who are devoted to our mission of inspiring our students to thrive in an ever-changing world. Experienced, fair and kind, our team is continuously growing to our fast rising student numbers.

## **Shared Humanity & Richness of Cultures**

Mark Twain IS appreciates our shared humanity and rejoices in the richness of cultures from all around the world. We look forward to sending open-minded representatives out into the world and we are committed to the ideal of peaceful unity in diversity.

## **Quality Education and Languages Programme**

Our advanced languages programme, the diversity of the student body, and our strong IB continuum are just a few ways to illustrate our devotion towards our national languages and cultures and our respect towards other languages and cultures of the world.

## **Focus on Co-Curricular and Community**

Mark Twain International School also actively promotes the involvement of students in arts, sciences, sports and community events, as well as putting an emphasis on social responsibility initiatives and environment-awareness projects.

# A Diverse Community



We believe in diversity, inclusion and fair treatment of all people. Our learning environment reflects the diverse world in which we live. As their knowledge expands, our students learn to recognize and appreciate different cultures and ethnicities.

We now have over 600 students from over 52 countries studying with us.

## **We celebrate cultural differences**

For 30 years now, our community has been at the forefront of promoting and celebrating different cultures around the world. Some of our most beloved events are: Hispanic Culture Day, Halloween Bash, Winter Wonderland Festivities, Valentine's Day, Shakespeare Day, International Children's Day, Ziuva Iei, Spring Talent Show, Huckleberry Summer Ceremonies, Summer Lantern Festival.

# An International Education

## In service to the world around us

Mark Twain IS is committed to offering its students an all-round high-performing and supporting learning environment with focus on empathy, open-mindedness and an action taking attitude. At the center of its community, Mark Twain IS places a strong emphasis on promoting and hosting charitable events and activities, both nationally and internationally.

Internationally, our high school students proudly take part in overseas UN conferences with focus on implementing sustainable development measures. Such conferences are, for us, the focus point of generating and putting into practice local solutions for global problems related to the environment. Year-round, in-school events and collaborations with charitable associations involve our students in experiences answering the needs of different communities.

## Embracing the World

As an IB World School, Mark Twain International School embodies the criteria that define a truly global education:

- developing citizens of the world in relation to culture, language and learning to live together;
- building and reinforcing students' sense of identity and cultural awareness;
- fostering students' recognition and development of universal human values;
- equipping students with the skills to learn and acquire knowledge, individually or collaboratively and to apply these skills and knowledge accordingly, across a broad range of areas;
- stimulating curiosity and inquiry in order to foster a spirit of discovery and enjoyment of learning;
- providing international content while responding to local requirements and interests;
- encouraging diversity and flexibility in teaching methods;
- providing appropriate forms of assessment and international benchmarking.



# The IB Learner Profile

**The aim of all IB programmes is to develop internationally minded people who, recognizing their common humanity and shared guardianship of the planet, help to create a better and more peaceful world.**

## **Inquirers**

We nurture our curiosity, developing skills for inquiry and research. We know how to learn independently and with others. We learn with enthusiasm and sustain our love of learning throughout life.

## **Knowledgeable**

We develop and use conceptual understanding, exploring knowledge across a range of disciplines. We engage with issues and ideas that have local and global significance.

## **Thinkers**

We use critical and creative thinking skills to analyse and take responsible action on complex problems. We exercise initiative in making reasoned, ethical decisions.

## **Communicators**

We express ourselves confidently and creatively in more than one language and in many ways. We collaborate effectively, listening carefully to the perspectives of other individuals and groups.

## **Principled**

We act with integrity and honesty, with a strong sense of fairness and justice, and with respect for the dignity and rights of people everywhere. We take responsibility for our actions and their consequences.

## **Open Minded**

We critically appreciate our own cultures and personal histories, as well as the values and traditions of others. We seek and evaluate a range of points of view, and we are willing to grow from the experience.

## **Caring**

We show empathy, compassion and respect. We have a commitment to service, and we act to make a positive difference in the lives of others and in the world around us.



**The IB learner profile represents 10 attributes valued by IB World Schools. We believe these attributes, and others like them, can help individuals and groups become responsible members of local, national and global communities.**

### **Risk-Takers**

We approach uncertainty with forethought and determination; we work independently and cooperatively to explore new ideas and innovative strategies. We are resourceful and resilient in the face of challenges and change.

### **Reflective**

We thoughtfully consider the world and our own ideas and experience. We work to understand our strengths and weaknesses in order to support our learning and personal development.

### **Balanced**

We understand the importance of balancing different aspects of our lives - intellectual, physical, and emotional - to achieve well-being for ourselves and others. We recognize our interdependence with other people and with the world in which we live.



**Anca Macovei-Vlăsceanu**

School Founder

**Our students learn early on to communicate in several languages, ask the right questions and look for the right solutions in any situation or context.**

They are encouraged to take initiative and develop a strong voice, bringing value to those around them, and finding their purpose in the heart of the global community, where they act with skill and creativity.

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Mark Twain International School is a private, independent, co-educational school offering excellent English and bilingual (English- Romanian) international programmes of study to students from around the world.

**30** Years

**14** Accreditations

**80+** Qualified Teachers

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Mark Twain International School welcomes students ages 2 to 19 from around the world who are interested in taking part in an exciting and challenging international learning experience.

**3** Beautiful Green Campuses

**34** IB Exam Average

**160+** University Offers

**40+** Co-curricular Activities

**23 000m<sup>2</sup>** of Green Spaces

**11** Buildings

**2006** IB world School since

**6:1** Student/teacher ratio

**700+** Students

**80+** Highly Trained Teachers

**3** Visionary IB Programme Coordinators

**50+** Dedicated Staff & Admin Members

**50+** Different nationalities represented

**98%** University Acceptance Rate

**4** Fully Accredited Levels of Study

# Studying at Mark Twain IS



# Accreditations & Affiliations



## Mark Twain International School

Preschool | Primary School | Middle School | High School



For three decades, Mark Twain International School has proudly stood as one of Romania's most forward-thinking and accomplished institutions of pre-university education.

Our achievements include:

Multiple national and international accreditations and quality evaluations, including the International Baccalaureate (PYP, MYP, DP), National Ministry of Education (ARACIP), Cambridge International Education, Council of International Schools, European Council of International Schools, and Cambridge English Assessment.

Consistently high student achievements in academics, arts, athletics, and community engagement.

Outstanding pass rates at both National and International Baccalaureate Exams.

Prestigious alumni pursuing bachelor's, master's, and doctoral studies at leading universities worldwide. A personalized education approach supported by an optimal teacher-student ratio.

A commitment to excellence through ongoing comprehensive professional development for teachers.

Recognition as School of the Year in Romania (2010, 2014).

The prestigious Duke of Edinburgh's International Award Romania since 2020.

Recently honored as "The Most Progressive School of Romania 2023" by the global education publication The Education View, Centre for Excellence.

# What is an IB Education?

The IB continuum of international education for 3 to 19 year olds is unique because of its academic and personal rigour. We challenge students to excel in their studies and in their personal growth. We aim to inspire a quest for learning throughout life that is marked by enthusiasm and empathy.

The IB aspires to help schools develop well-rounded students with character who respond to challenges with optimism and an open mind, are confident in their own identities, make ethical decisions, join with others in celebrating our common humanity and are prepared to apply what they learn in real-world, complex and unpredictable situations.

**The IB offers high-quality programmes of international education that share a powerful vision. Informed by the values described in the learner profile, an IB education:**

- focuses on learners - the IB's student-centered programmes promote healthy relationships, ethical responsibility and personal challenge;
- develops effective approaches to teaching and learning - IB programmes help students to develop the attitudes and skills they need for both academic and personal success;
- works within global contexts - IB programmes increase understanding of languages and cultures, and explore globally significant ideas and issues;
- explores significant content - IB programmes offer a curriculum that is broad and balanced, conceptual and connected. IB learners strive to become inquirers, knowledgeable, thinkers, communicators, principled, open-minded, caring, risk-takers, balanced, and reflective;
- these attributes represent a broad range of human capacities and responsibilities that go beyond intellectual development and academic success.



## The Primary Years Programme

### Fit for 3-12 year olds

The PYP prepares students to become active, caring, lifelong learners who demonstrate respect for themselves and others and have the capacity to participate in the world around them. It focuses on the development of the whole child both within and beyond the classroom.

## The Middle Years Programme

### Fit for 11-16 year olds

A challenging framework that encourages students to make practical connections between their studies and the real world, the MYP is inclusive by design; students of all interests and academic abilities can benefit from their participation.

## The Diploma Programme

### Fit for 16-19 year olds

Research suggests many benefits to choosing the DP. The programme aims to develop students who have excellent breadth and depth of knowledge – students who flourish physically, intellectually, emotionally and ethically.



# The Early Learning Centre



# The Early Learning Centre

## Guided by the IB philosophy

The Preschool levels at Mark Twain IS function under the same vision and perspective on education as all the other school levels, guided by the IB philosophy and approaches while providing a strong foundation to sow the seeds of education. Our well designed and constantly reviewed programme of inquiry helps us nurture these seeds and provide a whole variety of nutrients reflected in the units taken on by children during the course of the preschool years.

Knowledge, in-depth learning and enduring understanding can only be achieved through curiosity. Our preschoolers are regularly given opportunities to explore new things to propel their interests; the learning engagements comprise a wide range of experiences and information so as to assist them in their journey of learning.

## Engaging and enjoyable learning

A wonderful way to give our preschoolers meaningful opportunities to enhance their learning is to engage them in activities which are relevant to them and lend themselves to questioning, to wondering and to playing with possibilities. Our teachers use activities that make learning engaging and enjoyable.

Students play and learn, all while having fun through movement and dramatic play activities while essential skills and basic concepts are easily approached and understood.

- alphabet recognition
- numbers and counting
- opposites
- weather and seasons
- shapes
- and many more, are easily approached and understood

Activities help children use mind-body connection to enhance learning and support important early concepts connecting to the transdisciplinary PYP Units of Inquiry

# Ages 2 to 3 Toddler Learning



# Ages 2 to 3 Toddler Learning

## **A Specific and Unique Approach**

Mark Twain IS acknowledges that every student is unique in preferences, interests, abilities and learning styles. Our teachers work closely with all students to identify their interests and guide them to pursue their passions and dreams. Especially at an early age, we truly believe this to be of vital importance. While following the national curriculum of the Ministry of Education, Mark Twain IS Early Learning Centre strives to facilitate the transition of 2 to 3 year olds into the IB Primary Years Programme after the age of 3.

## **English: Language of instruction**

Language is the means of communication, inquiry, study and research and is an essential factor in intellectual stimulation and development, encouraging the growth of personal and global understanding. Mark Twain IS considers that the capacity to communicate in more than one language facilitates students' movement beyond their first language and national culture, increasing their awareness of the world, eventually enabling them to participate more actively in life as citizens of one world.

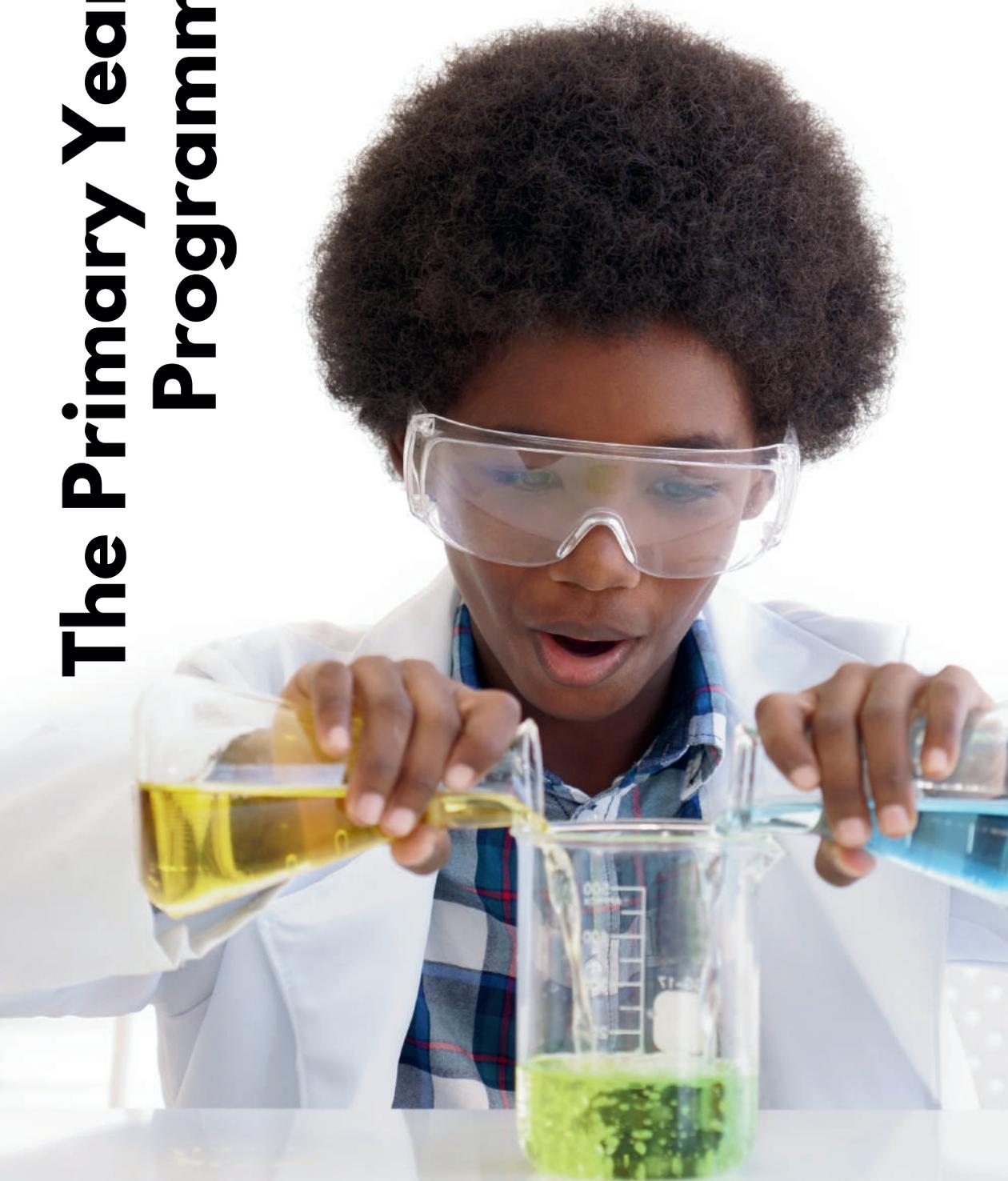
## **Summative & Formative Assessment Forms**

At Mark Twain IS, assessment is viewed not only as the possible end of the learning chapter but also as a part of a continuous cycle that leads students towards deeper levels of understanding, using the assessment as a form of learning. We believe that assessment should reflect the five essential elements: the acquisition of knowledge, the understanding of concepts, and the mastering of skills, the development of attitudes and the decision to take action. We recognize the importance of assessing the process of inquiry as well as the product(s) of inquiry and we aim to integrate and support both.

## **Reporting**

Assessment of every child's individual development is done by keeping detailed notes about every child's progress via the ManageBac platform on the web and compiling bi-annual evaluation cards, both being important instruments in evaluating children individually and stimulating parental involvement in their child's education. In addition, parents receive weekly and monthly electronic newsletters that record and present the main themes and activities in which their children have been engaging and the results achieved within the mini-projects that have unfolded during the programme.

# The Primary Years Programme



# The Primary Years Programme



## What is the IB Primary Years Programme (PYP)?

The PYP is designed for students aged 3 to 12. It focuses on the development of the whole child as an inquirer, both in the classroom and in the world outside.

It is a framework guided by six multidisciplinary themes of global significance, explored using knowledge and skills derived from six subjects areas, as well as transdisciplinary skills, with a powerful emphasis on inquiry.

The PYP is flexible enough to accommodate the demands of most national or local curriculums and provides the best preparation for students to engage in the IB Middle Years Programme.

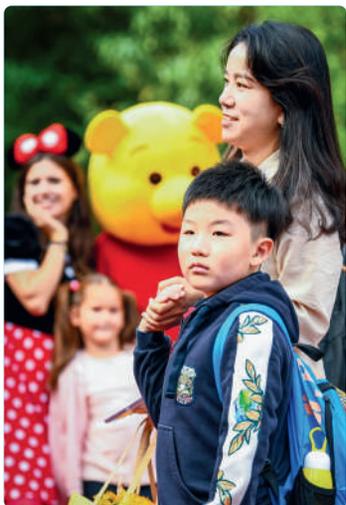
## The IB Primary Years Programme

- addresses students' academic, social and emotional well-being;
- encourages students to develop independence and to take responsibility for their own learning;
- supports students' efforts to gain understanding of the world and to function comfortably within it;
- helps students establish personal values as a foundation upon which international-mindedness will develop and flourish.

## The six subject areas identified within the IB Primary Years Programme are:

- language;
- social studies;
- mathematics;
- arts;
- science;
- personal, social & physical education.

**Preparing students to be active participants in a lifelong journey of learning.**



**The most significant and distinctive feature of the IB Primary Years Programme are the six transdisciplinary themes. These themes provide IB World Schools with the opportunity to incorporate local and global issues into the curriculum and effectively allow students to “step up” beyond the confines of learning within subject areas.**

### **Who We Are**

An inquiry into identity as individuals and as part of a collective through:

- physical, emotional and spiritual health and well-being;
- relationships and belonging;
- learning and growing

### **Where We Are in Place and Time**

An inquiry into histories and orientation in place, space and time through:

- periods, events and artifacts;
- communities, heritage, culture and environment;
- natural and human drivers of movement, adaptation and transformation

### **How We Express Ourselves**

An inquiry into the diversity of voice, perspectives, and expression through:

- inspiration, imagination, creativity;
- personal, social, and cultural notes and practices of communication;
- intentions, perceptions, interpretations, and responses

### **How the World Works**

An inquiry into the understandings of the world and phenomena through:

- patterns, cycles, systems;
- diverse practices, methods, and tools;
- discovery, design, innovation, possibilities, and impacts

### **How We Organize Ourselves**

An inquiry into systems, structures, and networks through:

- interactions with and between social and ecological systems;
- approaches to livelihoods and trade practice - intended and unintended consequences;
- representation, collaboration, and decision-making

### **Sharing the Planet**

An inquiry into the interdependence of human and natural worlds through:

- rights, responsibilities, and dignity of all;
- pathways to just, peaceful, and reimagined futures;
- nature, complexity, coexistence, and wisdom

# “Students reflect on their roles and responsibilities whilst becoming more actively involved with their education.”

Each theme is addressed each year by all students. (Students aged 3 to 5 engage with four of the themes each year). These transdisciplinary themes help teachers to develop a programme of inquiries–investigations into important ideas, identified by the schools, and requiring a high level of involvement on the part of the students. These inquiries are substantial, in-depth and usually last for several weeks.

Since these ideas relate to the world beyond the school, students see their relevance and connect with it in an engaging and challenging way. Students who use this type of learning begin to reflect on their roles and responsibilities whilst becoming more actively involved with their education. All students will come to realize that a unit of inquiry involves them in in-depth exploration of an important idea, and that the teacher will collect evidence of how well they understand that idea. They will expect to be able to work in a variety of ways, on their own and in groups, to allow them to learn to their best advantage.

In addition, all PYP students have the opportunity to learn more than one language from the age of seven.





Life on Land

We all need to work together where we do get ahead.

Pollution can kill many young and old plants.

# The Primary Years Programme

## The PYP Exhibition

In the final year of the programme, students undertake a collaborative, transdisciplinary inquiry process that involves them in identifying, investigating and offering solutions to real-life issues or problems.

As the culminating experience of the PYP, the Exhibition offers students an exciting opportunity to demonstrate independence and responsibility for their own learning.

Through the IB PYP Exhibition experience, the students will have the opportunity to showcase the learning they accumulated during their years in the PYP, and to share with the world their choices and voices, as they focus on stringent world issues connected to the United Nation's Sustainable Development Goals.

## Quality assurance and professional development

All IB World Schools are required to participate in an ongoing process of review and development, using the same programme standards and practices.

As part of its ongoing commitment to the development of a highly skilled global learning community, the IB provides a wide range of high-quality professional development opportunities to help new, experienced and expert school leaders and educators understand, support, and successfully deliver IB programmes reflecting IB standards and practices.



## What are the advantages of an IB education?

- IB World Schools (the only schools authorized to offer IB programmes) are subject to a strict accreditation process monitored by the IB, ensuring that schools provide a high-quality education;
- IB teaching methods and curriculums are research-based and draw from the best educational practices from systems around the world;
- IB teachers are required to participate in many professional development opportunities to continually promote their awareness of current educational practices and new thinking;
- IB students develop a sense of the world around them and their responsibility to it;
- IB programmes are recognized internationally and ease the educational transitions of mobile students so that their education is not adversely affected if their families relocate.

## 10 Reasons why the IB Primary Years Programme (PYP) is ideal for students to become active, lifelong learners

### 1. It encourages students to inquire

The PYP fosters natural curiosity and learning in creative, supportive and collaborative environments.

### 2. Understanding a complex and interdependent world

PYP students create meaning for themselves and build understanding through exploring real-world issues.

### 3. PYP students are confident communicators

PYP students learn to communicate in a variety of ways and in more than one language.

### 4. Learning how to learn

PYP students work collaboratively with teachers and other students to plan, present and assess their own learning.

### 5. Collaboration and understanding of their own and other cultures

These are an important focus of the PYP — students learn how to be respectful and open-minded.

### 6. Seeing things from different perspectives

PYP students use critical and creative thinking to develop knowledge, understanding and skills within and across subject areas.

### 7. Students take action

PYP students believe they are able to grow and succeed. They make appropriate choices and take responsibility for their actions.

### 8. Thinking about issues

Creative learning gives students the agility and imagination to respond to new and unexpected challenges and opportunities in an increasingly globalized and uncertain world.

### 9. It involves the whole school learning community

Together we celebrate our common humanity and the belief that education can help to build a better and more peaceful world.

### 10. Caring and responsible citizens

Students can express ideas and opinions, and they can propose solutions that make a difference in their lives and the lives of others.

# The Middle Years Programme



# The Middle Years Programme

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## What is the IB Middle Years Programme (MYP)?

The MYP is designed for students aged 11 to 16. It provides a framework of learning that encourages students to become creative, critical and reflective thinkers. The MYP emphasizes intellectual challenge, encouraging students to make connections between their studies in traditional subjects and the real world. It fosters the development of skills for communication, inter-cultural understanding and global engagement—essential qualities for young people who are becoming global leaders. The MYP is flexible enough to accommodate most national or local curriculum requirements. It builds upon the knowledge, skills and attitudes developed in the IB Primary Years Programme (PYP) and prepares students to meet the academic challenges of the IB Diploma Programme (DP).

## The IB Middle Years Programme

- addresses holistically students' intellectual, social, emotional and physical well-being;
- provides students opportunities to develop the knowledge, attitudes and skills they need in order to manage complexity and take responsible action for the future;
- ensures breadth and depth of understanding through study in eight subject groups;
- requires the study of at least two languages (language of instruction and additional language of choice) to support students in understanding their own cultures and those of others;
- empowers students to participate in service within the community;
- helps to prepare students for further education, the workplace and a lifetime of learning.

**Preparing students to be active participants in a lifelong journey of learning.**



## The curriculum

The MYP: a unique approach, relevant for a global society, a programme which aims to help students develop their personal understanding, their emerging sense of self and responsibility in their community. The MYP consists of eight subject groups: language acquisition, language and literature, individuals and societies, sciences, mathematics, arts, physical and health education and design. Student study is supported by a minimum of 50 hours of instruction per subject group in each academic year. In years 4 and 5, students have the option to take courses from six of the eight subject groups, which provides greater flexibility.

### **MYP teachers organize the curriculum with appropriate attention to:**

- Teaching and learning in context. Students learn best when their learning experiences have context and are connected to their lives and the world that they have experienced. Using global contexts, MYP students explore human identity, global challenges and what it means to be internationally minded;
- Conceptual understanding. Concepts are big ideas that have relevance within specific disciplines and across subject areas. MYP students use concepts as a vehicle to inquire into issues and ideas of personal, local and global

significance and examine knowledge holistically;

- Approaches to learning (ATL). A unifying thread throughout all MYP subject groups, approaches to learning provide the foundation for independent learning and encourage the application of their knowledge and skills in unfamiliar contexts. Developing and applying these skills help students learn how to learn;

- Service as action (community service). Action (learning by doing and experiencing) and service have always been shared values of the IB community. Students take action when they apply what they are learning in the classroom and beyond. IB learners strive to be caring members of the community who demonstrate a commitment to service—making a positive difference to the lives of others and to the environment. Service as action is an integral part of the programme, especially in the MYP community project;

- Language and identity – MYP students are required to learn at least two languages. Learning to communicate in a variety of ways is fundamental to their development of inter-cultural understanding and crucial to their identity affirmation.

# The Middle Years Programme

## MYP Personal Projects

MYP Personal Projects provide students the opportunity to develop a project independently, producing a truly personal and creative piece of work that stands as a summative review of their ability to conduct independent work.

## Some of the Mark Twain IS MYP Personal Project titles look like this

- Aeromodelism, a New Hobby for Teens
- Christmas Joy - A Humanitarian Campaign
- Meditation - A Visual Guide
- A Greener Life - A Proposal
- Cybersecurity and the modern world
- Online - Fashion Design
- Raw Vegan - Baking healthier desserts
- Modern day piety
- Study of a Pop Song's Creation Process, Composition, Production and Marketing Proposal
- Surf's up! Express yourself through your board, be one with it!
- Significant > stressful
- Wild Animals - Presentation
- How to make the world cleaner - A guide
- Express your emotions through art
- A textbook for preschool children
- 10 Vegetarian Recipes on a Pre established budget
- Uncover your most authentic self: A survey for the modern consumer.



# The Middle Years Programme

## Assessment in the MYP: rigorous criteria, applied consistently worldwide

MYP assessment standards are consistent around the world. In order to maintain the rigour for which the IB is renowned, the MYP assessment model is criterion-related. Teachers structure varied and valid assessment tasks so that students can demonstrate achievement according to objectives defined by the IB. Tasks are assessed against established criteria, not against the work of other students.

A good curriculum develops a range of student skills. The MYP encourages teachers to assess this acquired skill set, including how to succeed in written examinations. Typical MYP assessment tasks include open-ended, problem-solving activities and investigations, organized debates, tests and examinations, hands-on experimentation, analysis and reflection. MYP assessment is carried out by teachers, according to the criteria defined by the IB.



# The Middle Years Programme

## 10 Reasons why the IB Middle Years Programme (MYP) encourages you to become a creative, critical and reflective learner

### 1. Become a life-long learner

Learn 'how to learn' using communication, research, self-management, collaboration and critical thinking skills.

### 2. Learn by doing and experiencing

Through the MYP community project you learn to service the community and connect what you learn in the classroom to "real life".

### 3. The MYP encourages critical thinking

It teaches you to analyse and evaluate issues, generate novel ideas and consider new perspectives.

### 4. Explore global challenges

The MYP helps you increase your understanding of the world by exploring globally significant ideas and issues. Explore global challenges.

### 5. Learn for understanding

Not just to memorize facts or topics and prepare for exams.

### 6. Train yourself to

- organize and plan your work;
- meet deadlines;
- concentrate;
- bounce back;
- persist;
- think positively.

### 7. Subjects are not taught in isolation

You are encouraged to make connections between subjects.

### 8. It empowers you to develop your talents

Feel empowered to prove what you know and earn the MYP certificate or MYP course results.

### 9. It prepares you for future education

Prepare yourself for the IB Diploma Programme or IB Career-related Programme delivered by IB World Schools globally.

### 10. It encourages international-mindedness

The MYP helps you critically appreciate your own culture and personal history, as well as the values and traditions of others.

# The Diploma Programme



# The Diploma Programme

## What is the IB Diploma Programme?

The IB Diploma Programme is an academically challenging and balanced programme of education, with final examinations, that prepares students aged 16 to 19 for their academic success and a fruitful life beyond. It has been designed to address the intellectual, social, emotional and physical well-being of students. The programme has gained recognition and respect from the world's leading universities.



**Preparing students for success in higher education and to be active participants in a global society.**

## Approaches to teaching and learning

IB programmes are taught by teachers who explicitly help students learn how to develop the attitudes and skills they need for both academic and personal success.

### Approaches to teaching

There are six key pedagogical principles that underpin all IB programmes.

Teaching in IB programmes is:

- based on inquiry;
- focused on conceptual understanding;
- developed in local and global contexts;
- focused on effective teamwork and collaboration;
- differentiated to meet the needs of all learners;
- informed by assessment (formative and summative).

### Approaches to learning

This area develops essential skills that include skills of behaviour and emotional management, skills that allow the student to monitor their own effectiveness in their learning and skills that allow them to process information effectively (often called “study skills” in a school environment). Although these skills may be in use when developing a certain natural ability or talent, they are different from both ability and talent themselves

because proficiency in any skill can be increased through the deliberate use of techniques and strategies, feedback and challenge. Skills are therefore highly teachable.

Teaching and learning in the Diploma Programme (DP) therefore incorporates the development of:

- thinking skills;
- communication skills;
- social skills;
- self-management skills;
- research skills.

Although these are presented as distinct categories, there is some overlap and close connections between them. These categories should be seen as interrelated, as well as linking closely with the attributes highlighted in the IB learner profile.

IB students work to become inquirers, knowledgeable, thinkers, communicators, principled, open-minded, caring, risk-takers, balanced and reflective.



## The curriculum

DP students must choose one course from each of five subject groups delivering a breadth of knowledge and understanding in language and literature, individuals and societies, as well as sciences and mathematics. Furthermore, students must also choose either an arts course from the arts group or a second course from one of the other subject groups.

DP courses can be taken at higher level (HL) or standard level (SL). At least three, and not more than four, are taken at HL (240 teaching hours), while the remaining courses are taken at SL (150 teaching hours). SL courses ensure students are exposed to a range of disciplines that they might otherwise opt out of, and HL courses allow students to spend more time with subjects they are more interested in by exploring options in addition to the SL core curriculum.

In this sense, all DP courses, regardless of whether they are SL or HL, are integral to the programme. Students can study and take examinations in English, French or Spanish. Two courses are classified as interdisciplinary, meaning that they satisfy the requirements of more than one subject group.

- Literature and performance (studies in language and literature subject group and the arts subject group)
- Environmental systems and societies (individuals and societies subject group and sciences subject group)

In addition to disciplinary and interdisciplinary study, the DP features three core elements that broaden students' educational experience and challenge them to apply their knowledge and skills.

# The Diploma Programme

## The Diploma Programme core

The extended essay (EE) requires students to engage in independent research through an in-depth study of a question relating to one of the DP subjects they are studying. The world studies EE option allows students to focus on a topic of global significance, which they examine through the lens of at least two DP subjects.

Theory of knowledge (TOK) develops a coherent approach to learning that unifies the academic disciplines. In this course on critical thinking, students inquire into the nature of knowing and deepen their understanding of knowledge as a human construction.

Creativity, activity, service (CAS) emphasizes helping students to develop their own identities in accordance with the ethical principles embodied in the IB mission statement and the IB learner profile. CAS complements a challenging academic programme in a holistic way, providing opportunities for self-determination, collaboration, accomplishment and enjoyment. It involves students in a range of activities alongside their academic studies throughout the DP.

The three strands of CAS are creativity (exploring and extending ideas leading to an original or interpretive product or performance), activity (physical exertion contributing to a healthy lifestyle) and service (collaborative and reciprocal engagement with the community in response to an authentic need).



# The Diploma Programme

## Assessment

Students take written examinations at the end of the programme, which are marked by external IB examiners. Students also complete assessment tasks in the school, which are either initially marked by teachers and then moderated by external moderators or sent directly to external examiners. The grades awarded for each course range from 1 (lowest) to 7 (highest). Students can also be awarded up to three additional points for their combined results on TOK and the EE.

The diploma is awarded to students who gain at least 24 points, subject to certain minimum levels of performance across the whole programme and to satisfactory participation in the CAS requirement. The highest total that a DP student can be awarded is 45 points. Assessment is criterion-related, which means student performance is measured against specified assessment criteria based on the aims and objectives of each subject's curriculum, rather than the performance of other students taking the same examinations.



# The Diploma Programme

## Research

Whether conducted in collaboration with the IB or independently, research generally suggests that an IB education has a positive impact on schools, students and teachers. Research plays a central role in the development, quality assurance and assessment of impact of the IB programmes and services.

The IB conducts research in two key areas: programme impact research, which investigates the implementation and impact of IB programmes, and programme development research, which supports the development review of all programme curriculum and pedagogy.

Research conducted both by the IB and external bodies shows that the DP curriculum and assessment compare favorably to other qualifications. To review the latest research on the DP visit [www.ibo.org/research](http://www.ibo.org/research).





## Diploma Programme Subject Groups

### Group 1 Studies in language and literature

Language A Literature—2  
languages offered: Romanian  
and English SL, HL

### Group 2 Language acquisition

Language B—4 languages  
offered: English, Spanish,  
French and German.  
Language ab initio (SL only)—3  
languages offered: Spanish,  
French and German

### Group 3 Individuals and societies

Business management SL, HL  
Economics SL, HL  
Environmental systems and  
societies (SL only) (also sciences  
subject group)  
History SL, HL  
Psychology SL, HL

### Group 4 Sciences

Biology SL, HL  
Chemistry SL, HL  
Environmental systems and  
societies (SL only) (also  
individuals and societies subject  
group)  
Physics SL, HL

### Group 5 Mathematics

Analysis and Approaches SL, HL  
Applications and Interpretation SL

### Group 6 The arts

Music SL, HL  
Visual arts SL, HL

## International Baccalaureate Exams

The IB Exams for our Diploma Programme students are held in-house at the Mark Twain International School Senior Campus.

# The Diploma Programme

## 10 Reasons why the IB Diploma Programme (DP) is ideal preparation for university

### 1. It increases acceptance chances

Research shows that DP graduates are more likely to be offered positions in top universities around the world.

### 2. You gain knowledge through experience

Through one of the core elements of the DP: Creativity, Action, Service (CAS), students learn how to acquire knowledge through experience. Students learn about different perspectives around the world thus developing their own activities.

### 3. It encourages you to become a confident and independent learner

Through subjects like the Extended Essay, you learn about independent research through an in-depth study.

### 4. It's an international qualification

The DP is recognized globally by top universities and employers.

### 5. It's more than school

As a culmination of the learner profile, the DP is infused with the Learner Profile values and traits, making the experience about your growth as a citizen of the 21st century and not just about academic achievement.

### 6. The IB encourages critical thinking

Learn how to analyze and evaluate issues, generate ideas and consider new perspectives.

### 7. Time management skills to last a lifetime

Take away good study habits and strong time management skills to further education and the working world.

### 8. Make life-long friends

The IB experience transcends friendship through its open minded nature, making your teachers and your peers companions on the road to discovery.

### 9. Subjects are not taught in isolation

Theory of knowledge (TOK) classes encourage you to make connections between subjects and skills.

### 10. It encourages breadth and depth of learning

You are able to choose courses from six subject groups and study subjects at different levels.

# The National Baccalaureate



# The National Bacculaureate

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## What is the National Bacculaureate?

The National Bacculaureate is the educational project that MTIS young people, aged between 14-19, undertake during the 4 years of high school, depending on the profile chosen at the beginning of the 9th grade. The final exams reflect a high general knowledge and cover the entire high school curriculum. It is one of the ways in which students can successfully pursue admission to universities in Romania and abroad.

## Our approach to the National Bacculaureate

The National Bacculaureate program is taught by experienced teachers that integrate both the Romanian educational vision and the international MYP vision of the International Bacculaureate. During the 9th and 10th grades, our students are simultaneously involved in two large academic programs, accessing both the national cultural and scientific values, as well as the 14+ year tradition of the IB universe from the MTIS community.

At the end of the 10th grade they can choose between the two major forms of study established in our community: the Diploma Programme and the National Bacculaureate. Students following the National Bacculaureate Programme have two specializations at their disposal: Humanities - Philology; and Real - Natural Sciences or Mathematics - Informatics, depending on the students' options, at the start of the 11th grade.

**Inspiring generations to come with national added value.**

# Our Vision for the National Baccalaureate Programme

The fact that we are an international school with a 29-year track record is a testament to the respect we have for our national values.

We promote the principles the Romanian education system is built on, while leveraging our international experience and vision.

According to the standards on which the national curriculum was built, the teaching at the Mark Twain International School promotes:

- the perspective of lifelong education;
- a focus on literacy, mathematics, linguistics, digital and civic skills;
- entrepreneurship;
- a disciplined and integrated approach;
- well-being among students;
- creative thinking for a holistic perspective on reality;
- adaptation to formal, informal and non-formal communication contexts;
- understanding global sustainability and the values of the digitized society;
- equal opportunities through education for everyone and for each individual;
- orientation towards success and excellence.



# The National Baccalaureate

Thinking globally and in the spirit of international values leads us to understand, above all, what is here, next to us, in the present time of our history. That is why we are aware that our students' most likely choice is the National Baccalaureate.

In this sense, the MTIS team supports excellence and the innovative spirit, nurturing the ideals of young people who come to our universe to discover themselves and the university where they want to specialize, and offering them a relaxed learning environment, based on respect and academic integrity.





## Exams within the National Baccalaureate Program

After graduating from high school, MTIS students take the exams of the National Baccalaureate in order to gain eligibility to the university they want to attend in Romania or abroad. The subjects depend on the student's profile during the high school years. The Romanian Language and Literature written exam is mandatory for all students. The Baccalaureate exam contains oral tests (eliminatory) and written tests.

Proficiency exams represent oral tests A, B and D and are marked with the qualifications: average, advanced or experienced user.

## ORAL TESTS

- A: Romanian language – oral assessment.
- B: Mother tongue – if it is different from Romanian and if it is studied; oral assessment.
- C: Foreign language – oral and written assessment. After passing this test, the certificate of linguistic competence is recognized internationally
- D: Digital skills.

## WRITTEN EXAMINATIONS

- Each exam lasts three hours.
- E) a): Romanian language and literature (mandatory test for any profile)
  - E) b): Native language and literature - if it is different from Romanian and if it is studied.
  - E) c): Compulsory subject (of the profile).
  - E) d): Subject of your choice (from what is available in the studied profile).

**Branch: Profile**  
**Matter c)**  
**Materials available for d)**

## Theoretical: Real Mathematics

Computer Science, Physics, Biology or Chemistry (organic/inorganic)

## Theoretical: Human History

Geography, Logic, Psychology, Economics, Sociology, Philosophy

## **10 reasons to choose the National Baccalaureate Program**

### **1. International recognition**

Your National Baccalaureate diploma can get you accepted at any national and international university, depending on the final grade or the portfolio the student applies with.

### **2. MTIS students have a dedicated team for admission projects**

A dedicated team of teachers is available to students who are taking the exams, offering a wide range of activities and optional courses and turning the National Baccalaureate in a game of creativity and courage.

### **3. Exams are in Romanian**

The National Baccalaureate is dedicated to students who are native speakers of the Romanian language, therefore, for many of them, the exams are the most straightforward way to earn their diploma.

### **4. Simple format: 3 written exams, 3 oral tests**

The exams have a clear structure, and are composed of 3 large, accessible subjects. Grading is done from 1 to 10. The student must obtain at least a grade of 5 in each subject, and the final grade average must be 6 in order to obtain the diploma. The grades for the oral tests are not taken into account when calculating the final grade.

### **5. The learning process transforms you into a curious, open individual with vast general knowledge**

The tradition of the National Baccalaureate is built on the canonical values of Romanian culture, connected with the global values of the day.

### **6. Access to digital resources**

The digital revolution has created a wide range of resources that the student has access to in order to prepare for the final exams.

### **7. You can choose the subjects for the final exams**

The student has the freedom to choose what to learn, depending on his cultural or scientific needs.

### **8. Exams promote equal opportunities for each student**

Any high school graduate can take the National Baccalaureate exam if provided with the appropriate environment for his/her needs, according to school inclusion agreements.

### **9. The National Baccalaureate promotes critical thinking**

There is no need to memorize, but to think critically about the notions taught during the years of study.

### **10. Preparing for the National Baccalaureate is how lifelong friendships are built**

The MTIS team prepares students for the final exams through modern methods, which leads students to interact and discover each other in groups that can go beyond the experience of the Baccalaureate and turn into lifelong friendships.

# The Summer Academy



# The Summer Academy

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## Summer Vacation - The Mark Twain Way!

A diverse and inviting summer intensive programme of academic exploration, travel, creativity, athletics, with a twist of much needed leisure. The Mark Twain IS Summer Academy is carefully crafted for students to “cool off” in July and August, during our academic school year vacation. ‘The Academy’ happens in both of our green campuses for our usual students as well as newcomers. We welcome students 2 to 19, offering 8 non-stop weeks of:

- a stellar variety of summer courses;
- daily swimming intensives and splashy fun in our sparkling on-site swimming pool;
- day trips for cultural, historical and touristic discovery;
- national & international trips;
- yummy snacks and lunches;
- access to our sports facilities;
- access to our gorgeous green campuses.

## 2024 Summer Academy Courses

Zany Science Experiments;  
Good Manners ABC;  
Never Bored with Games and Boardgames;  
Sensational Summer;  
All About Planets;  
Let’s Sing Together;

Geography: Around the World;  
Arts & Crafts Bonanza;  
Let’s Sing Together;  
Under the Sea;  
Sea Creatures: Crafts;  
Act it out!;  
Science Station;  
Summer Activity Book;  
Mosaic Arts & Crafts;  
Welcome to Story Land;  
Traveling Around the World;  
Read with Me;  
Neuroscience for Kids;  
Embroidery;  
Origami, Quilling & Beadwork;  
Sports Are Life!;  
Let’s Play!;  
Neuroscience for Kids

## Weekly Workshops

Swimming Lessons; Robotics;  
Modern Dance; Lego: Young Engineers; Cooking and Baking

## Intensive Summer Academy for Grades 5-12

IB Middle Years Programme  
Pre-Diploma Programme  
International Baccalaureate  
Intensive preparation for  
National Evaluation &  
Baccalaureate 2023

# Life At the School



# Green Campus



## Visit our green campuses

Mark Twain IS currently operates in two adjacent school campuses located near the verdant Baneasa Forest, in the northern residential area of Bucharest.

- 9 Buildings
- 16000m<sup>2</sup> Premises
- 7500m<sup>2</sup> Built area
- 43 Classrooms
- 12 Media & Science Labs
- 3 Music studios

## Bucharest: A Blend of Tradition and Urban Rejuvenation

Spreading along the shores of the Dâmbovița River, Bucharest is a picturesque and lively European metropolis, to be recognized by its broad boulevards, adorned by lime-blossoms and sweet chestnut trees, by its magnificent Belle Époque edifices and by its charming Parisian air, boasting an eclectic blend of tradition and urban rejuvenation.

As Romania's flourishing cultural and financial hub, the capital offers a wide array of events, theaters, museums, performing arts venues, historic architecture, educational facilities, shopping arcades, sports and recreational areas, and beautiful landscaped parks, lakes and forests, making it especially attractive to families with children.



- 2 Art studios
- 2 Professional kitchens
- 5 Food serving areas
- 2 Libraries
- 2 Football fields
- 2 Basketball courts

# Sports Teams & Fitness Facilities

## Fostering Progress & Achievement

The Athletics Department at Mark Twain International School strives to create and maintain a balanced and stimulating sports environment accessible to all our students during the regular school programme, but also outside the school day.

Consistent with the Mark Twain IS mission, gym teachers, coaches and parents work together within the programme to inspire students to develop self-worth, but also to be considerate and to value their team members and opponents. The safe and inviting environment fosters progress and achievement, allowing students to attain high aptitudes and enjoy themselves in the process. As a result, students will improve their physical condition and skills and also learn the significance

of sports discipline, teamwork, commitment, fair-play and the excitement of competing.

Mark Twain IS students have equal opportunities to participate regardless of ability. The gym teachers and coaches will consider the following factors when deciding upon the teams: dexterity, previous experience, and social rapport.

- 2 Football fields
- 2 Basketball courts
- 1 Outdoor pool



# Love for the Arts

## Visual arts

The Mark Twain International School arts program follows a comprehensive, sequential curriculum that is based on the IB standards for the arts.

Throughout their education, students participate in drawing, painting, sculpture, printmaking, collage making, 2D design and media technology. Emphasis is placed on literacy in the arts, and connections are made to the appropriate social studies topics through art historical discussions. Students are introduced to the many, fine art collections found in the city's vast array of museums.

## Drama

The Theater Course has as its mission to guide the Mark Twain IS students through a journey of exploration into the magical and indispensable world of theater, helping students decipher the world around them, allowing them to become strong, empathetic individuals with an eloquent voice.

## How?

- Watching live theater performances
- Participating in numerous workshop and masterclasses
- Access to excellent educational material
- Interviews with theatre personalities
- Exploring the craft from different perspectives (creator, designer, performer, director)
- Practical exploration of main roles (creator, designer, performer, director)
- Strong emphasis on theoretical research
- Constant feedback lessons
- Participating in creating an original piece of theater
- Leading workshops to explore theatrical material
- Using imagination and memory when creating
- Researching theatrical traditions, theorists, companies, plays
- Keeping a theater journal
- Live performance opportunities
- Exploring the production and performance elements
- Analyzing the art form of theater (plot, tension, symbol, space)
- Working your body and voice effectively.

## What makes a good theater maker?

Determination, capacity to take risks and assume courage, reflection, empathy, discipline, curiosity about society and life, cooperation with others, talent, trust in your own craft.

## Music

Mark Twain IS prides itself with a strong performing arts programme.

With a carefully tailored approach to music training during the PYP and MYP years at the Mark Twain International School, whether our students choose the Music Standard Level or the Music High Level IB Course, our performing arts programme challenges young artists to become confident, skilled, versatile performers of the 21st Century.



## How?

Strong emphasis on Music Theory • Aural Training; Sight-reading • Bespoke Instrument Lesson • One-to-one Coaching Sessions • World of Music Lessons • Music History Lesson • Composition Lessons • Creative Workshops • Music Programming Workshops • Studio Sessions • Live Performing Opportunities • Music Diary Keeping • Reading, Watching and Listening Lists • Personalized Tutoring Sessions • Online Tutoring Sessions • Career Counseling • Audition Masterclasses • University Application Guidance • Constant Feedback Sessions • Supervised Band Practice • Access to Quality Musical Instruments • World-Class Educational Material • IB Musical Investigation Prep • Written Paper Mock Trials & Exam Prep • Time-management Guidance and Strategy Sessions • Performance Exam Planning Sessions • Dedicated Teachers • Exceptional Facilities.

## What makes a good musician?

Determination, passion, team-work, talent, capacity to self-reflect, patience, a healthy work-ethic, courage, stamina, generosity.



**Ioana Macovei Vlăsceanu**

Chief Advancement Officer

**These two years are a definite challenge but there is no greater reward than discovering the world through the eyes of an artist.**

The IB Music Course at our school offers the tools to masterfully use your instrument, give musical shape and spectacular character to world history and to gain confidence in musical analysis.

More importantly, this course will challenge you to perform fearlessly and to unleash your creativity.

In today's ever shifting world, music and art can be a healthy source of joy and passion, a constant reminder that the world is what you make of it and that your voice matters.

Looking forward to working with you,  
**Ioana**

# Love For The Arts

## Crossroads - Battle of the Bands

Every year (not counting the COVID-19-related hiatus) The Mark Twain International School organizes the only battle of the bands-type event in Romania. Crossroads: Battle of the Bands.

The event is a cultural manifestation that aims to promote contemporary rock music in all its forms, as well as to cultivate the artistic and creative-musical qualities of students from all over the country, who perform contemporary music from the rock genre (rock, rock & roll, pop-rock, blues rock, folk-rock, hard rock, alternative rock).

The rock music festival for young people is organized at national level and includes 2 sections (vocal interpretation or instrumental interpretation - guitar / percussion / drums - and pop-rock bands section), which take place on the same amazing evening.



# Electives & Co-curriculars

Mark Twain International School is committed to offering an inspiring academic environment to all its students and to facilitating a positive and productive teaching and learning atmosphere that is naturally conducive to added value throughout the educational process and to outstanding scholastic achievement.

We also actively promote the involvement of students in arts, sciences, sports and community events, as well as in energetic social responsibility initiatives and environment-awareness projects.

STEM-Robotics; Future Architects-LEGO Design; Photography; Carpentry; Cooking & Nutrition; Fashion & Design; Pottery; Rock Band; Theater; Voice; Choir; Musical Theater; Percussion; Guitar; Ballet; Ballroom Dancing; Contemporary Dance; Track; Karate Kyokushin; Soccer; Basketball; Fencing; Handball; Gymnastics; Swimming; Table Tennis; Journalism; Chess; International Languages; Mother Tongue; Further Mathematics; ICT; Coding; The Nutty Science Professor; Cambridge English Intensives; Board Games; GO Training; Language Ab Initio.



# Hybrid & Online Learning

The Mark Twain International School now offers on-campus lessons, hybrid learning as well as exclusively online lessons to children all around the world. Our school is ready to face the current climate and help its students thrive.

We use the online platforms of Kinderpedia, ManageBac, Google for Education and others for resource management, academic support, reporting, assessment, orientation, news, and attendance.



# Healthy & Wholesome Campus Food

Mark Twain IS offers a wide range of services related to its students to ensure the best educational standards and the comfort needed for all school activities.

## Age-appropriate, Tasty, with an International Touch

We take pride in the healthy international meals our cooks prepare with care, and provide 4 meals/day (breakfast, mid-morning snack, warm lunch, afternoon snack) for our Junior Campus students, and 3 meals/day (mid-morning snack, warm lunch, afternoon snack) for our Senior Campus students.

Students and staff benefit from our nutritious, warm, in-campus **traditional** meal plan or **vegetarian** options prepared by our two culinary teams led by professional chefs in modern kitchens.

This is an example of a daily menu at the Mark Twain International School cafeteria.

### Breakfast

A Warm Cup of Lemon Tea; Cheese, Butter and Tomato Tartine

### Mid-Morning Snack

A Fresh Apple

### Lunch

Vegetable and Noodle Soup; Oven-Baked Chicken Fillet served with Broccoli

### Mid-Afternoon Snack

Marbled Sponge Cake

### Extended Programme Snack

Oat Biscuits



# Door-to-door Transportation



Our modern fleet of school buses and vans provide door-to-door transportation for our students anywhere in the Bucharest metro area. They also provide a touch of color to every neighborhood they visit through their brand appropriate esthetic.

The experienced driving staff is a cherished part of the Mark Twain International School family, providing safe, comfortable and timely rides each-and-every school day.

**This is Thunderbolt, a member of our fleet.**

**In spite of its name, Thunderbolt is a gentle van that prefers steady and timely rides.**



# On-Site Medical Care

Our on-campus clinic is always open for our students, ready to evaluate the situation, offer simple, over the counter treatment or call the parents if the student should go home or see a doctor.

The clinic can also arrange for any student to go to a hospital if such a situation presents itself.



# Safety & Security



Your child's safety and security are paramount. Each campus is equipped with 24/7 video surveillance & our highly trained security staff are responsible for first aid, personal safety, CPR, AED, fire & traffic safety.

# Alumni & University Destinations



# University Destinations

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Mark Twain IS lifts young students closer to their dreams. Our elite international curriculum gives us an outstanding annual pass rate at the International Baccalaureate Exams and opens the doors to the best universities in the world. We also make it a top priority to guide students through the application process.

We now have more than a decade of alumni, academic status and worldwide recognition in university offers.

## **Official List of University Admissions for Mark Twain IS Graduates, Classes of 2009-2024**

Higher Education Pathways pursued by our graduates by country, university & field of specialisation.

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### **United Kingdom**

#### **University of Oxford, United Kingdom**

Economics  
Psychology

#### **University of Cambridge**

Law Political  
Sciences

#### **London School of Economics & Political Science**

Economics & Management

#### **Guildhall School of Music and Drama London**

Classical Vocal Studies  
Performance in Music

#### **University College of London**

Psychology  
Language & Culture  
Computer Science

#### **University of Birmingham**

Computer Science with Business  
Management Engineering

#### **University of Warwick**

Business Management &  
Computer Science  
Economics Finance &  
Accounting

#### **King's College London**

Economics History &  
Political Sciences Law

#### **London University of the Arts**

Screenwriting

#### **University of Sheffield**

International Relations &  
Politics Occupational  
Psychology

#### **University of Manchester**

Business & Management  
Zoology

#### **University of Liverpool**

Aeronautical Engineering with  
Pilot Studies

## University of Bath

Business & Management  
Psychology

## City University of London, Cass Business School

Banking Business &  
Management International  
Finance

## British & Irish Modern Music Institute

Professional Musicianship

## Loughborough University

Financial Management

## Lancaster University

Business & Management

## Goldsmiths University of London

Literature & Creative Writing

## University of Coventry

Fashion Arts & Humanities

## University of Essex Colchester

International Relations

## University of Kent

European & International Law

## De Monfort University Leicester

Criminology

## University of East London

Architecture

## University of Westminster London

Business & Management  
Computer Science Human  
Nutrition Media, Arts &  
Design

## London Metropolitan University

Film Studies Financial  
Management Spanish &  
American Studies

## Royal Holloway University

Business & Management  
Clinical & Cognitive  
Neuroscience Computer  
Science Psychology

## Bangor University of Wales

Psychology

## London Southbank University

Sports & Exercise Science

## University of West London

Theatre & Film

## Bournemouth University

Computer Animation & Design

## Queen Mary University of London

Politics with Business  
Management

## Middlesex University London

Business Administration &  
Management

## Regent's University London

Events Management  
Fashion Business

## European School of Economics London

Business Administration  
Media & Communication

## Hull International Business School London

Business Administration

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## Switzerland

### École Hôtelière de Lausanne

Hotel Management

### Les Roches – Gruyère University of Applied Sciences

International Hospitality  
Management

### Glion Institute of Higher Education

Administration in Hospitality  
Management

### Business and Hotel Management School Luzern

Hospitality Management

### Vatel Hotel & Tourism Business School Martigny

Hotel & Tourism Management

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## Netherlands

### University of Applied Sciences Utrecht

Business & Management

### Leiden University

Psychology  
Political Science

### University of Groningen

Business & Management  
International & European Law  
Computer Science & Engineering

### Hanze University of Applied Sciences Groningen

Finance International  
Business & Management

### **University of Amsterdam**

Economics & Business

### **Radboud University Nijmegen**

Computing Science

### **Maastricht University**

Mental Health & Neuroscience  
Business & Management

### **Delft University of Technology**

Aerospace Engineering  
Computer Science &  
Engineering

### **Erasmus University of Rotterdam**

Economics Business  
Economics

### **The Hague Hotel School**

Hotel Management

### **NHTV Breda University of Applied Sciences**

International Hotel  
Management Media &  
Entertainment  
Management

### **Stenden University of Applied Sciences Leeuwarden**

Business & Management  
International Hotel Management

### **The Hague University of Applied Sciences**

Safety & Security Management  
Studies International & European  
Law International Business

### **HAN University of Applied Sciences Arnhem**

Engineering

### **Tilburg University School of Humanities and Digital Sciences**

Online Culture: Art, Media &  
Society International Business  
Administration

### **Eindhoven University of Technology**

Automotive Engineering  
Applied Physics

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## **United States**

### **Harvard University Massachusetts**

Economics

### **University of Pennsylvania Philadelphia**

Arts & Sciences  
Economics

### **Foster School of Business University of Washington Seattle**

Business & Management

### **Lee Strasberg Theatre & Film Institute New York**

Conservatory & Acting Program

### **Clark University Massachusetts Worcester**

Business Administration &  
Management

### **New York Film Academy**

Film Production & Television

### **Pepperdine University Los Angeles**

Philosophy

### **Drexel University Philadelphia**

Engineering

### **Marymount Manhattan College New York**

International Studies

### **University of Miami**

Psychology

### **Berklee College of Music Boston**

Songwriting & Composition

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## **University of California UCLA Los Angeles**

Business Management

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## **Italy**

### **Università di Milano**

Natural Sciences

### **Nuova Accademia di Belle Arti Milano**

Graphic Design & Art

### **Marangoni School of Fashion, Art & Design Milan**

Fashion & Design

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## **France**

### **Rennes School of Business**

Business & Finance

### **Blaise Pascal Clermont Ferrand University**

Literature  
Languages & Arts

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**Parsons Paris The New School**

Art, Media and Technology

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**Austria****Lauder Business School  
Vienna**

Management & Leadership

**Webster University Vienna**

International Relations

**Vienna University of Economics  
and Business**

Business & Economics

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**Spain****Business School University  
Barcelona**

Business School  
Entrepreneurship  
Finances

**La Salle Ramon Llull  
University Barcelona**

Commerce Business &  
Management

**ESADE Business School  
Barcelona**

Business Administration

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**Canada****University of Toronto**

Architecture

**University of British Columbia  
Vancouver**

Science

**St. Catharine University  
Alberta**

Engineering

**Brock University, Goodman School  
of Business**

Business Administration

**Concordia University  
Montreal**

Business & Finance

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**Hungary****Corvinus University Budapest**

International Relations

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**Germany****University of Dusseldorf**

Medical Studies & dentistry

**EU Business School Munich**

Business Management &  
Marketing

**University of Enlargen  
Nurenburg**

International Business

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**Norway****BI Norwegian Business  
School Oslo**

Business & Management

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**Malta****University of Malta Msida**

Medical School

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**Poland****University of Warsaw**

History & Political Sciences

**Warsaw University of  
Technology**

Polytechnics

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**China****JiNan University Guangzhou**

Economics

**University of Sciences &  
Technology Hong Kong**

Journalism & Global China  
Studies

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**Australia****University of Queensland  
Brisbane**

Economics & Business

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**Turkey****Bahcesehir University  
Istanbul**

Architecture & Design

**Yeditepe University Istanbul**

Civil Engineering

**Dokuz Eylul University Izmir**

International Commerce  
Business & Trade

**Istanbul Technical University**

Architecture & Interior Design

**Istanbul Arel University**

Marketing & International  
Relations

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## Romania

### The Babes-Bolyai University of Cluj

Education Sciences  
Psychology

### University of Bucharest

Classical, Oriental & Hermanic  
Languages Education European  
Studies Geography IT &  
Mathematics Law Letters Modern  
Languages & Literature Applied  
Foreign Languages Political Studies  
in English Psychology Philosophy

### Polytechnics University of Bucharest

Aerospace Engineering  
Computer & Information  
Technology Pilot Studies

### Academy of Economic Studies Bucharest

Business Administration in  
English & German Business &  
Management Business &  
Tourism Marketing Commerce  
Finance & Banking  
International Economic  
Relations International  
Finance

### University of Medicine and Pharmacy Carol Davila Bucharest

Dentistry  
Medical School

### Transylvania University Brasov

Sports & Physical Education

### Ion Mincu University of Architecture and Urban Planning Bucharest

Architecture

### National School of Political & Administrative Studies Bucharest

European Studies  
International Relations  
Public Relations  
Communication

### Technical University for Constructions Bucharest

Civil Engineering in English

### Romanian-American University Bucharest

Business Management & Marketing  
Communication Economics &  
Computer Science European  
Economics Studies Internal &  
International Affairs International  
Relations International Tourism &  
Commerce Information Systems for  
Management Law Physical  
Education & Sports

### Titu Maiorescu University Bucharest

Communication &  
International Relations  
Dentistry Medicine Law  
Sociology Psychology

### University of Agronomic Sciences & Veterinary Medicine Bucharest

Agriculture Animal  
Science Horticulture  
Veterinary Medicine

### The National Academy of Theatre Arts & Cinematography I.L. Caragiale

Cinematography  
Screenwriting

### National University of Sports & Physical Ed. Bucharest

AUDORS  
Physical Education & Sports

### Spiru Haret University Bucharest

Marketing  
Psychology

### Hyperion University Bucharest

Communication Sciences  
Journalism Psychology

### Tiffin University Romania

Business Administration

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**Christian University Dimitrie  
Cantemir Bucharest & Cluj**

Administration of Internal  
Affairs International Economic  
Relations Commerce &  
Tourism Management Law  
Modern Languages

**The Entrepreneurship  
Academy of Bucharest**

Business Administration &  
Entrepreneurship

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**Greece****Athens University of  
Economics & Business**

Economics

**University of Athens**

Medicine & Health Sciences

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**Saudi Arabia****American University of  
Sharjah**

Engineering Finance &  
Economics

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**Japan****Meiji Gakuin University of  
Tokyo**

International Studies

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**Monaco****International University of  
Monaco**

Monaco Business School

# Letter to our Alumni

“It is with great pleasure that we extend our greetings today in honor of our cherished alma mater, as it rapidly approaches the celebration of its 30 years of existence. During this remarkable journey, we have witnessed the emergence of over 442 distinguished alumni, a testament to the enduring legacy of our institution.

In a world marked by relentless change, where time, methods, and beliefs undergo constant reevaluation, we find solace in the enduring spirit of our alumni. Know that we are proud of you, know that we are so in awe of the wonderful things you are doing and that you will always hold a special place in our hearts and within the fabric of our community.

As the ebbs and flows of life continue, we wish to reaffirm our unwavering commitment to you. In the spirit of familial warmth, we stand ready to offer guidance, assistance and a friendly presence to rely on, if ever you need. Our institution, while evolving with each passing year, remains steadfast in upholding its values, mission, and, most importantly, the holistic development of our students.

We come towards you with a bi-annual newsletter where you can find out what’s new in our community and what the school has been up to but also, what our dear alumni have been up to. What better way to stay connected than to come together as often as possible, to recharge, reconnect and maybe take a moment to breath and see how far we have come.

We look forward to organizing Alumni Only Events and reconnecting our alumni with the school and with each other.

If you would like to get involved in any way to shape our following events, if you have news to share for our new Alumni Newsletter or have any questions or thoughts you would like to share with us regarding our services, give us a shout-out on [alumni@marktwainschool.ro](mailto:alumni@marktwainschool.ro).

“Mark Twain School to you... Salute!”

Ioana Ionescu (Macovei-Vlăsceanu)  
Chief Advancement Officer  
Mark Twain International School

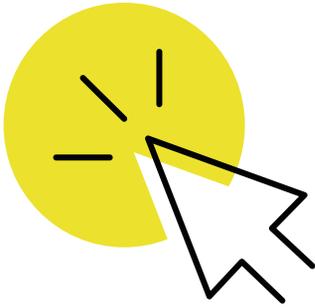


# Admissions



# The Application Process

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**Mark Twain International School welcomes students ages 2 to 19 from all over the world, depending on availability of places and in accordance with its entry standards.**

We offer rolling admissions throughout the academic year, enabling international and local families to submit applications whenever they need placement for their children. While we welcome applications year-round, student placement is subject to space availability in each grade level.

## **What Our Students Are Like**

All Mark Twain IS students are expected to strive to put into practice the features of the IB Learner Profile and to be inquirers, knowledgeable, communicators, open-minded, caring, risk-takers, thinkers, principled, balanced and reflective.

## **Academic Entry Standards**

Mark Twain IS requires applicants to submit their academic transcripts / report cards in addition to taking a placement assessment. These requirements ensure every student is placed in the programme that is the best fit for their learning pathway.

## **The 4 Steps to Admission at Mark Twain International School**

### **Step 1**

Join our Admissions Team for your Campus Tour or Online Meet & Greet!

### **Step 2**

Take your placement assessment & identify the best program for your grade level!

### **Step 3**

Sign your Admissions Documents and complete school fee payments.

### **Step 4**

Get Ready to Start School!

# Admissions Policy



Mark Twain International School believes in academic excellence and inclusivity. We are fully committed to delivering quality IB education for both Global Bilingual and International pathways while welcoming all students willing to embrace our mission and vision, regardless of their learning needs or challenges.

Admission of candidates is based on:

- parents' or legal guardians' commitment to support the school mission;
- student's desire and ability to benefit from the MTIS educational environment;
- school's capability to address the student's educational needs;
- parents' or legal guardians' fulfillment of their financial obligations towards the school;
- affidavit certifying the student's health condition.

# Tuition & School Fees

We believe in transparent, all-inclusive pricing to support our families' financial planning. Our comprehensive fee structure includes:

- Full academic tuition
- All books and educational materials
- Complete uniform set
- Three nutritious meals daily
- Registration fees

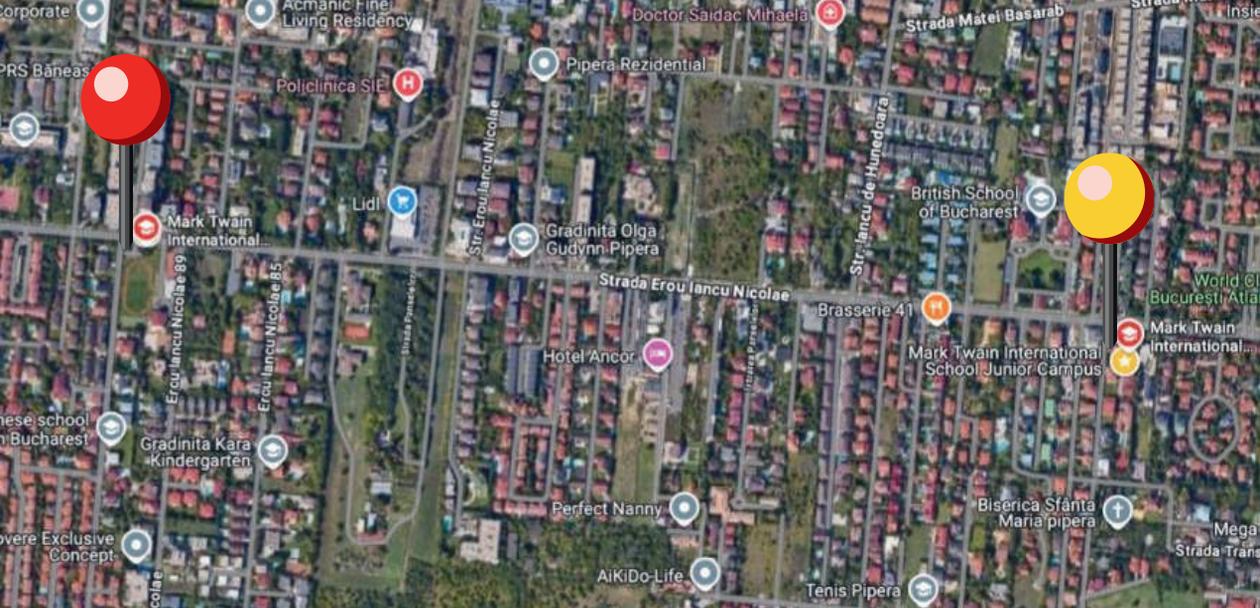
Our enrollment process involves two separate agreements: a tuition contract, which may be paid in installments, and a school services contract, which requires full payment prior to the student's first day.

For families seeking additional services, we offer:

- Door-to-door transportation via private buses
- Late-stay program for preschool and primary school students
- Extended after-school enrichment programs
- Weekend educational excursions

Each of these optional services is available for an additional fee.

For detailed information about our current fees and payment options, please visit our website's Admissions section or contact our Admissions Office at [admissions@marktwainschool.ro](mailto:admissions@marktwainschool.ro)



# How to Find Us



## Mark Twain IS Preschool & Primary School

25 Erou Iancu Nicolae Street, Băneasa,  
077190, Bucharest, Romania

## Mark Twain IS Middle School & High School

89 Erou Iancu Nicolae Street, Băneasa,  
077190, Bucharest, Romania

## Mark Twain IS Cosmopolis Campus

Soseaua de Centura nr 50, Stefăneștii  
de Jos, Ilfov Galeria Comercială  
077175, Ilfov, România



# Contact Us

## Junior Campus

Mark Twain IS Preschool &  
Primary School

25 Erou Iancu Nicolae Street,  
Băneasa, Bucharest  
077190 – Romania  
contact@marktwainschool.ro

For English: +40 735 000 160  
For Romanian: +40 724 000 900

## Senior Campus

Mark Twain IS Middle School &  
High School

89 Erou Iancu Nicolae Street,  
Băneasa, Bucharest  
077190 – Romania  
contact@marktwainschool.ro

For English: +40 735 000 160  
For Romanian: +40 724 000 900

## Mark Twain IS Cosmopolis Campus

Soseaua de Centura nr 50. Ștefăneștii  
de Jos, Ilfov Galeria Comercială  
077175, Ilfov, România

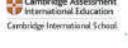






# Mark Twain International School

Preschool | Primary School | Middle School | High School



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## Mark Twain IS Preschool & Primary School

25 Erou Iancu Nicolae Street, Băneasa  
077190, Bucharest, Romania  
[www.marktwainschool.ro](http://www.marktwainschool.ro)

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## Mark Twain IS Middle School & High School

89 Erou Iancu Nicolae Street, Băneasa  
077190, Bucharest, Romania  
[www.marktwainschool.ro](http://www.marktwainschool.ro)

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## Mark Twain IS Cosmopolis Campus

Soseaua de Centura nr 50. Stefăneștii  
de Jos, Ilfov Galeria Comercială  
077175, Ilfov, România

