



Nørre Gymnasium

International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme
Academic Excellence and Diversity





Who We Are – Where We Are

Located in the pleasant neighborhood of Brønshøj, outside of Central Copenhagen, Nørre Gymnasium is an IB World School that offers a tuition-free education, multi-cultural diversity and the highest standards of academic excellence. With a staff of dedicated administrators and educators (all of whom hold advanced academic degrees), Nørre Gymnasium strives for excellence on all fronts. Our students and teachers enjoy the modern, spacious learning and sporting facilities, while also having the verve of one of Europe's great cosmopolitan cities at their doorstep, with excellent transport facilities.

It is with this background that we invite applicants who are diverse and internationally-minded students and who are seeking the

combination of a multicultural atmosphere, rigorous academic challenges and a Scandinavian-styled education.

Academic Excellence

With this profile, Nørre Gymnasium can boast of having a stellar academic history with exam results far surpassing many world subject averages. After leaving the IB program at Nørre Gymnasium, our graduates have enrolled in such universities as St Andrews, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Oxford, Stanford and Copenhagen University. These academic successes are not unique to only a few of our graduates, but, in fact, illustrate our commitment to being a platform from which our students can achieve even greater possibilities and so have satisfying future careers.



Parent

"Nørre G opens doors for its graduates; after two years at Nørre G, students are wholly prepared to pursue further education worldwide.

Nørre G encourages its students to develop the skills necessary to successfully bridge the academically rigorous IB program. As a parent, I have witnessed the students of my daughter's class mature into independent and conscientious thinkers.

Thanks to the outstanding personal engagement of Nørre G's faculty, my daughter's time at Nørre G has given her the confidence to pursue her goals and dreams."

Dr. Derk Krieger – M.D, Dubai

Multiculturalism and Scandinavian Values

One of the elements that furthers Nørre Gymnasium's dynamism is how the IB program is part of Nørre Gymnasium's greater educational community. Nørre Gymnasium offers the Danish national curriculum (STX), and this means that each year the school hosts over one thousand students from the Greater Copenhagen area.

We are proud of the size and scope of this diverse community, so much so that we want our students to be at home with who they are. This is a desire borne out of our commitment to Scandinavian values. Nørre Gymnasium encourages a democratic atmosphere that calls on administrators, teachers and students to show each other mutual respect, compassion and honesty. This attitude is supported by the members of our administration and teaching staff, many of whom come to the school from international backgrounds and all of whom share teaching philosophies that are dedicated to the spirit of our program.

Free Tuition

We take our distinction as an IB World School seriously. This is best done in an environment where the barriers of tuition fees have been removed. As a public institution, Nørre Gymnasium is unique in providing Copenhagen's international community with a first-rate, internationally recognized secondary education - without fees.

This means that students attending Nørre Gymnasium represent a diversified socio-economic base. They come to us from all over the world. In the IB, we have a ratio of Danes eager for international educations and foreign students who, living in Denmark, seek to continue English-based educations that they began abroad. For foreign students, a valid residence permit for the duration of the program is required on application.

"What I like most about IB at Nørre G is that it gives me the opportunity to experience diversity at its best, both cultural and social wise. The warmth and politeness of the students and staff make the study environment awesome. The IB at Nørre G is everything I could wish for in a high school education."

Angele Litika Tamo, IB DP student



Student



What is the IB Diploma Program at Nørre Gymnasium?

The IB Diploma Program is a rigorous pre-university program that meets the needs of highly motivated secondary school students. It is globally recognized by leading universities and enjoys worldwide acclaim for its rigorous academic standards and the high quality of education it provides.

The diploma course covers two years, corresponding to the second and third year of the Danish gymnasium (i.e. ages 16-19). On top of a mandatory Core, students choose six courses from six different academic areas. Three of these courses will be on higher level (HL) and three standard level (SL) respectively. All courses offered in Grades 11 and 12 are certified IB Diploma Program subject courses, and Nørre Gymnasium ensures that its courses are university-approved.

Best Beginnings: Our pre-IB Program

The IB Diploma Program is one of the world's most challenging secondary educations, and so it is vital that incoming students are prepared to meet the program's challenges. It is on this account that Nørre Gymnasium offers a pre-IB year. This pre-IB is designed to ensure that students coming into the Diploma Program have the best beginnings in the IB. It introduces them to the majority of the subjects taught in the Diploma Program, and it ensures that they have a solid level of academic English that they can use as a basis for their IB studies. In addition, the pre-IB is also modeled on the first year of the Danish national system (STX), which means that as it allows students to switch to the Danish system after the autumn semester or the completed year. Admission to the pre-IB requires 9-10 years' previous schooling to a level equivalent to Danish folkeskole or UK/US grade 10 with excellent results.

"As an IB student at Nørre Gymnasium, I have achieved a lot since my first day of school. With the help of excellent teachers and a supportive IB community I have managed to improve myself academically and socially.

The IB allows you to challenge yourself while still giving you the opportunity to unfold your potential and pursue your interests. I could easily and successfully start an environment club with the school's support. Being a student at Nørre has therefore been wonderful!"

Anh Thu Nguyen, IB DP student





Student Life and Extracurricular Activities

Nørre Gymnasium hosts and promotes cultural and social events for its students. Indeed, as a school, we work to foster a safe environment that provides our students with a wide range of extracurricular activities and engagements. These activities and engagements take the forms of social and academic clubs, the school newspaper, bands, art exhibits, cinema, theatre, sport and community involvement, and they are facilitated on the school grounds and run by teachers or students. It is this sort of student-

life that adds to the strong networks and friendships among Nørre Gymnasium's students and further contributes to bridging the gap between our STX and IB cohorts.

In addition to the school's existing offers, we always welcome new initiatives. If entering students desire to create new activities or clubs at the school, they are welcome to propose such initiatives.



Examples of school organized activities:

- Art Workshop
- Choir
- Trip to Barcelona
 - in the spring for all diploma students
- Annual theatre and musical projects
- After school sports and workout in brand-new facilities
- Tutoring
- Annual International Evening
 - a celebration of multiculturalism
- MUN – debate forum Model United Nation
- Science Practice
 - collaboration with real scientists

Examples of activities initiated and run by students alone:

- Environment Club: Different school based projects, fund raising initiatives, info sessions and advocacy
- Language Club: Students teaching each other different languages
- International Film Club
 - in our fully-fledged school cinema
- Intersectional Feminism Club: Guest speakers, debate, workshops
- Rock Band: School has studio facilities/instruments
- Music lessons: Students teach students drum/guitar/bass
- Literature Club (with and without teacher coaching)
- School Paper “Nørre News”: Journalism and editing (now with IB students in charge!)
- E-Sport and IT Club designing apps and participating in contests



“Being an educator in an IB school means having the world in a microcosm – your classroom extends, and your students represent the whole gamut of cultures, backgrounds, approaches, and ideas. It is a most rewarding task to interact with highly motivated learners who are eager to acquire knowledge and skills and who are ready to challenge themselves in this demanding program.

It is wonderful to see them grow and become world citizens !”

Dr Andrew Miller, IB DP English A and Theory of Knowledge teacher

Study Trips

In addition to the activities we promote at school, Nørre Gymnasium's IB program also offers the students of Pre-IB and IB programs study trips. These include science excursions into the local area, an introduction camping trip and for our second-year students, a week's sojourn in Barcelona. All of these trips are designed to promote among our students a sense of fellowship and comradery. They also support the students' overall academic curriculum.

Admissions Process

Admission to Nørre Gymnasium is selective and primarily based on a student's previous academic record, personal statement and a letter of recommendation from the applicant's latest school. In some cases, applicants will be invited to a personal interview or to take additional admissions tests in order to ensure proficiency in English and mathematics.

An English-Based Program with a Bilingual Aspect

The IB at Nørre Gymnasium is English-based. The program is taught in English; however, in keeping up with our desire to integrate our students in the Danish culture and language, we offer a diverse range of courses in Danish. These include high level literature courses designed for native speakers, intermediate courses for students who have the language skills already and yet who require further fluency, and ab initio courses for international students who are new to the language. This bilingual dimension figures Nørre Gymnasium as an institution capable of readying students from all backgrounds for possible future educations in the Danish University System.



Academic Calendar

The Nørre Gymnasium calendar covers 39 weeks divided into three trimesters: August through November, December through March, and April through June. Grades are given at the end of each trimester; end-of-year exams are conducted in June.

For Further Details

Further details about both programs and the school in general are available on our comprehensive homepage at www.norreg.dk from where application forms can be downloaded from January on. Deadline for applications is 1st March. We offer several Visiting Days and conduct an Orientation Evening for prospective applicants and their families in January: to be announced on our homepage.



Parent

"I would like to express my great appreciation for the excellent Baccalaureate Diploma Programme at Nørre Gymnasium, both for the quality of the academic programme, with a great variety of subjects offered, and for the teaching method and the humanity of the teachers.

Before choosing Nørre G, I was really concerned that my son Alessandro, after having studied in Milan, Italy, could find a good quality international environment.

The two years that my son spent in the IB programme fully satisfied my expectations. Alessandro has had very good relations both with excellent teachers who were eager to listen to their students and to interact with them during classes and very open-minded and friendly classmates.

Thus, he experienced profound professional and human relationship at school."

Prof. Raffaella Colombo – Architect, Milan

10 Reasons



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

1



It increases academic opportunity

Research* shows that DP graduates are much more likely to be enrolled at top higher education institutions than entrants holding other qualifications.

2



IB students care about more than just results

Through creativity, action, service (CAS) you learn outside the classroom and develop emotionally and ethically as well as intellectually.

3



It encourages you to become a confident and independent learner

For example, the extended essay requires independent research through an in-depth study.

6



The IB encourages critical thinking

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

5



Graduates are globally minded

Language classes encourage an international mindset, key for increasing globalized societies.

4



It's an international qualification

The DP is recognized globally by universities and employers.

7



DP students have proven time management skills

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

9



Subjects are not taught in isolation

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

10



It encourages breadth and depth of learning

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

8



It assesses more than examination techniques

Learn to understand, not just memorize facts or topics and prepare for exams.



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*Based on IB research - www.ibo.org/research

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