

IB DIPLOMA PROGRAMME
ACCESS AND ADMISSION POLICY
Tauragės “Versmės“ gimnazija (049284)

IB MISSION

The International Baccalaureate aims to develop inquiring, knowledgeable and caring young people who help to create a better and more peaceful world through intercultural understanding and respect.

To this end the organisation works with schools, governments, and international organisations to develop challenging programmes of international education and rigorous assessment.

These programmes encourage students across the world to become active, compassionate, and lifelong learners who understand that other people, with their differences, can also be right.¹

SCHOOL'S PROFILE

Tauragės “Versmės” gimnazija is a public four-year state gymnasium providing high quality lower secondary education (Part II, 9-10 grades) and higher secondary education (11-12 grades) as well as implementing the International Baccalaureate Diploma programme (11-12 grades). At the Diploma Programme level, grades 11 and 12, the admission policy of the Diploma Programme addresses both internal and external candidates. Internal candidates are the students of Tauragės “Versmės” gimnazija lower secondary education (part II, 9-10 grades) level while external candidates are students from other schools from the grade 10. The access and admission policy is designed to support academic success, to ensure that students are placed into courses which are both challenging and manageable, and to allow access to the IB DP not only for Lithuanian students but also for foreign students coming from other educational systems.

ACCESS AND ADMISSION PHILOSOPHY

School's access and admission policy is intended to encourage the maintenance of diversity in our student body, as well as to ensure that all school's IB DP students may benefit from educational provision throughout the continuum of IB education. The policy and procedures are designed to serve a diverse community of students and their families from a range of nationalities, races, cultures and backgrounds, genders, of different abilities and special needs, so the school is in line with the individual needs of each candidate.

Acknowledging the diversity of learners, the school's admission policy is aimed to provide opportunity to all students to apply for the IB DP at school in align with IB and school's procedures. Candidates enrolling the IB DP at Tauragės “Versmės” gimnazija are expected to demonstrate that they are students who embrace and embody the IB Learner Profile as we expect applicants to be inquiring and open minded, diligent, and reliable, good communicators, and have good time-management, self-management, and organizational skills.

¹ IB mission (<https://www.ibo.org/about-the-ib/mission/>)

From the school's perspective, the most critical factor in the admission process is the student's conscious choice of the IB DP. So, it is of great responsibility to ensure meaningful and continuous support for the candidate and parents/guardians.

INTERNAL ADMISSION

1. Successful completion of lower secondary education level Part II (10th grade). (Tauragės Municipality regulation "Priėmimo į Tauragės rajono savivaldybės bendrojo ugdymo mokyklas tvarkos aprašas" Tauragės rajono savivaldybės tarybos 2023 m. kovo 29 d. sprendimu Nr. 1-52, II skyrius 5 punktas ([1-52 DĖL PRIĖMIMO Į TAURAGĖS RAJONO SAVIVALDYBĖS BENDROJO UGDYMO MOKYKLAS TVARKOS APRAŠO PATVIRTINIMO \(teisineinformacija.lt\)](#))
2. High marks of the Lithuanian language and Maths standardized tests (PUPP [Nacionalinė švietimo agentūra - » PUPP \(smm.lt\)](#)).
3. Completed dossier which includes documented evidence (school records, transcripts, assessments) qualifying candidates to enter secondary education.
4. Interview with the candidates to determine their level of commitment and ability to take personal responsibility for their learning.
5. Sufficient command of English to access the IB curriculum.
6. Ability and aptitude to successfully complete the IB DP.

EXTERNAL ADMISSION

1. Successful completion of lower secondary education level Part II (10th grade). (Tauragės Municipality regulation "Priėmimo į Tauragės rajono savivaldybės bendrojo ugdymo mokyklas tvarkos aprašas" Tauragės rajono savivaldybės tarybos 2023 m. kovo 29 d. sprendimu Nr. 1-52, II skyrius 5 punktas ([1-52 DĖL PRIĖMIMO Į TAURAGĖS RAJONO SAVIVALDYBĖS BENDROJO UGDYMO MOKYKLAS TVARKOS APRAŠO PATVIRTINIMO \(teisineinformacija.lt\)](#))
2. Completed dossier which includes documented evidence of the current transcripts and related records from the last two years of the candidate's educational history. (**NB:** foreign students provide transcripts transferred into Lithuanian grading system or IB grading system).
3. High marks of the Lithuanian language and Maths standardized tests (PUPP [Nacionalinė švietimo agentūra - » PUPP \(smm.lt\)](#)) (Lithuanian students).
4. Interview with the candidates to determine their level of commitment and ability to take personal responsibility for their learning.
5. Sufficient command of English to access the IB curriculum.
6. Ability and aptitude to successfully complete the IB DP.

ADMISSION PROCEDURE (INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL CANDIDATES)

1. Parents/guardians complete the application form and submit it via central Tauragė region schools admission (including IB DP) system CVPS ([Vartotojai | Tauragės savivaldybės centralizuoto vaikų priėmimo sistema \(taurage.lt\)](#)) from April 17, 2023.
2. Candidate and parents/guardians will be notified in June if their application form is accepted.
3. After admission is agreed, the individual (candidate and parents/guardians) appointment will be arranged to analyse documented evidence of candidate's achievements and results, to determine the command of English and confirm IB DP subject choice.

4. Successful candidates and parents/guardians are asked to sign the official agreement form with the school and IB DP subject choice form (*see Appendix I*) and start the school year on September 1.
5. Students may apply to the IB DP at any time during the academic year unless the time affects the completion of the courses. All above-mentioned procedures should be considered and fulfilled.

SUBJECT CHOICE PROCEDURE

Candidates for the IB DP must satisfy assessment requirements in six subjects and the core. Before enrolling the IB DP, students and their parents/guardians are highly recommended to consult the IB teachers, alumni students and families, the IB DP coordinator about the content of each subject and carefully plan their subject choice for the following two years to accommodate the demands of IB DP coursework. After the consultations, a student chooses six IB DP courses from the subjects offered by school in accordance with the IB DP requirements (3/4 HL courses and 3/2 SL courses); students must choose one subject from each of five groups (1 to 5) and TOK. As the last of their six subjects, students may choose a second subject from groups 2-4). Once admitted to six IB DP courses, a student is expected to remain in those classes for two years. Under exceptional circumstances, a change of course or level may be requested within the first quarter of Year 1. By offering students the possibility to reinforce their mother tongue Lithuanian and learn additional languages such as English, German and French, the IB DP allows students to become multilingual, providing access not only to educational and professional opportunities in a global community but also to different cultures and perspectives. All IB DP students at school study Lithuanian A: literature (SL/HL) as a Group 1 subject, English at higher level (HL) as English B course to become more proficient in English, also the students can choose German or French ab initio to support plurilingualism.

Students and parents/guardians are made aware of the IB DP course content and prior knowledge needed by:

- informational meetings with the IB DP Coordinator offered for grade 9 and 10 students.
- individual meetings with potential IB DP students and parents/guardians.
- school's website ([TB DP ugdymo programa | Tauragės „Versmės“ gimnazija \(versme.org\)](#)), informative material (policies, brochure, handbook).
- official website of the IB DP curriculum ([DP curriculum - International Baccalaureate® \(ibo.org\)](#))

LANGUAGE POLICY

Since English is the language of instructions in our school's IB DP classes, no lower than B2 level of English (Common European Framework of Reference (CEFR) is required for the IB DP candidates. Candidates both internal and external must provide school records about the grades of the English language subjects for the last two years (Part II, 9-10 grades). The grades should be no less than 9 (very good) and 10 (excellent). If the grades are lower, then candidates take a written language placement test in English to estimate their level of proficiency, followed by an interview in English to determine their level of oral English fluency. If the level is lower than B2, candidates are asked to improve their skills and retake the test.

ACCESS AND INCLUSION

Aiming to increase access and engagement in learning for all students by identifying and removing barriers, the school commits to supporting the IB policy for diversity and inclusion by ensuring that all learners are able to reach their full potential. As stipulated by the IB, inclusion at school is achieved by a culture of collaboration, mutual respect, support and problem-solving involving the whole school community. Teaching and learning at school include affirming individual identity to build self-esteem, building on prior knowledge, and scaffolding learning and extending those students who are ready and able. The IB also provides for inclusion in assessment, which means that students with learning needs may qualify for inclusive assessment arrangements. The need for these arrangements is determined by the school administrative staff and IB DP coordinator, in consultation with parents/guardians and teachers.

Once a student is enrolled in the school, it is the responsibility of the school to meet the student's learning needs, including provision of access to learning and teaching with suitable inclusive access arrangements. The inclusive access arrangements provided to a student must be planned at the start or early on during the course of study and be incorporated as the usual way to access classroom work and tests. The purpose of inclusive access arrangements is to remove or reduce, as far as possible, any disadvantage that may occur due to the student's learning support requirements. Under no circumstances should it give the student an advantage. Careful consideration should be given to a student's choice of subjects. The subjects chosen should allow one to demonstrate the strengths and empower as a learner. School consults the IB for advice before the student starts the studies. So, the collaboration between parents/guardians and the school is of most significance here, to ensure timely access, learning and teaching support.

REVIEW OF THE POLICY

This policy is a living document. It is reviewed every 2 years or when the IB or national policies/regulations change and when it is required due to other circumstances. To ensure it aligns with the IB DP procedures and regulations, national admission regulations the policy is reviewed at a general meeting of the IB DP teachers, organized by school's IB DP coordinator at the end of the school year. Beforehand, the analysis of documents, regulations and procedures is conducted and the results of the analysis are communicated to the administrative staff of the school and considered during the review of the policy.

COMMUNICATION OF THE SCHOOL'S ACCESS AND ADMISSION POLICY

The policy is also available on the school website (<https://versme.org/>). New IB staff will be familiarised with the document during orientation.

REFERENCES:

1. *Access and inclusion policy (IBO, February 2022)*
2. *Diploma Programme Assessment procedures 2024 (IBO, November 2023)*
3. *IB mission (<https://www.ibo.org/about-the-ib/mission/>)*
4. *Priėmimo į Tauragės rajono savivaldybės bendrojo ugdymo mokyklas tvarkos aprašas” Tauragės rajono savivaldybės tarybos 2023 m. kovo 29 d. sprendimu Nr. 1-52, II skyrius 5 punktas ([1-52 DĖL PRIĖMIMO Į TAURAGĖS RAJONO SAVIVALDYBĖS BENDROJO UGDYMO MOKYKLAS TVARKOS APRAŠO PATVIRTINIMO \(teisėinformacija.lt\)](#))*
5. *Programme standards and practices (IBO, March 2019)*
6. *Towards a continuum of international education (IBO, 2008)*

Appendix 1

APPROVED BY
The Head of Tauragės „Versmės“
gimnazija
.....-.....-2024 order No.....

TAURAGĖS „VERSMĖS“ GIMNAZIJA
International Baccalaureate Diploma
Programme Subject Choice Form
2024-2026

(name (s), surname)

	Subject	HL (Higher Level)	SL (Standard Level)
Group 1	Lithuanian A Literature		
	<i>*Language A: literature (school supported self-taught SSTS)(only SL)</i>		
Group 2	English B (<i>only HL</i>)		
	German <i>ab initio</i> (<i>only SL</i>)		
	French <i>ab initio</i> (<i>only SL</i>)		
Group 3	Geography		
	History		
	Economics (<i>only SL</i>)		
Group 4	Biology		
	Chemistry		
	Physics		
	Computer science		
Group 5	Mathematics: analysis and approaches		
Group 6	Another subject from Groups 2-4		

**Language A: literature (school supported self-taught) (for international students)*

***Choose 3/4 HL subjects and 3/2 SL subjects.**

- + TOK (Theory of Knowledge)
- + EE (Extended Essay)
- + CAS (creativity, activity, service)

Parent's/guardian's signature

Candidate's signature