PRIVATE BILINGUAL HIGH SCHOOL CRACOW INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL



Cambridge Assessment International Education

Cambridge International School

INFORMATION ABOUT THE SCHOOL

- an information booklet for candidates

POLISH MATURA EXAM CAMBRIDGE INTERNATIONAL AS&A LEVEL

RECRUITMENT 2024/2025

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ABOUT OUR SCHOOL

Our high school became a part of Cracow International School in 2019

CURRICULUM

Cracow International School implements the **Cambridge IGCSE**, **International AS & A Level programme** and the **Polish core curriculum** defined by the Ministry of Education.

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WE HAVE PUBLIC SCHOOL AUTHORIZATION

From the 2024/2025 school year, first-year high school students choose the high school education path. They can join a class with the **full Cambridge programme** or choose a class with a **Polish core curriculum** and extended English. This solution allows students to fully prepare for the final exams of their choice - the Polish **matura** exam or the International Cambridge As&A Level exams.

From the second year (in the case of the Polish matura exam) or the third year (Cambridge pathway) students need to choose exam subjects. This solution gives them more time to think about their plans for further education.





CAMBRIDGE

INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMMES





The **international Cambridge Programmes** that we implement at our school are known and recognized all over the world. Currently, approximately 10,000 schools in over 160 countries offer Cambridge International Programmes and qualifications (exams).

At the high school stage, studying in the **Cambridge Programme** requires the student to have very good knowledge of English.

In grades I-II, students follow the **Cambridge IGCSE** (basic general education subjects), and in grades III-IV they focus on **Cambridge Advanced** subjects of their choice - the ones they plan to take as part of the international final examinations (International Cambridge As&A Level exams). The student therefore has time to consider which exams he/she wants to take and which subjects to focus on in the last two years of high school.

At our high school, it is possible to study in a **Cambridge mode with preparation for international As&A Level exams or in a mode with a Polish core curriculum,** where we also focus on developing language (in English) skills and preparing students for the Polish high school leaving exam ("Matura").

Under certain conditions, it is also possible to change the path - and therefore the learning mode - while studying in our high school.







SCHOOL FACILITIES







A MODERN BIOLOGY AND CHEMISTRY LABORATORY

School

We have a modern and well-equipped science laboratory which meets all the standards of **Cambridge Assessment International Education** for the **Practical Science** subject group.

Our teaching facilities also allow the implementation of the **Polish core curriculum** in Science.

The Mathematics&Physics classroom is equipped with teaching aids and materials enabling teachers to conduct Physics experiments.



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SCIENCE FACILITIES



THE LABORATORY IS EQUIPPED WITH:

- microscopes for students
- certified laboratory glassware
- personal protective equipment for each student
- fume hood
- dissecting sets
- models and chemical preparations
- IT equipment
- facilities with a ventilated cabinet for chemical agents

'Fundamentally, science is a practical discipline and, by undertaking good practical science at school, one gains a sense of what working in a sciencerelated occupation might actually involve.'

Lord Sainsbury of Turville, quoted in Good Practical Science







WELL EQUIPPED CLASS ROOMS

Our classrooms are **cozy** and **comfortable** for all the students. They are also **well-equipped** with **teaching materials** and **IT hardware**.

Students have at their disposal - apart from the **laboratory** - a **Mathematics&Physics classroom**, an **IT-room**, a small **library**, a **conference room** where we organize school events, **individual student lockers** and a space for spending breaks between lessons.

PE lessons take place in a rented sports hall located in the school neighbourhood.













TEACHING **STAFF** of cracow international school



'Many schools use Cambridge International A Level to give learners valuable feedback on their performance, identifying strengths and weaknesses before they complete their full Cambridge International A Level'.

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Throughout the school year our teachers - by implementing **Cambridge IGCSE, As&A Level programmes and Polish core curriculum** - diagnose the strengths and weaknesses of students and provide them with guidance and support both during lessons and as a part of the individual feedback. Our teachers conduct the consultations for students **at school or on-line**.





TEACHING **STAFF**



OF CRACOW INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL:



HAS EXPERIENCE

... in working in a school or university environment.



IS A PARTNER

... who is open to students' suggestions and cooperates with them in the educational process.

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SET REQUIREMENTS

... and goals based on the curriculum of the subject.

Many of CIS high school teachers have been improving their work skills by working in various types of schools, educational systems and universities. Our teachers choose the individual approach towards students, using their knowledge gathered while working in Polish and foreign schools, as well as in other pedagogical institutions. They use teaching methods that allow an individualised approach to students. They show students how to reach their goals and provide support in achieving educational and cognitive independence.





TEACHING METHODS

Our teaching and working methods are designed to shape students' **responsibility** for their educational process and attitudes that may be helpful in gaining **exploratory independence**.

From the first days of school, students are **encouraged** to take action to **organize their work**. Teachers **support** students and **indicate tools** that they can use in the process of acquiring knowledge and skills.

- increased number of English lessons
- Polish for foreigners
- classes in English and bilingual
- Cambridge Global Perspectives
- project-based and problem-solving lessons
- laboratory exercises and classes
- lectures and seminars
- workshops
- discussions and debates
- e-learning tools
- extra classes and exams electives
- meetings with our Cambridge Exams Officer

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- career counseling classes
- Academic Honesty meetings
- Academic Writing workshops
- international projects





'Make your voice heard. Our education programmes encourage students to be engaged and equip them with the skills to **articulate their opinions** and make a difference'.

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ASSESSMENT AND FEEDBACK





In high school, we use daily assessment based on the grading regulations of the Ministrv of Education (scale 1-6). Students preparing for the As&A Level exams receive letter grades (E-A*). Classification and periodic summary of the students' results take place twice during the school year. Grades are entered in an electronic register that is available to students and parents. Percentage requirements for marks are consistent with the Cambridge Assessment guidelines.

We focus on **clear criteria**. Before starting the task, the student is familiarized with the scope of the material and the requirements.

Each student has the opportunity to have an **individual consultation** with the teacher during their workday, and has the **chance** to discuss their work in detail and, if necessary, make changes in order to improve their performance.







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POLISH MATURA EXAMS

The Polish final high school examination is organized by the **Central Examination Board** for high school graduates. To be able to take the final exams, you must obtain **positive grades** in all the subjects outlined in the general education curriculum each year.

The results of the exams are taken into account in the recruitment procedure for universities and colleges in **Poland**.

High scores from the Polish Matura exam also allow students to enroll some universities outside Poland - with separate entry requirements.

At Cracow International School, students declare **at the end of the first year of high school** which exams they plan to take at the advanced level - by submitting the appropriate form for the selection of extended subjects.

Examinations are carried out in Polish.



CENTRALNA KOMISJA EGZAMINACYJNA

> J OKRĘGOWA KOMISJA EGZAMINACYJNA W KRAKOWIE









CAMBRIDGE INTERNATIONAL AS&A LEVEL

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Cambridge International As & A Level are internationally accepted exams. They are organized by **Cambridge Assessment International Education** in schools that have an official accreditation of CAIE as the exam centres. **Cracow International School** obtained the accreditation and was registered as the examination centre number **PL027**.

A student - who has been preparing under the guidance of high school teachers - can take international **As & A Level exams**. The exam preparation course usually lasts 2 years (grade 3 and 4 of the high school). Before entering the examination session, the student should receive a **predicted grade** in a given subject from their teacher.

The **number**, **level** and **type** of examinations depend entirely on the student, his **interests** and **plans** related to further education at the academic level. The student can choose from **55 subjects** offered by Cambridge:





At **Cracow International School**, the student declares the willingness to prepare for the **Cambridge As&A Level** exams of his or her choice at the end of the **second year of high school**. Earlier, the student can take the optional **Cambridge IGCSE** exams, which check the student's level of mastery of the material covered in the first two years of high school.

At a later stage the student declares which of the two examination sessions he or she plans to take (November or June). As&A Level subjects are taught in English.





ORGANIZATION OF STUDYING AT CRACOW INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL THE PATHWAY WITH POLISH 'MATURA'



- extended number of English classes
- Cambridge Global Perspectives
- general education subjects at **the basic level**
- Polish as a main language of instruction
- some classes and activities in English



- extended number of **English classes**
- Cambridge Global Perspectives
- general education subjects at the basic and extended level
- extended level: natural sciences, mathematics and IT or humanities
- Polish as a main language of instruction
- some classes and activities in English

* launching a given educational path depends on the number of willing students





SUBJECTS IN PATH WITH POLISH 'MATURA'

GENERAL SUBJECTS AT THE ELEMENTARY LEVEL

- Polish
- English (extended level)
- Foreign Language (French / Spanish)
- Mathematics
- History, History & Present
- Geography
- Physics
- Chemistry

- Biology
- Business and Management
- Education for Safety
- Philosophy
- IT
- PE
- Homeroom
- Cambridge Global Perspectives

Some subjects are conducted as regular workshops. Some classes and activities are conducted in English. The main language of instruction and teaching is Polish. Students also participate in career counseling classes, sexual education (optional), additional meetings and workshops. From the second grade, students take part in advanced classes of their choice from the school's offer (preparing for the high school leaving 'Matura' exam).

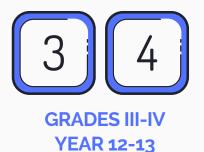




ORGANIZATION OF STUDYING AT CRACOW INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL THE PATHWAY WITH CAMBRIDGE EXAMS



- 8 general education subjects Cambridge IGCSE
- additional classes and activities
- English lessons
- English as a main language of instruction
- lessons of Polish, History and Geography of Poland (for Polish citizens) - in Polish



- 3 or 4 subjects of Cambridge Advanced chosen by a student *
- additional classes and activities
- English lessons
- English as a main language of instruction

of willing students





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* launching a given subject depends on the number

SUBJECTS IN THE CAMBRIDGE PATHWAY

OBLIGATORY IGCSE SUBJECTS (1-2 GRADE)

- IGCSE Mathematics
- IGCSE English First Language / Second Language
- IGCSE Chemistry
- IGCSE Biology
- IGCSE ICT
- Homeroom
- PE
- Polish (for the native speakers or foreigners)
- History of Poland (for Polish citizens)
- Geography of Poland (for Polish citizens)

The main language of instruction and teaching is English (except for Polish and History and Geography of Poland for Polish citizens). Students also participate in career counseling classes, sexual education (optional), additional meetings and workshops.

Compulsory elective subjects (student chooses one in a pair of subjects):

- IGCSE French or Spanish (Foreign Languages)
- IGCSE Geography or IGCSE History
- IGSCE Physics or IGSCE Global Perspectives





SCHOOL'S LOCATION



MPK: CRACOVIA, MUZEUM NARODOWE, INSTYTUT REUMATOLOGII

1. Jean in Calarinetano

The Cracow International School High School is located in Krakow's **Zwierzyniec**, near **Błonia** - at **Wyczółkowskiego 7 street**. The school building is shared with the younger students of the primary school and pre-school.





SCHOOL LOCATION





We stay in the center.

The good sides of location at Błonia are: being close to the **city center**, good **infrastructure** and **communication**. The Zwierzyniec district is a very charming part of Krakow with a rich history. The proximity of the Vistula River, the Salwator area, the National Museum and the Old Town allows students of Cracow International School to take advantage of the city's big offer - also educational and cultural.





RECRUITMENT

AND KEY DATES 2024/2025



RECRUITMENT APPLICATION - INFORMATION MEETING WITH PARENTS CHECKING THE LEVEL OF ENGLISH

- written test / interview with a candidate ANALYSIS OF EDUCATIONAL RESULTS

- the last certificate or report from current school

RECRUITMENT DECISION

- acceptance or rejection of a candidate

The main recruitment deadlines for school year 2024/2025 for candidates for year 1 are:

- February March 2024 first recruitment round
- April 2024 second recruitment round
- May June 2024 late recruitment round (if there are available places)
- July, 3rd July, 12th supplementing the documentation e.g. with the original Polish primary school leaving certificate or reports



Recruitment applications can be made by **phone, e-mail or via the form**: **cischool.edu.pl/en/high-school-2/enrolment/**







Documents required to enrol students in high school:

- a form with personal data and information about the student
- a document (or photocopy) confirming the PESEL number or ID number of student / guardians (in the case of person without a PESEL number) - to present
- copies of additional documents (e.g. opinions from a psychological and pedagogical counseling center, certificates, reports)
- declaration of choice of matriculation subjects (applies to students joining to older grades)

Documents delivered before the start of the school year:

- original primary school leaving certificate (students from Polish schools)
- original certificate of the eighth-grade exam results (students from Polish schools)
- reports from your previous school
- 2 signed photo IDs

Fees:

- entry fee: 6 000 PLN paid once
- tuition:
 - Polish curriculum: 29 000 PLN / year
 - Cambridge IGCSE: 31 000 PLN / year
 - As&A Level (3,4 grade): 38 000 PLN / year

Education contracts are signed for 2 years.

Tuition is payable in 10 installments. In justified cases, there is a possibility of spreading the tuition fee into 12 installments or using the scholarship program for students who are in a difficult financial situation.

Tuition includes:

- education throughout the school year in accordance with the Ministry of National Education calendar
- classes in the Polish or Cambridge programme
- extracurricular activities offered by the school
- 3 As&A Level exams
- individual consultations
- group workshops and individual career counseling

Paid extra:

- extra classes and clubs organized if students are interested
- \circ trips, outings, workshops (if they require additional fees)
- textbooks
- school jacket
- catering (optional)









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