

CJD Braunschweig
International School Braunschweig – Wolfsburg
Helmstedter Straße 37 · 38126 Braunschweig
fon 0531 88 92 10-0 · fax 0531 88 92 10-15



 Cambridge Assessment
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Language Policy International School Braunschweig–Wolfsburg
Spanish in Middle School (Year 6 to Year 10)
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Preliminary note

This paper introduces you to the Language Policy for Spanish as a Second Language at the International School Braunschweig–Wolfsburg. It aims at students of Year 5 and new Middle School students and their families wishing to learn more about the different levels in Spanish and the progression of language acquisition. Additionally, it provides necessary information for students who do not intend to study Spanish in school.

Why Spanish?

From Year 6 onwards, students start Spanish as a Second Language which is leading to the IGCSE exam in Spanish Second Language at the end of Year 10. According to the regulations regarding the recognition of IGCSE in Lower Saxony, Germany, students need to bring in a minimum grade C in another foreign language to achieve the equivalent to the German degree (Erweiterter Sekundarabschluss 1).

How to get the information?

Parents of Year 5 get the information in Middle School at the end of the school year. With new families for Middle School, coordinators address the language policy at the International School in the first meetings. Parents receive the **Language Policy at the International School** and decide about their child's language choice. Their decision is kept in the student's file in the school office. New students can participate in a Spanish group of their level and try to catch up with the requirements of the subject.

How to start learning the language?

Spanish as a Second Language for Year 6 and Year 7 are taught at the same time, which allows classes being clubbed in the schedule. New students in Year 7 may join the Spanish Beginner I group.

How to get continue?

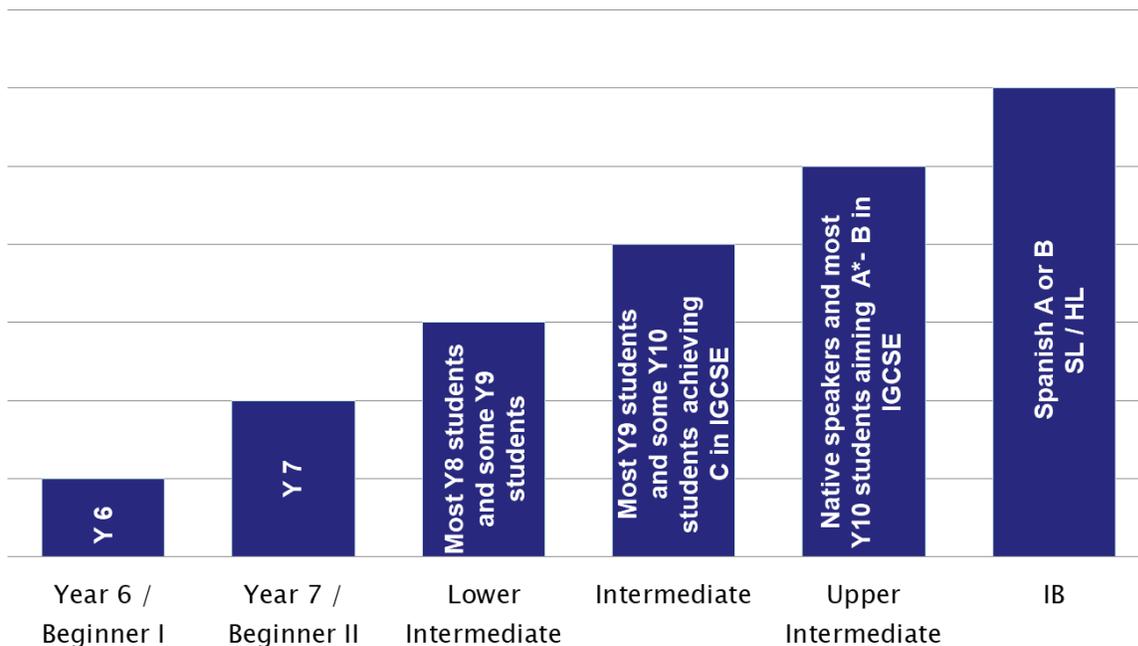
Spanish as a Second Language for Year 8, Year 9 and Year 10 are taught at the same time, which allows classes being clubbed in the schedule. After regular participation in Spanish Beginner classes in Year 6 and Year 7, most students of Year 8 are able to meet the requirements of the Spanish Lower Intermediate group, followed by the Spanish

Intermediate (Year 9) and Upper Intermediate (Year 10) group. A year 10 student in the Intermediate group should usually be able to meet the basic requirements of the IGCSE Spanish as a Second Language with a passing grade C in the final exam. Students in the Upper Intermediate group aim to achieve a grade A*, A or B in IGCSE Spanish as a Second Language. Transition between groups is possible depending on the student’s results in Assessment Tests and grading in report cards.



Your child is a native speaker of Spanish?

Native speakers of Spanish receive individual guidance in all years and are supported to sit the IGCSE Spanish First Language exams in Year 10.



The table shows the development of language progression at the International School Braunschweig–Wolfsburg.

What if you speak another language at home?

International students often have to start one or two foreign languages at the same time when joining the International School Braunschweig–Wolfsburg.

The International School encourages all multi-lingual students to continue with lessons in their mother tongues.

Parents and students alone are responsible for the student's studies in the mother tongue, arranging a tutor and finding appropriate materials. The International School does not offer any assessment tests in school to check the student's progress in self-taught languages.



How does Cambridge support your child's mother tongue?

Cambridge offers IGCSE exams in several first and second languages. New families are recommended to discuss options for self-taught choices with the Coordinator/ Cambridge Examination Coordinator. If offered by Cambridge, students can take IGCSE exams in their mother tongues at the end of Year 10 which is recognized as a substitute second language as demanded by the Ministry of Education in Germany. The recognition as substitute second language is essential for students planning to change into the German educational system at any point of their studies.

What can the school do?

Students in the IGCSE programme receive a file containing the syllabus for their language and sample papers of IGCSE exam components old exam papers, grading schemes and learning materials if possible on request.

What does my child do in school when the class has Spanish lessons?

For new students in Year 8, 9 and 10, the time is usually not sufficient to start with Spanish lessons and to reach a level in Year 10 to succeed in IGCSE exams for Spanish as a Second Language.

The student uses the free block in the morning for tutoring talks with a Professional Educator of the Secondary Section, teambuilding activities, group projects or independent studies in a classroom or the school library. In the afternoon, students have to participate in Sports activities instead of Spanish class.