



Admissions Policy

Introduction

This document sets out the criteria, principles and practices governing the admissions process at Meridian 22 Private High School. They are based on the principle of fairness, transparency and consistent implementation. The Schools' admissions procedures operate within the framework of the School's ordinances and the relevant legislation.

Meridian 22 Private High School provides education from 8th to 12th grade. The students come from diverse backgrounds, nationalities and cultures. For that reason, the admissions policy encourages this diversity and strives to ensure that students admitted to Meridian 22 will benefit from the educational environment and will be successful in achieving their learning goals.

The School is small and maintains a limited number of students, and the focus in the educational process is on the individual approach to every student. The purpose of the admissions process is to recruit students who will be best able to benefit from their educational experience at the School.

Admissions criteria

The applicants to 8th and 11th IB grade have to sit school entry exams. They are usually held in the end of March or the beginning of April for the school year starting in September. Admissions to the School are determined by the Admissions Committee based on the following criteria:

- The results of the entry exam (including satisfactory knowledge of the English language)
- The academic records
- The potential of the applicant to handle the academic rigor
- The capacity of the School to meet the educational needs of the applicant
- The availability of places

Only students who fulfil these criteria are admitted.

Applicants may be admitted at the discretion of the Head of school at any time during the academic year as long as the time does not affect the completion of their courses and places are available. Families of students seeking admission to Meridian 22 should contact the school to arrange an appointment with the Head of school. At the meeting, the parents and the prospective students should bring the necessary documentation (listed below). They will be informed about the school (its core values and its educational programme) and the school will evaluate the application and, if relevant, will set a date for the respective exam(s). In order to be admitted, such applicants should also fulfil the criteria mentioned above.

Further assessment and support

Further assessment of the student may be carried out in order to determine whether he/she may need extra support. In such cases, specific arrangements will be made with the family and they will have to fund wholly or partially the extra support for their child.

The School may deny admission /re-enrolment to any applicant if there are reasons to believe that this would not be in the best interest of the applicant or the School. Such cases may refer to, without being limited to:



- Students who have been expelled from their previous school especially for aggressive behaviour
- Students who do not have the proper documents to reside and study in Bulgaria

Special needs support

The School provides a limited level of support for students with mild to moderate learning difficulties. The parents are expected to inform the School of such special needs at stage of applying. The parents are also expected to provide extra support for their child in-class or out of class.

Language requirements

As an English language school and an IB World School, the good knowledge of the English language is of paramount importance for the overall performance of the student. Therefore, the applicants for the School and especially for the IB Diploma Programme should be able to demonstrate their level of English through their academic records and/or the English exam. If necessary, they should take an equivalency test in English. If an applicant holds a Cambridge Certificate in Advanced English (at least C), he/she will not be required to sit the entry exam for the IB Diploma Programme.

Priority in admissions

Because of the limitations on the number of students that can be accepted into any class, the following priority has been given regarding the categories of applicants:

- current students from 10th grade (applying for 11th IB)
- applicants from Meridian 22 Junior High School (applying for 8th grade)
- siblings of current or previous students
- international students, students from other international or IB world schools and applicants who do not have Bulgarian as their first language;
- any other applicants, providing there are places.

Offering a place

Once an offer of a place is made, it is confirmed at the moment the student's family signs the contract with the school and the school accepts payment for the tuition fees according to the payment schedule specified in the contract. At this moment parents should be particularly aware of the commitments they are making towards the school.

Application procedures

For admissions to 8th Grade

Registration

- Application form
- 7th grade academic transcript (first term or completed 7th grade)
- Registration fee (applicants from schools other than Meridian 22 Junior High School)

Entry exam

The entry exam includes a test in Bulgarian Language and Literature and a test in Mathematics. Both tests are based on the curriculum in 7th grade and check the knowledge and skills acquired up to this stage of education.

Results are announced within 7 days after the exam.



Entry score

The applicants are admitted according to their entry score calculated from the following:

- entry exam result (multiplied by 3)
- average mark (first term or completed 7th grade)
- mark in Bulgarian language (first term or completed 7th grade)
- mark in Mathematics (first term or completed 7th grade)

The Bulgarian educational system uses a 6-grade scale, where the lowest passing mark is 3.

For admissions to other non-IB grades: 9th – 12th

- Application form
- Academic transcript (first term or completed grade)
- Entry/equivalency exam(s) (as appropriate or prescribed by the Regional Inspectorate of Education)
- Interview with the family and the student

For admissions to the IB Diploma Programme

Registration:

- Application form
- 10th grade academic transcript (average total of the marks from the 10th grade of above 4.50 (out of 6))
- Motivation letter in English addressed to the Admissions Committee
- Registration fee (applicants from other schools)

Entry exam

The exam in English is based on Cambridge Advanced level certificate exam (written and oral component).

Results are announced within 7 days after the exam.

Entry score

The entry score is formed by the average of:

- The exam in English
- 10th grade average mark

Candidates are offered a place in the IB Diploma Programme after the approval of the Admissions Committee, including the IBDP Coordinator, the Students Advisor, the school psychologist and teachers. The Admissions Committee takes its decision regarding the applicant based on:

- the entry score
- the interview regarding the motivation of the applicant and his/her knowledge and understanding of the IB Learner Profile, and the IB Mission Statement, the IB requirements and regulations and the values of the school.

Enrolment in the Diploma Programme is completed only after the candidate and their parents have acknowledged their acceptance of the IB requirements and regulations. The choice of IB subjects is made by the candidate with the guidance of the IB Coordinator and the Student Advisor.