KINNITATUD

Miina Härma Gümnaasiumi
Direktori käskkirjaga nr 128
15.12.2025

Admission to International Baccalaureate English-language classes in the 2026/2027 academic year

1. These regulations establish the admission conditions for students to Miina Härma Gymnasium (hereinafter MHG) International Baccalaureate (hereinafter IB) English-language study tracks in the Primary Years Programme (hereinafter PYP), Middle Years Programme (hereinafter MYP) and Diploma Programme (hereinafter DP).

- Within IB PYP, the regulations govern admission to grades 1–4.
- Within IB MYP, the regulations govern admission to grades 5–9.
- Within the IB DP study track, the regulations govern admission to Pre-IB, 11DP and 12DP classes.

2. The implementation of IB curricula is intended for families whose children would otherwise face significant learning gaps if parents are required, due to work, to relocate internationally, causing the children to change schools multiple times during their education. IB study places are not intended for children to complete PYP and MYP sequentially in Estonia (Ministry of Education and Research, Administrative Agreement 2025–2027). Students are admitted to MHG's English-language classes according to the administrative agreement between the Ministry of Education and Research and the City of Tartu (2025–2027) and the target-group descriptions defined therein.

The target group includes:

1) Children of foreign nationals whose parent is part of the posted personnel of a foreign diplomatic or consular mission in Estonia.

2) Children of foreign nationals whose parent works in Estonia under a fixed-term contract in the field of national defence, at a public university, or at an evaluated research institution.

3) Children of foreign nationals whose parent works in Estonia under a fixed-term contract at a representation of an international organisation, an international organisation itself, or another institution established under an international agreement listed on the website of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

4) Children of Estonian citizens whose parent works in the field of national defence and who have studied for at least two years during the same school level or IB programme at an IB school or international school abroad due to the parent's employment abroad.

5) Children of Estonian citizens whose parent is an employee of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and who, due to the parent's work at an Estonian foreign mission, have studied for at least two years in an IB school, international school, or local school abroad.

3. Belonging to the target group is verified by an official confirmation letter from the parent's employer, submitted to the relevant IB programme coordinator (PYP, MYP, DP).

4. Students belonging to the target group are admitted without entrance tests and may be admitted mid-year if necessary.

5. The maximum class size in all IB English-language classes is 24 students. Study places are filled with students from the target group, and if vacancies remain, MHG conducts supplementary admission to complete English-language classes. Conditions for supplementary admission by programme are specified in sections 12–27 of these regulations. Through supplementary admission, a class may be filled up to 80% of the maximum limit.

6. To apply for admission to an IB English-language class, the student candidate (or their legal guardian, in the case of limited capacity) must submit an application for enrolment. The following documents must be attached:

1) A copy of the student's identity document from their country of origin (or birth certificate if unavailable);
2) A copy of the parent's identity document from their country of origin;
3) Copies of the student's and parent's Estonian residence permit cards, or, if unavailable, a copy of the Estonian Population Register extract showing the Estonian personal identification code;
4) A copy of the student's health card or vaccination certificate;
5) A copy of the previous academic year's (or study period's) report card (when applying for grades 2–12);
6) An official employer's confirmation letter proving the parent's belonging to the target group or compliance with supplementary admission requirements;
7) A digital photo for the student card (white background, minimum 600×800 pixels).

7. Students who have completed grade 10 in Estonia and who are applying for vacant places in 11DP submit only the documents listed in section 25.

8. Students in IB English-language classes are placed into classes primarily by age and then considering their previous educational background. If necessary, an interview or testing may be conducted to assess the student's subject knowledge and/or English proficiency.

9. Students applying for the English-language grade 1 must be at least 6 years old (but preferably 7) by 1 September of the school year.

10. Students wishing to study in IB PYP must have English proficiency at a conversational level. Candidates wishing to study in IB MYP, Pre-IB and DP must have proficiency enabling active participation in studies.

11. Students admitted to IB English-language classes will be notified by 30 June at the latest via e-mail to the parent. Parents of target-group students admitted mid-year will be notified within two weeks after all admission conditions have been met.

Admission procedure for vacant places in MHG's PYP and MYP classes

12. If vacant places are available, children of foreign nationals temporarily residing in Estonia, whose parents work in a field prioritized by the City of Tartu, may apply to PYP and MYP classes.

13. To apply for vacant places in PYP and MYP, the application and documents listed in section 5 must be submitted to the respective programme coordinator by the 1st of May of the previous academic year.

14. There are no entrance examinations for PYP and MYP.

Admission procedure for vacant places in MHG's Pre-IB class

15. The Pre-IB class is the English-language grade 10 at Miina Härma Gymnasium. Its purpose is to prepare students for the IB Diploma Programme.

16. The following qualify for supplementary admission to Pre-IB:

1) Children of foreign nationals temporarily residing in Estonia whose parents work in a field prioritized by the City of Tartu;
2) Children of foreign nationals who completed grade 9 at an international school in Estonia and whose Estonian language skills are insufficient for studying in Estonian-language upper secondary school.

17. To apply for vacant places in the Pre-IB class, the application and documents listed in section 5 must be submitted to the IB Diploma coordinator by the 1st of April of the previous academic year.

18. Admission decisions for the Pre-IB class are based on:

1) Mathematics test,
2) English language test,
3) Grade 9 report card,
4) Interview in English.

Tests and interviews take place in April of the previous academic year at MHG. The IB Diploma coordinator informs all applicants individually of the dates.

19. Candidates are invited to the interview based on their Mathematics and English test results and their grade 9 report card.

20. The interview evaluates the candidate's motivation, general knowledge, academic achievement, competition results, and social skills.

Admission procedure for vacant places in MHG's IB Diploma Programme

21. The IB Diploma Programme at MHG consists of English-language grades 11 and 12.

22. Students who have completed the Pre-IB class at MHG are automatically admitted to the IB Diploma Programme.

23. The following qualify for supplementary admission to grade 11DP:

1) Students who have completed grade 10 in Estonia;
2) Children of foreign nationals temporarily residing in Estonia whose parents work in a priority field for the City of Tartu.

24. Children who are citizens of the Republic of Estonia and of foreign countries apply to the 11DP class on the same basis.

25. To apply for the 11DP class, the following must be submitted to the IB Diploma Coordinator by the 1st of May of the preceding academic year:

1) an application for entry into the 11DP class;
2) recommendation letters from three teachers of different subject areas (science, humanities/social sciences, mathematics) from the applicant's previous school, reflecting the student's skills and character;
3) the Pre-IB or grade 10 report card;
4) the documents listed in point 5, if the applicant is a foreign national.

26. All applicants for available places in the 11DP class must complete an interview in English. During the interview, the candidate's English language proficiency, motivation, general knowledge, academic performance, achievements in subject competitions, social skills, and the justification and reasoning of studying in the Diploma Programme are assessed.

27. Admission of applicants to the 11DP class is based on a ranking determined by teacher recommendations, the student's year 10 average grade, and the interview.