

School Profile

2025/2026

Copenhagen International School

Copenhagen International School (CIS) is one of the founding IB World Schools, nestled right in the heart of Copenhagen, Denmark. Founded in 1963, CIS is home to 850 students aged between 3-19 from 80 countries. The primary and secondary school campuses were brought together in 2018 in a flagship of sustainability in the modern district of Nordhavn.

Vision

Educating champions of a just and sustainable world

Mission

Our dynamic and inquiry-led learning programme is bolstered by our core values of compassion, integrity, creativity, inclusion and growth, providing our students with a unique opportunity to explore their boldest dreams.

Accreditation

CIS is accredited by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC) and is fully authorised by the International Baccalaureate Organisation (IBO) to deliver the Primary Years, Middle Years, and Diploma of the International Baccalaureate Programmes. CIS is certified to award U.S. high school diplomas and the IB Diploma.



School and community

Countries* represented: 80
Enrollment: 850
Secondary School: 542
Class of 2025: 92

*Denmark 24%, USA 16%; UK 8%;
India 4%, Netherlands 4%

Contact information

Director: Chris Andre / chris.andre@cis.dk

Secondary School Principal: Stephen McIlroy / stephen.mcilroy@cis.dk

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IB Diploma Coordinator: Mary Donnellan / mary.donnellan@cis.dk

Future Planning Counsellors: Kari Oelkers and Erin Huber / kari.oelkers@cis.dk and erin.huber@cis.dk

Academic Programmes

CIS offers an academically rigorous university/college preparatory programme in the English language. Students in Grades 6 -10 complete the IB Middle Years Programme, while the majority of students in Grades 11-12 follow the IB Diploma Programme curriculum. All CIS students are working toward a NEASC accredited U.S. high school diploma. CIS believes in open access; therefore, any student who wishes to take the full IB Diploma Programme is able to enrol in this course of study. 85 students of the Class of 2026 are IB Diploma candidates, with 5 students enrolled in high school courses, which largely follow the IB curriculum.

Application Policy

Students are strongly advised to submit no more than 10-12 college applications. Admissions offices can be confident that any application from CIS is a well-considered and thoughtful submission.

(Note: UCAS, University of California, and Danish applications each count as a single application.)

Graduation Requirements

To earn our U.S. high school diploma, students are required to earn a minimum of 22 credits and fulfil our Creativity, Activity, Service (CAS) requirements. With a passing grade of 3, we issue 0.5 credits for semester-long courses and a year-long course earns 1.0 credit. The chart indicates the minimum number of credits required in each discipline.

Required

SUBJECT	CREDIT	
English	4*	<i>*The fourth English credit must be completed during Grade 12.</i>
Mathematics	3	
Individuals & Societies	3	
Sciences	3	
Languages	3	
Electives	4	
Physical & Health Edu	2	
Total	22	

Assessment

CIS awards achievement grades once every semester using the 1-7 grading system of the IB. Assessment is criterion referenced using either MYP grade descriptors in grades 6-10, or IB Diploma descriptors in Grades 11 and 12. In both cases, a grade of 3 is considered to be the minimum passing grade. Student rankings are not used in our grading policy. CIS is operated in accordance with all applicable Danish regulations for private schools and gymnasiums.

Achievement Grade

- 7 Excellent
- 6 Very Good
- 5 Good
- 4 Satisfactory
- 3 Basic
- 2 Poor (no credit)
- 1 Very Poor (no credit)

Grading Scale

GRADING SYSTEM

Grade 11 and 12: IB DP

Standard Level	GPA Standard Level (SL)	GPA Higher Level (HL)
7	4.25	4.5
6	4	4.25
5	3.75	4
4	3	3.25
3	2.25	2.5
2	1.25	1.5
1	0	0

COURSES OFFERED

GROUP 1: Language & Literature

- English A Language & Literature HL/SL
- Danish A Literature HL/SL
- Self-taught Literature A SL

GROUP 2: Language Acquisition

- Danish B HL/SL
- French B HL/SL
- German B HL/SL
- Spanish B HL/SL
- German AB Initio SL
- Danish AB Initio SL

GROUP 3: Individuals & Societies

- Business Management HL/SL
- Economics HL/SL
- Geography HL/SL
- History HL/SL
- Environmental Systems & Societies, HL/SL

GROUP 4: Sciences

- Biology HL/SL
- Chemistry HL/SL
- Computer Science HL/SL
- Physics HL/SL
- Environmental Systems & Societies HL/SL

GROUP 5: Mathematics

- Mathematics Analysis & Approaches HL/SL
- Mathematics Applications & Interpretations HL/SL

GROUP 6: The Arts

- Music HL/SL
- Theatre HL/SL
- Visual Arts HL/SL

IB DIPLOMA PROGRAMME RESULTS

	2025	2024	2023	2022*
Full Diploma Entries	89	69	65	70
IB Course Entries	0	4	5	4
Diplomas awarded	85	64	57	63
Pass Rate (CIS)	95.5%	93%	88%	90%
Pass Rate (Global)	81.26%	80%	79%	86%
Mean Diploma Score (CIS)	33	34	34	36
Global Mean	30.58%	30	30	32
Highest Diploma Score (Max 45)	44	44	45*	45

**Grades were inflated globally due to Covid conditions*

UNIVERSITY ACCEPTANCES

United Kingdom

Aberystwyth University
 Aston University, Birmingham
 Bangor University
 Birkbeck, University of London
 Bournemouth University
 Brunel University of London (2)
 City (St. George's) University of London (3)
 Central Film School London
 Durham University (4)
 Imperial College London (2)
 King's College London (11)
 Lancaster University (2)
 Liverpool Hope University
 London Metropolitan University (2)
 Newcastle University (2)
 Northeastern University London
 Northumbria University, Newcastle (2)
 Nottingham Trent University (2)
 Oxford Brookes University (2)
 Queen Mary University of London (6)
 Royal Central School of Speech and Drama
 Royal Hollow, University of London (4)
 Swansea University
 The University of Law
 University College London (8)
 University of Bath (3)
 University of Bristol (4)
 University of East Anglia (2)
 The University of Edinburgh (13)
 University of Essex (3)
 University of Exeter (2)
 University of Glasgow (5)
 University of Hertfordshire
 University of Leeds
 University of Manchester (7)
 University of Nottingham (4)
 University of Southampton (2)
 University of St. Andrews (5)
 University of Surrey
 University of Sussex (3)
 University of Warwick (6)
 University of Westminster (4)
 University of Winchester
 University of Worcester

Canada

University of Toronto (2)
 Toronto Metropolitan University

United States

Arizona State
 Bucknell University
 Carleton College
 Case Western Reserve University
 Drexel University (2)
 Florida Atlantic
 Hofstra University
 George Mason University
 Marywood University
 Miami University Ohio: Oxford Campus
 Occidental College
 Pratt Institute
 Purdue University (2)
 San Diego State University
 St. Joseph's University
 Syracuse University (2)
 The Pennsylvania State University
 Tulane University
 University of California, Davis
 University of California, Irvine
 University of California, Los Angeles
 University of California, San Diego
 University of Connecticut
 University of Maryland College Park
 University of Miami
 University of Minnesota Twin Cities (2)
 Woodbury University

Europe

American University of Paris
 Bocconi University
 Franklin University Switzerland
 John Cabot University
 SLU (Madrid)
 St Louis University of Madrid
 École Ducasse
 IE University
 ICN University- Berlin
 IFA Paris
 Brussels School Of Governance
 Danish Technical University
 Copenhagen Business School
 Aarhus University
 Erasmus University Rotterdam
 HZ University of Applied Sciences
 University of Groningen (2)
 Han University of Applied Sciences
 Tilburg University
 Hanze University of Applied
 Sciences
 The Hauge University of Applied
 Sciences
 Maastricht University
 TU Delft
 Utrecht University

Global Top 50 (Times Higher Education)

2 Imperial
 8 UCL
 13 Edinburgh
 11 King's
 1 University of Toronto
 1 UC San Diego
 1 UCLA

Global Top 50 (QS Rankings)

2 Imperial
 8 UCL
 13 Edinburgh
 7 University of Manchester
 1 University of Toronto
 11 King's
 1 UCLA