

German International School Chicago

Give Your Child
the World...



...When **Moving Abroad.**

Bilingual Advantage • **International** Education • **Global** Opportunity



A Bilingual IB World School
Preschool - Grade 8





Welcome to the German International School Chicago

We've Got **You Covered**

We help you and your family experience a smooth and seamless transition to life in Chicago.

The German International School Chicago (GISC) offers a full-day preschool through 8th grade program, including very flexible after-school care (until 6:00pm) as well as extracurricular opportunities for children from the ages of 3 to 14 years.

GISC features classes in German and English, incorporating German and US curricula within the **globally-authorized International Baccalaureate framework.**



Ben Hebebrand
GISC Director

We're **Well-Established**

More than a decade after its founding, GISC has years of experience integrating students into their new classrooms at every grade level, supporting their transition into an exciting new learning environment.

Students leaving GISC to move abroad – back to Germany or bound for new places – are **well-prepared for an easy re-integration.**



We're **Here for You**

Whether you join GISC in August or during the school year, we offer our new students and their families a warmhearted welcome.

We reserve spots in every class for expat families, avoiding the stressful uncertainty of a waitlist.



An Easy Start from Day One

Our teachers are experts at welcoming new students from abroad and integrating them into their new class community, no matter when you arrive!

Joining GISC is **seamless and straightforward** thanks to our personalized enrollment process.



“

GISC was a key element in our decision to move to Chicago. The school provided everything we were looking for as parents: A personalized, top-level education with engaged teachers and a warm, friendly parent community. We found this at GISC from day one; our daughter's re-integration into her school in Frankfurt was as seamless as her integration in Chicago.

”

— Nicola Brocksiepe & Daniel Sabel, GISC Parents

A Sense of **Belonging**

Students with limited or no English language experience join our **Become Bilingual Program**, providing students with one-on-one or small-group time with trained teachers to help them learn English fast and successfully.

Our small class sizes ensure that all students belong and matter while receiving **individualized** and **differentiated** instruction.



Year-Round **Admissions**

GLSC accepts new students **at any time of the school year.**

An International **Community**...

We are proud of our multicultural and international community – GISC families represent dozens of nationalities and speak more than 20 languages at home. Our students grow and thrive in a respectful and diverse environment, becoming open-minded learners and responsible global citizens.

Families with
Parents of Mixed
Nationalities

66%

15%

Families with
Parents from
Germany, Austria,
or Switzerland

19%

Families with
Parents from the US



26

Languages Spoken by Our Families



41

Nationalities Represented



... in the **Heart of Chicago**

Students moving to the US are immersed in American culture from day one, improving their English skills and gaining valuable experiences.

We foster **curiosity** and **creativity** by encouraging our students to explore Chicago through its museums, cultural institutions, and abundant nature.



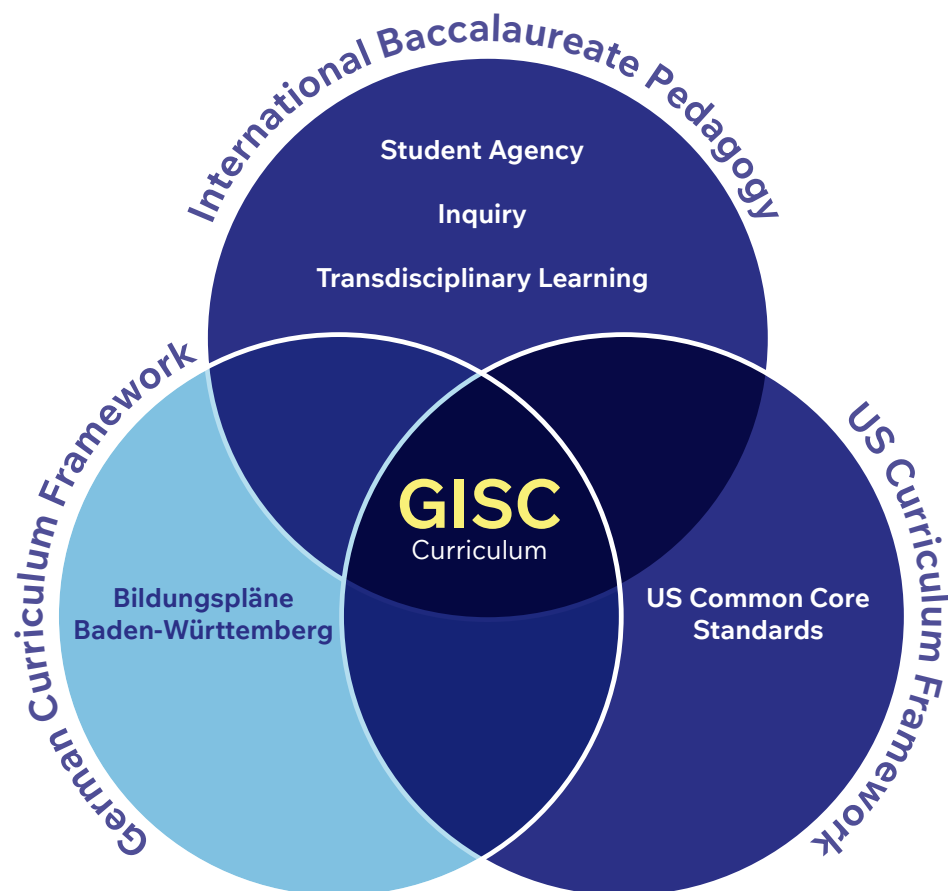
Adventure Awaits!



Preparing Students for **Success in a Global World**

At the German International School Chicago, our unique curriculum is designed to prepare young learners for a successful and promising future.

GISC students are **ready to succeed** in every academic environment – in the US, in Europe, and worldwide!



International Baccalaureate

International Perspective

GLSC is part of the prestigious IB World School network, preparing students to become globally-minded, critical, and analytical thinkers as well as life-long learners.



While attending GLSC, students **embrace global citizenship** every day.

US Common Core

US Perspective



GLSC incorporates US educational standards, particularly in the subjects of English Language and Literature as well as Middle School Math and Science. This allows students to continue their education in the US.

German Curriculum

German Perspective



We follow the curricula (Bildungspläne) of Baden-Württemberg which allow students to (re-)integrate into German-speaking schools seamlessly.

Students take the DSD I exam in grade 8. This diploma officially certifies students' German language proficiency by the German educational authorities (Kultusministerkonferenz).

Academic Excellence

Success Reaches Beyond Just Great Test Scores

At GISC, we focus on **students** and their **motivation**, which is the key to ongoing academic progress. Our teachers create lessons that empower students to take control of their own learning. Students are actively involved in shaping their academic path, whether working in groups or independently. With guidance from our teachers, we make sure all of our students achieve their learning objectives and goals in each project.

Our Goal Is Bilingualism

Our diverse student body, which represents over **40 nationalities**, encourages **cultural and language diversity** in our learning environment. While German is the primary language of instruction, students receive **daily English Language Arts lessons** starting in Kindergarten. In Middle School, they use both English and German in Math and Science.

Kindergarten students who graduated from our Preschool are fluent in German and have basic reading and writing skills in German and English. New students entering Kindergarten, 1st grade, or 2nd grade with little to no fluency in German or English, receive small-group or one-on-one support through our **Become Bilingual Program (BBP)**. This quickly and profoundly helps them develop their language skills for an easy transition. Starting in 5th grade, all of our students additionally learn **French or Spanish**.



Self-Driven Learning along with Critical and Analytical Thinking Are Our Core Principles

STEAM... ...to Better Understand a Rapidly Evolving World!

STEAM, which stands for **Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics**, plays a crucial role in education. It empowers students with problem-solving skills, fosters critical thinking, and encourages innovation.

To further promote **intrinsic motivation**, our students can choose from a variety of STEAM workshops, perfectly developed for different ages:

- Flying Steps Dance
- Mind & Body
- Lego
- Beyond Coding
- Math Circle
- Drama & Theater

... and many more!





School Life Beyond the Classroom

After our regular school hours from 8:00 am to 3:00 pm, the school day is far from over: art, music lessons, sports, movie-making, coding, and technology are all part of our extracurricular options.

Special Middle School programming includes an athletic program and Middle School clubs.

After-school care (Nachmittagsbetreuung) from 3:00 pm to 6:00 pm is available for an entire school year or as needed and can be booked very flexibly.

The day and hours of coverage can be accommodated according to your needs.



Engaging and Exciting **Extracurriculars**

Our extracurricular programs allow GISC students to work with expert coaches, accomplished music instructors, filmmakers, and more, without leaving school. We choose each activity with care to ensure there is something for every student.



Extracurricular Programs

- Art
- Ballet
- Build-a-Bot
- Chess
- Debate
- Future City
- Guitar
- Hip Hop
- Karate
- Math Games
- Middle School Athletic Program
- Music
- Piano
- Rhönrad
- Soccer
- Table Tennis
- Violin
- Young Film Makers

... and even more!



Make Lifelong Friends from Around the World

GISC has an active and welcoming community, led by our parent organization. As soon as you arrive in Chicago, we invite you to join us at our incredible school events, GISC Parent Group (GPG) parties, and family-friendly excursions. From casual backyard barbeques to our glamorous annual Gala, there is a perfect community event for everyone. Each event is an opportunity to connect and make new friends, ensuring an effortless transition to life in Chicago.



“

We've been Chicagoans for more than 14 years now and becoming part of the GISC community has been such a lovely addition to our life here.

”

— Annkathrin Murray, GISC Parent



Spielgruppe

Our free weekly playgroup for babies and toddlers is a fun opportunity to spend time with other GISC families and friends, and integrate younger siblings.



Kaffeekränzchen

Every other week, GISC parents get together at a local café for a relaxed parent coffee morning after student drop-off.



Join Us at Some of Our Wonderful Community Events!

- Annual Gala
- Art Evenings
- Barbeques & Potlucks
- Chicago Fire Soccer Matches
- Chicago Von Steuben Parade
- End-of-Year Potluck
- Fasching/Karneval
- Laternenfest & St. Martin's Parade
- Oktoberfest
- Wine Tastings

... and lots more!



We Can't Wait to Welcome Your Whole Family!

Let us help make your relocation
to Chicago **easy and care-free!**

We're happy to answer any questions you may have
about our school and the bilingual, international
education we offer, as well as life in Chicago and the US.

CONTACT US

**SCHEDULE
A TOUR**



GISC

at a Glance



195
Students



6:1
Student-Teacher Ratio



81%
of Families Are International



41
Nationalities Represented



26
Languages Spoken by Our Families



10%
Annual Growth Rate



30,000
Square Feet of Learning Space



77%
of Faculty Have Advanced Degrees



100%
of Students Speak Multiple Languages



GISC Benefits

- We offer year-round admissions and accept applications at any time
- No English skills required
- Seamless academic integration
- Exceptional education from Preschool through Grade 8
- Caring and nurturing teachers
- Exciting After-School Programs until 6:00pm to fit your schedule
- Welcoming Parent Community to make you feel home right away



Our Neighborhood

Suburban Safety. Urban Excitement.

GISC is in the historic Ravenswood community on Chicago's beautiful Northside. Ravenswood is consistently ranked one of the best places to raise a family in Chicago, with easy access to parks, shops, restaurants, and Lake Michigan. GISC is within walking distance of the "L" Brown Line, Chicago's commuter rail line (Metra), and numerous bus stops. The school is also just a short drive from the highway.

Whether you are taking the train downtown for a day at the Art Institute or driving to O'Hare for a flight to anywhere in the world, **GISC's convenient location makes it easy!**

Points of Interest

1. IL Holocaust Museum
2. Northwestern University
3. Wrigley Field
4. Peggy Notebaert Museum of Natural History
5. Lincoln Park Zoo
6. Chicago History Museum
7. Navy Pier
8. Art Institute
9. Garfield Park Conservatory
10. Field Museum
11. Shedd Aquarium
12. Adler Planetarium
13. Soldier Field
14. University of Chicago
15. Museum of Science & Industry





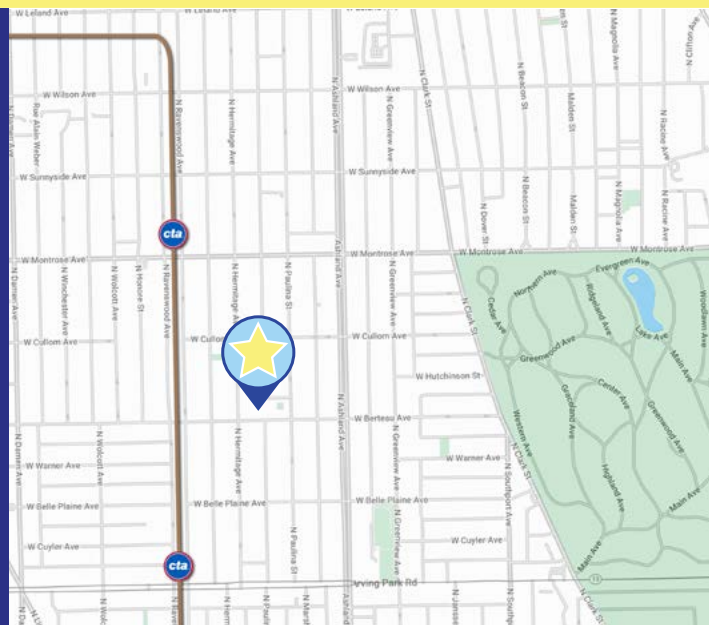
German International School Chicago

Give Your Child **the World**

The German International School Chicago provides a rigorous dual language education in a supportive, individualized learning environment to students from Preschool through Grade 8.

We prepare our students to become well-rounded, creative, and responsible global citizens.

GISC is a non-profit independent school that is authorized as an official IB World School. GISC is accredited by the Independent Schools Association of the Central States (ISACS) and affiliated with the German Central Agency for Schools Abroad (Zentralstelle für das Auslandsschulwesen, ZfA).



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Our Partner Organizations:

