

# **ICS, The Inter-Community School Zurich**

## ***The international school of first choice, established 1960.***

Today's world is changing more quickly than any of us have ever experienced. National economies emerge or collapse within a generation's time. Entire occupations virtually disappear over the span of a decade, to be replaced with technologies that nobody had even considered a dozen years prior. The most creative, innovative and adaptable workers thrive in such an environment. The rest hold constant anxiety about what the future holds for their careers and their families.

The Inter-Community School Zurich recognizes these realities. ICS offers each child a rigorous and innovative learning journey relevant to these challenges. Students future-proof their skills by becoming self-directed, resilient, life-long learners. As described by Sabrina S (ICS Class of 2012 and current PhD candidate), "At ICS, you learn to be open-minded and approach unfamiliar situations with more ease. This, I believe, is an invaluable asset in today's globalized world."

Since 1960, ICS has been the international school of first choice for students aged 3 to 19. Sanjeev Premchand, Chair of the ICS Board of Trustees, says, "We are a school committed to our founding principles and our inclusive admissions policy. Our school brings together families from over 50 nations, all united by the ICS mission statement. We celebrate our diversity as we learn the best practices of global citizenship from each other. This prepares our students to thrive in an increasingly connected global workforce."

As an International Baccalaureate (IB) World school, ICS is the only school in Zurich offering the three main programmes of the internationally acclaimed IB Organisation. An IB education is a ticket to thrive in higher education. It opens doors to universities across the globe, including top-ranked Swiss universities such as ETH Zürich and Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne.

Immersed in a multitude of cultures and perspectives, students at ICS gain an expansive, compassionate view of the world. While the language of the school is English in a multilingual context, ICS also supports mother-tongue German speakers with extensive German language programmes that allow all students to think critically and make decisions using German. Students can also opt for the prestigious Bilingual Diploma, which prepares them to study at University in two languages.

ICS maintains a single unified campus for all students (ages 3 to 19) in the village of Zumikon. It is reached quickly and easily from both downtown Zurich and the popular Gold Coast communities. The atmosphere on this campus clearly reflects the school's mission statement, which states that the school provides "a supportive and enabling learning environment in which all members of the community are challenged to achieve their individual potential, encouraged to pursue their passions, and expected to fulfil their responsibilities."

At ICS a culture of learning and high expectations is established by inspirational teachers. These teachers prepare students with the flexibility and agility to apply knowledge to complex situations in the real world. Head of School Mary-Lyn Campbell summarizes this teaching by saying, "ICS delivers a rigorous education designed to develop key life-long learner attributes and skills. We empower students for success as 21<sup>st</sup> century learners."

ICS also maintains what it calls "a culture of care" by providing a safe and welcoming place where children of all abilities can learn and grow within a caring and supportive environment. Also important to the school is a culture of community engagement. This is reflected in the school's membership in the renowned Round Square organization – a global network which teaches students to become caring and compassionate future leaders.

ICS welcomes new students throughout the year (depending on space availability). It encourages families to schedule a personal tour with the school's admissions officer and see first-hand the inspiring learning spaces on its campus.