



Admission Policy



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Vision

To provide a unique and culturally diverse educational experience to the local and expat community in the greater Sandnes area. We aim for our students to be kind, caring, and respectful young people who, by practicing resiliency and a growth mindset, thrive in meeting their individual learning needs and goals. We strive to develop confident global citizens who will be prepared to meet the needs and challenges of the future and help make the world a better place for everyone.

Mission

Sandnes International School contributes to making the world better by providing its students with a holistic international education. To this end, students are encouraged to take meaningful action and lead change in a safe and positive learning environment. Every individual learners' needs are supported, their differences are respected and their unique qualities are valued and nurtured.

Values

| Be Safe | Be Kind | Be Responsible | Be Respectful |
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| Prioritize safety in all actions and decisions. | Show compassion and empathy towards others. | Take ownership of your actions and their consequences. | Treat others with dignity and consideration. |

Rationale / Purpose for the Policy

Sandnes International School (SDIS) is an IB school following the Norwegian 'privatskole' law. A privatskole is an independent school, approved by the Norwegian Government to teach an alternative curriculum to the national curriculum. The IB is an approved alternative to the national curriculum and follows the Primary and Middle Years Programmes (PYP and MYP). The language of instruction is English with Norwegian taught at every year level.

The purpose of the admission policy is to ensure transparency in the admission process and be compliant with both the Norwegian laws and regulations as well as the IB Standards and Practices. This policy has been created with the school leadership team and approved by the Board.

General Admission information

Sandnes International School (SDIS) is open to anyone who fulfills the conditions for admission to public schools (Privatskolelova § 3-1 and Opplæringslova § 2-1). This also aligns with IB Standards and Practices, specifically Standard 3 - Culture 1 and Culture 2. (p. 10)

According to Opplæringslova §2-1 and §8-2, all students must be placed in a class where they are all born in the same calendar year. Exemptions to this law must be applied for through the Kommune. Sandnes International School is approved for 200 students. The school board has decided there is a maximum of 20 students in each class.

Admission Process

Once the students fulfill the conditions to attend a Norwegian School we can start our Admission process. New applications for SDIS are made online, through the school website www.sdis.no. There are two types of admission. You must pick one.

Main Admission:

Applications for the next academic year are processed and communicated in admissions rounds. Each of the rounds can be considered an admission deadline.

- The first round of offers - Last Friday in January of each year
- The second round of offers - First Friday in March of each year
- The third round of offers - Last Friday in April
- The fourth round of offers - Last Monday of the academic year

Each applicant will be given a deadline to accept. Unsuccessful applicants will be contacted to confirm if they want to stay on the list.

Supplementary Admissions:

Places can be offered throughout the school year when there are available places in a class. These places may be offered throughout the academic year. The start date will be established in collaboration with the appropriate staff members. When there are more applicants than places in a class, the following admissions criteria will be used to determine successful applicants.

Admissions criteria

1. Children of employees
2. Siblings of students who are already enrolled in Sandnes International School
3. Students with previous IB education
4. English language school experience that has been for longer than 6 months. (including preschools)
5. Students with at least one non-Norwegian parent

Accepting an offer

1. To secure your child's place at SDIS, the school's admissions document must be signed by both parents/ guardians and returned to the Admissions Office.
2. Your child's place is secured on receipt of:
 - a. Signed confirmation
 - b. Payment of the first invoice (*This fee is not refundable if your child is withdrawn from school before the first day of tuition*)
3. Families must attend an introductory meeting with the relevant coordinator and/or homeroom teacher
4. After a child has started school, three months' notice of withdrawal is required. The notice begins on the 1st of the month following receipt of the school's withdrawal form

Appeals

Applicants have the right to contest an Admissions decision as outlined in Forvaltningsloven §28.

To do this parents can do one of the following:

- Write a letter addressed to the school board.
- After the school board responds, you can also address your concern to the Statsforvaltningen (County Governor in Rogaland) who will make the final decision.

Related School Policies and Plans

This policy is in line with the following school policies:

- IB Inclusion policy
- Child protection policy
- School Environment Plan

References/Acknowledgements

International Baccalaureate (2022) *Program standards and practices*. Retrieved from:

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Opplæringslova (2022) *Lov om grunnskolen og den vidaregåande opplæringa - Kapittel 2. Grunnskolen*. Lovdata (LOV-2023-06-02-17) <https://lovdata.no/lov/1998-07-17-61/§2-1>

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Privatskolelova (2023) *Lov om private skolar med rett til statstilskot Kapittel 3. Elevane*. Lovdata (LOV-2023-06-09-30) <https://lovdata.no/lov/2003-07-04-84/§3-1>