



AUDENTES
ERAKOOL

Audentes School language policy

At Audentes School we believe that a language is a backbone for acquiring knowledge, intercultural, social and global understanding. As it is part of our philosophy, we therefore offer a wide range of languages (Estonian, English, Russian, Germany and French) and provision to offer (Estonian, English, Russian, Spanish, French, and German) in the IBDP section.

In Audentes School the language of instruction is Estonian, in Audentes IB English.

Second language – All students study at least one language in addition to their mother tongue. The school currently offers Russian and English as Group 2 languages. As a policy, the school offers following second language starting from:

- English language – from 1st – 12th year
- Russian language – from 5th – 12th year
- Germany, Spanish and French (optional) – from 10th – 12th year

Estonian as a second language – We offer Estonian **B** taught by very qualified teachers who know how to administer variety of levels within the class and if there will be a need, the school will offer an extra-Estonian class once a week in the schedule to further support students on a lower level of proficiency/ab initio. As the school environment is Estonian, there is ample opportunity to practice the language in extracurricular activities, sports, special events, festivals, parties, etc.

Correcting language – Language problems that have an impact on understanding and following the instruction are concurrently corrected in the classroom and in assignments. All teachers are contributing to their students' improvement as to correctness, clarity, versatility, and appropriateness of the target language used in that particular subject area. We practice a variety of methods to correct/assess language weaknesses, both on an individual, group work, whole class level in all subjects.

IB language policy

Language of instruction – For the IBDP the language of instruction is English with the exception of A1/Mother Tongue classes which are conducted in Estonian, English, Russian, along with self-taught A1 languages and Language B classes. All teachers are language teachers in their respective subjects and work towards the common goal of establishing awareness of the target language

English is spoken in the classroom at all levels and is encouraged as the language of communication outside the classroom. Students are encouraged to adopt English (the common language) when in a group in order to avoid exclusion of others who do not speak their language.

First language – All students study their first language/Mother Tongue. As a requirement of the high school, all students must take the High School Placement Test (HSPT) which assesses English language proficiency specifically reading, writing and listening. In addition to the HSPT student's prior records regarding English and foreign language classes are referred to determine the best placement for the student. We offer Estonian A1, Russian A1 and English A1; other languages can be studied as A1 self-taught SL with the help of a supervisor or parental guidance.

Language A1 self-taught – Students opting for their native language self-taught are assisted throughout the 2-year course by an experienced Language A1 teacher who conducts support sessions on a joint and individual basis with the students. In a case where the school does not have a qualified supervisor, the parents will therefore guide the student throughout till examination.

The school library will also provide materials for languages other than Estonian and English.

Estonian ab initio – in Pre-IB we offer Estonian ab initio for students whose mother tongue is not Estonian.

CAS as a tool for language learning – An established part of our CAS program is the idea of students helping students with the languages and offer tutoring for individuals or small groups on a regular basis. As part of our school philosophy on intercultural and socio integration, students will be encouraged to join different clubs (language club) etc to foster integration and therefore improvement in individual and group language skills.

Library – The school library/the study center, constantly acquires new books in a variety of modern languages. The school library has a direct link to the national library which is rich in academic resources. It is within the school plan to acquire and stock a smaller section of rare languages for Language A1 self-taught students.

Procedures – The procedures for implementing the Language Policy are:

- Students and parents will be informed of the languages other than English that are available to be studied in Years 1-12 by the Head of School and/or Head of Languages.
- The Head of School and the Director of Admissions will inform parents and students of the Language Policy.
- The languages other than English to be offered will be reviewed every 2 years in consultation with the stakeholders.