



DELEDDA INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

ADMISSIONS POLICY

The DIS Assessment Policy is reviewed annually.

Revised and approved by the Teachers Council in April 2026.



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Introduction

This document represents the Deledda International School (DIS, henceforth) school-wide admission policy. The DIS Admission Policy is a set of principles which connects the IB philosophy with our school community. The document is updated regularly, based on our students' evolving needs and the latest IBO requirements which apply to our PYP, MYP and DP programmes.

DIS MISSION STATEMENT (2025)

Deledda International School (DIS) fosters academic growth within a caring and principled learning community. The school promotes the appreciation of the diversity and complexity of people and cultures and provides an environment conducive to learning and teaching. DIS offers a rigorous curriculum that aims to develop internationally minded citizens who participate locally and globally to help create a more sustainable and peaceful world.

The DIS mission statement is the foundation of our admission policy. We want the admission policy to reflect our mission; DIS provides an international education that fosters academic growth within a caring community for students by promoting the appreciation of the diversity of people and cultures, providing an environment conducive to learning and teaching, and by offering a rigorous international curriculum that, in the lower years, is blended with the national Italian Curriculum.

As an IB World School, we are committed to the Standard “Culture: Creating positive school cultures”, and in particular, to Culture 1.1: “The school implements and reviews an access and/or admissions policy that clearly describes the conditions for participation in the school’s programme(s) (0301-01-0100)”. In addition, as requested by IBO (2014) “From Principles to Practices (updated in 2022)”, this policy aims at providing a transparent procedure, with the criteria used for admission clearly stated in a document which should be available to the whole community.

As an IB World School, we are committed to the Standard : “Culture 1: The school secures access to an IB education for the broadest possible range of students. (0301-01)” and, in particular, to the following Practices:

- Culture 1.1: The school implements and reviews an access and/or admissions policy that clearly describes the conditions for participation in the school’s programme(s). (0301-01-0100)
- Culture 1.2: The school provides relevant support materials, resources and structures to promote access to the school’s programme(s) for as many students as reasonable. (0301-01-0200)



- Culture 1.3: The school provides opportunities to access the programme(s) for the broadest possible range of students. (0301-01-0300)
- PYP 1: The school articulates and demonstrates the PYP to include all students, regardless of learner variability, unless the school's regulatory environment precludes full enrollment and requires the school offer the relevant national or state/provincial curriculum to certain students. (0301-01-0311)
- PYP 2: The school implements the PYP across all early years and/or primary grade levels offered at the school. (0301-01-0312)
- MYP 1: The school monitors and evaluates its efforts to provide students with equal opportunities to undertake the MYP. (0301-01-0321)
- DP 1: The school provides for the full DP, ensures that some of its students attempt the full diploma, then monitors and evaluates its efforts to provide students with equal opportunities to undertake the full diploma. (0301-01-0331)
- DP 2: The school implements and reviews strategies to encourage students to pursue the full IB diploma. (0301-01-0332)

The above practices are taken from the 2018 IBO Programme Standards and Practices, updated in 2020 (IBO, 2020).

School Admissions Policy

Our school's admission philosophy is based on principles that reflect both our mission and the IBO (2020) standards. At DIS we recruit, inform and admit new, qualified students, and we aim to ensure that prospective families understand the DIS and IB mission statements and philosophy and value our IB community. We also ensure everyone is provided with an extensive overview of the IB programmes we offer. It is possible to enrol in our school from the first year of our Primary Years Programme (PYP Year 1) to the first year of our Diploma Programme (DP1, Year 11). No requests for enrolment in DP2 (Year 12) are accepted. In the MYP and DP, enrolment is subject to passing an admission test, whereas in the PYP there is an individual assessment based on typical development milestones. DIS does not discriminate regarding one's ethnic group, political and/or religious convictions, gender and sexual orientation, and nationality. DIS accepts and appreciates differences as an integral part of its character as an International School. We do consider factors including an applicant's prior educational and linguistic aptitude for purposes of admission to fulfill the school's mission and vision. Our primary criterion for acceptance is that we can provide an education that is to the benefit of each individual student.

For students with special educational needs or behavioural difficulties, during the application process, parents must submit complete official documentation of their child's academic history:



grade reports, educational/psychological evaluations, Individual Educational Plans, and details of extra academic/specialist support the applicant has received. We may ask parents to provide contact details of previous schools or professionals to obtain details relevant to the child's education. The Admissions committee will evaluate the application to see if the school can accommodate the students' needs.

There may be circumstances under which we:

- deny admission to a student when it is determined that his or her needs cannot be met. This may include: a student with severe and profound cognitive and/or developmental disabilities; a student with physical disabilities for whom we are unable to provide safe accommodation; a student with severe emotional, behavioural or psychiatric disorders; a student whose behaviour represents a risk to the safety and health of others; a student who consistently disrupts the learning of other students as a result of his/her behaviour;
- revoke or deny admission when parents fail to disclose during the application/admission process relevant information about their child's needs and/or to submit all requested documentation.

The number of new classes to be formed every year will be determined based on the number of students admitted. Every class will normally be composed of no fewer than 15 students. The following rules are valid for new enrolments in DIS. Rules that apply to the passage between classes are mentioned further on in this document.

Rules for admission: PYP

Families may apply for pre-enrolment in all years of the PYP through our website. Applications for admission will be evaluated on a first come-first served basis, depending on availability. Normally, enrolment contracts for the following year are sent between April and May. Any pre-enrolments exceeding availability will be placed on a waiting list. If a confirmed student fails to enroll, the first candidate on the waiting list will be reconsidered for admission.

During our "PYP 1-Orientation to the Primary Years Programme", each applicant will be individually assessed, as the school's objective is to determine whether the student will be able to access and complete our programs and curriculum successfully. During the orientation, small groups of children will play and interact with teachers and peers in a variety of activities. We look for typical developmental patterns as an indicator that will allow the child to be successful at DIS. Following orientation, if the school thinks that the applicant still needs some work to access our programs and curriculum successfully, we will share feedback with parents by email or, if needed, in person. For other PYP year levels, in addition, school records and reports will be evaluated.

Progression from PYP5 to MYP1 is based on a combination of academic achievement and behavioral development. Regarding academic achievement, core subjects — Italian, English, and



Mathematics — are central to this assessment. Students are expected to demonstrate a satisfactory level of understanding in these areas, aligned with the standards used for admission assessments of new applicants. In recognition of the diverse linguistic and cultural backgrounds of our students, particularly those who are new to Italian and English, the school adheres to the principles outlined in the IBO's Access and Inclusion Policy (2022). In such cases, tailored support is provided through an Individual Learning Plan, and student's admission to MYP1 is evaluated not only considering current performance but also to determine potential for future growth. Concerning behavior, this is monitored, and interventions are implemented as needed to support positive behavior, with further steps taken only when necessary, in accordance with DIS's Handbook; importantly, the behavior log of the student is taken into consideration in deciding admission to MYP1.

Rules for admission: MYP

Families may apply for pre-enrolment in all years of the MYP through our website. This is in line with the IBO (2014)'s principle to guarantee multiple points of entry to the years leading up to the DP ensuring that the key skills and knowledge needed for success in the programme are developed.

After completing the pre-enrollment on our website, students are required to take an admission test.

Students enrolling in years MYP2-5 are required to take a written exam and an oral interview. The written exam aims at testing the candidate's skills in Italian, Maths and English. For the third language, no admission test is normally required. However, when accessing MYP4, we normally expect either an A1 or A2 level, depending on the third language chosen. If the applicant does not reach this level, over the summer we ask them to complete some exercises at home to catch up with the rest of the class.

Students who will be exposed to Italian language for the very first time, won't be required to take the Italian test, whether the admission office finds it unnecessary.

All the tests will be assessed with a percentage, which will then be averaged to make a final grade out of 100. Usually, students whose score is 60 or above are to be considered eligible for the grade they have applied for. The evaluation is conducted by a committee whose members belong to the faculty. More details on the Admission Test are presented below.

Students enrolling in MYP1 are required to take the oral interview.

The oral interview gives the students the chance to express themselves in English and/or Italian using the IB Learner Profile as the starting point for discussion (IBO, 2017). Moreover, it is also particularly relevant to us as we recognize a student's determination and conviction as key elements in determining student success, and it allows us to determine students' attitudes and



abilities in this area (IBO, 2014). A student's previous school experiences may also be discussed, as well as hopes and plans for the future. All of this contributes to a separate evaluation.

Rules for admission: Diploma Programme (DP 1)

Enrolment in the first year of the Diploma Programme (DP 1) can only be granted to those students who have either successfully completed 10 years of education within a school system structured around 12 total years, or to those who have successfully completed the third year of high school within a school system which requires a total of 13 years of education. At DIS, all of our students complete the full Diploma Programme, therefore, it is not possible for our school to admit students who take individual Diploma Programme courses.

For year 11 (DP1) admission, in addition to an exam similar to the one for the first two years of High School (MYP4 and 5) to determine a student's ability in English, Math and Italian, as these subjects are required in the DP, the school reviews the student's progress reports from the former school(s). Students who will be exposed to Italian language for the very first time, won't be required to take the Italian test, whether the admission office finds it unnecessary. In line with IBO (2014)'s guidelines, we strive to make the transition as smooth as possible by ensuring clear and comprehensive communication among schools, students and parents.

The student and their family are encouraged to attend our MYP5 orientation in the spring before the Diploma Programme. When this is not possible, an individual consultation with the Head of School and/or DP coordinator will be scheduled to discuss feasible choices regarding DP subjects. For further details, please refer to the school's IB Diploma Programme Handbook (DIS, 2025).

Guidelines related to the content assessed in our admission tests are available on the school website. Relative subject teachers will evaluate the results based on assessment criteria used in the assessments of our current MYP5 students. The results of the admission tests will be shared with the student and family via e-mail. If the student is admitted to the first year of the DP, the DP coordinator will contact the family to schedule a meeting to outline the requirements of the Diploma Programme, and to provide guidance on subject selection, ensuring the student will select courses that are aligned with his/her abilities and conducive of academic success. Students and families will complete a form where they will be able to select the 6 subjects chosen for the Diploma Programme. Advice and recommendations related to the appropriate Italian, English and Math courses and levels will be provided considering the results of the admission tests. This is in line with IBO (2014) guidelines which highlight the crucial role of the DP coordinator in developing and administering the processes for student admission into the DP.

Rules for admission: Diploma Programme (DP 2)

We do not admit students in DP2, as it is the second and final year of the Diploma Programme, which is a two-year course of study.



Admission procedures for PYP

STEP 1: Pre-Enrolment and Admissions fee payment

Visit the website provided and complete the online pre-enrollment form by following the instructions: <http://disgenoa.openapply.com>

Then, fill out the form which requires creating an account on our OpenApply system. It is important that families keep their login credentials to access further information and continue with the process. Note: a non-refundable application fee of €50 must be made to the school's account.

STEP 2: Orientation for Pre-Enrolled Students

Children whose parents have completed the pre-enrolment process will be invited to attend our "PYP Orientation" in February.

STEP 3: Enrolment Contract

Between April and May, families will receive the enrolment contract. For students coming from non-state and non-accredited private primary schools, enrolment into PYP2, PYP3, PYP4, or PYP5 requires passing an eligibility exam. The application for this exam must be submitted to the school office by April 30th, and the exams will be organized in June.

Admission procedures for MYP-DP

STEP 1: Pre-Enrolment and Admissions fee payment

To apply to enroll for the entry test, go to the school website (www.genoaschool.eu) and fill in the pre-enrolment form (<http://disgenoa.openapply.com>) following the instructions. To fill in the form, families need to create an account on our Open Apply system. It is important to save the credentials to access further information and move ahead with the procedure.

NOTE: Families will have to pay a non-refundable Admissions fee of € 50 to the school's bank account (by either credit card or money transfer), and families will be requested to upload a file containing a copy of the child's vaccinations. In addition, school transcripts, a form regarding the academic history of the student need to be submitted for admissions review, as well as any documentation regarding Special Educational Needs for the student.

STEP 2: The written admission test

The school will notify families by email when to take the test. Along with the invitation to the entrance test, families will be asked to send any Special Educational Need (SEN) certifications to the school address (info@genoaschool.eu). The test will take place in our school, at the school attended by the student if the student lives abroad (following the procedure here below). Italian



and English tests will be in the respective language. The Maths test will be in Italian or in English for admissions in MYP, in English for admissions in the DP.

Normally, tests take place in March, but the school may arrange for certain tests, pertaining to specific grades, to be taken at different times.

Below is a description of what the entry test will be like.

TABLE: Written admission tests

YEAR	ITALIAN (only for Italian native speakers)	MATHEMATICS (**)	ENGLISH (only for English native speakers)	ENGLISH (for non-native speakers) (***)
MYP2	Reading comprehension + grammar analysis	Operations with fractions, divisions, prime numbers, powers, triangles and quadrilaterals, angles, basic statistics (mean, mode, median), HCF and LCM.	Reading comprehension + grammar analysis	Reading comprehension
MYP3	Reading comprehension + logical analysis + verbs	Fractions, percentages, proportions, basic geometry problems, including quadrilaterals, Pythagorean theorem, coordinates system, radicals and surds, relative numbers, HCF and LCM, statistics (Charts, mean, mode, median)	Reading comprehension + logical analysis + verbs	Reading comprehension
MYP4	Reading comprehension + questions on grammatical and lexical competencies	See MYP3 + monomials and polynomials, basic probability, coordinates (distance between two points, midpoint), basic three-dimensional shapes, radicals	Reading comprehension + questions on grammatical and lexical competencies	Reading comprehension + writing



MYP5	Analysis of a prose passage	Linear and rational equations, algebraic fractions, simultaneous equations, equations of a straight line, statistics (boxplot, cumulative frequency), factorization, functions (domain, range, image and preimage, inverse functions and composition)	Analysis of a prose passage	Reading comprehension + writing
DP1	Analysis of a poetry work	See MYP5 + functions (linear, quadratic, trigonometric), linear regressions, quadratic equations, basic probability of events, operations with irrational numbers, systems of equations, division between polynomials, and trigonometry.	Analysis of text	Analysis of text
DP2	No new students can be admitted in DP2			

(**) Available in Italian, or English if requested. In MYP4, the Math test is structured according to the Invalsi test in the third year of Italian middle school.

(***) We use A2-KEY exams as a tool for assessment for admission in MYP2, and B1-Preliminary for admission in MYP3 (Cambridge Assessment English, 2025). In MYP4, the reading test is similar to the Cambridge English B2 Reading component and students will also be expected to write an essay of approximately 200 words.

Tips for the Italian test for Italian mother tongue candidates:

For PYP, MYP2, MYP3, and MYP4: Students are encouraged to familiarize themselves with INVALSI-style assessments, as our entrance tests for Italian are based on similar formats. The following resource provides useful practice materials:

INVALSI Official Website: <https://invalsi-areaprove.cineca.it/index.php?get=static&pag=home>



For MYP5 and DP1: The Italian entrance test at these levels includes literary analysis. Students are advised to review and analyze literary texts studied in their previous school, as these can be used as preparation exercises.

Tips for the English test:

Grammar and language exercises:

<http://www.cambridgeenglish.org/learning-english/find-free-resources/>

Comprehension exercises: watching movies, TV series and cartoons in English, possibly with English subtitles. Review techniques to review literature

Tips for the Math test:

Candidates can use exercises on IXL (<https://www.ixl.com/>), particularly:

For entry into MYP2: Practice exercises from Grade 3, Grade 4, and Grade 5

For entry into MYP3: Practice exercises from Grade 4, Grade 5, and Grade 6

For entry into MYP4: Practice exercises from Grade 5, Grade 6, and Grade 7

For entry into MYP5: Practice exercises from Grade 6, Grade 7, and Grade 8

For entry into DP1: Practice exercises from Grade 7, Grade 8, and Grade 9

A sample of admission tests can be requested from the DIS office. Please note that the sample is provided for illustrative purposes only and may differ from the actual admission test.

Online tests for students living abroad:

To ensure a fair and secure online entrance testing process, students residing abroad must follow the outlined procedures. These guidelines ensure academic integrity while allowing candidates to complete their entrance exams remotely.

First, candidates should contact their current school at the time of the admission application and ask a teacher to supervise the tests. The school will then send the written tests to the teacher, who will supervise the admission test, scan the completed test, and send it back.

STEP 3: Results

After taking the written and oral tests, those students who are eligible to be admitted will be sent a notification from the school and will be able to enroll based on class availability. The school will provide a deadline for enrollment. All others will receive a non-admission notification from the school. Please note that availability may be determined, for existing classes, only after the final grading meetings in June, and also depends on the Governing Board's decision as to the formation of new classes. Any students included in the ranking list, but not admitted due to a



lack of availability, will only be admitted if any admitted students subsequently renounce. It is our right to deny entry into the school on the basis of our professional judgment. In particular, students who do not respect the rules during the tests, or who cheat, will be excluded from the selection. Our decision is unquestionable and final, as is our assessment of the tests. For further details, see the integrity policy. The final decision on all applications rests with the Head of School. The admissions procedure is not active in August.

STEP 4: Enrolment Contract

Admitted students are invited to enroll in the school by submitting the following: a signed copy of the contract that will be sent to the family by email after the ranking list is published. A copy of the receipt confirming that payment for the enrolment has been made (the amount will be specified in the contract).

NOTE: All candidates to MYP4 (the first year of the Italian high school system) living in Italy are required first to pre-enroll in a state school as well, in the manner indicated by the Italian Ministry of Education.

The complete text of the general admission guidelines, with rules concerning the enrolment of contract, tuition and attendance, is also available on www.genoaschool.eu under Admissions.

Policy Alignment

The DIS Admissions policy aligns with the IB, our mission statement and our policies as indicated below:

... to the IB Learner Profile

Several of the IB Learner Profile attributes are being principled, open-minded and communicators and we as a school strive to keep an open mind and be objective in our admissions assessment regarding our own students and prospective students when assessing their abilities and to communicate the results to students and parents quickly and objectively.

...to the school's Academic Integrity Policy

From the moment a student enters our school we expect academic integrity, especially during our admissions exams.

...to the school's Assessment Policy

Our admission policy is closely aligned with our assessment policy, ensuring that new students are admitted only if they demonstrate the potential to succeed in DIS assessments at the grade level for which they are applying.



...to the school's Language Policy

Our admissions policy aligns with our language policy as it clearly outlines the achievement standards which we expect from our students and prospective students at each year level.

...to the school's Inclusion and Access Policy

As stated in our Admissions policy, our Inclusion and Access Policy is in effect during the admissions process for those students with special needs. As suggested by IBO (2014), economic factors need not be a limitation on students' access to IB programmes. DIS offers scholarships based on the family's ISEE to ensure that students who may have been historically under-represented do not feel disenfranchised. In addition, this admission policy is also available in Italian on the DIS website, the language mostly used by our community, in line with IBO (p.30-31, 2014)'s suggestions to have: "materials relevant to admission to the programme are readily available, especially in all languages used by the community".



References

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