

BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

At La Châtaigneraie, school life and learning extend well beyond the classroom. In addition to the outstanding academic programme, there is a wide range of extracurricular activities on offer with recreational and competitive sports, music, art and theatre as well as discussion groups, mother tongue language lessons, school publications and humanitarian projects focused on different regions of the world.

The following is a selection of activities offered at La Châtaigneraie:

SPORTS	With a focus on increasing participation from across the school, the sports programme includes both recreational and competitive opportunities. Special events, like the Escalade Race in Geneva, combine both a community-building focus as well as fun sporting activities. Students also participate in a wide variety of competitive sports at the local, national and international levels (ADISR, SGIS).
THEATRE	The use of drama as a language for creating meaning and as a communication tool is well embedded in the PYP programme and the extra-curricular drama programme extends these opportunities for interested students. In Secondary, students are encouraged to participate in school drama productions and can choose to take London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art (LAMDA) qualifications.
MUSIC	Our music programme is well articulated at all levels of study from Pre-Reception to Year 13 classes. It works towards preparing performances for parents and the extended La Châtaigneraie community, and includes a community choir and orchestra. We also have a dynamic Music School where students and parents can take music theory and individual instrumental lessons with highly qualified teachers and participate in orchestras and choirs. These courses lead to ABRSM (Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music) certification.
VISUAL ARTS	Visual arts are valued at all levels of the curricula. Class and specialist teachers introduce students to a wide variety of media which enrich the exploration of the units of inquiry being studied in class. Students are also involved in community exhibitions and have the chance to work with visiting artists.
SERVICE LEARNING	The school is involved in a wide variety of initiatives to help students learn that every small effort can make a difference. Students are encouraged to think beyond their classroom walls to consider how and where they might make a contribution, both in individual efforts and campus-wide initiatives such as our recent "No Single-Use Plastic Campus" project.
CROSS CURRICULAR	Across all programmes, the school seeks to find authentic connections between the concepts being studied and the plethora of organisations and expertise in the area. Excursions, visiting speakers and engagement in community events ensure that students have opportunities to connect theory and hands-on experience.
CONFERENCES, DEBATES	The school offers a Debating Club, an opportunity to participate in The Student League of Nations (the world's first model UN simulation, which was created at Ecolint), and various conferences in Switzerland and beyond.
EDUCATIONAL SCHOOL TRIPS	The programme of excursions, from one-day to overnight and week-long trips takes students to destinations such as the French and Swiss Alps, Ardèche, Strasbourg, Sevilla, Berlin, Venice, Kenya, Nepal and India. Year 11 students undertake a World of Work Week where they organise a placement with an employer.
PUBLICATIONS	Students run their own online journal, <i>The Update</i> , providing journalistic commentary and films on events happening in school and the local community.
KERMESSE	In June our active Parent Teacher Association presents its annual Kermesse. This community gathering allows our families and visitors to sample distinctive national cuisines and cultures. It also provides a great opportunity for alumni to meet up with their former school friends.



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LA CHÂTAIGNERAIE

EXPLORE
ENDLESS POSSIBILITIES

EXPERIENCE
OUR UNIQUE ENVIRONMENT

DISCOVER
WHAT MAKES US DIFFERENT

La Châtaigneraie campus is nestled in the countryside in the Canton de Vaud, in Founex, 20 minutes from Geneva and 40 minutes from Lausanne. With breathtaking views in every direction, the campus is ideally situated overlooking Lake Geneva and with the Alps and the Jura on either side.

The school aims to develop the full academic and personal potential of each of its 1600 students through a stimulating and varied academic programme in an international and bilingual environment. All programmes lead towards either the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme or the Swiss maturité fédérale.

The campus comprises two schools:

The Primary School building has specialist classrooms for languages, learning support, art, music, as well as an auditorium, a gym designed for our youngest students, a well-stocked library, a cafeteria, and an infirmary. Students have a number of outdoor play and learning spaces, with specially designed equipment for students of different ages.

The Secondary School can accommodate some 1,000 students, in a range of 19th and 20th century buildings built around a central green courtyard and surrounded by gardens, forests and fields. Departments are located in specialist rooms, including laboratories, assembly halls, IT suites, a music studio, a theatre, a library, a cafeteria and a sports complex. Outside, students have the use of an all weather football pitch, a basketball court and a number of green areas for their general recreation.

As a fully inclusive school, we also have an Extended Support Programme for students with moderate to severe learning difficulties, which is unique to the International School of Geneva.

Why choose La Châtaigneraie ?

We are an authorised International Baccalaureate Primary Years Programme school (PYP). The PYP is a rigorous and innovative, inquiry-based programme that is recognised around the world. We also offer an innovative dual language teaching model which enables learners of all ages and linguistic backgrounds to develop their proficiency in both English and French, irrespective of the dominant language programme chosen.

Students in lower secondary (Years 7 to 9) can follow courses in English, French or a combination of the two, before moving either into the anglophone Year 10 and 11 programme which prepares students for the International GCSE examinations followed by the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme (IBDP), or the francophone maturité suisse programme.

The majority of students follow the IBDP, which was created at the International School of Geneva in the late 1960s. While most subjects are taught in English, the diploma is also available as a bilingual qualification. La Châtaigneraie is also the only campus in the Foundation to offer the Swiss national *maturité* diploma, reflecting the close link that exists between the school and the local community. The *maturité suisse* is accepted by universities worldwide, and can be taken as either a francophone or bilingual diploma.

We look forward to showing you around our school.

David Woods, Campus & Secondary Principal

Pre-Reception to Year 6

In our Primary School, your child will follow the Primary Years Programme (PYP) of the International Baccalaureate. All students follow this course of study in both English and French as our Foundation is devoted to dual language study. Students have a wide range of opportunities to study about and in both languages. During the eight years of primary school we aim to develop every child's knowledge, skills and understanding in all subject areas to a high standard. Your child will be encouraged to become an independent, responsible and competent learner. This is achieved through integrated programmes of study culminating in the Year 6 extended, in-depth and collaborative research project called the PYP exhibition.

Moving to the next stage

Developing your child's independence and academic ability is critical to ensuring a smooth transition from the Primary School into the Secondary School. This transition is further facilitated by the proximity of the Secondary buildings and some shared facilities between both Primary and Secondary. It marks an important change and children are excited about the increased responsibilities they will assume and the greater challenges they will face. We also welcome children from other schools each year, both from local schools and from abroad.

At the International School of Geneva, our mission is to encourage students to become active world citizens. Our Secondary School provides many opportunities for students to engage with the ethical, environmental and political challenges of their times, and we draw on a wealth of local and international resources in order for them to do so.



A solid start in Secondary School

In the first three years of Secondary School, your child will experience a broad-based curriculum that includes the study of languages, the arts, sciences, mathematics, information technology and physical education. The teaching will be in English, in French or in a combination of the two depending on the choice of course. Students whose mother tongue is neither will receive support to bring them to a level where they can confidently learn in English or French.

Under the guidance of the Head of Lower School, the team of class teachers and heads of year work closely to ensure that students make a smooth transition from their primary school into the world of secondary education, which usually comes with increasing autonomy, additional academic demands and

important developmental and social changes for each student. Our strong pastoral programme ensures that students learn about personal and social issues, including safe use of technology, personal development, relationships, and mental health and wellbeing. With the support of the school nurse, counsellor and psychologist, tutors aim to develop students into well grounded young people, which is critical for ongoing academic success and also encourages students to identify ways in which they can make meaningful contributions to the school and wider community.

In Year 9 all students are helped to make the most appropriate curricular choices as they continue their learning journey into Year 10.



Looking to the future

Students in Years 10 and 11 either study the anglophone IGCSE curriculum, leading to the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme, or choose to move into the francophone *maturité suisse* path. Both programmes grant access to higher or further education. We aim to support our students' goals by counselling them towards the most appropriate path, which depends largely on their linguistic and academic abilities and interests. La Châtaigneraie students generally aim for university or other post secondary education, with many getting into the top universities all over the world, and the majority accessing their first choice university.

All students at La Châtaigneraie are encouraged to develop their skills, interests and personal values both through the academic curriculum and the wide range of extra curricular clubs and activities on offer. Whether students are keen athletes,

champion debaters, computer whizzkids or budding writers, our extra curricular programme offers opportunities for them to explore their potential. We also have an extremely successful Music School and popular World Languages Programme to help students maintain their mother tongue or learn additional languages. As a Foundation which has always had strong humanitarian values at its core, we also provide opportunities for students to participate in humanitarian and charity projects, either close to home in the Lac Léman area, or on various organised activities in countries as far afield as India, Tanzania and Nepal.

An education at La Châtaigneraie will enable your child to achieve his or her potential in the broadest possible international context. Our programmes and our school life are designed to lead our students to be resourceful, responsible, confident and successful adults.



>>> YOUR ROUTE THROUGH LA CHÂTAIGNERAIE >>>

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PRE-RECEPTION	RECEPTION	YR 1	YR 2	YR 3	YR 4	YR 5	YR 6	YR 7	YR 8	YR 9	YR 10	YR 11	YR 12	YR 13
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Pre-Reception and Reception
Learning in the Early Years classes focuses on exposing students to both of the school's languages and on building a solid base for successful learning throughout the Primary Years Programme (PYP).

Year 1
Strong foundations are laid in reading, writing and mathematics in both English and French.

Years 1-4 (60% - 40% Bilingual)
Students study through a bilingual programme that exposes them to both English and French according to a 60%-40% ratio. Parents choose the majority language (subject to availability).

Years 2-4
Students become increasingly autonomous learners through research in their Units of Inquiry. These make up 40% of the curriculum.

Years 5-6
The bilingual programme becomes 50% French and 50% English, delivered across two semesters (September - January & February - June).

Year 6
The PYP Exhibition is the culmination of the Primary Years Programme and sets students up for their transition to Secondary.

Years 7-9
In the first three years of secondary school, the broad-based curriculum available in French, English or in dual language, requires that students become increasingly autonomous and take on progressively greater challenges.

Years 10 and 11 (Anglophone)
At the end of Year 11, students intending to follow the IB Diploma can either sit the IGCSE examinations, or an internal examination (pre-IB).

Years 12 and 13 (Anglophone)
The two-year IB Diploma course can be accredited as a single or bilingual qualification depending on the options taken.

Years 10, 11, 12 and 13 (Francophone)
The *maturité suisse* programme can be accredited in its traditional form, in French, or as a bilingual qualification, depending upon the options taken.