

We are a learning community, passionate about providing an International Education, which inspires and encourages learning and intercultural understanding. We facilitate self-discovery and the development of unique interests, gifts and talents, whilst promoting service learning as a force for good in the world.

HSP 2022-2023

THE SCHOOL

[Sotogrande International School](#) (SIS) provides a high quality academic and extracurricular programme for the local and international community of southern Spain. We believe in education as a lifelong process, in developing a love of learning and in the attainment of excellence. We are an International Baccalaureate (IB) world school and the Middle Years and Diploma Programmes are both offered. In addition, we offer the American High School Diploma and a programme of International A-levels to high school students who are planning to pursue Division I or Division II sports at college. The language of instruction is English. There are currently 455 students enrolled in the last four years of secondary school, of whom 237 are in the last two years. SIS was founded in 1978. There are 50 different nationalities represented in the student body and there is a diverse international teaching faculty. The school now has three campuses: the main teaching campus, a nursery school (0-3 yrs) and a Boarding House for 160+ boarding students.

ACCREDITATION

SIS is accredited by the Council of International Schools (CIS), by New England Association of Schools & Colleges (NEASC), by the Spanish *Ministerio de Educación y Cultura* and is authorised as an IB World School by the International Baccalaureate Organisation (IBO). SIS is affiliated to the Mediterranean Association of International Schools (MAIS), the Spanish Council of Private Schools (ACADE) and is a full member of the European Council of International School (ECIS).

ACADEMIC PROGRAMME

In MYP Years 4 and 5 (equivalent to Grades 9 and 10 in the US) SIS offers the [IB Middle Years Programme](#) (MYP) and students take courses in six to eight subjects. MYP students participate in a work experience programme and the vast majority complete a personal project and an interdisciplinary unit. Students fulfilling the requirements receive an MYP Certificate and MYP Course Results in June of MYP Year 5. In DP Years 1 and 2 (equivalent to Grades 11 and 12 in the US), SIS offers three academic routes: IB Diploma Route, High School Diploma Route, A level Route.

IB Diploma Route

In DP Years 1 and 2 (equivalent to Grades 11 and 12 in the US) SIS offers the [IB Diploma Programme](#) (DP). Students can opt to take the full IB Diploma or Diploma Programme Courses. The curriculum is designed so that students can develop their own special talents and emphasizes critical and creative thinking, intercultural understanding and community service. All Diploma Programme students participate in the school's Creativity, Activity and Service (CAS) Programme and full IB Diploma students complete an extended research essay and follow a course in Theory of Knowledge (TOK). The majority of our DP students take the full IB Diploma. Assessment is through a combination of coursework and examination. Students complete their studies in May of the graduating year when they sit their final examinations. Final grades are evaluated by the International Baccalaureate Organization and published on July 6th.

American style High School Diploma Route

We offer an American High School Diploma. Students take a combination of core and elective courses over the last four years of secondary school leading to the High School Diploma. These courses are assessed internally and the HSD is awarded to students satisfying the graduation requirements. Students following DP Courses will also be eligible for the award of the SIS High School Diploma, subject to fulfilling the graduation requirements, and regularly take SAT examinations to support their HSD. This is accredited by the NEASC.

International A-Level Route

The International A-level route is offered through our Elite Sports programme. This programme is designed to offer elite sports students the opportunity to pursue additional programmes in sports including tennis or through our collaboration with sports academies. Currently, we are in partnership with two sports academies: the Jason Floyd Golf Academy (JFGA) and SotoTennis.



We are a learning community, passionate about providing an International Education, which inspires and encourages learning and intercultural understanding. We facilitate self-discovery and the development of unique interests, gifts and talents, whilst promoting service learning as a force for good in the world.

NON-ACADEMIC PROGRAMME

SIS prides itself on a holistic educational approach, adopting the IB Learner Profile in shaping our students' learning experiences. We aim to help every child follow their passion and offer an extensive range of activities which develop character, resilience, compassion and international understanding as well as honing individual skills in areas such as performance arts, sports and service activities. The accent is on stretching students to the highest levels they can achieve and SIS has established Academies for Golf, Tennis, Soccer and Water sports, with students regularly achieving awards in national and international competitions in these fields. We operate an NGO, run by and for children, called *The Kindred Project* and its mission is to help others whilst changing the hearts and minds of our own students. SIS runs projects in Morocco, Ecuador and Uganda. These are incorporated into CAS activities for Diploma students, but the philosophy of internationalism and obligation to society is taught throughout the school in an action-based Global Citizenship Curriculum.

IB DIPLOMA RESULTS

Year	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014
Pass rate (%)	100	97	100	97	98	96	93	98	88
Mean Points*	34	35	36	34	34	33	33	33	34
Highest Score	43	45	44	42	45	41	39	39	44
Average Grade*	5.37	5.59	5.66	5.43	5.42	5.22	5.39	5.28	5.33

SPANISH VALIDATION

Students planning to study in Spain at the university level usually follow the curriculum, with the addition of Spanish Culture and Spanish (mother tongue). This allows students to access university in Spain with the three educational systems that the school offers. Students taking the International Baccalaureate do not need to take the EBAU exams. Some students take additional PCE's to increase their placement options in Spanish universities.

MARKING SCHEME

Numeric grades are used for both our IB and High School Diploma students. A 7-point system of grading is used for all IB and HSD internal assessment and for transcripts. This ranges from level 7 (highest) to level 1 (lowest).

Equivalence between numeric grades and letter grades

SIS level	7	6	5	4	3	2/1
Letter grade	A ⁺	A	B	C	D	E

Letter grades are adopted for our International A- level programme and grades A* (highest) to E (lowest) represent a pass.

SIS does not rank students or calculate GPA.

We are a learning community, passionate about providing an International Education, which inspires and encourages learning and intercultural understanding. We facilitate self-discovery and the development of unique interests, gifts and talents, whilst promoting service learning as a force for good in the world.

HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

The SIS High School Diploma will be awarded to students subject to the satisfactory completion of the following requirements. Students must achieve a minimum of 24 full-year credits, in accordance with the table below. A minimum level 3 is required in order to receive credit. Grades for credit are awarded in June of each year.

English (A or B)	4 credits
Mathematics	2 credits
Science	2 credits
Additional Mathematics or Science	2 credits
Humanities	3 credits
Additional language (A or B)	2 credits
Arts/Physical Education/ Technology/Electives	9 credits

UNIVERSITY PLACEMENT

95-100% of our graduating students go on to colleges and universities worldwide. Around 95% of them go to their first-choice institution, with a 100% placement rate in our last cohort, to some of the most prestigious universities around the world. The majority go to university in the UK, the USA, the Netherlands and Spain.

