



**MG**



*Primary Years Programme*

*Matija Gubec International School*



# Welcome to Matija Gubec International School

## A few more words about a school

Matija Gubec International School offers two IB programmes as the only school in Croatia that offers the Primary Years Programme and the only school in Croatia that offers first years of the Middle Years Programme.



### Primary Years Programme

Since September 2018 Matija Gubec International School is an authorized school to offer International Baccalaureate Primary Years Programme. PYP is delivered in the English language from preschool to Grade 4 (PYP0– PYP4).



### Middle Years Programme

Since 2002 our school has been managed in accordance with the regulations from the Regional office in Geneva, following the program of the International Baccalaureate (IB), which is the most extensive international program, accepted in more than hundred countries worldwide. Classes in the MYP are organised in the English language for the students from grades 5, 6, 7 and 8 (MYP 0, 1, 2, 3).



### The International Baccalaureate

These programmes encourage students across the world to become active, compassionate and lifelong learners who understand that other people, with their differences, can also be successful.

*...the school is located within 15 minutes from the downtown centre*

*...it is a new and modern building with a spacious gym, athletic tracks as well as playgrounds for tennis, football, volleyball, basketball...*

*...we promote a healthy lifestyle by offering healthy food at our school cafeteria (breakfast, lunch and snack). Two menus are offered to our students, one of them being suitable for vegetarians.*

*Halal certified food is available on request.*

*...the students are given all school-books and various materials and tools ...*

*...our school philosophy ensures a student-centred approach*

*...the school's staff is highly competent (university degree, Master, Ph.D.) and the teachers regularly attend IB and other teacher-training courses and seminars. A psychologist, a counsellor, a social pedagogue and a librarian are also a part of the IB teaching team.*



# ...a place to learn and grow



MATIJA GUBEC INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

## IB Mission Statement

The International Baccalaureate aims to develop inquiring, knowledgeable and caring young people who help to create a better and more peaceful world through intercultural understanding and respect. To this end the organization works with schools, governments and international organizations to develop challenging programmes of international education and rigorous assessment. These programmes encourage students across the world to become active, compassionate and lifelong learners who understand that other people, with their differences, can also be right.

*Matija Gubec International School develops the student's self-worth, confidence and pride by providing programs that make most of our intercultural school community.*

## MG Mission Statement

*Matija Gubec International School* empowers students to reach their full potential in a supportive and challenging learning environment, preparing them for an active role as confident, caring, respectful and internationally-minded lifelong learners who are ready to make a positive contribution as global citizens in a changing world.



## Philosophy

As we see it, there are several components which contribute a student's becoming a fulfilled person: teaching and learning, community and communication, respect, responsibility, and reflection. We tend to promote good manners, putting forth the student's best effort, inclusive behaviour and respect for oneself and others.

Above all, we teach and reinforce the skill of learning to learn, which enables every student to distinguish between relevant and irrelevant pieces within the information pool they are exposed to on daily basis. Furthermore, it is natural to make mistakes and errors so that one can gain skills to struggle if one wants to reach the top. They are the essential ingredients of authentic learning and creating valuable experience.

In order to boost our students in their efforts, the staff, being a teaching community, is engaged in reflection, lifelong learning and individual paths towards being effective educators. Therefore, in order to meet the students' needs, we keep seeking for best practices which assure viable and dynamic learning for them.

*As future, fully contributing members of society, our students develop as socially and morally responsible individuals, and demonstrate this through understanding and respect for others and service to the community.*



*IB learners...*

# PRIMARY YEARS PROGRAMME

## PYP Curriculum Model



The Primary Years Programme (PYP) is especially designed for the educational needs of learners between the ages of 3 and 12.

It offers a comprehensive, inquiry-based approach to teaching and learning.

The PYP provides a curriculum framework which develops **curious**, **involved** and **inspired** students who throughout the programme develop social, physical and emotional skills. Teaching is given a holistic approach and is organised with the student in the focus.

Like all IB programmes, the PYP is **transdisciplinary**, which means that students learn across subject areas while investigating big ideas.

## Six transdisciplinary themes = The most significant and distinctive feature of the IB Primary Years Programme

- Who we are
- Where we are in place and time
- How we express ourselves
- How the world works
- How we organize ourselves
- Sharing the planet

They help teachers to develop a programme of inquiries—investigations into important ideas, identified by the schools, and requiring a high level of involvement on the part of the students. These inquiries are substantial, in-depth and usually last for several weeks.

Since these ideas relate to the world beyond the school, students see their relevance and connect with it in an engaging and challenging way. Students who learn in this way begin to reflect on their roles and responsibilities as learners and become actively involved in their education.

### Subject groups

**LANGUAGE**  
Language and Literature  
English, Croatian

**Language Acquisition**  
English, Croatian, French, German, Italian

**Science and Social Studies**  
**Mathematics**  
**Personal, Social and Physical Education**  
**Arts**  
Visual Arts  
Music

# Approaches to Learning (ATL) a set of strategies and attitudes that teachers are encouraged to help their students develop



The approaches to learning are designed so students learn how to learn. They aim to help students learn how to effectively ask questions, set realistic goals and pursue these goals effectively and successfully. Furthermore, they develop a sense of independence and autonomy, where students can engage in learning as active participants, as opposed to responding to teaching passively. It is important to emphasise that each of the approaches is related to the others, and students are encouraged to make appropriate links between them. Having developed these skills effectively, learners are much more likely to succeed in adulthood and develop into well-rounded, autonomous, internationally-minded people.



## The Exhibition

The PYP Exhibition is a culminating experience in students' final year in PYP with the purpose to display their understanding and to celebrate their success as learners.

It provides an opportunity for them to demonstrate agency by taking responsibility for their learning, planning, assessment and final presentation.

Students investigate issues of personal significance and finally showcase their work to the school community.



# MIDDLE YEARS PROGRAMME



## MYP Curriculum Model

IB Middle Years Programme is especially designed for the educational needs of learners between the ages of 11 and 16. It provides a curriculum framework which allows students to develop the knowledge, attitudes and skills they need to participate effectively in life in the twenty-first century. Teaching is given a holistic approach and is organised with the student in the focus.

Three *fundamental concepts* are at the core of the IB Middle Years Programme:

- **holistic learning** - learning through the real-life context
- **intercultural awareness** - promoting different cultures, mutual cooperation, tolerance and respect
- **communication** - developing students' language acquisition and multiple forms of expressions, researching and reflection

## Approaches to learning

The programme encourages the use of a variety of learning skills and teaching methodologies to produce a challenging environment where students learn how to learn best in different contexts.

### Language and Literature

English, Croatian

### Language Acquisition

English, Croatian, French, German, Italian, Chinese

### Individuals and Societies

History, Geography, Host Country Studies

### Sciences

General Science, Biology, Chemistry, Physics

### Mathematics

### Design

Product and Digital Design

### Arts

Music, Visual Art, Drama

Physical and Health Education

## Subject groups

# School Curriculum

The school's Primary Years Programme includes Language and Literature (English and Croatian) and Language Acquisition (English, Croatian, German, French and Italian). English is the language of instruction. English Language Support (ELS) classes are offered for students whose level of English is not sufficient to follow regular classes. The school reinforces mother language learning. Through the area of Arts (Music, Drama, Visual Art) we promote the diversity of national cultures, as well as the creativity of students. The application of new classroom technologies introduces students to new processes of acquiring knowledge and developing their critical thinking. The school places a special accent on promoting different cultures and developing intercultural awareness, mutual cooperation and tolerance. The school offers numerous extracurricular activities - Taekwondo, Extra Sport, Do It Yourself, Green Thumbs, Journalists and Computer Lab.

## Inclusive education

The school support education for children with special educational needs, based on the belief that all children should be educated in a supportive environment, unless the special educational need cannot be satisfied by the school programme.

## Daily schedule

The school day starts at 8 a.m.  
and ends the latest at 5 p.m.



# IB Learner Profile...

**caring**  
**reflective**

... learning is developed  
around fostering ten  
attributes of the IB learner  
profile

**inquirer**

**balanced**

**knowledgeable**

... unites intellectual, personal,  
emotional and social growth  
through all domains of  
knowledge promoting the  
education of the whole person  
as a lifelong learner

**principled**

**open-minded**  
**thinker** Service as Action

**Communicator**

**risk-taker**



## *...learning outside the classroom*



**Field classes** are frequently organized as a part of our programme, varying in duration and content.

They advance interactive and creative methods of learning, provide students with first-hand learning experiences, reinforce and expand concepts taught in class and enable students to participate in a variety of cross-curricular activities.





## When somebody says PYP I think of...

*...friendship, enthusiasm, being honest, being kind, helping, respect, making good choices.*



*...respecting others and being kind, teamwork, confidence, learning, being creative, we make friends.*

*...friendship, respect and knowledge.*

*...working in team and respecting others.*

*We create something new every day.*



*...being kind to others and always work as a team.*

*...kindness and we learn to save the environment.*

*...how to create things with my hands and make my motor skills better.*



*...respecting others, do not waste water, be kind to everyone, eat the food in school that you get and be thankful.*

*...an international school where I learn a lot and my teachers are always good. PYP is a big part of me and I like it really much.*



*...a learning program in schools with key questions and lines of inquiry.*

***PYP students***

*...life-long learners*



**MATIJA GUBEC INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL**



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