

# ACADEMIC PROGRAMMES

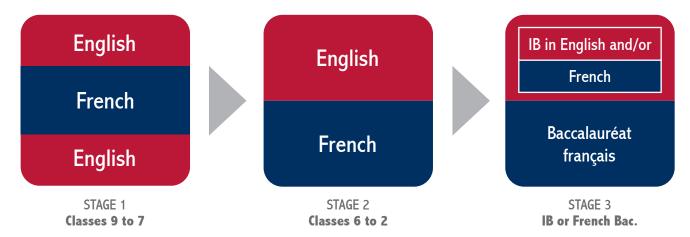
### **Academic Overview**

Le Rosey's academic curriculum provides education of breadth, depth and quality for an international student body. It develops inquiring and knowledgeable young people and prepares them for rigorous school leaving exams in English and French, and then for entry to the most competitive universities across the world.

A cornerstone of Le Rosey's academic programme is its English-French bilingual approach, which produces students with a mastery of two languages. Students choose either English or French as their principal learning language but are given regular classes in the other. They then study cer tain subjects in the other language so as to increase their mastery and also to gain an understanding of two mentalities.

We strongly encourage students to study their mother tongues or, if this is not English or French, another language; it is also possible to study a fourth language.

#### **Overall Structure: The Three Stages**



#### STAGE 1: Primary ("Juniors")

French and English classes: 9 to 7 (US grades 3-5; UK years 4-6)

- French and English classes are obligatory and are taught in streamed groups, from beginner to mother tongue level.
- Most of the curriculum is studied in French with some classes studied in English. From Class 7 onwards students can follow a balanced French-English programme. Individual guidance and language streaming ensure that each student follows a programme adapted to his or her linguistic abilities.
- The programme is based upon the French National Curriculum for courses taught in French and upon the English National Curriculum for courses taught in English; it is also complemented with the IPC (International Primary Curriculum), which provides an international and cross-curricular approach.

## STAGE 2: Secondary ("Cadets" and "Jeunes Seniors") French, English and Bilingual classes: 6 to 2 (US grades 6-10; UK years 7-11)

Students have the chance to study each subject in either English or French with increasing focus on the their final graduating diploma.

- In consultation with parents and teachers, students choose either English or French as their first academic language.
- Students can choose their language of instruction for each subject and it is possible to study 50% of subjects in French and 50% in English.

- English and French programmes run in parallel and students follow at least one subject in their L2.
- With adjustments to ensure proper coordination of content and sequence, the French programme follows the French national curriculum, and the English programme follows the UK national curriculum.

#### STAGE 3: "Seniors": A Choice of Diplomas

The IB or the French baccalaureate: Classes 1 & t (US grades 11-12; UK years 12-13)

Students choose one of two demanding final diplomas: le bac français or the IB.

- Le bac: French-speakers may prepare for three specialities from a wide variety propos.
- The International Baccalaureate (IB) is a two-year programme, with the option of studying subjects in French (see below). All students are entered for the full IB diploma.

Age	8/10	10/11	11/12	12/13	13/14	14/15	15/16
Class	classes 9-8	class 7	class 6	class 5	class 4	class 3	class 2
English	•						
French				•			
Maths				••			
History	•						
Geography	•			••		<b>A A</b>	<b>A A</b>
Economics						<b>A</b>	<b>A A</b>
General Science				••			
Biology							<b>A A</b>
Chemistry							<b>A A</b>
Physics							<b>A A</b>
Foreign language(s)				• •			
IT / Computing	•			*	*	*	<b>A</b>
Art	•			••		<b>A A</b>	<b>A A</b>
Music	•					<b>A</b>	<b>A</b>
Drama				<b>A A</b>	<b>A A</b>	<b>A A</b>	<b>A</b>
Physical Education	•						
Health Studies	•			•			

- Obligatory subject in English
- Obligatory subject in French
- Obligatory subject in either English or French
- Foreign language
- Optional subject in English
- ▲ Optional subject in French
- ▲ ▲ Optional subject in either English or French
- ☐ Mother tongue advised
- \* Integraded into subject teaching

# International Bacalaureate Diploma (IB)

Highly respected by universities throughout the world, the IB is in close harmony with the objectives of the Le Rosey: a solid academic training, independence of mind and the ability to work alone, as well as respect for varied cultural traditions, and the development of the whole person.

The IB Diploma covers the last two years of schooling (classes 1 & t).

Candidates must choose one subject from five of six fields of study, with a sixth subject chosen freely. In addition, they follow a compulsory course in the Theory of Knowledge (TOK), undertake an Extended Essay and participate in an extra-curricular programme based on Creativity, Action and Service to the Community (CAS).

Three of the six subjects are chosen at Higher level (6 lessons weekly) and the three others at Standard level (4 lessons per week).

The Choice of subjects is made in conjunction with the Head of the IB according to past academic achievements and future requirements, although availability may be limited by timetable restrictions.

#### The key characteristics and strengths of the IB Programme:

- Subject choice allows the student to structure his or her final two years of study in the light of future university ambitions and academic ability.
- The courses are rigorous and the standards demanding, making the IB particularly popular with admissions officers at prestigious universities across the world.
- Le Rosey offers a large number of subject options and combinations and a number some of these in French.
- The six subjects plus the Theory of Knowledge give a well-balanced weekly programme of about 32 lessons a week.
- The IB recognizes and promotes bilingualism.
- The candidate's personal culture, language and identity are preserved through the IB's mother-tongue entitlement policy.
- Coursework (which is externally moderated) reduces the anxiety linked to a system solely dependent on a final examination.
- The Theory of Knowledge course encourages students to reflect on all aspects of their work, to be critical about their knowledge and to analyse the cultural traditions of different nationalities.
- The Extended Essay is particularly valuable preparation for university and college work. It consists of an original piece of research of some 4,000 words.
- The CAS programme makes students understand that education is not limited to the classroom and opens the door to numerous possibilities of personal achievement.

# The French Baccalaureate (FB)

The French Baccalaureate is perfectly aligned with Le Rosey's central principles: a wide-ranging academic education, language learning, intellectual rigour, regular sporting activities and the development of all the student's talents. Universally recognized and highly respected throughout the world, le *baccalauréat* is the French school-leaving qualification that opens the gates to higher education.

Although the classic French qualification, a reinforced English programme and the mix of nationalities sitting the FB at Le Rosey give the course an international character.

#### Breadth and Depth

- A common core (French literature, two foreign languages, philosophy, history, geography, mathematics, science and sport and moral/civic education) guarantees an extremely broad general culture, while a system of "specialities" allows more in-depth study of three specialities.
- The French bac allows and encourages the study of numerous foreign languages.
- All students study Philosophy helping to develop their critical thinking and reasoning skills.
- The opportunity to study an art (theatre, or a third language or art) should develop the student's artistic or linguistic abilities.

#### Choice: The three specialities

• Three subjects are studied as specialities in Class 1 and then two are studied in class T.

#### Excellent University Preparation: specialisms, options and the 'Grand oral'

- The student chooses one specialism from the selected characteristic of the "series". This is studied in greater depth and helps define the student's individual profile.
- A student can also choose one or two extra options, in addition to the compulsory subjects to enrich the programme.
- The 'Grand oral' allows the student to develop her capacity for clear and convincing public speaking.

#### **Examinations**

- Certain examinations take place in France over two years. Other subjects are assessed via continuous assessment.
- The final grade is an overall average out of 20 with different and highly-valued "mentions". It rewards and recognizes strengths but allows students to compensate for weaknesses.

#### Features and benefits of the FB

- The choice of path allows students to specialize in subjects which are of particular interest to them and help fulfil their university aspirations, whilst maintaining a general education.
- The programmes are academically demanding and favour the development of each student's reasoning, analytical and synthesis skills.
- The study of two to four languages offered at Rosey gives the diploma an international dimension.
- The study of philosophy requires students to develop critical thinking whilst the Grand oral prepares students for public speaking.
- The absence of eliminatory grades and the use of coefficients helps compensate for any subject area weakness.
- The system of continuous assessment over two years goes some way to limiting the stress of final examinations.
- Small class numbers within the programme guarantee full personal support for each student.
- The diploma is considered as an excellent preparatory programme by highly regarded institutions of further education.