

A great place
to live and learn

Brillantmont 
International School Lausanne



One spirit, one family, for a school that is more than 140 years old.

Message from the Board

Your arrival at Brillantmont marks the beginning of a unique experience in your lives. During your stay you will forge friendships with boys and girls from diverse countries, continents and languages. This will enable you to open your mind to different cultures. During the years that you will spend here at Brillantmont, we will seize every opportunity to stimulate not only your academic knowledge but also the very cornerstones on which the school's philosophy is based: a sense of natural curiosity, a sense of responsibility and respect and intercultural understanding.

Thus equipped, you will be able to integrate and play an active role in contemporary society. We aim to impart qualities essential to building a meaningful and successful future life.

When you leave us, you will be part of our larger community of several thousand former students who enjoy meeting up at school reunions across the globe, sharing moments of joy and reflecting on the marvellous memories of their life at Brillantmont. We welcomed over 350 alumni back to our recent 140th anniversary celebrations and we can't wait for you to be part of this warm, family community. Welcome to Brillantmont, your Swiss home!

The Frei family, owners and 5th generation of the founding family

Guiding Statements

Our vision

To be recognised as an inclusive, international learning community which empowers and inspires our students to reach their full potential.

Our mission

To provide a supportive family environment which enables our students to discover and develop their passions and talents, building the confidence needed to lead happy, meaningful lives.

Our core values

Learning

- We deliver stimulating curricula and unique learning experiences which equip students with the attributes to thrive in a rapidly changing world.
- We nurture collaboration and leadership skills through challenge, building courageous, confident, critical thinkers.
- Our teaching promotes reflection which encourages students to develop an awareness of their own learning journey.

Well-being

- We cultivate a physically and emotionally healthy lifestyle in a safe, inclusive environment.
- Our focus on the individual raises self-esteem, helping our students become effective learners and balanced young people.
- We promote the healthy use of technology and digital awareness, placing value on human connections and respect.

Internationalism

- We actively ensure an international student body which celebrates inter-cultural understanding and diversity.
- We recognise the value of our privileged location to promote the learning of French, an international outlook and the benefits afforded by the natural sporting and cultural wealth of Switzerland.

Community

- We foster a caring, culturally aware community, based on mutual respect, in which our students can be themselves.
- We provide opportunities to impact the lives of others through service and leadership within and beyond the school community

A unique quality of life in a safe environment

Switzerland is in the heart of Europe. It is a multi-cultural, multi-lingual country which welcomes overseas visitors with open arms. It is also a safe country with a sense of tradition, discretion and quality. It combines breathtaking Alpine scenery with lively cities, which are at the forefront of the world economy. Located on the shores of Lake Léman (often called Lake Geneva), Lausanne is a beautiful, French speaking city of 150,000 inhabitants, just 40 minutes by train from Geneva international airport. It is home to world-famous universities, such as EPFL and the Hotel School of Lausanne (EHL) and to the headquarters of many organisations and sporting federations.

Brillantmont is in the centre of Lausanne in an exclusive residential area, easily reached by metro and bus. It has spectacular views of the Alps and is set in 13,000 m2 of parkland overlooking the lake.

Once inside the beautiful, historic buildings, you will find technologically equipped, wireless classrooms which provide stimulating learning spaces. At the heart of the campus lies a multi-purpose hall, with a fully equipped gymnasium, music studio and arts performance stage.

Brillantmont students are lucky to enjoy the best of two worlds - the city's attractions with its learning, cultural and leisure opportunities, and the beautiful Swiss countryside and Swiss ski slopes which are nearby.

Brillantmont is unique. It does not belong to a chain of schools; it has been owned and run by the same family since its foundation in 1882. Brillantmont is their home and it will become your home too.

“We commend the school community for living the vision of the school so that a happy, family atmosphere permeates throughout the school.”

(CIS /NEASC re-accreditation report, July 2023)



**Lausanne – a safe, attractive, vibrant city:
a great place to live and learn.**





“Brillantmont taught me to be strong, independent and plural. I learnt how to confront challenges and be persuasive and I thrived in the melting pot of different cultures.”

(Antonio, former student, now working for Deutsche Bank)

A unique learning experience

What makes Brillantmont so special is its size. Everyone knows each other and quickly feels a sense of community. Whether you are a boarding or a day student, the close attention of the staff will help you feel settled and at home.

We can identify concerns very quickly. You are unique, with unique strengths and talents and we will work with you to develop your maximum potential, both in and beyond the classroom.

We celebrate our students' achievements and our tailor-made approach to learning ensures that every student can realise their potential.

Socially, our size also has tremendous benefits. It is easier to make friends and get to know everyone in a small boarding school. Happy and secure, you will have the space to blossom. We want you to become an engaged young person, a confident public speaker, with a sense of responsibility towards others.

When you leave, you will become part of an active alumni network across the world. On our frequent travels, we will invite you to our school reunions, which bring together alumni of all generations with a shared affection for Brillantmont. Friendships last for generations and the professional contacts that the alumni network provides are extremely important in today's connected world.



A safe, supportive environment

A multicultural school in a multicultural country, we have always embraced cultural diversity and this is evident in our student body, thanks to our nationality quotas.

At Brillantmont, we celebrate intercultural learning and the exchange of ideas among students from all backgrounds and all cultures. We have so much to learn from each other about other ways of life.

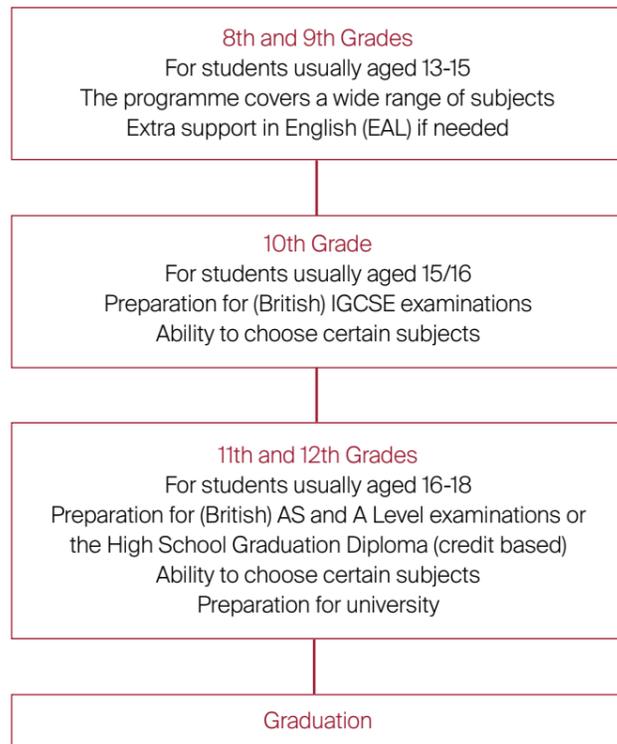
We want you to become a global citizen, ready to take your place in today's rapidly changing world, at ease with people from many different cultures. We nurture collaboration and leadership skills through challenge, building courageous, confident and critical thinkers.

All our teaching is in English, however, since we are anchored in Swiss values and want our students to take full advantage of the local area, all our students learn French, the local language. We actively encourage students to practise French on and off campus. We also offer Spanish and German and classes in any other language (e.g. Japanese, Chinese, Latin, Russian) can be organised on request.

An English-speaking education that awakens curiosity and develops critical faculties, which at the same time is immersed in Swiss French culture.

Our programmes

We welcome students into Grades 8-12 (usually aged 13-18). Some students come for several years, some students come for just one academic year, to have an international experience. Classes are small (average 9 students) and our inspiring, dedicated teachers use many methods and sources to enrich their lessons.



8th and 9th Grade Programme

For 8th and 9th grade students, Brillantmont International School offers a broad and comprehensive curriculum, giving students a solid base in a range of different subjects. All subjects taught have been incorporated into a carefully designed programme of study that takes into account the international setting of Brillantmont and the multicultural nature of the student body. The learning is grounded in Global Citizenship. Brillantmont offers a programme of specialist English tuition if needed.

10th Grade Programme

In 10th Grade, students take at least five or six subjects. They may choose to take British IGCSE examinations in the course listed or they may choose to follow their course and take the end of year internal examination. In most subjects, there are two different levels of study - Core (Standard) and Extended (Honours).

11th and 12th Grade Programme

In 11th Grade and 12th Grade, students follow a British programme of studies or a High School Diploma programme of studies or a combination of the two. The choice of programme is discussed at the Admissions stage and determined by the Head of Academics.

In the British programme of studies students take externally assessed A Level examinations (Cambridge International Assessment). The minimum requirement for university entrance is three A Level subjects, but often our students take up to four or even five subjects.

In the High School Programme, students are continually assessed on their work throughout the academic year, rather than having externally assessed examinations. A minimum of 24 credits is required to graduate with the High School Diploma.

13th Grade Programme

For students who have successfully completed their High School and want to take a 13th Grade (Gap Year) before continuing their studies, Brillantmont offers an exciting, tailor-made programme, developing leadership skills, consolidating knowledge and discovering Switzerland in a structured environment. Please ask us for further details.

Winter Course

For details of our Winter Course (January / February) and Summer Course (July / August), please refer to our website.

Short stay Programme

Most Brillantmont students attend for at least one full year and many come for their complete High School years. However, it is possible to study for a short stay (September to December; January to June), depending on the grade level.

“From the day our daughter joined Brillantmont, she felt at home and has flourished in the nurturing environment.” (Mr and Mrs Hall, parents)



Brillantmont, a campus in the centre of Lausanne.





University acceptance

After Graduation all Brilliantmont students continue to University across the world, including the prestigious Russell Group universities. Our Guidance Counselor supports and advises them, helping them to find the right fit, based on their interests and academic ability.

Our students were accepted into the following universities (please refer to the school profile on the website):

Switzerland

Ecole Hôtelière de Lausanne
 Glion Hospitality School
 University of Geneva
 University of Lausanne
 University of St. Gallen

Italy

Bocconi University, Milan
 University of Bologna

Netherlands

University of Amsterdam
 University of Leiden

Spain

University San Pablo, Madrid
 IE University, Madrid
 ESADE, Barcelona

United Kingdom

Edinburgh University
 Exeter University
 Kings College London
 Goldsmiths University
 Hult University
 Newcastle University
 University College London
 University of the Arts in London
 University of Surrey
 York University

Canada

University of British Columbia
 University of Toronto

USA

Georgia Institute of Technology
 New York University
 The New School, Parsons in New York
 University of California, San Diego
 University of Colorado

Japan

Sophia University, Tokyo
 Waseda University, Tokyo
 Keio University, Tokyo

After Brilliantmont
 our students enter
 universities all
 over the world.

Leadership and Service Learning

Today's students are tomorrow's leaders and we provide numerous opportunities for students to develop their leadership skills.

You will belong to one of five "houses" – Anker, Piccard, Rousseau, Chaplin, Einstein. These meet weekly to discuss various topics, to organise team-building and inter-house events, the purpose of which is to create a sense of belonging and community.

Would you like to lead? Students are elected to the roles of Student Leaders and receive training in leadership and management skills, to help them get the most out of their roles and be effective and inspiring leaders. Student Leaders represent their house members at the Student Council, which meets regularly with the Senior Leadership Team, with ideas and suggestions.

Model United Nations is a simulation of the United Nations, in which hundreds of young people from across the world debate and exchange, defending their chosen country's policies. It develops students' research, public speaking and presentation skills. Brilliantmont hosts its own MUN conference and attends others locally and further afield in Singapore and The Hague.

Students have several opportunities for service learning. Fundraising campaigns for various causes take place throughout the year and students may join environmental initiatives or visit the elderly. Students aged 16+ can join the weekly Soup Kitchen team, directly helping others in need or apply to participate in a social building project. Recent builds have taken place in Portugal, Vietnam and Cambodia. Sports teams provide opportunities for leadership, as the captains motivate and encourage their team members.

The house system reinforces a nurturing and family environment, as well as developing mentor and leadership skills among the older students.



Nurturing your talents and passions

Sports and cultural education plays a major part in the life of our school. You will have sports classes in our amazing multipurpose hall or by the lake and forests. Tennis, trampoline, basketball, volleyball, football, badminton, gym – there's so much to do. Why not join our school sports teams and compete against other international schools in the region?

After class, choose from the many clubs on offer – Service Learning, Model United Nations, music lessons, school rock band, dance, gardening, events planning, board games, cookery and more.

Do you have a particular talent? We will help you nurture it, since in Lausanne, we have lots of opportunities in addition to what we can offer at school. For example, some students may join a national sports league, the local orchestra or audition for the Conservatory.

Be yourself at Brilliantmont.



Your well-being is our concern

Growing up isn't always easy, particularly in this fast-changing world. Student well-being is at the centre of all we do. Our students are all different, come from diverse backgrounds and have individual needs. We want you to feel listened to, whatever the topic. You can talk in confidence with our Pastoral Care and Well-being Coordinator, who is here to support you as you become a young adult. PSHE classes explore various themes – healthy eating, relationships, digital citizenship, communication skills.

Our Pastoral Care and Well-being Coordinator works closely with our School Nurse and the Head of Boarding to ensure that we provide a safe, supportive environment that focuses on the students' well-being. In case of illness during the school day, our School Nurse will take good care of you and if needs be, refer you to the school doctor or other medical professionals, so we can provide you with the highest level of care. We are here for you .

All our staff are trained in safeguarding and child protection and we have two designated Safeguarding Officers.

“We commend the staff for their dedication and commitment to fostering a student-centred school environment that supports and promotes pastoral care and student well-being.”

(CIS /NEASC re-accreditation report, July 2023)

A home from home in which to flourish

We have several different boarding houses on campus, which are organised by age and gender. In 8th and 9th Grade, there may be two or three students of the same age per room. In 10th Grade and above, students are usually in twin rooms. A few single rooms are available but cannot be pre-requested. Your room-mate(s) will be of a different nationality and your room will be large and spacious. Some rooms overlook the lake and the Alps.

Our dedicated Head of Boarding leads a caring team of boarding staff who live alongside the students, on the same floors. They care for the students and support them in their intellectual and personal development.

They continuously monitor the well-being of the boarders in a family atmosphere in which all are free to express themselves, developing self-confidence and the esteem of others.

Naturally, there are school rules, but these are to help you acquire a sense of discipline and independence, so that when you leave Brillantmont, you are ready for the next stage of your life. At all ages, courtesy, respect for others and punctuality remain the keywords of the boarding school.





Active and engaged in extra-curricular life

Switzerland is a natural playground and has so much to offer. You're going to have so much fun! Weekends are always very busy at Brillantmont with a choice of activities taking place for all age groups. We expect you to participate in a minimum number of excursions per month. These may be local - boat trips, museum and exhibition visits, paintball or karting whereas some may be longer and further afield - hiking, cycling circuits, camping, rock-climbing, weekend discovery trips.

We sometimes go to neighbouring France, Germany or Italy for a long weekend or overnight stay. Being in a city means we have lots of things happening. Students frequently go to the cinema, theatre, attend concerts and shows in Lausanne and nearby Geneva.

In October we have a week of holidays. Instead of going home, why not join our October trip, which takes students to explore a European city? In recent years, this has included Salzburg and Vienna, Nice, Tuscany, Paris and Milan.

A highlight of the school is skiing/snowboarding. From January to April, the school organises a ski and snowboarding trip to a famous ski resort every weekend, with classes taught by trained ski instructors. In February, we also have a week of holidays, but most students join our incredible Ski Week. They stay in a mountain resort for the whole week, with ski /snowboarding classes every day. What a great way to spend your holidays!

During the third term (April - June), you'll participate with your class in a compulsory study trip to another European country, for 3-4 nights. Recent study trips include water systems in Amsterdam, volcanoes and culture in Sicily, ancient history in Rome, cultural exploration of Southern Spain and military history in the Belgian and French battlefields.

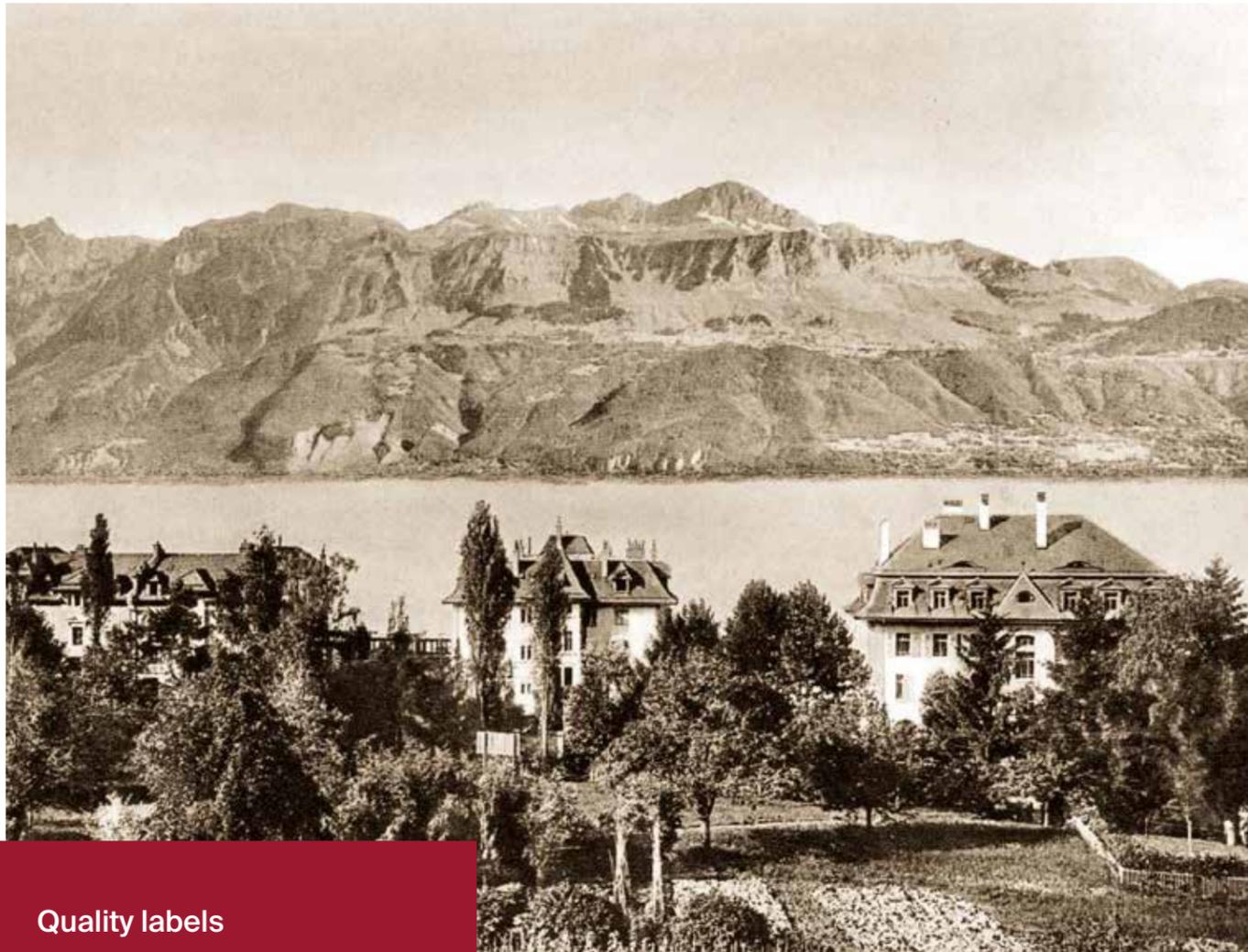
All students, day and boarding, are encouraged to fully participate in all these activities. At all times, we try to develop your ecological awareness and sense of responsibility towards the world in which we live. Seize every opportunity to make amazing memories!

The boarding curriculum provides opportunities for students to reach their sporting and creative potential.





A world on our doorstep,
waiting to be discovered.



Brillantmont, early 1900s

Quality labels and affiliations.

Scan here to explore the school year



Scan here to apply now



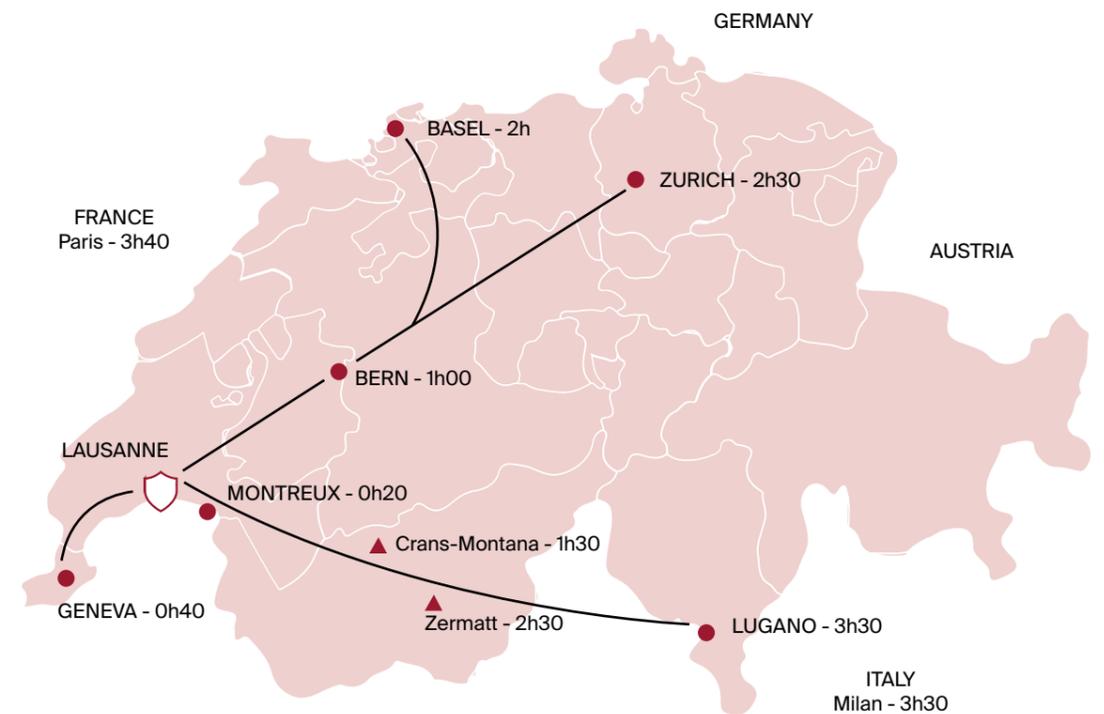
Our school is:

- fully accredited by the CIS (Council of International Schools) since 1983
- fully accredited by NEASC (New England Association of Schools & Colleges) since 1983
- an approved "CIE International Fellowship Centre"
- a CIE official centre (Cambridge International Examinations)
- an official test centre for the US College Board Examinations
- a member of the ECIS (European Council of International Schools)
- a member of the SGIS (Swiss Group of International Schools)
- a member of the FSEP (Fédération Suisse des Ecoles Privées)
- a member of the I'AVDEP (Association Vaudoise des Ecoles Privées)
- a founding member of Swiss Learning

Brillantmont also organises a Summer Course for 10-16 year olds in July and August. Further details can be found on the website summer.brillantmont.ch



A safe country in the heart of Europe.



Brillantmont 
International School Lausanne

www.brillantmont.ch

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