



International Fellowship Class (IFC)

About our School

The Ferdinand-Porsche-Gymnasium Stuttgart-Zuffenhausen (FPGZ) is a state grammar school with about 800 students. It is located in the north of Stuttgart, the capital of Baden-Württemberg and the home to the car manufacturers Mercedes and Porsche.

At our school, we regard bringing up children and educating them as an integrated process. Our main priority is to develop a young person's potential. For this reason, in addition to our normal lessons, we offer many extra-curricular activities that are designed to help students to discover and further their individual abilities and interests. Since 2004 the Ferdinand-Porsche-Gymnasium has had an International Department with many activities and programmes designed to develop and enhance students' language skills and intercultural competencies. We have eleven partner schools in eight different countries with which we have regular exchanges and projects.

International Fellowship Class (IFC)

Since September 2014 the Ferdinand-Porsche-Gymnasium has been offering an International Fellowship Class for students from our own school and students from other countries who are in year 10 or aged between 16 and 17 years. Students are required to have a good level of English in order to be able to follow the lessons.

Aims

With the International Fellowship Class we would like to give young people from different countries and cultures the opportunity to live and learn together in the safe environment of a school community. The project enables students to encounter and deal with different cultures, lifestyles and ideas and thus enhances their own intercultural competency. The International Fellowship Class furthers social skills as it is a community which differs from a normal class requiring from its students adaptability, flexibility, mutual support and tolerance. Ideally the IFC should have German and foreign students at a ratio of two to one. Lessons are conducted in English emphasising that improving English language skills is another of our targets.

International students are given the chance to learn German as a Foreign language. Students who have not yet begun to learn German can also apply.

Accommodation for International Students

Our international students live in host families who have volunteered to share their family life with a young person from a different country. The students can either stay in one family for the entire year they are in Stuttgart, or they can spend half of their time in one family and then move to another family for the second six months.

Costs

Students from abroad are required to pay a fee of € 1800 to cover the cost of insurances (health, accident, accidental damage/liability) and a public transportation ticket for Stuttgart. Both of them are provided by the school. The fee also includes a symbolic contribution to the costs of accommodation and food, which are covered by the host family. If accepted for the IFC, the fee has to be paid before the beginning of the school year, i.e., by July 31. Banking information will be included in the letter of invitation.

The journey to Germany and back to the home countries will be organised and paid for by the international students. They also need pocket money for free-time activities, school materials, etc. We consider € 80 a month to be an adequate amount.

Lessons

The school year in Stuttgart starts in the second week of September and ends at the end of July. The exact dates will be given in the letter of invitation. Lessons take place from Monday to Friday.

German students in the International Fellowship Class have compulsory lessons in the following subjects: Mathematics, German, English, French or Latin, Science and Technology or Spanish, History, Geography, Politics, Physics, Biology, Chemistry, Music, PE, Arts, RE/Ethics.

Foreign students learn German as a Foreign Language. They also have to choose one extra curricular activity.

All students are required to write tests and take part in examinations.

Syllabus

Mathematics

Exponential and limited growth, continuity and differentiability of functions, differentiation formulae, probability, vectors

Physics

Dynamics (forces, Newton's law of motion, momentum and momentum conservation), centripetal motion and centripetal force, gravitation, energy and power, pressure, first and second law of thermodynamics

Chemistry

Introduction to organic chemistry (functional groups, hydrocarbons, alcohols, aldehydes, ketones, carboxylic acids, esters) and chemical reactions of substances

Biology

Photosynthesis, respiration, fermentation, metabolic rates, abiotic factors in ecosystems (plants and water, animals and temperature, organisms and light) biotic factors (population dynamics, reproductive strategies, predator-prey relationships, parasitism, competition and ecological niches etc.), energy and matter in ecosystems (food chains, carbon and nitrogen cycle etc.), humans and their environment (eutrophication of lakes and rivers, sewage treatment, air pollution etc.)

English

Short stories, a contemporary novel, film analysis, essay writing (contexts: youth culture, multi-cultural Britain, aspects of American history)

In English, we expect students to be able to understand and to contribute to discussions. All important grammatical features are only revised.

History

The history of early modern Europe: from the late Middle Ages to the French Revolution

Geography

Climate: global warming, ENSO, plate tectonics: earthquakes and volcanoes

Politics

Institutions of the European Union; present problems and future perspectives of the EU; migration and globalisation; the basics of modern economy

Religious Education

The Bible: the historic-critical method; searching for the meaning of life; human rights; inter-religious dialogue

Music

Theory of music: chords and scales

history of music: baroque composers and their works; classical symphony; romantic opera

projects: world of music – music of the world

practical lessons: rhythm and chants

Arts

Introduction to the techniques of animated film and production of an animated film; portrait photography

German as a Foreign Language

Depending on the student's level; the students are tested and take part either in a beginner's course or in an advanced course. The full term covers about 250 lessons.

Who can join the IFC?

International students who

- are 16 to 17 years old.
- have a good knowledge of English in all four skills (listening, reading, speaking and writing) so that they can follow lessons conducted in English.
- are interested in Germany and in learning the German language.
- are prepared to respect the guidelines of the IFC program.
- are willing and able to integrate into the family life of their hosts.

Expected behaviour in the family

As guest in a host family we expect our international students

- to respect the daily routines of the family and arrange private activities accordingly,
- to ask for permission if they want to go out, especially in the evenings,
- to assist with household chores if asked to do so,
- to accept not only the rights but also the duties that come with living in a family.

Expected behaviour at school

As member of the IFC we expect our international students

- to take part actively in lessons,
- to complete all the assignments punctually and to order,
- to complete all the tests and exams required,
- to obey the school rules and follow the instructions of those in charge (head of school, teachers, caretaker, etc.).

At the end of the year the international students will receive a school report with grades for all subjects. A copy will be sent to the students' parents.

For further information and application details please write to:

ifc@fpgz.de