

# THE NEW IB SCHOOL IN KARLSKRONA

## *THE WHOLE WORLD IN ONE SCHOOL*

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November 18, 2019

**M**oving to a new place can be hard, especially if you don't know the language. The new Karlskrona Internationella Grundskola has made things possible and easier for non Swedish speakers and other international families moving here for some time or have plans of moving abroad in the future.

The school is a five-minute drive away from Karlskrona's town center. It is currently located in Wämöskolan sharing the same building and some of its facilities. The new school has already attracted a few families which might be non native Swedish speakers or who have parents from other countries and including other reasons. KIG follows the IB programme for studies and includes the necessary subjects that are all taught in English. They also offer Swedish for mother-tongue and second language speakers. The school currently offers the Primary Years Programme (6-11) and the Middle Years Programme (12-16) to 35 pioneering students coming from 11 different nationalities. Teachers are IB experienced and have taught in at least 2-3 IB schools in the world.

KIG participates with the Wämöskolan and in most cases the two schools celebrate special events and typically Swedish holidays together. Even though the school has only been open for a few months, the interest is big because KIG is the only international school in Karlskrona offering the IB. The IB programme is an internationally reputable and recognised curriculum framework that makes it easier for international mobile families to transition their child(ren)'s education because IB schools have the same standards and practices across the globe.

KIG is also planning on starting the DP programme which is an alternative to the Swedish gymnasium. The DP programme will require that you either have done MYP 5 or a "catch up" year, which is the same as MYP 5 to be admitted. The DP programme will hopefully start up soon. If you would rather like to do a non-KIG gymnasium you can choose MYP 4 and then proceed to the non-KIG gymnasium. Doing the DP programme has also been said to make it easier to get into whatever university you want, even the very highest ranking ones.

My personal opinion about the IB programme is that it is fun to get to know not only about Swedish history but also histories from all over the world, and I really love the idea of our studies of not only about Sweden but also about everything else in the world. It is also very fun learning in English because it will be easier in the future to communicate with people from all over the world. The IB programme also gives me a bigger chance of getting into my dream university and having to study what I want so that I can work with the things I truly love in the future. It is also easier if I want to move to get into a school and not miss anything. I also love the feeling of knowing that I have "friends" all over the globe through IB and there is always a place for me to see as a kind of home.

One thing I have realized is that one automatically get to know other countries' traditions and culture such as the case studies we are currently doing in Individuals and Societies. We have learnt about different country's economy, geography, history and government. It is interesting to know how each country has similarities and differences from Sweden and how they live their lives in a different way than us. It is also very interesting to know that not every country has democracy and how it can affect the people living there. Because most people in a democratic country take democracy for granted, it is hard for us to picture a life without it, but by presenting these case studies we can really get a different view and insight on what other types of governments can be like.

I am grateful of KIG's birth into Karlskrona because it is giving me meaningful learning experiences of "*the whole world in one school.*"