

Mattlidens gymnasium

Mattlidens Gymnasium is a coeducational Swedish-speaking upper secondary school founded in 1957. In 1990 the International Baccalaureate (IB) section was initiated. The school is situated in Matinkylä (in Swedish Mattby) in Espoo (Esbo), 15 km west of the centre of Helsinki (Helsingfors). It has some 540 students of whom c. 150 are studying in the IB section. The school prepares its students for the Finnish matriculation examination and the ones in the IB section for the International Baccalaureate Diploma. The school year runs from mid-August until the beginning of June and comprises of 190 days of instruction.

In Mattlidens Gymnasium the language of instruction is Swedish and in the IB it is English. Some courses are also offered in English to the Swedish section. The school organizes the IGCSE exam in English, the DELF (Diplôme d'études en langue française) exam in French and the DSD (Deutsches Sprachdiplom) in German for its students. The language program consists of both domestic languages, i.e. Swedish as mother tongue, Finnish as second domestic language, English, French, German and Spanish.

Mattlidens Gymnasium is in many ways internationally orientated. The school has many students with international background, different mother tongues and cultural inheritance. We also have an extensive student exchange with schools in many countries. Students who study French or German can visit our partner schools in France and Germany. Students interested in environmental issues can participate in our exchange with schools in Italy, Norway, Poland and Scotland, the so called LEAP-project (Linked European Awareness Project). The school has also run a project in Namibia where groups of students and teachers built solar stoves, planted trees and run health projects together with doctors and nurses.

The school also has a drama club (MaDraK). It produces many plays each year, most of them trilingual and modernized versions of classical plays. The drama club is a joint venture for the upper secondary and comprehensive school students.

The school building complex comprises of parts built in the 50ies, 60ies, 70ies and 90ies. Under the same roof we have some 1100 Swedish-speaking students ranging in age from 7 to 19. There is a primary school (7-12) , comprehensive school (13-15) and upper secondary school (16-19). The upper secondary school building was built in 1977 and the new building in 1999. All sections are newly renovated and well equipped with the latest technology for teaching. There are well functioning laboratories for biology, chemistry and physics, recording studios, computer rooms, a library, study rooms etc.