

# Admission to the Progymnasium (Secondary School Level)

The Progymnasium at Tandem IMS is designed for motivated and high-achieving pupils. We are looking for young people who are willing to fulfil the high expectations and are committed to their lessons. The Progymnasium corresponds to the lower level of a Langgymnasium, but without Latin, and is specially designed as a transition to the Kurzgymnasium.

From the school year 2026/27, Tandem IMS will offer both **monolingual** and **bilingual** tracks at Progymnasium and Kurzgymnasium level. While the monolingual track is primarily taught in German, certain specialist subjects such as **Design and Computer Studies** may also be delivered in English.

#### Admission criteria internal pupils (Tandem IMS and partner schools)

- Pupils who transfer from Grade 6 to Grade 7 (Progymnasium) can be admitted without an examination if they
  have an average grade of 4.75 across the subjects Maths, German, French, English, «Gestalten» (Art and
  Design) and «Natur, Mensch, Gesellschaft» (Science and Humanities).
- A maximum of two of the above mentioned subjects may be below 4.5.
- Pupils must also receive an official recommendation from their class teachers confirming that they demonstrate the work ethic, motivation and behaviour required to succeed in the Gymnasium system.
- Pupils with an overall grade of 4.5 and who were able to show particular potential for a later Matura
  education will also be admitted. In this case, however, the pupil must achieve a satisfactory average in the
  first semester at Tandem IMS Progymnasium, taking into account all graded subjects. A maximum of two
  unsatisfactory subject grades are permitted.

# Admission criteria external pupils

- External pupils wishing to enter Grade 7 (Progymnasium) must present their first semester Grade 6 report card with an average grade of 4.75 across the subjects Maths, German, French, English, «Gestalten» (Art and Design), and «Natur, Mensch, Gesellschaft» (Science and Humanities).
- A maximum of two of the above mentioned subjects may be below 4.5.
- In addition, external pupils must attend an admission interview and oral assessment.
- The interview focuses on school life, work attitude and motivation.
- Oral exercises are carried out in German and Mathematics, and also in English if applying for the bilingual programme.
- Pupils who show particular potential in the admission interview may also be admitted with an overall grade
  of 4.5, under the same conditions as above (satisfactory first semester average, max two unsatisfactory
  subjects).



# **Timeline Progymnasium**

September 2025 to January 2026	Information Events Families are warmly invited to attend information events to learn more about Tandem IMS Gymnasium and visit the campus. Please check our website for available dates.
until April 2026	Enrolment Enrolment form with personal details (→ Assessment Fee is invoiced)
November 2025 to April 2026	Admission Interviews  Admission interview and oral assessment for external pupils.  The school management of Tandem IMS Gymnasium enters into a dialogue with the pupil. The aim is to get to know him/her and his/her qualities, also outside of the school setting. Pupils are also asked to bring a short and creative personal statement in which they explain their interests, goals and motivation for attending Tandem IMS Gymnasium. In addition, they should bring one sample of work that they are proud of.
following the Interview	Admission Decision  Parents and pupils are informed in writing about acceptance or rejection.  In case of acceptance, the registration process will start (see point below)
February to April 2026	Registration  Registration for the admission process with submission of the 1st semester Grade 6 report card and teacher recommendation form.  → The enrolment fee is then invoiced and the contract is issued.
August 2026	School Start

## **Exceptional Admission**

A later interview procedure can be organised for pupils who were unable to attend the regular admission interviews for justified reasons.

## **Instructional Requirements**

Instruction at the Tandem IMS Gymnasium is performance-orientated because pupils have to strive and be well prepared in order to pass the Matura examination and obtain a university entrance qualification at the end.

However, Tandem IMS Gymnasium is also support-orientated. Teachers support pupils who are temporarily unable to perform at a sufficient level.

Pupils who do not fulfil the requirements during a semester, i.e. have an unsatisfactory average grade and/or unsatisfactory grades in more than two subjects, must complete the required performance again in the following semester.

Therefore, if a pupil's grades and project work do not meet the requirements despite the support of the teachers and/or the student counsellor during an entire school year, a repeat year or reorientation is required. These decisions are made based on warnings, meeting minutes and opportunities for reflection and improvement for the pupil.



#### Admission to the Kurzgymnasium (Gymnasium level)

Tandem IMS Gymnasium is focused on both design studies and humanitarian studies and is looking for creative, motivated and passionate pupils who are interested in these two areas. A strong desire to delve into the latest technologies, software and techniques in this area is a prerequisite.

From the school year 2026/27, Tandem IMS will offer both **monolingual** and **bilingual** tracks in the Progymnasium and Kurzgymnasium. While the monolingual track is primarily taught in German, certain specialist subjects such as **Design and Computer Studies** may also be delivered in English.

The subject requirements for pupils are also the same as for the public cantonal schools. All pupils who have passed our Gymi exam must be at the same level as those who take a Matura at the cantonal school.

In addition to the subjects German and Maths, if pupils are choosing our bilingual option, they will also be assessed in English.

#### **Examination Requirements**

The academic requirements for pupils are the same as for public cantonal schools.

Link to official website for the examination requirements

#### Admission criteria internal pupils

- Pupils who come from our 8th grade at the Tandem IMS Gymnasium (2nd grade Progymnasium) can be admitted to the Kurzgymnasium without an entrance examination if they have an overall grade average of 4.75.
- Pupils who were able to show particular potential for a later Matura programme will also be admitted with an
  overall grade of 4.5. In this case, however, the pupil must achieve a sufficient average in the first semester at
  Tandem IMS Gymnasium, including all graded subjects. A maximum of two unsatisfactory subject grades are
  permitted.

# Admission criteria external pupils

- External pupils wishing to enter Grade 1 of the Kurzgymnasium must attend an admission interview, have an average grade of 4.75 on their first semester report card from Grade 8 or 9 and pass a written examination in German and in Maths (as well as in English for the bilingual section).
- The average grade from both the previous report card and the examination grade (TAP\* or ZAP\*) must be at least 4.75:
  - Average of Maths, German, French, English, «Gestalten» and «Natur und Technik» in the 1st semester of the 8<sup>th</sup> (or 9<sup>th</sup>) secondary class.
  - Exam grade (\* TAP «Tandem Aufnahmeprüfung» or ZAP «Zentrale Aufnahmeprüfung»)
- Pupils from partner schools at Gymnasium level are exempt from the entrance exam. Only the preliminary grades and the admission interview count.
- Pupils from partner schools at Secondary School level must have a grade average of at least 5.0, must be in their school's Gymnasium preparation course and must have received a recommendation from their school.
   Pupils are to take the Tandem IMS exam but it is only used as a benchmark.
- Pupils who were able to show particular potential in the admission interview will also be admitted with an
  overall grade of 4.5. In this case, however, the pupil must achieve a sufficient average in the first semester at
  Tandem IMS Gymnasium, including all graded subjects. A maximum of two unsatisfactory subject grades are
  permitted.



#### **Timeline Kurzgymnasium**

September 2025 to January 2026	Information Events Families are warmly invited to attend information events to learn more about Tandem IMS Gymnasium and visit the campus. Please check our website for available dates.
until February 28 <sup>th</sup> , 2026	<ul> <li>Enrolment</li> <li>Enrolment form with personal details (→ Assessment Fee is invoiced)</li> <li>Report of the latest autumn semester submitted</li> </ul>
March 24 <sup>th</sup> /25 <sup>th</sup> , 2026	TAP – Tandem Entrance Examination (All) – Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup> March  • 09:00 – 09:45 German Language  • 10:15 – 11:45 Mathematics  • 13:15 – 14:45 German Essay  TAP – Tandem Entrance Examination (Bilingual) – Wednesday 25th March  • 09:00 – 10:00 English Reading  • 10:15 – 11:15 English Writing
March 25 <sup>th</sup> /26 <sup>th</sup> /27 <sup>th</sup> , 2026	The pupils bring a short and creative personal statement in which they explain their interests, their goals and their motivation for attending Tandem IMS Gymnasium.  The school management of Tandem IMS Gymnasium enters into a dialogue with the pupil. The aim is to get to know him/her and his/her qualities, also outside of the school setting.
April 3 <sup>rd</sup> , 2026	<ul> <li>Exam Decision</li> <li>The parents and the pupil will be informed in writing about the acceptance or rejection. (→ enrolment fee is invoiced in case of acceptance)</li> <li>Parents also receive a copy of the corrected written examinations.</li> </ul>
August 2026	School Start

#### **Exceptional Admission**

In exceptional cases, pupils may be admitted without taking the regular entrance examination, namely if they come from other schools at Gymnasium level within Switzerland or from similar school levels in Switzerland or abroad, or if they were unable to attend the examination days for justified reasons. In such cases, a later examination and interview procedure can be organised.

# **Instructional Requirements**

Instruction at the Tandem IMS Gymnasium is performance-orientated because pupils have to pass the Matura examination and obtain their university entrance qualification at the end.

However, Tandem IMS Gymnasium is also support-orientated. Teachers support pupils who are temporarily unable to perform at a sufficient level.

Pupils who do not fulfil the requirements during a semester, i.e. have an unsatisfactory average grade and/or unsatisfactory grades in more than two subjects, must complete the required performance again in the following semester.

Therefore, if a pupil's grades and project work do not meet the requirements despite the support of the teachers and/or the student counsellor during an entire school year, a repeat year or reorientation is required. These decisions are made based on warnings, meeting minutes and opportunities for reflection and improvement for the pupil.