



06th September 2023, Gothenburg

## Start of Academic Year Letter from the Head of School

Dear Parents,

I hope you have experienced a good start to the academic year. It is always a busy time, with new schedules and new routines, and for some, adjusting to life in a new country - so a special welcome to families who have just arrived in Sweden.

As you will have heard, Sweden has increased its threat level to four, which is the second highest level on the one to five scale (five being the highest threat level). "The Director General of the Swedish Security Service has taken the decision to raise the terrorist threat level from Elevated to High. The reason for this decision is the deteriorated situation with regard to attack threats to Sweden, and the assessment that the threat will remain for a long time."

At ISGR we have commenced an immediate review of our security procedures in all areas of our operations and environment. We speak with our students about the importance of following the procedures in place, including only using the main entrances to buildings (and not side entrances). We encourage parents to also speak to students about security and safety.

At ISGR we provide middle school students (MYP & LgrM) with a Chromebook. Chromebooks are a valuable tool for learning and we are working to utilise the applications even more. It is therefore important that students take care of their Chromebook and parents should be aware of the costs involved to repair or replace the devices. You can find further information at [www.isgr.se/chromebooksupport](http://www.isgr.se/chromebooksupport). You can also come directly to the Götaberg Campus Reception for support. At our primary school (PYP & LgrP) we have sets of Chromebooks and iPads which we use in class as appropriate for the lesson and learning objective.

At Guldheden Campus, the work on the new building is ongoing. The current phase is to prepare the foundations, which means there is drilling and blasting up to twice per day at approximately 11:00 and 14:20. Soon this phase will be completed, and construction will commence. We look forward to the opening of the new facility, currently scheduled for Autumn 2025. It will add 15 new classrooms, a canteen and a multipurpose hall for sports activities and gatherings.

The start of the school year is always exciting as we meet old friends and have the possibility of making new friends, and learning together. This year, we hope for many opportunities to connect and develop our vision 'to be a leading international educator with a community of passionate life-long learners, inspiring global citizens to Embrace diversity and Explore the World'!

Kind regards,

**Birgitta Sandström Barac**

Head of School

[birgitta.sandstrom.barac@staff.isgr.se](mailto:birgitta.sandstrom.barac@staff.isgr.se)

**T +46 (0)31 708 92 00**

