

LIFE AT GEFION



GEFION
GYMNASIUM



What is Gefion?

Here at Gefion, our focus is on the future. Driven by the energy of our students, the guidance of our teachers, and the support of our administrators, Gefion is more than just a school... it's a vehicle moving towards a better tomorrow.

Established in 2010, Gefion is one of the newest high schools in Copenhagen. Formed at the merging of two smaller schools, Gefion Gymnasium now has just over 1.000 students and 120 teaching staff. However, this is not to say that Gefion's youth and intimate atmosphere are its only advantages.

Gefion Gymnasium is situated right in the centre of the Danish capital. Surrounded by landmarks such as Rosenborg Castle, The Royal Gardens, and the National Gallery of Denmark, Copenhagen's cultural institutions are, to Gefion, quite literally neighbors. Accordingly, Gefion Gymnasium's culture is directly informed by the pulse of the city, constantly evolving with the ever more global influxes of Europe's most forward-thinking capital.

Gefion Gymnasium is led by our Principal, Mrs. Birgitte Vedersø. Aside

from acting as Principal at Gefion, Mrs. Vedersø is also the Vice Chairman of the University of Southern Denmark.

Gefion's teachers fulfill no smaller role in guiding students. Gefion Gymnasium's team of 120 teaching staff interact with students (and each other) on a daily basis, constantly propelling pupils to achieve their virtually limitless potential. All teachers at Gefion are academically trained at university in two subjects. Teachers must possess a master's degree in one subject, and have at least one and a half years of university training in their secondary subject. Such standards allow for our teachers to fulfill their duty to the best of their abilities, extending an assured hand to the leaders of tomorrow.



1000+

The number pupils studying at Gefion for the 2012-13 school-year.

Academic Excellence

At the core of the Gefion experience lies academic life. We work to prepare students for later studies through a number of means, including a multitude of courses to choose from.

Gefion students are able to follow one academic "line", or speciality, during their time at Gymnasium (the Danish word for High/Secondary School). One may think of these "lines" as roughly analogous to majors at university. However, our academic lines are specially designed for secondary school pupils, allowing for considerable flexibility.

All students are required to study a group of core subjects which include Danish, history, religion, social science, natural science, math, physical

education, and English, among others. Students may then choose a focus subject. Such areas of study range from, art, to Danish, to biotechnology, and a number of subjects in between.

One of the most unique lines at Gefion is none other than the Classics. Classical studies specialists are required to take a number of courses focusing on Ancient Greek and Latin language, culture, and philosophy. Gefion is proud to be one of very few Danish secondary institutions to offer classes focusing on Ancient Greek and Latin civilization. A decidedly forward-looking institution, this speciality allows for students to balance their curriculum by contemplating the intellectual giants of the past, debating the philosophy of old that still permeates the social media-saturated realm of the present.

Looking for an intellectual challenge? At Gefion, you're bound to find one that strikes your fancy.



14

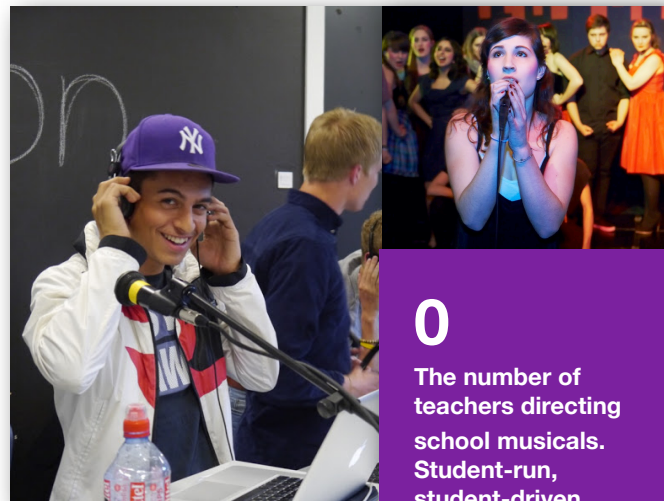
The number of academic "lines" that a student may choose from at Gefion.

“It’s on Lectio”

Notebooks. Pens. Planners. E-mail. These staples of the scholarly diet are suspiciously absent in the bookbags (and worries) of Gefion pupils. Thanks to the implementation of an all-inclusive online school network known as *Lectio*, students are able to stay connected at the click of a mouse.

Lectio, accessed through campus-wide wi-fi, is a service that performs a multitude of tasks for both teachers and students. It allows for students to view their class and extracurricular schedules, which are updated in real-time by teachers and other students. It allows for students to access homework, links, and pdf files uploaded by teachers from anywhere in the world. It even allows for students, faculty, and administration to message each other instantaneously.

Have a problem? The solution, for Gefion students and faculty, is probably on *Lectio*.



0

The number of teachers directing school musicals. Student-run, student-driven.

Space Travel

Scientists credit Yuri Gagarin as the first man to reach the “final frontier” back in 1961. We at Gefion, however, are still redefining the term “learning space” well into the 21st century.

Our classrooms, in the most conservative sense, still manage to press into the future. “Smart Boards” complement multiple chalkboards that dot classroom walls. Projectors present student work that is simultaneously available for download over the school’s wireless network.

Hallways are learning spaces unto themselves. Corridors are adorned with block portraits of academic and cultural greats, from Shakespeare to Cage; an inspirational reminder of the innovation that we aspire to.

The school also features two cafés; one nestled in the basement, the other perched on the third floor overlooking the rooftops of neighboring institutions. These spaces inspire conversation over coffee, debate over tea, and provide a space for administrators, students, and ideas, to mix and mingle.

Breaking outside of the school, students regularly meet for class in and around the city. Art class at the National Gallery? Social Studies on the streets of Denmark’s most diverse neighborhood? All are within reach thanks to an unprecedented location and a flexible academic schedule that allows for extended field studies.

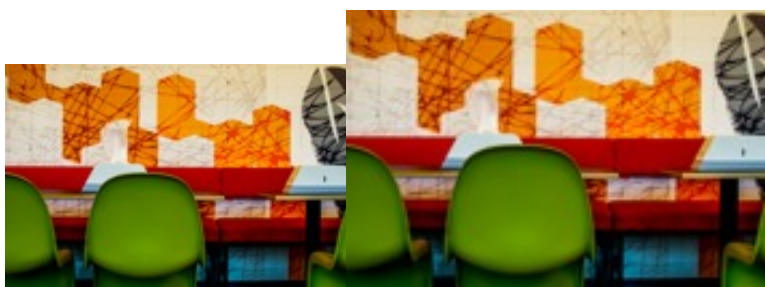
Expanding minds, classrooms, and possibilities. Now *that’s* a scientific feat.

Extracurricular and Extraordinary

Danish educational theory advocates a socially-driven curriculum, with much of class time devoted to discussion and critical thinking. This social outlook spills into the realm of extracurricular life as well, which is evident in Gefion’s numerous clubs and student organizations.

Clubs at Gefion run the gamut from acting troupes, radio DJs, environmental leaders, and even a group specifically purposed for the appreciation of heavy metal music, the *Gefion Headbangers*.

One of the most active groups on campus is Gefion’s Student Council, a collection of over seventy students determined to shape the future of their school. The Student Council is regarded as a model student government in greater Copenhagen, garnering acclaim for its administrative independence as well as its ability to use said independence to enact *real* reform. Most recently, the representative body has implemented policies that encourage an even-distribution of major assignments across the semester, as well as a code of conduct for students at school events that feature alcoholic beverages, a draft that will be submitted to representatives of the Danish government. For students interested in turning their interests into actions, there is no greater place to be.



GEFION GYMNASIUM



GEFION GYMNASIUM | Øster Voldgade 10 | 1350 København K , Danmark
Telephone: +45 33964141 | info@gefion-gym.dk