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the international baccalaureate diploma

The International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma was established in 1968 and is based on a demanding curriculum. It is suitable for highly motivated hard working students with a good GCSE profile.

what is the IB diploma?

It is a two year comprehensive, challenging, pre-university academic and 'preparation for life' programme. Six groups of study surround a core of three specific activities - the Extended Essay (like a mini thesis at university), the Theory of Knowledge (the philosophy of learning from many angles) and CAS, creativity (music, etc.) - action (sports and activities) and service (community-based work).

The groups of study are set out in the panel on these pages and form the academic basis to the IB. Three subjects are studied at 'higher level' (around 240 teaching hours) and three at 'standard level' (some 150 teaching hours).



...dedicated study
with universal recognition

Group



the detail - group subjects

Group



Group



Group



Group



Group



Students choose one subject from each group to give a total of three at Higher level and three at Standard level.

Note: Availability of subjects will depend on student choice.

the detail - core subjects

the theory of knowledge (TOK) -

Central to the IB, TOK helps develop understanding and thought. A written essay of 1,200-1,600 words and group presentations are required. It covers five areas

- The role of language and thought
- The requirements of logical rigour
- Systems of knowledge
- Value judgements as knowledge
- Knowledge and truth



extended essay -

This is an independent research project, which will prepare you for similar tasks at university, it will lead to an essay of not more than 4,000 words.

creativity, action & service (CAS) -

Considered an essential part of the IB, it encourages co-operation, awareness of personal skills and perseverance. 150 hours over two years CAS can include participation in drama, dance, music, sporting activities, peer mentoring, charity fund-raising or community voluntary service.



The International Baccalaureate Diploma

An alternative to A level education

what does it give me?

Successful students will, through formal written examination and some internal/external assessment at the end of the two years, receive their IB Diploma which is recognised by universities around the **world** including Oxford and Cambridge in England. Students are currently qualifying for the IB Diploma in over 120 countries, making it a truly international educational qualification.

Aside from the formal awarding of the IB Diploma, many students see the programme as preparing them for university and later life by asking challenging questions, developing the desire to learn, recognition of their own identity and culture, developing the ability to communicate well and understand people from other countries and cultures.



what do I have to give?

You will need to have achieved a range of GCSEs at Grade C or above.

As an individual, you will need to be committed to working, be capable of organising your learning and social routines well, be competent and understand the importance of full participation in all aspects of the IB syllabus.



“Much of the knowledge is closer to university level”

“Something to set you apart from the rest of the crowd academically”

what british students are saying about international baccalaureate...

“An interesting
and stimulating
way to learn”

“An opportunity
to develop a wider
understanding of
different cultures
and attitudes”

The logo for the International Baccalaureate Organization (IBO). It features the letters 'IBO' in a bold, blue, serif font. Below the letters is a stylized graphic consisting of three horizontal bars: a blue top bar, a red middle bar, and a yellow bottom bar, resembling a rising sun or a horizon line.

IBO

“You can work
within a like-
minded group”

“You must be
able to think for
yourself”