

Middle Years Programme

The IB Middle Years Programme

Engaging and empowering future-ready students

What is the IB Middle Years Programme (MYP)?

A dynamic programme that is designed to suit the habits, attitudes and behaviours of teenagers

The MYP, for students aged 11-16, is designed with the whole child in mind. The curriculum balances the cognitive, social and emotional aspects of learning so that students develop personal understanding, and an emerging sense of self and responsibility in their community.

The programme is fundamentally inclusive and supports students of all abilities and interests. The interdisciplinary and inquiry-based learning allows students to use their voice and make their own choices in how they express themselves. The curriculum allows them to direct their learning in personally relevant ways, connected to their real-world experiences. This enables students to develop important future-ready skills, such as identity, empathy, self-esteem, and self-reflection.

Through the MYP, students study eight subject areas (language and literature, language acquisition, individuals and societies, mathematics, design, arts, sciences, physical and health education) and a transdisciplinary unit with a personal project which allows them to demonstrate how they would solve local or global challenges in an area that interests them.

This allows teachers to be curriculum designers, collaborating with peers within their school and the international network, and ensuring that the learning taking place is relevant to the specific context of their community.

MYP students build a solid foundation for high school, life and work, by developing an international outlook and future-ready skills.

MYP teachers can adapt and design the curriculum to ensure local relevance and personalise learning for different needs, cultures or contexts.

MYP schools are known for being innovative, relevant and visionary, thanks to the high level of innovation in the programme. MYP schools enjoy -developing happy and engaged students, making the middle years the engaging and transformative ones.

The International Baccalaureate (IB) Empowering students to thrive and make a difference

The IB provides a powerful continuum of student-centric learning for students aged 3-19. During the IB's personalised and engaging academic journey, students develop confidence in their own identities, discover how to make ethical decisions, celebrate our common humanity and apply their learning in real life, complex and unpredictable situations.

Key features of the MYP curriculum framework

The MYP is designed to spark curiosity and a passion for learning that is purposeful and engaging.

MYP students enjoy a framework that:

- gives an international outlook through the study of a second language
- allows students to investigate global issues and explore what it means to be internationally-minded
- provides holistic and varied assessments including the innovative eAssessment
- develops conceptual understanding and examines knowledge holistically rather than simply memorizing facts in order to prepare for examinations

The MYP's core elements support what students learn within the eight subject groups. The core elements are:

- **MYP projects** - encourage students to reflect on their learning and outcomes of their work. In Years 3 and 4 of the MYP, students complete the community project. All students who complete the MYP in Year 5 also undertake the personal project. MYP projects are student-centred and age-appropriate. They enable students to engage in practical explorations through a cycle of inquiry, action and reflection.
- **Interdisciplinary learning** - supports students to integrate bodies of knowledge from two or more disciplines or subject groups, in order to develop new understanding. Through interdisciplinary learning, students are able to make connections between the classroom and real-world challenges.

Assessment

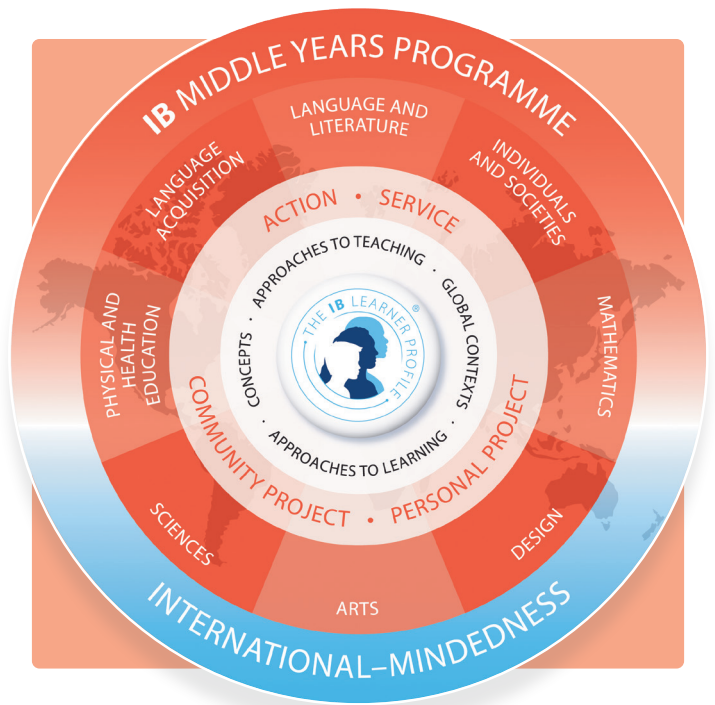
Holistic and varied assessments inform a student's next steps and build upon their ability to apply their thinking to new situations. The IB uses both internal and optional external assessment in the MYP. School-based assessment focuses on tasks created and is marked by classroom teachers, who are well-equipped to make judgments about student achievements.

In the final year of the programme, each MYP student must develop a personal project independently, which is externally validated by the IB. Producing a truly personal and creative piece of work over an extended period stands as a summative review of their ability to conduct independent work.

Schools can also opt to offer the innovative MYP eAssessment to their students, which helps build digital literacy and measures a student's ability to transfer their learning and deepen conceptual understanding.

Through the eAssessment, students participate in:

- ePortfolios (coursework)
- On-screen assessments



The on-screen examinations are unique because, as well as being technologically innovative, they use authentic assessment approaches to demonstrate the ability to apply knowledge in complex, unfamiliar and global contexts.

Unlike other examination systems, the MYP on-screen examinations focus 75% of the assessment explicitly on inquiry, communication and critical thinking skills. This makes the application of a student's skillset more important than their knowledge recall.

Next steps

The MYP prepares students to meet the academic challenges of the IB Diploma Programme (DP) and the IB Career-related Programme (CP).

Research shows that MYP students achieve a higher final mark in the DP compared to students coming from other programmes. Several studies have also confirmed that MYP students outperform both their non-MYP peers and the average scores of the OECD Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA).

More information – <https://www.ibo.org/myp>

