



International Baccalaureate Programmes



The IB Primary Years Programme (PYP) is designed for students ages 3 to 12 and focuses on the development of the whole child as an inquirer, both in the classroom and the world outside. It is not a prescribed curriculum, but rather a framework guided by six transdisciplinary themes of global significance with an emphasis on inquiry. It is designed to prepare students to engage in the IB Middle Years Programme. There are currently over 560 PYP schools authorized in the United States, including three in Sacramento County:

- Caleb Greenwood Elementary School (Sacramento City USD)
- H. Allen Hight Elementary (Natomas USD)
- Thomas Kelly Elementary School (San Juan USD)

Six Transdisciplinary Themes

These themes are intended to provide PYP schools with the opportunity to incorporate local and global issues into the curriculum. The six transdisciplinary themes are: who we are; where we are in place and time; how we express ourselves; how the world works; how we organize ourselves; and, sharing the planet. Each theme is addressed each year, by all students, and cuts across the six subject areas of the PYP: language; social studies; science; mathematics; arts; and physical, social, and personal education.

The Exhibition

In the final year of the programme, students undertake a collaborative, transdisciplinary inquiry process that involves them in identifying, investigating, and offering solutions to real-life issues or problems. As the culminating experience of the PYP, the Exhibition offers students an exciting opportunity to demonstrate independence and responsibility for their own learning.

Learn More

A brochure with additional information is available directly from the International Baccalaureate website: https://www.ibo.org/globalassets/publications/become-an-ib-school/ibpyp_en.pdf

For more information, contact your district or edpathways@scoe.net.



The IB Middle Years Programme (MYP) is designed as a whole-school programme for students ages 11 to 16. The MYP seeks to teach tools for lifelong learning and foster responsible attitudes that help students discover how to use what they learn to take principled action. The MYP is designed to prepare students for the IB Diploma Programme and the IB Career-related Programme. There are over 650 MYP schools in the United States, including nine in Sacramento County:

- Cordova High School and W.E. Mitchell Middle School (Folsom Cordova USD)
- Inderkum High School and Natomas Middle School (Natomas USD)
- Kit Carson International Academy (Sacramento City USD)
- Laguna Creek High School and Harriet G. Eddy Middle School (Elk Grove USD)
- Mira Loma High School and Winston Churchill Middle School (San Juan USD)

Curriculum

Students in the MYP study eight subject groups: Language and literature; language acquisition; individuals and societies; sciences; mathematics; arts; design; and physical and health education. Students complete a minimum of 50 hours in each subject group each year.

Features

Key and related concepts are big ideas, which form the basis of teaching and learning in the MYP. They work to ensure breadth and depth in the curriculum and promote learning within and across traditional disciplines. Global contexts provide shared starting points for inquiry into what it means to be internationally minded. Approaches to teaching and learning, a unifying thread throughout all MYP subject groups, are skills which help students manage their own learning.

Personal Project

Students completing the programme in year 5 (grade 10) apply their approaches to learning skills to complete an extended, self-directed piece of work. The projects provide opportunities for creative and personal demonstrations of learning. The personal project is marked by school officials and moderated by IB examiners.

Learn More

A brochure with additional information is available directly from the International Baccalaureate website: <https://www.ibo.org/globalassets/digital-toolkit/brochures/1503-myp-factsheet-for-parents.pdf>

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The International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma Programme is an academically rigorous, two-year course of study designed for 16- to 19-year-olds. It seeks to address the intellectual, social, emotional, and physical well-being of students. Over 900 schools nationwide are authorized to offer the Diploma Programme, including five in Sacramento County:

- Cordova High School (Folsom Cordova USD)
- Inderkum High School (Natomas USD)
- Laguna Creek High School (Elk Grove USD)
- Luther Burbank High School (Sacramento City USD)
- Mira Loma High School (San Juan USD)

Curriculum

IB Diploma Programme students must choose one subject from each of five disciplinary groups: language and literature; language acquisition; individuals and societies; experimental sciences; and mathematics. Students must also choose either an arts subject from the sixth group, or a second subject from one of the first five groups. Students must take three or four courses at higher level (240 teaching hours), while the other subjects are taken at standard level (150 teaching hours). Students can study and take examinations in English, French, or Spanish.

Diploma Programme Core

The extended essay asks students to engage in independent research through an in-depth study of a question related to one of the DP subjects they are studying and has a maximum word count of 4,000. Theory of knowledge is a one-year course that develops a coherent approach to learning that unifies the academic disciplines. In this course, students inquire into the nature of knowing and deepen their understanding of knowledge as a human construction.

Creativity, action, and service (CAS) involves students in a range of activities alongside their academic studies through the programme.

Assessment

Students take written exams at the end of their course of study that are marked by external IB examiners. Students also complete assessment tasks in the school which are either initially marked by their teachers and moderated by external moderators, or sent directly to external examiners. Students' marks on these assessments determine their overall IB score for each course.

Higher Education Institutions

Many universities and colleges in California and elsewhere award units to students who earn the IB Diploma and/or score well on IB exams. Award of units is determined by the institution of higher education and can vary.

Learn More

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https://www.ibo.org/globalassets/publications/become-an-ib-school/ibdp_en.pdf

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The IB Career-Related Programme (CP) is designed for students interested in pursuing a career-related education in the final two years of high school. Students in the career-related programme complete two courses from the IB Diploma Programme in addition to the CP core components and career-related studies. There are over 100 schools authorized to offer the IB Career-related Programme in the United States. There are no schools currently offering the programme in Sacramento County.

Core Components

The CP core components are designed to give context to the DP courses and the career-related study and draw all aspects of the framework together.

The personal and professional skills course aims to develop responsibility, practical problem-solving, good intellectual habits, ethical understanding, perseverance, resilience, an appreciation of identity and perspective, and an understanding of the complexity of the modern world. Emphasis is placed on the development of skills needed to successfully navigate higher education, the workplace, and society.

Service learning is the practical application of knowledge and skills toward meeting an identified community need. Through service, students develop and apply personal and social skills in real-life situations involving decision-making, problem-solving, initiative, responsibility, and accountability for their actions.

Language development seeks to ensure that all CP students have access and exposure to a second language. The opportunity to learn a second language develops students' oral, visual, and written linguistic and communicative abilities.

The reflective project is an in-depth body of work produced over an extended period and submitted toward the end of the programme. Through the reflective project, students identify, analyze, discuss, and evaluate an ethical dilemma associated with an issue from their career-related studies. This work encourages students to engage in personal inquiry, intellectual discovery, creativity, action, and reflection, and to develop strong thinking, research, and communication skills.

Career-Related Studies

The career-related studies are offered by the school and should be aligned with student needs and progress toward further study or direct employment. Each school chooses the career-related studies most suited to local conditions and the needs of its students.

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