

The International Baccalaureate

THE MIDDLE YEARS PROGRAMME

INTRODUCING THE MYP

Austin Academy, a candidate school for the International Baccalaureate (IB) Middle Years Programme, is pursuing authorization as an IB World School.

FALL 2020

Implementation will begin for grades 7 and 8.

FALL 2021

Implementation will begin for grade 6.

THE MYP AT AAE

THE MIDDLE YEARS PROGRAMME IS FOR ALL STUDENTS. THE MYP:

- Addresses holistically students' intellectual, social, emotional and physical well-being
- Provides students opportunities to develop the knowledge, attitudes and skills they need in order to manage complexity and take responsible action for the future
- Requires the study of at least two languages (English/language arts and a foreign language) to support students in understanding their own cultures and those of others
- Empowers students to participate in service within the community
- Ensures breadth and depth of understanding through study in eight subject groups:

Design
Fine Arts
Individuals and Societies
Language Acquisition

Language and Literature
Mathematics
Physical and Health Education
Sciences

The International Baccalaureate Middle Years Programme - ibo.org

LEARN MORE

IB Matters is a podcast for parents, students, and teachers that explores all things IB. To further your understanding of the MYP, listen to the episode,

"Introducing the IB Programmes: The Middle Years Programme."



RESEARCH

Find out more about the research behind the MYP framework and advantages for students at ibo.org/research.

AFTER AUSTIN ACADEMY

The Middle Years Programme participants will make excellent candidates for any of Garland ISD's high school programs.

The MYP is an inclusive 6th through 10th-grade framework. Students who wish to continue to the 9th and 10th-grade portion of the Middle Years Programme may choose to attend Garland High School. GHS is also home of the district's IB Diploma Programme (IB's program for grades 11 and 12).

Our counselors can help provide more information on the array of high school opportunities Garland ISD has to offer.

CONTACT

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FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT THE MIDDLE YEARS PROGRAMME

Who will take part in the Middle Years Programme?

The MYP is an inclusive program intended to reach all students who attend Austin Academy. All classrooms at Austin will be part of the IB Middle Years Programme.

Will Austin Academy's curriculum change?

The content of the curriculum will remain the same. Teachers will continue to address the Texas state standards (Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills, or TEKS). The MYP is a framework for how the teacher delivers these content standards to students. The International Baccalaureate Organization has spent twenty-five years developing a research-based set of best practices to ensure critical thinking in the classroom.

In the MYP classroom, students will experience:

- More concept-based learning, or learning that is driven by big ideas or universal themes
- Increased connection among courses
- A global understanding of the way in which the content being taught relates to and affects our world
- Instructional time embedded with a focus on life skills such as communication, collaboration, and organization to prepare students for high school and beyond

Will the Middle Years Programme mean more work for my student?

At Austin, we are committed to the philosophy that increasing rigor does not mean more work but rather delving deeper to gain a greater and lasting grasp of the content.

The MYP will give your student an opportunity to both do work that facilitates the retention of information and gain a deeper understanding of the content.

Isn't IB a high school program?

The International Baccalaureate organization has three programs associated with elementary, middle, and high school:

- Primary Years Programme (PYP): Pre-K–5th grade
- Middle Years Programme (MYP): 6th–8th grade (Austin), 9th–10th grade (GHS)
- Diploma Programme (DP): 11th–12th grade

Locally, many people may think of IB as a high school program because Garland High School has had its Diploma Programme (DP) since 1989. The DP serves 11th and 12th-grade students.

How will the Middle Years Programme differ from the high school Diploma Programme?

While both programs are centered around the learner profile, there are some fundamental differences in the way they are structured. The Diploma Programme, which is for 11th and 12th graders, has a prescribed syllabus of coursework. The International Baccalaureate determines much of the content of the curriculum for the high school Diploma Programme.

In contrast, the MYP is a framework for how the teacher delivers the information to students. Teachers will still be guided by TEKS and their own expertise to develop the content of the course. Lastly, the Middle Years Programme is intended for all students, whereas the Diploma Programme requires specific qualifications for entry.

Will the MYP limit the options my student has for high school?

Students who participate in the Middle Years Programme will make excellent candidates for any of Garland ISD's high school programs. The MYP is designed to prepare students for rigorous coursework in high school, no matter what program they choose to pursue.

Many parents naturally have questions about whether their child should choose Advanced Placement, dual credit, or the IB Diploma Programme. This is important to consider when preparing for high school.

You and your child will make this decision based on what best fits his/her interests, goals, and style of learning. We encourage parents and students to research and ask questions. When it is time to examine this decision in your student's 8th-grade year, our counselors offer a great deal of help by providing information on the array of programs available in GISD.