



Schools of the Sacred Heart, San Francisco

Assessment Policy in the IB Programme

Philosophy of Assessment in Education

Schools of the Sacred Heart, San Francisco, is a member of a worldwide network that offers an education committed to the individual student's total development: spiritual, intellectual, emotional, and physical. To this end, the school's assessment policies both model a commitment to serving the whole child and a comprehensive approach to teaching and learning, and serve the characteristics articulated in the IB Mission Statement and Learner Profile.

We recognize that student learning and student understanding need to be encouraged and assessed in multi-modal ways, including traditional cumulative written tests and papers, oral presentation and hands-on work as appropriate to the field of study, e.g., laboratory work for scientific inquiry or artistic/creative performances in literature and the performing and visual arts.

Assessment within Schools of the Sacred Heart, SF, complies with the IB Programme Standards and Practices and is designed to provide valuable measurements of learning. Schools of the Sacred Heart is committed to graduating lifelong learners. We value the process of learning, laying the path for students to access content, apply their understanding, synthesize their thinking and reflect on their learning. The school asks what knowledge and skills are of most worth within each field of study and across fields of study. The school recognizes that the goal of the program is to build mastery and fluency in students across key subject areas and disciplines. In assessing mastery and fluency, the school utilizes traditional assessment methods, project-based learning, and performance opportunities and also engages formative and summative assessment practices. Students engage in post-assessment reflection and ongoing reflection - developing a growth mindset.

External assessments are often used in the IB Programme due to their “high levels of objectivity and reliability.”

They include:

- essays
- structured problems
- short-response questions
- data-response questions
- text-response questions
- case-study questions
- multiple-choice questions

Internal assessments, or those orchestrated by the course teacher, include:

- oral work in languages
- fieldwork in geography

- laboratory work in the sciences
- investigations in mathematics
- artistic performances and exhibitions