



Schools of the Sacred Heart, San Francisco

Language Policy in the IB Programme

The Language Policy of Schools of the Sacred Heart, San Francisco reflects the School's commitment to developing purposeful, engaged and compassionate citizens. Fundamental to the belief in promoting mastery and fluency in students across all academic fields, the School sees language development as the foundational building block of learning, cognitive development and interpersonal skills as well as for creative and academic expression. Students develop an academic lexicon across disciplines and groups of study to further develop a professional register that supports an understanding of both the universe and ourselves within it.

In serving the development of the whole child - cognitive, personal and interpersonal, we recognize that each student must develop his/her own voice. In classroom interaction, we expect on a daily basis that students know how to express their thinking in oral and written form. The atmosphere of the School's classrooms and laboratories is highly engaged and participatory: students are expected to develop and use their language capacity in all dimensions: cognitive, metacognitive and interpersonal.

The majority of our students and faculty are English-speaking Americans. However, Schools of the Sacred Heart San Francisco has a clear global vision as part of its membership within an international network of Sacred Heart schools. Many of our community come from a variety of cultural and linguistic backgrounds throughout Asia, Europe, Africa, and the Americas. We commit to fostering a community of thinkers that draw from and interact with the cultural backgrounds of others to engage fully in all courses of study.

Instruction at Schools of the Sacred Heart San Francisco is in English for all courses, with the exception of Modern and Classical Languages. Assemblies and other communications are also held in English, with festivals supporting students in celebrating and mastering literacy in their mother tongue.