



Q&A

The IB Diploma Program

February 2023



THEMES: OUR MOST COMMON QUESTIONS

1. Information & Decision Process
2. The IB
3. Diplomas and university recognition
4. Curriculum & Choice of subjects
5. A focus on Languages
6. A focus on Math and Sciences
7. Exam assessment





Q1. What is the timeline for us to choose a program?

1. Information & Decision Process

2. The IB
3. Diplomas and university recognition
4. Curriculum & Choice of subjects
5. A focus on Languages
6. A focus on Math and Sciences
7. Exam assessment

- ✓ When do we have to make a decision?
- ✓ How will we find the information we need?
- ✓ Who can we speak with about our choices?



Q1. What is the timeline for us to choose a program?

January-February

March

May-June

INFORMATION SESSIONS

**Academic choices at the end of 2nde:
the IB DP**
February 1 (today)

**Academic choices at the end of 2nde:
the French Program**
February 2

**Academic choices at the end of 2nde
during *Vie de Classe***
February

FIRST "*FICHES Voeux provisoires*"

Conseil de classe 2nd Trimester

SECOND "*FICHES Voeux définitifs*"

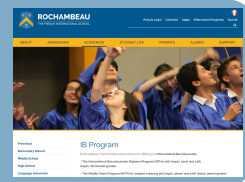
Conseil de classe 3rd Trimester



Watch the recordings of our information sessions



Visit the school website



Attend an online session with Mme Gaultier & Mrs. Percy (dates to be published)

Any additional questions?
Do not hesitate to speak with
Mrs. Percy, Mme Gaultier or M.
Vanhille.

percys@rochambeau.org
gaultierk@rochambeau.org
vanhillep@rochambeau.org



Q2. What is the International Baccalaureate?

1. Information & Decision Process
- 2. The IB**
3. Diplomas and university recognition
4. Curriculum & Choice of subjects
5. A focus on Languages
6. A focus on Math and Sciences
7. Exam assessment

- ✓ What are the different programs offered at Rochambeau?
- ✓ What is the IB? The IB Diploma Program?
- ✓ What is the IB philosophy?



End of 2nde/10th Grade

IB DP

11th & 12th Grade



OR

FRENCH PROGRAM

1ère & Terminale





**A RIGOUROUS &
INTERNATIONALLY-
MINDED PROGRAM**

1968, Geneva, Switzerland

What is the IB?



Inquiry



Conceptual
understanding



Local and global
contexts



Action and
collaboration

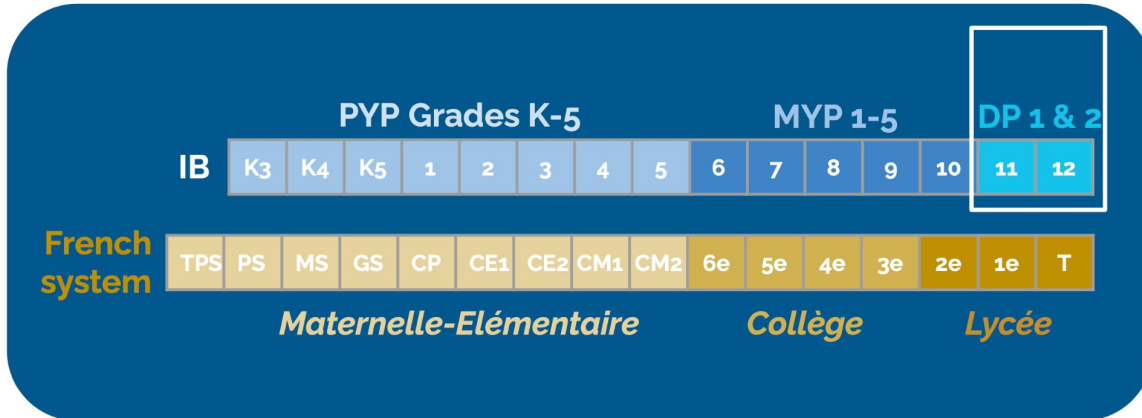


Differentiation



Assessment

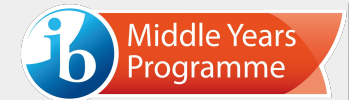
The IB DP



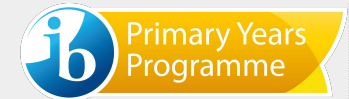
Rochambeau has joined a community of 5,600 IB world schools in 160 countries



offered by 3,578 schools



offered by 1,472 schools



offered by 1,916 schools



The IB at Rochambeau

2021

IB Diploma Program
since September
2021

37

IB DP
students

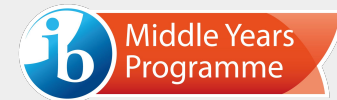
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Teachers

Rochambeau has joined a
community of 5,600 IB
world schools in 160
countries



offered by 3,578 schools



offered by 1,472 schools



offered by 1,916 schools



Q3. At the end of High School, what diploma(s) will my child be awarded?

1. Information & Decision Process
2. The IB
- 3. Diplomas and university recognition**
4. Curriculum & Choice of subjects
5. A focus on Languages
6. A focus on Math and Sciences
7. Exam assessment

- ✓ What diplomas are awarded at Rochambeau?
- ✓ Can you have both the IB and the FB diplomas?
- ✓ Do IB DP courses qualify for the High School Diploma?
- ✓ What about university recognition?



IB DP

OR

FRENCH PROGRAM

1ère
11th
Grade

Term.
12th
Grade



11th
grade

US High School Diploma



The Maryland High School Diploma

Whatever programs they choose at Rochambeau, **our students qualify for the US/Maryland High School Diploma**. Courses in all programs meet the requirements and allow students to get the credits they need.

You have been at Rochambeau from 4ème/8th through 1ère/11th grade



You joined Rochambeau after 4ème/8th grade = you might miss some credits.

Contact Mme Bessaha, our Registrar:

bessahad@rochambeau.org

Maryland High School Diploma Requirements

A minimum of 22 credits.

17 of these credits must be in the following subjects:

- 4 credits English
- 2 credits French
- 2 credits in Social Studies (1 credit in U.S. History)
- 6 credits in Math and Science (including at least 2 in Science and 2 in Math)
- 2 credits in a 3rd language
- 1 credit in Physical Education

+ 5 elective units from any curricular area.



University recognition



The IB Diploma recognizes IB students' level of achievement and completion of the challenging IB DP.

It opens the doors of universities worldwide.

However, each university, regardless of the diploma, has specific admission criteria. It is important to check with your university counselors.









Q4. What is the IB DP Curriculum?

1. Information & Decision Process
2. The IB
3. Diplomas and university recognition
- 4. Curriculum & Choice of subjects**
5. A focus on Languages
6. A focus on Math and Sciences
7. Exam assessment

- ✓ What subjects are offered?
- ✓ Are all subjects mandatory?
- ✓ Are there electives?
- ✓ What will an IB DP schedule look like?
- ✓ How much work will the IB represent for a student?

6 mandatory courses (1 from each subject group)

At Rochambeau:

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
|  | 1 | English A |
|  | 2 | French A OR French B |
|  | 3 | Economics or History
or Global Politics |
|  | 4 | Biology or Physics |
|  | 5 | Mathematics AA* or AI* |
|  | 6 | Film or Visual Arts
(or Chemistry or Spanish B) |

*Math AA – Analysis and Approaches SL & HL

*Math AI – Applications & Interpretation SL

3 courses at the
higher level
(5 hrs/week)

3 courses at the
standard level
(3 hrs/week)

~~Electives~~



3 CORE subjects
*CAS, Extended
Essay & TOK*



28 to 30 hours of IB class in 1ère
25 hours in Terminale
+ 1 hr *vie de classe*/advisory

+ 250 hours
minimum of
RESEARCH & SERVICE

The IB program is
demanding in terms of
*independent study,
reflection & service*

TOK



Theory of Knowledge

A course aimed to engage students to think reflectively about knowledge. Students' work is assessed through a 1,600-word essay and an exhibition.

EE



Extended Essay

An independent and self-directed piece of research finishing with a 4,000-word paper.

CAS



Creativity, Action, Service

A collection of enjoyable & challenging experiences determined by students to extend their abilities in the areas of creativity, action, and service.



Q5. What is the place of languages?

1. Information & Decision Process
2. The IB
3. Diplomas and university recognition
4. Curriculum & Choice of subjects
- 5. A focus on Languages**
6. A focus on Math and Sciences
7. Exam assessment

- ✓ How do students choose languages?
- ✓ Are there admission criteria in languages?
What is the expected level of mastery of English? French?



Languages “A”? Languages “B”?

All IB language courses aim to develop students skills in listening, writing, speaking, and reading

The IB DP offers two types of language courses to suit a student’s language profile

A. Language & Literature courses:

critical, creative, personal approaches to studying and analyzing literary and non-literary texts (in a student’s best or second best language)

B. Language Acquisition courses:

comfort and autonomy, and knowledge of the culture (in a student’s second best or another language)

At Rochambeau, each student will study **at least 2 languages***

Language A	English	SL or HL
Language A	French	SL or HL

OR

Language A	English	SL or HL
Language B	French	SL or HL

**Spanish can be studied as an additional language if selected in Group 6*



6 mandatory courses

Language



1 English A

ENG / FR



2 French A OR French B

FR



3 Economics or
History or
Global Politics

EN
EN & FR
EN



4 Biology or
Physics

FR
EN



5 Mathematics AA or AI

EN



6 Film or
Visual Arts or
(Chemistry or
Spanish B)

EN
FR
EN
SP



Languages of instruction:
English ~56-90%
French ~10-44%



3 CORE subjects
*CAS, Extended
Essay & TOK*

Taught in English

The IB Bilingual Diploma is a version of the IB Diploma. It is awarded to candidates who demonstrate language proficiency in two different languages.

There are two different ways to obtain a Bilingual Diploma:

Completion of *two languages from group 1* (language A subjects) scoring a **3** or higher in both.

=> **ENG A + FR A**

OR

Completion of *one of the subjects from group 3 or 4* in a language that is not the same as the group 1 language, scoring a **3** or higher in both the group 1 language and the group 3 or 4 subject.

=> **ENG A + BIOLOGY OR HISTORY**

=> **FR A + GloPo OR ECON OR PHY**

The “regular” IB Diploma only requires students to take a second language from group 2, and the other subjects will be in the group 1 language.

Started as a pilot program at three French schools in North America and officialized in 2018, the IB Advanced Bilingual Diploma is another version of the IB Diploma and the result of the collaboration between the IBO and the Mission Laïque Française.

To be eligible, students must:

Study *two languages from group 1* (language A subjects) scoring a **4** or higher in both.

AND

Study *at least one subject from group 3, 4, 5 or 6* in *each* of the group 1 languages, scoring no grades below **4** in all subjects*.

=> **ENG A + FR A + HISTORY OR BIOLOGIE OR VISUAL ARTS**

Encouraged (but not required): to write the TOK essay and EE in two different languages.

*If a student scores one grade below 4, but still meets the requirements for the Bilingual Diploma, they receive a Bilingual Diploma instead.



THE IB DP IS OPEN TO ALL STUDENTS



Level of English

This program will be taught primarily in English. Applicants need to be proficient in English to join the program:

- Recommendation** from current English teacher
For external applicants:
- At least level B2 or equivalent*
- A letter grade equivalent to a B for US students in a Standard/Honors English level class*



Level of French

- Different levels of French are welcome
- We will look at your child's language profile and make a placement recommendation in either French A or French B.



Q6. What is the place of Math and Sciences?

1. Information & Decision Process
2. The IB
3. Diplomas and university recognition
4. Curriculum & Choice of subjects
5. A focus on Languages
- 6. A focus on Math and Sciences**
7. Exam assessment

- ✓ What is the Math offering and level of Math?
- ✓ How many & which sciences can a student take?



A choice between 2 courses in IB Math

The IB DP program offers a choice between two Math courses:

Math AA – Analysis and Approaches, SL & HL

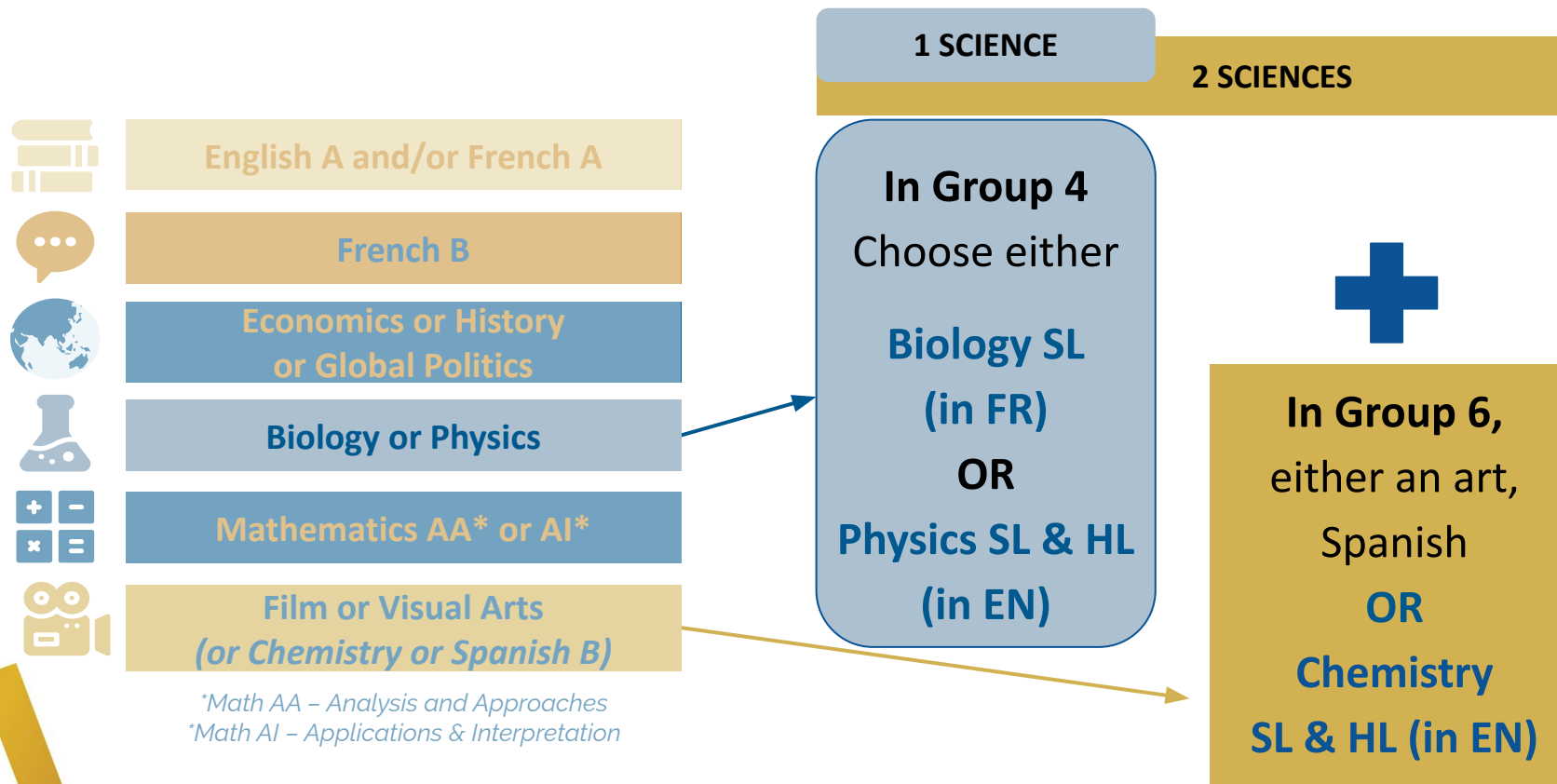
- Emphasis on algebraic methods
- Develop strong skills in mathematical thinking
- Real and abstract mathematical problem solving
- For students interested in mathematics, engineering physical sciences, and some economics

Math AI – Applications & Interpretation, SL

- Emphasis on modelling and statistics
- Develops strong skills in applying mathematics to the real-world
- Real mathematical problem solving using technology
- For students interested in social sciences, natural sciences, medicine, statistics, business, engineering, some economics, psychology and design

See this [LINK](#) for a more detailed presentation of both curricula.

IB DP: How many & which sciences can I take?





Q7. How is the IB Diploma awarded?

1. Information & Decision Process
2. The IB
3. Diplomas and university recognition
4. Curriculum & Choice of subjects
5. A focus on Languages
6. A focus on Math and Sciences
- 7. Exam assessment**

- ✓ How many exams do IB students sit?
- ✓ What is an internal assessment?



IB DP Exam Assessment

Internal assessment* 30%-40% of Diploma

- 1 in each subject + 1 in ToK
- Oral, research papers, productions, etc.
- Completed by the students in Year 1 & Year 2
- Assessed by teachers

External assessment 70%-60% of Diploma

- Exams in MAY of Year 2
- Essays
- Short-response questions
- Data-response questions
- Text-response questions
- Multiple-choice questions...

moderated by



graded by

**or IA: means internally assessed. This is not "continued assessment" where trimester grades count toward the exam. IA grades are sent to the IB and are not included in the trimester averages.*

The 6 IB subjects are graded on a 1- 7 scale with 7 being the highest score.



24 points minimum



42 points maximum

With HL + HL + HL \geq 12 points
and SL + SL + SL \geq 9 points

+ 3 points max. TOK & EE



IN CONCLUSION



How to choose?

- ❖ **INQUIRE** about courses offered in each track (content, programs, expectations, grading, exams...)
- ❖ **DISCUSS** with your teachers, your guidance counselors, juniors and seniors
- ❖ **REFLECT** on your plans for the future, but also your profile and your academic results.

No good or bad diploma.

It is about choosing the program that best suits a student's interests, academic results, and project. A program where they will succeed the best.



Is the IB DP for my child?

My child:

- Is fluent in English and prefers to study in this language.
- Enjoys project-based learning.
- Is organized, has a strong work ethic, and enjoys independent work
- Collaborates and likes to work in a team.
- Is curious about world issues.
- Is a critical thinker who asks “how” and “why” questions rather than “what”.



10 Reasons

ib Diploma Programme

why the IB Diploma Programme (DP) is ideal preparation for university

1 
It increases academic opportunity

Research* shows that DP graduates are much more likely to be enrolled at top higher education institutions than entrants holding other qualifications.

2 
IB students care about more than just results

Through creativity, action, service (CAS) you learn outside the classroom and develop emotionally and ethically as well as intellectually.

3 
It encourages you to become a confident and independent learner

For example, the extended essay requires independent research through an in-depth study.

6 
The IB encourages critical thinking

Learn how to analyse and evaluate issues, generate ideas and consider new perspectives.

5 
Graduates are globally minded

Language classes encourage an international mindset, key for increasingly globalized societies.

4 
It's an international qualification

The DP is recognized globally by universities and employers.

7 
DP students have proven time management skills


Take good study habits and strong time management to further education and the working world.

9 
Subjects are not taught in isolation

Theory of knowledge (TOK) classes encourage you to make connections between subjects.

10 
It encourages breadth and depth of learning

You are able to choose courses from six subject groups and study subjects at different levels.

8 
It assesses more than examination techniques

Learn to understand, not just memorize facts or topics and prepare for exams.

*Based on IB research - www.ibo.org/research

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ROCHAMBEAU
THE FRENCH INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

Thank you!

Essential resources

IBO [website](http://www.ibo.org)

Rochambeau [website](http://www.rochambeau.org)

Contacts

S. Percy, IB Coordinator, percys@rochambeau.org

K. Gaultier, Guidance Counselor, gaultierk@rochambeau.org

P. Vanhille, Director of Secondary, vanhillep@rochambeau.org