

KIS DIPLOMA

In order to earn a KIS Diploma*, students in grades 9 to 12 must earn a minimum of 25 academic credits** and complete the IB core requirements (listed below).

* *The KIS Diploma is anticipated to be accredited by the Middle State Association from the 2022-23 school year onwards.*

** *A half credit is earned each semester by achieving a grade of 3 or above in the respective subject.*

KIS DIPLOMA REQUIREMENTS

Academic requirements	IB core requirements(*)		
Subject	Credits	Item	Grade
English	4	Service as Action	9-10
Mathematics	3	Personal Project	10
Science	3	Creativity, Activity, Service (CAS)	11-12
Individuals & Societies	3	Theory of Knowledge (TOK)	11-12
Language other than English (Lang A or B)	3	Extended Essay (EE)	11-12
Physical Education	1		
The Arts	1		
Design	1		
Additional credits	6		
Total	25		

Important notes:

1. KIS students are required to take eight subjects in grades 9 and 10.
2. KIS students are required to take six subjects in grades 11 and 12.
3. An English course **must** be taken in grades 9 to 12.
4. Changes to a specific student's timetable, schedule of courses or adjustments to the IB Core Requirements (*) for graduation can be made at the discretion of the secondary principal in consultation with parents.

This policy is not retroactive and only applies to students entering grade 9 in August 2021 (KIS class of 2025) and beyond. Guidelines for students in grades 12 (KIS class of 2024) will follow a prorated credit system indicated below.

AWARDING ACADEMIC CREDIT

The credibility of the KIS Diploma is dependent on KIS maintaining high standards.

In grades 9 to 12, credit is awarded on a course-by-course (or subject-to-subject) basis each semester, according to the following guidelines:

- Course credit (a half credit each semester) will be granted to students who earn a final score of 3 (on a scale of 1 to 7) or above. Credit is not awarded for a grade of 2 or below.
- Students who achieve a grade of a 1 or 2 in any subject may be given the opportunity to recover the credit on a case by case basis. Possible means of credit recovery include, but are not limited to, completion of supplementary assignments, completion of supplementary assessments or completion of online courses.
- Students with less than 90% attendance in a class in a semester may not automatically earn credit despite receiving a score of 3 or above.
- A student may be placed on “Academic Probation” if s/he continues to earn a 3 or below in more than one subject. The student will be expected to meet the terms and conditions of the probation in order to continue to study at KIS.

Where a specific learning difficulty has been verified and documented, a student may be placed on a Learning Support Plan. In this case, the decision to permit registration in specific courses will be made in consultation with the student, parent, course teacher, learning support teacher and the IB Program Coordinator/Principal.

Transfers

KIS will not award transfer students more than eight credits per year in MYP years for completed courses at a previous school(s). The Secondary School Principal may waive particular KIS graduation requirements if they could not have been met at a previous school(s).

Academic credit and attendance

When a student is absent from school and makes up homework and tests, only part of the learning process proceeds normally. When students are absent, they miss:

- The interactions that take place during classroom discussions.
- The opportunity to clarify feedback from teachers and peers regarding progress towards learning targets and learning outcomes.
- The direct and first-hand learning which comes through classroom activities.
- The possibility to ask questions to clarify homework, presentations, activities, discussions and assessment tasks.
- Ongoing small group work and projects.
- The opportunity to take out books or other print materials needed for research.
- The opportunity to use the school's print, media, and educational technology tools for research.

Excessive absences

Students are expected to attend school and their courses each day. Every student shall maintain an attendance rate of **at least 90%** for each semester of the school year.

Students who are absent from a particular course for 9 lessons or more in any semester for any reason, apart from school-sponsored trips, are considered to have “excessive absences”. A student with excessive absences may not automatically receive credit for courses, impacting their progress towards graduation.

Excessive absences compromise a student’s ability to achieve his/her academic potential and could have negative consequences on one or more of the following areas:

- Participation in school-sponsored trips
- Meeting expectations on their Approaches to Learning (ATL’s)
- Earning a passing mark (3 or above) for achievement
- Advancing to the next grade
- Continuing enrolment as a KIS student
- Earning an IB Diploma and/or an KIS Diploma

Note: KIS may be required to inform colleges/universities or other secondary schools of student excessive absences.

AWARD OF THE KIS DIPLOMA

The Secondary School Principal will convene an academic council to review credits earned, and the requirements met, by grade 12 students. The Secondary School Principal (or his designate) may use his/her discretion to take the following actions.

- Inform a student and family that a student may be at risk for not meeting requirements to earn a KIS Diploma by the end of the first semester of grade 12.
- Attach specific conditions to the award of the KIS Diploma. The student and his/her family will be notified in writing.
- Notify, in writing, any student who has not met the minimal requirements necessary to earn an KIS Diploma by 1 May.
- Recommend that a KIS Diploma be awarded to a student who has not met the minimal requirements necessary to earn the said KIS Diploma, when sufficient, extenuating or mitigating factors justify its award.

Requirements for the Class of 2024 (grade 10 in August 2021)

As the KIS diploma requirements will take effect from August 2021, credit requirements for students entering grade 10 in August 2021 (the class of 2024) have been modified as they only have 3 academic years to earn credits.

Academic requirements

Subject	Credits
English	3
Mathematics	2
Science	2
Individuals & Societies	2
Language other than English (Lang A or B)	2
Physical Education	1
The Arts	1
Design	1
Additional credits	4
Total	18

IB core requirements and important notes are unchanged.

KIS GRADE PROMOTION GUIDELINES

Students progress through secondary school by demonstrating growth in learning and meeting expected standards of student achievement. The guidelines for each grade are:

Grades 6 to 10 (MYP)

In the MYP students are graded on a scale of 1 to 7. These grades are referred to as points in the promotion requirements.

The maximum points a student can acquire in an academic year in the MYP is 56 (7 points in each of the 8 subjects - excluding Kazakh).

To successfully complete each grade level and be promoted to the next grade level, students in grades 7 to 10 must:

- score a total of 32 points or more in their MYP courses (excluding Kazakh)
- successfully complete the MYP service and activity requirements.

Students who obtain between 28 and 31 total points in their 8 MYP courses (excluding Kazakh), may not automatically proceed to the next grade level. They will be required to attend a conference with the principal (or designee) and parents. Promotion to the next grade level will be at the discretion of the principal and if promoted a student would be placed on an academic contract.

Students who obtain less than 28 total points in 8 MYP courses will be encouraged to consider alternate educational pathways. This may include repeating the current grade or leaving KIS.

Admission to the IB Diploma programme

To be admitted to the DP students must aim for a minimum of 32 total points in their grade 10 courses (excluding Kazakh). Students are recommended to earn at least a 5 in the courses they are interested in following at a higher level.

For all other courses students are recommended to:

1. Obtain a final achievement score of 4 in each of the following subject groups: Language and Literature, Language Acquisition, Individuals and Societies, the Sciences, and Mathematics (an average score will apply if a student is enrolled in multiple subjects within a subject group);
2. Complete the Personal Project (PP) and Service as Action (SA) requirements

Grade 11 (year 1) promotion guidelines, pathways and graduation requirements

DP year 1 students (grade 11) are promoted to year 2 (grade 12) if they have:

- a recommended minimum of 4 points in each of their six subjects (or a total of 24 points) with a recommended minimum of 12 points in higher level subjects and a recommended minimum of 9 points in standard level subjects
- demonstrated satisfactory progress in the DP core elements: submitted a 1500 word EE draft, earned a D or above in TOK, shown satisfactory progress in CAS

If a year 1 (grade 11) student does not meet the conditions above, the secondary school principal and designee will determine whether the student will:

- continue to grade 12 on the IB diploma pathway and on academic probation

- continue to grade 12 on a KIS diploma pathway and on academic probation