



CHARLOTTE
COUNTRY DAY
SCHOOL

THE INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE PROGRAM



What is IB?

The IB Diploma Program is a two-year course of study for juniors and seniors. More than a collection of courses, the Diploma Program is a holistic approach to the final two years of high school. The IB mission aims to “develop inquiring, knowledgeable, and caring young people who help to create a better and more peaceful world through education that builds intercultural understanding and respect.”

Country Day's IB Program is founded on four pillars: rigorous academics, personal growth, global mindedness, and community. The academics are **rigorous** because of the emphasis on critical thinking and student-directed learning. Along with the academic program, the Creativity, Activity, and Service program (CAS) creates opportunities for **personal growth**. **Global mindedness** is central to the IB experience and is woven into all IB curricula.

Finally, our IB students have a unique experience within the Upper School and create a close-knit **community** through their shared experiences.

By focusing on these four pillars across the IB curriculum, Country Day IB faculty create positive outcomes for IB students.



You can learn much more about the IB program at charlottecountryday.org/bucsnnet/ib



Why IB May Be Right for You

Did you know that international research shows that compared to non-IB peers, students who participate in an IB Diploma program demonstrate better **critical thinking**, are more **globally minded**, are more willing to take on **new challenges**, and are more **motivated** and **engaged** with academics?

Country Day surveys of IB students, alumni, and parents also confirm that IB prepares students well for rigorous academics, time management, extracurricular involvement, critical thinking, and analytical writing, all in a supportive atmosphere of IB-trained teachers.

This emphasis on a supportive learning environment helps Country Day's IB students achieve at a high level well above the world average. Our **pass rate** over the past five years is **98.5%**. And that success in Country Day's IB program translates to success in college.

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“I just got out of my first chem lab [at Dartmouth]. While some of my classmates were super stressed, I felt very calm and was able to answer others' questions along the way. I felt prepared.”

”

Who are IB Students?

IB students are passionate about learning and personal growth. They thrive in an atmosphere of authentic, student-directed learning, and are willing to take risks, explore new ideas, and grow as an individual and a citizen of the world. They are also:

ATHLETES: Many IB students are two-season athletes or play on year-round club teams. They have earned state championships and all-state player honors, serve as team captains, and some go on to play at the collegiate level.

ARTISTS: IB students perform in award-winning productions and choral and instrumental groups, participate in cultural clubs, serve as editors on school publications, and take part in and lead events like the Coffee House.

LEADERS: Through clubs, student government, arts events, athletic teams, and Diversity Awareness Forums, IB students serve as leaders.

ENGAGED CITIZENS: Inside and outside of school, IB students take part in global interest clubs and global service. Locally, they give back through organizations like Big Brothers Big Sisters, First Tee, RoofAbove, the Charlotte Mecklenburg Library, and the Humane Society.



“

Taking IB is one of the best decisions I have ever made. This community has helped me learn so much about myself, and I have grown leaps and bounds thanks to the guidance of my IB peers and teachers.

”

The IB Learner Profile

**Inquirer
Knowledgeable
Thinker
Communicator
Principled
Open-minded
Caring
Risk-taker
Balanced
Reflective**

The 10 attributes of the Learner Profile describe who we aspire to be, both as IB students and IB faculty. An IB education is grounded in both academic knowledge and development of these traits.

Unique Experience of IB Core

In addition to completing six IB subjects, IB students complete the IB Core: Creativity, Activity, and Service (CAS), Extended Essay (EE), and Theory of Knowledge (TOK). Each of these elements is available only to IB students. Connected to all IB subjects, the IB Core is a personalized, unique experience for every IB student that improves academic and interpersonal skills.

Theory of Knowledge

TOK cultivates students' critical thinking. Often a favorite of IB students, TOK challenges students to consider what we know, how we know it, and what happens when different people know different things.

“ Without TOK, there wouldn't be a place where IB students could freely think and ask about almost anything. It represents a haven for reflection and examination of things we think we know. ”

Creativity, Activity, and Service

The CAS program encourages personal growth outside the classroom through engaging in and reflecting upon meaningful experiences. CAS experiences can be as varied as Irish dancing, learning to cook, starting a community garden, forming a band, improving athletic skills, organizing DAF forums, writing a blog, or teaching others how to code.

Extended Essay

The EE is an opportunity for IB students to complete in-depth research, culminating in a major research paper. Students can choose any topic in any discipline, and they select a faculty member to serve as their EE supervisor. Recent research topics have included:

The prevalence of tuberculosis in medically underserved areas

History of the Equal Rights Amendment

African American science fiction author Octavia Butler

The use of psychedelics (psilocybin) to treat mental illnesses

Hydration methods' impact on female college athlete performance

The dolly zoom as an evolving film technique

Thriving in College

Recent graduates are using their IB experience to thrive at colleges and universities like these:

Appalachian State

Columbia

Dartmouth

Davidson

Elon

Middlebury

Northwestern

UCLA

UGA

UNC-Chapel Hill

University of Virginia

Wake Forest

Yale



The IB Curriculum

Country Day offers 27 IB courses, all taught by IB-trained faculty. A personalized IB schedule is crafted for grades 11 and 12, including taking classes outside the IB program. While IB schedules look different for every student, below are general options.

11TH GRADE

IB English 11

Chinese, French, Latin,
or Spanish (multiple
levels available)

IB World History

IB Biology or Chemistry

Precalculus or Calculus

Theory of Knowledge

Free Period

12TH GRADE

IB English 12

Chinese, French, Latin,
or Spanish (multiple
levels available)

IB History of the Americas

IB Biology or Chemistry

IB Math (multiple levels
available)

IB “elective” such as Visual
Art, Theatre, Music, Digital
Society, or Psychology

Free Period

**“IB was probably the best decision I’ve made.
I have learned so much that has improved my
writing skills and my critical thinking.”**



**READY
TO LEARN
MORE?**

Contact Mr. Stewart Peery, IB Coordinator
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