

## IB Student/Parent Handbook

We welcome you to the **International Baccalaureate® (IB)** Program at Emerald Campus. Through IB, we aim to create a better world through education for all of our students. Our courses and our program encourage personal and academic achievement through IB by challenging students (and ourselves) to excel in studies and personal development. **If you're interested in learning more about this incredible journey, watch [this video on YouTube](#) to hear from our students!**



### What is International Baccalaureate?

International Baccalaureate (IB) is an academically balanced program of education designed to prepare students in their last two years of high school for success at a university or in a career. Students interested in IB in Dublin City Schools may earn an IB Diploma awarded by the International Baccalaureate Organization or participate in individual courses.

The mission of the International Baccalaureate Organization (IBO) is to develop inquiring, knowledgeable, and caring young people who help to create a better and more peaceful world through intercultural understanding and respect. To this end, IBO works with schools, governments, and international organizations to develop challenging international education programs and rigorous assessments. These programs encourage students across the world to become active, compassionate, and lifelong learners who understand that other people, with their differences, can also be correct. Students successful in IB courses or the Diploma program can earn college credit, college scholarships, and other admissions-related benefits at many colleges and universities.

### Diploma Program within Dublin City Schools

The aim of all IB courses at the Emerald Campus aligns with this philosophy to create a better, more people-centered world through the traits of the [IB learner profile](#). The IB learner profile represents ten attributes valued by IB World Schools: Inquirer, Knowledgeable, Thinker, Communicator, Principled, Open-minded, Caring, Risk-taker, Balanced, and Reflective.

### IB Diploma

Although students can take individual IB Courses, we recommend the IB Diploma as the best preparation for a college or career by preparing students for effective participation in a rapidly evolving and increasingly global society as they:

- develop physically, intellectually, emotionally, and ethically
- acquire breadth and depth of knowledge and understanding
- develop the skills and a positive attitude toward learning that will prepare them for higher education and a career
- study a language and increase awareness of cultures
- make connections across traditional academic disciplines
- undertake in-depth research into an area of interest
- enhance their personal and interpersonal development through creativity, action, and service.

Students working toward earning an IB Diploma participate in a cohesive program of study that includes the following requirements:

- IB Diploma students choose one subject from each\* of the six groups ensuring breadth of knowledge and understanding in their best language, additional language(s), the

social sciences, experimental sciences, and mathematics. (\*Substitutions are available for Group VI.)

- [Complete the IB Core, which comprises Theory of Knowledge \(TOK\), Creativity, Activity, and Service \(CAS\), and an Extended Essay \(EE\).](#)

### **Our Courses**

Students can participate in the Diploma program courses or earn an *IB Diploma* awarded by the IBO. Each Dublin IB course is strategically selected to foster critical thinking and problem-solving, making our students better learners and better people passionate about creating a better world.

Courses are available in six subject groups. Students participating in the full IB Diploma must complete one course from each course group. Students not participating in the full IB Diploma but opting to take IB courses can choose a mix of individual courses at Emerald Campus. Students are encouraged to select at least **two** IB courses to make the most of their travel time from their home high school.

There are two levels of IB classes available: HL vs. SL. HL courses have a required number of class hours, which corresponds to two school years in length. HL courses have a more prescribed in-depth level curriculum than SL courses. The SL courses must be at least one school year in length but may extend across two years.

Review each group link below for in-depth info, or visit the Dublin course handbook-

#### **Group 1: English Language and Literature** [Learn more about the Group 1 course options](#)

These courses offer students an opportunity to gain a deeper appreciation of the English language's aspects through various texts. Critical thinking skills, modes of expression, and cultural awareness are all developed through listening, speaking, reading, and writing.

Options:

- English Language and Literature HL - 2 years
- English Literature and Performance SL - 1 year

#### **Group 2: Language Acquisition** [Learn more about the Group 2 course options](#)

These courses emphasize the acquisition and use of language in various contexts and for different purposes while promoting an understanding of another culture. Language B courses are intended for students who have some prior language knowledge. All Language B courses are taught at both the HL and SL levels.

Options:

- Chinese Language B SL - 2 years \*HL is not an offered course
- French Language B SL/HL - 2 years
- German Language B SL/HL - 2 years
- Spanish Language B SL/HL - 2 years

#### **Group 3: Individuals and Societies** [Learn more about the Group 3 course options](#)

These courses aid in the development of a critical appreciation of:

- human experience and behavior
- the varieties of physical, economic, and social environments that people inhabit
- the history of social and cultural institutions.

Options:

- Business Management SL - 1 year
- Global Politics SL - 1 year
- History HL - 2 years
- Psychology SL - 1 year
- Environmental Systems and Societies SL - 1 year (Also group 4)

#### Group 4: Experimental Sciences

[Learn more about the Group 4 course options](#)

These courses explore the concepts, theories, models, and techniques that underpin each subject area and develop their understanding of the scientific method. Through data collection and analysis, students gain valuable hands-on experience to further develop an awareness of the natural world.

##### Options:

- Chemistry HL - 2 years
- Computer Science SL/HL - 1 or 2 years
- Environmental Systems and Societies SL - 1 year (Also group 3)
- Physics SL - 1 year
- Sports, Exercise, and Health Science SL - 1 year

#### Group 5: Mathematics

[Learn more about the Group 5 course options](#)

These courses aim to help students:

- Develop mathematical knowledge, concepts, and principles
- Develop logical, critical, creative thinking, and problem-solving skills
- Employ and refine their powers of abstraction and generalization.

##### Options:

- Mathematics: Analysis and Approaches SL - 1 year/HL - 2 years
- Mathematics: Applications and Interpretation SL - 1 year

#### Group 6: The Arts

[Learn more about the Group 6 course](#)

Group 6 courses allow a high degree of adaptability to different cultural contexts. The emphasis is on creativity in the context of disciplined, practical research into the relevant genres. In addition, each subject is designed to foster critical, reflective, and informed practice, help students understand the dynamic and changing nature of the arts, explore the diversity of arts across time, places, and cultures, and express themselves with confidence and competence.

Note: Students may elect to study a different Group 2, 3, or 4 course instead of an arts course.

##### Options:

- Visual Arts SL/HL - 2 years

#### The Core

[Learn more about each core course](#)

The three components of The Core are required for students pursuing the IB Diploma. Students participating in at least four IB courses over four years may also take the IB Core.

The IB Core consists of three required components that collectively aim to broaden students' educational experience and challenge them to apply their knowledge and skills. Students participating in four or more IB courses over the junior and senior years may also schedule the IB Core.

- Theory of Knowledge (TOK): A course that encourages critical thinking, reflection, making connections across disciplines, and applying what is learned.
- Creativity, Activity, Service (CAS) promotes experiential learning through a range of artistic, sporting, physical, and community service activities.

- Extended Essay (EE): A 4,000-word research paper on a question or issue chosen by the student. The EE is excellent preparation for college-level inquiry and research!

### Official IB Assessments

Official IB Assessments are criterion-related, meaning student performance is measured against pre-specified assessment criteria based on the aims and objectives of each subject curriculum rather than the performance of other students taking the same examinations. The range of scores that students have attained remains statistically stable. Universities also value the rigor and consistency of the IB assessment practices. For each IB course, students receive grades ranging from 7 to 1, with 7 being the highest. Students receive a grade for each IB course attempted.

Assessment Example: IB Literature

11th Grade: Reflective Paper on a text of your choice from the curriculum (20% of IB score)

12th Grade: Presentation on a text of your choice (20% of IB Score)

End of 12th Grade: Exams that assess the ability to write a response to a passage of literature (60% of IB score)

Whether a student chooses to participate in the IB Diploma Program or take individual IB courses, they will complete the prescribed IB assessments for each course. However, they have the **option (new for 24-25)** to register with IB for the assessment. Each course's internal and external assessments are associated with an IB subject fee. This fee is covered for students who qualify for the free and reduced lunch program.

### Earning the IB Diploma

Students must meet several requirements to earn the official IB Diploma-

- Enrolling in and successfully completing six IB subjects over two years.
  - Taking three courses at the HL level (maximum of four)
- Successful completing The IB Core
  - Writing an original essay (the Extended Essay) of approximately 4000 words.
  - Taking the Theory of Knowledge (TOK) class for two years (includes an exhibition and essay completion)
  - Completing the CAS requirements
- Taking IB examinations in each of the six subject areas (only two can be taken during the first year).
  - Please note that students can take additional subject courses, but only six of those courses count towards the IB Diploma.
- Earning a MINIMUM of 24 out of 45 total points on the six subject course exams (IB exam scores are on a scale of 1 – 7 = average of 4 on all exams) and The Core with a-
  - Combined MINIMUM of 12 points on HL subject exams (for candidates who register for four HL subjects, the three highest grades count)
  - Combined MINIMUM of 9 points on SL subject exams (5 points if 2 SL courses are taken)
  - No exam scores of 1 or N (not submitted)
  - No more than two exam scores of 2
  - Extended Essay grade of A, B, C or D (No grade E or N)
  - Theory of Knowledge (TOK) grade of A, B, C or D (No grade E or N)
- No penalties for academic dishonesty

### Additional Subjects

Students may choose to take additional subjects and test in additional subjects by choice, but subjects deemed as additional will not count toward the IB Diploma.

### Sample Schedules

Sample Full Diploma Student Schedules (8 period day at EC)

	11th Grade	12th Grade
Period 1:	IB English Lit HL yr 1	IB English Lit HL yr 2
Period 2:	IB Spanish HL yr 1	IB Spanish HL yr 2
Period 3:	IB Global Politics SL	(Non-IB Elective/Study Hall)
Period 4:	IB Chem HL yr 1	IB Chem HL yr 2
Period 5:	IB Math AA SL	IB TOK & Core
Period 6:	IB TOK & Core/Lunch	Lunch
Period 7:	IB Psychology SL	Non-IB Elective/Study Hall

### Grading:

Grade Percentage Weight

Grades for IB are awarded on the IB/Advanced Placement(AP)/College Credit Plus (CCP)

A	93-100	5.00	C+	77-79	3.33
A-	90-92	4.67	C	73-76	3.00
B+	87-89	4.33	C-	70-72	2.67
B	83-86	4.00			
B-	80-82	3.67			

\*\*AP, IB, and CCP courses receive an additional 1.00 value. Courses with grades of D+ and lower do not receive the added point weighting.

### Benefits of IB

The IB program at Dublin City Schools provides students with a competitive advantage in our increasingly connected global economy. The IB Diploma is not only built on a cohesive multi-faceted approach aimed at developing students who can flourish physically, intellectually, emotionally, and ethically; it is also well-known worldwide for the high quality of the coursework and the extensive training required of all staff.

View this [YouTube video](#) to hear why our Dublin grads appreciate their IB experience!

[Research](#) suggests that choosing the Diploma Program (DP) has many benefits. Read [more here](#) about the benefits of the IB.

### Graduation Requirements

Requirements for graduation from Dublin Coffman, Dublin Jerome, and Dublin Scioto High School meet the minimum standards established by the State of Ohio and the Board of Education of the Dublin City Schools. To graduate with a diploma from DCS, students must also meet the DCS requirements to earn the DCS Diploma.

Many IB course options can also count as a graduation requirement. Still, students should work closely with their home school counselor to meet graduation requirements. It is recommended that the personal finance, health, and physical education (or waiver) requirements be completed before entering the program.

## **Honors Diploma**

Students graduating in the State of Ohio may earn an Honors Diploma. Completing the IB Diploma moves students toward the prerequisites for earning the State of Ohio Honors Diploma. See all requirements in the [Dublin Student Handbook](#). Note The International Baccalaureate Diploma Program alone does not meet the requirements of the Honors Diploma. Students must complete all requirements of the IB Diploma Program in addition to the requirements above.

## **Seal of Bi-literacy**

Students graduating in the State of Ohio may earn a Seal of Bi-literacy. This seal recognizes graduating seniors who can demonstrate high levels of proficiency in English and at least one other language. One way to show proficiency in another language is through the International Baccalaureate HL or SL World Language exam. See all requirements in the Dublin Student Handbook.

## **International Baccalaureate School Requirements**

Schools must first be authorized and participate in an ongoing review and development process using the same program standards and practices to offer the IB Diploma Program. The IB Diploma Program started within Dublin City Schools in 2009 in each of the three high schools and consolidated into the Dublin Emerald Campus in 2019. Dublin Emerald Campus participated in the 5-year evaluation process and is renewed through 2026. As part of the ongoing review and development of the learning community, the teachers and staff at Emerald Campus regularly participate in a wide range of high-quality professional development opportunities. Each helps experienced and expert school leaders and educators understand, support, and successfully deliver IB programs reflecting IB standards and practices.

## **IB Procedures:**

- [Academic Honesty](#)
- [Admissions](#)
- [Assessment](#)
- [Language](#)
- [Special Education](#)
- [Internal Complaints Procedure](#)

## **References**

For more information, review the [IBO website](#) and the [DP Regulation](#)

## **Updated:**

IB Team 8/24