



Sawyer Road Elementary

A Comprehensive Guide for Parents on the International Baccalaureate Primary Years Programme

Welcome to the PYP IB Program

What is the PYP IB Program?

The Primary Years Programme (PYP) of the International Baccalaureate (IB) is an innovative educational curriculum designed for children aged 3 to 12. It is part of the globally recognized International Baccalaureate continuum of education, which encourages students to develop a lifelong love of learning. The PYP focuses on the holistic development of the whole child as an inquirer, both in the classroom and in the world outside.

Learner Profiles

The PYP IB Program emphasizes the development of specific learner profiles that embody a range of human capacities and responsibilities, going beyond academic success. These profiles aim to develop students into well-rounded individuals who contribute positively to their communities.

1. Inquirers

- Students nurture their curiosity, developing skills for inquiry and research. They learn independently and with others, demonstrating a love for lifelong learning.

2. Knowledgeable

- Learners explore concepts, ideas, and issues that have local and global significance. They acquire in-depth knowledge across a broad and balanced range of disciplines.

3. Thinkers

- Students apply critical and creative thinking skills to analyze and take responsible action on complex problems. They exercise initiative in making reasoned, ethical decisions.

4. Communicators

- Learners understand and express ideas confidently and creatively in more than one language and in a variety of modes of communication. They collaborate effectively, listening carefully to the perspectives of others.

5. Principled

- Students act with integrity and honesty, with a strong sense of fairness and justice, and with respect for the dignity and rights of people everywhere. They take responsibility for their actions and their consequences.

6. **Open-minded**

- Learners appreciate their own cultures and personal histories, as well as the values and traditions of others. They seek and evaluate a range of points of view and are willing to grow from the experience.

7. **Caring**

- Students show empathy, compassion, and respect. They have a commitment to service, and they act to make a positive difference in the lives of others and in the world around them.

8. **Risk-takers**

- Learners approach uncertainty with forethought and determination; they work independently and cooperatively to explore new ideas and innovative strategies. They are resourceful and resilient in the face of challenges and change.

9. **Balanced**

- Students understand the importance of balancing different aspects of their lives—intellectual, physical, and emotional—to achieve well-being for themselves and others. They recognize their interdependence with other people and with the world in which they live.

10. **Reflective**

- Learners thoughtfully consider the world and their own ideas and experiences. They work to understand their strengths and weaknesses in order to support their learning and personal development.

These profiles are integral to the PYP IB Program, guiding students towards achieving their fullest potential while fostering a spirit of empathy and understanding of the globally recognized International Baccalaureate continuum of education.

Key Features of PYP

- **Inquiry-Based Learning:** Encourages students to ask questions, explore, and engage deeply with the subjects.
- **Transdisciplinary Themes:** Cross-curricular themes that help students make connections between subjects and the real world.
- **Student-Centered Approach:** Focuses on the needs, abilities, and interests of each child.
- **Global Citizenship:** Encourages students to understand and respect cultures and perspectives different from their own.
- **Holistic Development:** Emphasizes intellectual, personal, emotional, and social growth.

Benefits for Your Child

- **Critical Thinking:** Cultivates analytical skills and the ability to approach problems creatively.
- **Confidence and Independence:** Promotes self-motivation and independence in learning.
- **International Mindedness:** Prepares students for a globally interconnected world.
- **Communication Skills:** Enhances verbal and written communication abilities.
- **Ethical Understanding:** Develops a strong sense of ethics and responsibility.

The PYP Framework

The PYP curriculum framework consists of five essential elements:

1. **Knowledge:** What we want students to know about.
2. **Concepts:** Powerful ideas that have relevance within and across subject areas.
3. **Skills:** Capabilities students need to succeed in a changing, challenging world.
4. **Attitudes:** Dispositions that are expressions of fundamental values, beliefs, and feelings about learning.
5. **Action:** Demonstrations of deeper learning in responsible behavior through responsible action.

How Parents Can Get Involved

- **Stay Informed:** Attend school meetings and workshops to understand the PYP framework.
- **Support Inquiry at Home:** Encourage your child's curiosity by exploring topics of interest together.
- **Foster a Global Perspective:** Introduce your child to different cultures through books, travel, and discussions.
- **Engage in School Activities:** Participate in school events and volunteer opportunities.

Contact Us

For more information about the PYP IB Program, please feel free to reach out to our dedicated team. We are here to support you and your child on this exciting journey.

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We look forward to welcoming you and your child to our learning community!