



IB PYP and Davis Elementary Frequently Asked Questions

What is International Baccalaureate (IB)?

IB is an internationally-recognized rigorous academic program that prepares students for success in school and beyond. Students who graduate high school with an IB diploma are accepted to the most prestigious universities, both in the US and abroad. Davis Elementary is currently a Candidate IB school, and we are working towards earning full IB Authorization. As a candidate elementary school, Davis is putting in place the IB Primary Years Programme (PYP).

What is the IB Learner Profile?

The IB Learner Profile consists of 10 attributes that IB students are encouraged to develop as students in an IB World School, in order to be contributing members of the local and global community. The 10 attributes are:

- Inquirers
- Knowledgeable
- Thinkers
- Communicators
- Principled
- Open- minded
- Caring
- Risk-takers
- Balanced
- Reflective.

(pneumonic: “I Know That Caring People Often Create Really Beautiful Realities.”)

What is the IB PYP curriculum?

Transdisciplinary Units of Study allow for learning information within broad themes, to help students make real-world connections (and avoid fragmentation). The 6 transdisciplinary themes for the PYP are:

- Who we are.
- Where we are in place and time.
- How we express ourselves.
- How the world works.
- How we organize ourselves.
- Sharing the planet.

Inquiry-based--allows students to ask questions and explore answers

Project-based--allows students to be problem solvers, and engages students in hands-on activities

Globally-minded- Our goal is to help students be engaged local and global citizens. In addition to English, we implement one 30-minute period per week of Spanish instruction. This honors the language that many in our community already speak, and also broadens horizons in our students, that English is one of many languages in our world community.

Our Global Language at Davis is Spanish!

Our students in grades 2-6 receive one Spanish class per week. This class honors the Spanish language as a wonderful asset in our community that is extremely valuable for our students, it exposes our students to academic Spanish, and it sets students on the path to eventually be able to qualify for the California Seal of Biliteracy when they graduate from high school in 12th grade.

Which IB program goes with which grade levels?

Primary Years Programme (PYP) is for TK-6. The PYP is for ALL students. It is not an honors program. Davis is the only school in Santa Ana that is a candidate to become an authorized IB PYP school.

Middle Years Programme (MYP) is for grades 7-10. In SAUSD, Saddleback is the school that offers the MYP. This is a rigorous program that requires a student to apply and be accepted.

Diploma Programme (DP) is for grades 11-12. In SAUSD, Saddleback is the school that offers the DP. This is a rigorous program that requires a student to apply and be accepted.

Is IB PYP an Honors Program?

ALL students at Davis are IB PYP students. It is not a track, or for “gifted” students. ALL students benefit from the higher-order thinking and inquiry-based learning activities in the PYP classroom. Starting in 7th grade at the MYP, students must apply for the program and qualify at Saddleback, so it does function in practice as more of an honors program if students wish to continue with IB MYP in 7th-12th grade.

Are Davis students guaranteed a spot in the MYP and DP at Saddleback after 6th grade?

No, Davis students must apply and interview in order to be considered for acceptance into the MYP program at Saddleback. At Davis, teachers will prepare students for the application process, in case they choose to apply for the MYP program.

What choices do Davis 6th graders have, when choosing their path to 7th grade and beyond?

- Attend intermediate school at neighborhood schools, such as Sierra and Willard.
- Apply for MYP program at Saddleback
- Apply for lottery to enroll in fundamental schools such as Mendez, MacArthur, Villa

What if students are below grade level in reading and math foundational skills?

At Davis, portions of the school day are dedicated to reading instruction offered to students at their point of need, whether that be below grade level, or on grade level. In math, students who are below grade level standards receive math intervention to help them catch up according to the Delta math program. The PYP implementation does not conflict with daily reading and math intervention/foundational skills.

How does 6th grade at Davis compare to 6th grade at Willard, Sierra, etc...?

- Davis 6th grade uses the same textbooks and has the same standards as all other intermediate schools.
- Davis 6th grade has one teacher in one classroom for all subject areas, just like in 5th grade. (At traditional intermediate schools, the students have 5 or 6 teachers--one for each subject area, and they switch from classroom to classroom throughout the day.) Davis is one of three schools in SAUSD that are TK-6. The others are Madison and Taft.
- Davis 6th graders do not dress out for PE.
- Davis does not plan to continue expanding beyond 6th grade. Having 6th grade allows students to prepare to apply for the MYP program at Saddleback, if they wish. After 6th (or 5th) grade at Davis, students may enroll at an intermediate school of their choice.

How long does it take to become an authorized IB PYP World School?

It usually takes two years to develop the transdisciplinary units of study, to implement them, and then to apply for authorization.

How does being an IB PYP school align with being a Community School?

Our efforts to become an authorized IB school were born in our Community School Leadership Council meetings, in which we identified needs to give students a rigorous, engaging curriculum, as well as to give students a 6th grade year in a nurturing elementary school environment (both of which are key practices of our Community School strategy). The IB emphasizes that students have community-connected instruction, and IB allows students to expand this instruction to be globally-minded citizens.

How does being an IB PYP school align with the SAUSD Graduate Profile?

There is complete alignment between the IB Learner Profile and the SAUSD Graduate Profile, as evidenced by the table below:

SAUSD Graduate Profile	IB Learner Profile
<p>Students are: World-Ready Scholars Architects of Learning Collaborative Leaders Global Innovators Empathetic Communicators Community Builders</p> <p>Students are supported by instruction that is personalized, authentic, competency based, equitable and inclusive.</p>	<p>Students are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Inquirers ● knowledgeable ● Thinkers ● Communicators ● Principled ● Open-minded ● Caring ● Risk-takers ● Balanced ● Reflective

	<p>The aim of IB programs is to develop internationally minded people who, recognizing their common humanity and shared guardianship of the planet, help to create a better and more peaceful world.</p>
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