

Secondary School



Curriculum Guide



PDF Version





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Learning as an IB student in the Secondary School



Our Vision

To create an inspiring world of education by building self belief and empowering individuals to succeed.



Our Mission

We inspire wellbeing and learning so that our diverse, internationally-minded community flourish as energized, engaged and empowered learners.



Our Values



Curiosity



Achievement



Resilience



Empathy



IB learner profile

The aim of all IB programmes 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.

As IB learners we strive to be:

INQUIRERS

We nurture our curiosity, developing skills for inquiry and research. We know how to learn independently and with others. We learn with enthusiasm and sustain our love of learning throughout life.

KNOWLEDGEABLE

We develop and use conceptual understanding, exploring knowledge across a range of disciplines. We engage with issues and ideas that have local and global significance.

THINKERS

We use critical and creative thinking skills to analyse and take responsible action on complex problems. We exercise initiative in making reasoned, ethical decisions.

COMMUNICATORS

We express ourselves confidently and creatively in more than one language and in many ways. We collaborate effectively, listening carefully to the perspectives of other individuals and groups.

PRINCIPLED

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

OPEN-MINDED

We critically appreciate our own cultures and personal histories, as well as the values and traditions of others. We seek and evaluate a range of points of view, and we are willing to grow from the experience.

CARING

We show empathy, compassion and respect. We have a commitment to service, and we act to make a positive difference in the lives of others and in the world around us.

RISK-TAKERS

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

BALANCED

We understand the importance of balancing different aspects of our lives—intellectual, physical, and emotional—to achieve wellbeing for ourselves and others. We recognize our interdependence with other people and with the world in which we live.

REFLECTIVE

We thoughtfully consider the world and our own ideas and experience. We work to understand our strengths and weaknesses in order to support our learning and personal development.

The IB learner profile represents 10 attributes valued by IB World Schools. We believe these attributes, and others like them, can help individuals and groups become responsible members of local, national and global communities.



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A Skill Set for Lifelong Learning: ATL Skills

Integral to all learning in our IB programmes are the ‘approaches to learning’ (ATL) skills, the vehicle by which students can develop their IB Learner Profile characteristics. Students are encouraged to learn, practice, and develop these ATL skills throughout secondary school in order to thrive as independent learners.

At ISHCMC these skills are taught and practiced in both the Middle Years Programme (MYP) and Diploma Programme (DP), through subject areas and the Advisory/Wellbeing program. See page 53 for more information on the latter.

The five ATL categories in the Diploma	Broken down into 10 ‘clusters’ in the MYP	The essence of each ATL skill
Communication	Communication	Exchanging ideas through interaction and via reading, writing and use of language.
Social	Collaboration	Working cooperatively with others.
Self-management	Organization	Effectively managing time and tasks.
	Affective skills	Learning how to remain focused, to demonstrate persistence and perseverance, and the determination to bounce back from disappointments.
	Reflection	Learning how to learn more by considering what has already been taught and learned.
Research	Information literacy	Finding, interpreting, judging and creating information.
	Media literacy	Using information from a variety of media sources, and demonstrating awareness of media’s interpretations of events and ideas, and their impact.
Thinking	Critical thinking	Interpreting and evaluating evidence to develop opposing arguments, and to draw reasonable conclusions.
	Creative thinking	The skills of invention: developing ideas that previously did not exist.
	Transfer	Using skills and knowledge in multiple contexts.

Adapted from taolearn.com

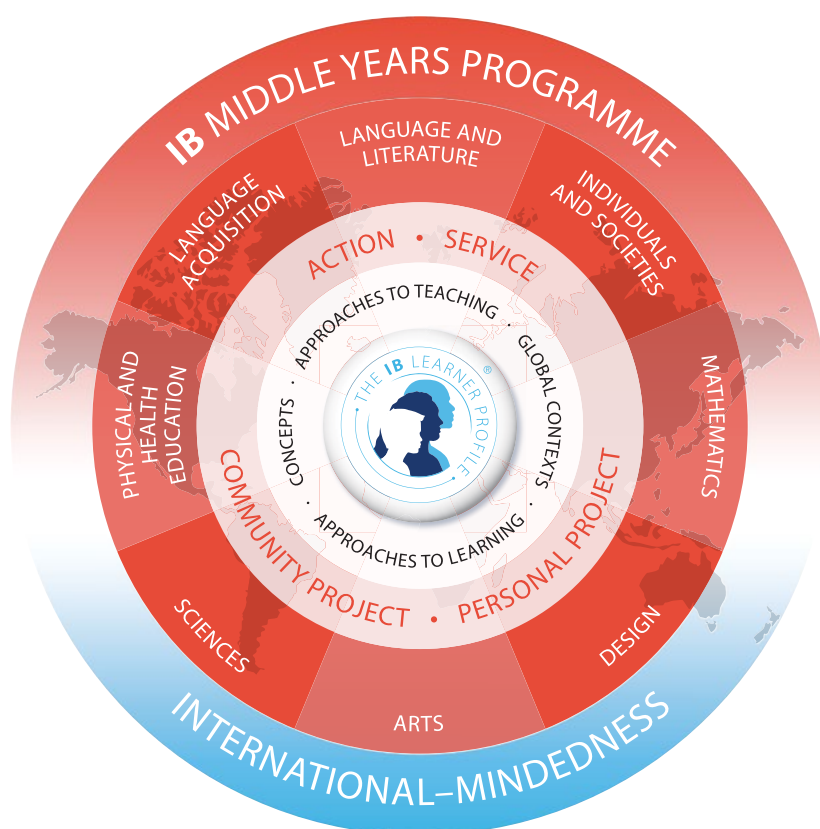
Surveys of university admissions officers and employers firmly make the case for learning ATL skills. It has been consistently shown that qualities such as the ability to be an effective communicator, a team player and a critical thinker, rank highest when interviewing prospective university candidates or potential employees.



The Middle Years Programme (MYP)



Courses and Pathways explained



IB MYP Model

The Middle Years Programme (MYP) is a curriculum designed for students aged 11 to 16, a particularly critical phase of personal and intellectual development. It builds upon the inquiry-based approach to learning developed in the IB Primary Years Programme (PYP) and prepares students for the academic rigor of the IB Diploma Programme.

Learning in the MYP focuses on

Approaches to Learning: the essential skills needed for successful learning (see page 7)

Concepts: big ideas that have relevance within and across subject areas

Global Contexts: lenses through which students make connections with the real world

Service-learning: meaningful action arising from the curriculum

Authentic assessments: real-life challenges and problems that students are presented with, often with a genuine audience in mind

Connecting subjects: interdisciplinary teaching and learning enables students to transfer knowledge, concepts, and skills across the eight different subject areas.

10 Reasons



Middle Years Programme

why the IB Middle Years Programme (MYP) encourages you to become a creative, critical and reflective learner

1



Become a life-long learner

Learn 'how to learn' using communication, research, self-management, collaboration and critical thinking skills.

2



Learn by doing and experiencing

Through the MYP community project you learn to service the community and connect what you learn in the classroom to "real life".

3



The MYP encourages critical thinking

It teaches you to analyse and evaluate issues, generate novel ideas and consider new perspectives.

5



Learn for understanding

Not just to memorize facts or topics and prepare for exams.

4



Explore global challenges

The MYP helps you increase your understanding of the world by exploring globally significant ideas and issues.

6



Train yourself to:

- organize and plan your work
- meet deadlines
- concentrate
- bounce back
- persist
- think positively.

7



Subjects are not taught in isolation

You are encouraged to make connections between subjects.

8



It empowers you to develop your talents

Feel empowered to prove what you know and earn the MYP certificate or MYP course results.

10



It encourages international-mindedness

The MYP helps you critically appreciate your own culture and personal history, as well as the values and traditions of others.

9



It prepares you for future education

Prepare yourself for the IB Diploma Programme or IB Career-related Programme delivered by IB World Schools globally.



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A conceptual framework

Each MYP subject area is framed by 'key concepts', big ideas that add depth to a student's learning and as a way to make connections between subject areas. More subject-specific 'related concepts' are used to add breadth to their learning. Each unit uses inquiry approaches to teaching and learning to develop this conceptual understanding.

The MYP identifies 16 key concepts that are explored across the curriculum:



Global Contexts

Students learn best when their learning has a context that is connected to their lives and to the world that they experience.

Using six interdisciplinary 'Global Contexts' the MYP emphasizes the importance of learning in and about real-life experiences and situations.

Each MYP unit is framed by one of these Global Contexts:



Identities & Relationships

Who am I?
Who are we?



Scientific & Technical Innovation

How do we understand the world in which we live?



Orientation in Space & Time

Where?
When?



Fairness & Development

What are the consequences of our common humanity?



Globalization & Sustainability

How is everything connected?



Personal & Cultural Expression

What is the nature and purpose of creative expression?

MYP Subject Area Overview

Subject areas	An overview on each
English and additional languages	<p>All students take an English course - either Language & Literature or Language Acquisition depending on a student's level of proficiency.</p> <p>As well as their English course, students take one of the following courses in another language:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Korean Language & Literature • Vietnamese (all Vietnamese nationals) Language & Literature • Dutch Language & Literature (in Grades 9 & 10 only) • French Language Acquisition • Mandarin Language Acquisition • Spanish Language Acquisition <p>Another alternative is to choose a Mother Tongue (Language & Literature) course if a suitable tutor can be found (and at an extra cost).</p> <p>Students that are in the lower phase English Acquisition class ("capable") in Grades 6 to 9 will join an additional English support class (EAL) instead of these other language options.</p>
Individuals & Societies	An integrated course combining Business Management, Economics, Geography, History and Psychology.
Sciences	An integrated course combining Biology, Chemistry, Environmental Systems and Physics.
Mathematics	An integrated course focusing on Number, Algebra, Geometry and Trigonometry, and Statistics and Probability.
Design and The Arts	<p>Grade 6 & 7: students are given semester-long 'taster' courses in a range of Design/Arts including Drama, Music, Visual Arts, Digital Design, Food Design, Product Design and an interdisciplinary unit in the Arts.</p> <p>Grade 8: students choose semester-long courses - two out of three in Design (Digital, Food or Product) and two out of three in The Arts (Drama, Music or Visual Arts).</p> <p>Grade 9: students choose four semester-long courses in Design (Product, Digital, Food) and The Arts (Drama, Music or Visual Arts), ensuring that they choose at least one course from each of the two subject areas.</p> <p>Grade 10: students choose one year-long course from Design, Drama, Music or Visual Arts.</p>
Physical & Health Education	A course that integrates physical activity and learning about how to be healthy.

Students also learn via interdisciplinary units in all grades, combining two or more subject areas to synthesise their knowledge and understanding

Language & Literature

ISHCMC offers a Language & Literature course in English, Vietnamese, Korean, and Dutch (Grades 9 & 10 only). Students need to have reached a high level of English proficiency to join an English Language & Literature class, and should attend an English Language Acquisition class until they are ready to do so. Please see the Language Acquisition overview on the next two pages for further information.

All Vietnamese nationals take Vietnamese Language & Literature to meet the requirements of the Vietnamese government. They therefore take two Language & Literature courses (English and Vietnamese), and no Language Acquisition course.

Most Korean students do the same as Vietnamese students, but this is a choice made by parents.

If parents choose that their son or daughter takes a Language & Literature course in another language, the school can provide the venue and give support in finding a tutor. The additional cost of a tutor for this option is borne by the parents.

Aims

The aims of MYP Language & Literature are to encourage and enable students to:

- develop the skills involved in listening, speaking, reading, writing, viewing and presenting in a variety of contexts
- develop critical, creative and personal approaches to studying and analyzing literary and non-literary texts
- explore and analyze aspects of personal, host and other cultures through literary and non-literary texts
- explore the language through a variety of media and modes
- develop a lifelong interest in reading

Examples of inquiries in Language & Literature include:

Grade 7 students perform their own interpretation of a scene in Shakespeare's "Midsummer Night's Dream" in order to discover its relevance today.

Grade 8 students analyze literary and contemporary persuasive speeches to explore how language is used to convey power.

Grade 9 students study various short stories to explore how audiences' emotions can be affected through the style of creative writing.

Grade 10 students seek to understand how freedom of expression can lead to social and political conflict through Marjane Satrapi's *Persepolis*.

Language Acquisition

The ability to communicate in more than one language is essential to an education that promotes multilingualism and intercultural understanding, both of which are central to learning as an IB student.

There are six phases (phase 1-6) in any Language Acquisition subject and teachers decide the most suitable phase in which to place individual students based on their skills and knowledge of the language. This phase level is monitored periodically through writing samples and other data points.

Aims

The aims of the teaching and learning of MYP Language Acquisition are to:

- develop respect for and an understanding of other languages and cultural heritages
- gain proficiency in an additional language while supporting the maintenance of a student's Mother Tongue and cultural heritage
- develop a student's communication skills necessary for further language learning
- foster curiosity, inquiry and a lifelong interest in, and enjoyment of, language learning.

Possible pathways in Language Acquisition

Language Acquisition is for students with little or no experience in the language and Language Acquisition in French, Spanish, Mandarin and English aim to build these developing language skills. The possible pathways for students include:

French/Mandarin/Spanish

Students entering ISHCMC in Grades 6 - 10 may choose to join a Language Acquisition class in either French, Mandarin or Spanish. As a requirement of the MYP, students have to continue in their chosen language for the duration of their MYP years. The aim is for students to build the language skills for further study in the language at the Diploma level at either Higher Level or Standard Level.

English Language Acquisition

Students entering ISHCMC with a WIDA score of below 4 (Grades 6 - 8) and below 5.5 (Grades 9 - 10) take English Language Acquisition instead of English Language & Literature.

In Grades 6 - 9, there are two English Language Acquisition classes: Proficient (higher phases) and Capable (lower phases, where students also join an EAL class to fast-track their English skills instead of another language).

Mother Tongue students

Students entering ISHCMC are encouraged to continue their mother tongue instead of another language and the school will offer support in finding a suitable tutor if required. The aim of this pathway is for students to continue their mother language(s) to study either Literature or Language & Literature in the IB Diploma Programme.

Examples of inquiries in Language Acquisition include:

To acquire basic grammar structures, Grade 6 students look and explore patterns in their new language.

Using the concept of wellbeing, Grade 8 students inquire into how diets and exercise patterns vary in different cultures by comparing lifestyles in the target language.

Grade 10 students explore contemporary social issues in the country (countries) of the target language and express their opinions and interests on these subjects.

Individuals & Societies

MYP Individuals & Societies integrates Business, Economics, Geography, History, and Psychology. Students inquire and learn from a number of perspectives, bringing together knowledge and conceptual understandings from the different disciplines within the subject area.

Note: In other educational systems the Individuals & Societies course is often called Humanities or Social Studies.

Aims

The aims of MYP Individuals & Societies are to encourage and enable students to:

- understand the interactions and interdependence of individuals, societies and the environment
- identify and develop a concern for the well-being of human communities and the natural environment
- act as responsible citizens of local and global communities
- develop inquiry skills that lead towards conceptual understandings of the relationships between individuals, societies and the environments in which they live.

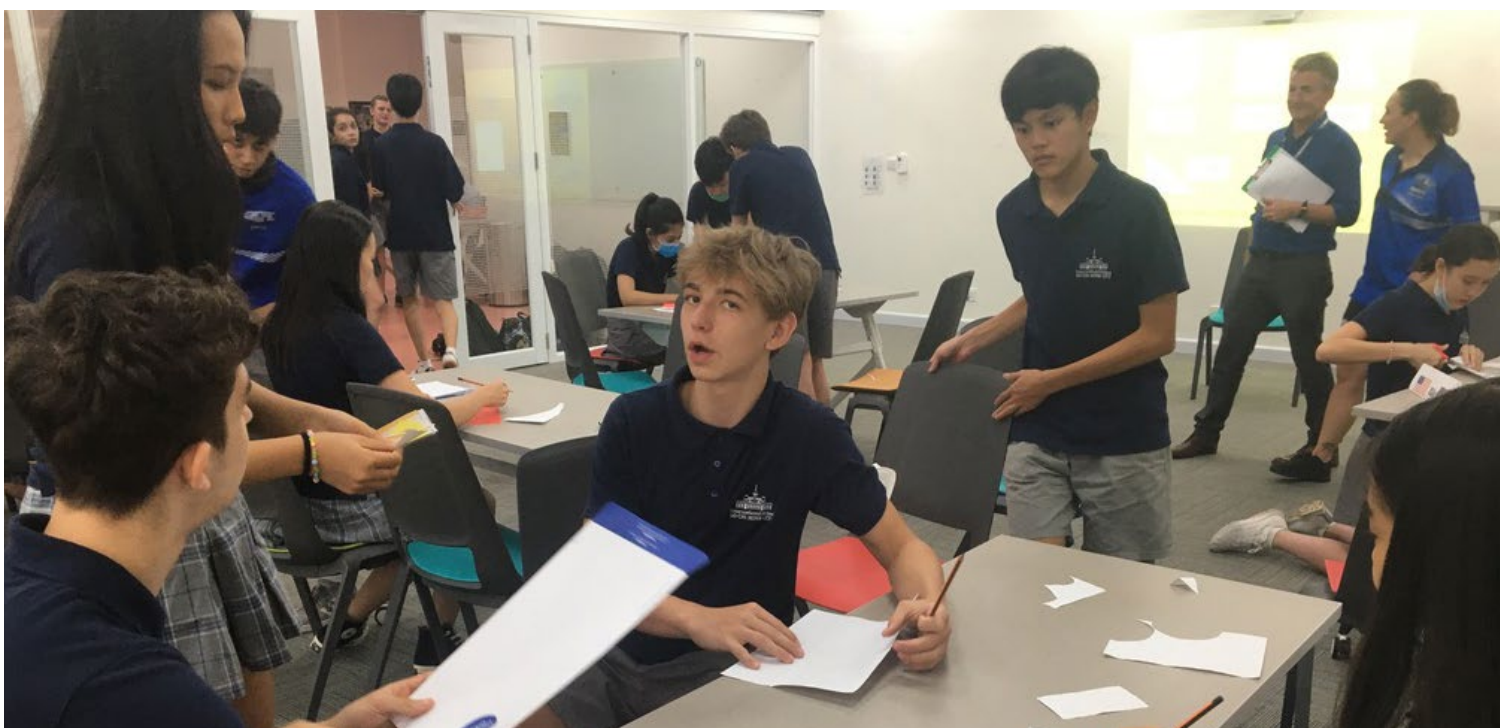
Examples of Inquiries in Individuals & Societies include:

Grade 7 students study the discovery and colonisation of the “New World” and evaluate the lasting consequences.

Within small groups, Grade 8 students complete a research project and present their findings on the greatest migrations in human history from different perspectives.

After learning about different behavioral psychology theories, Grade 9 students choose one of them to conduct their own investigation into how relationships could be improved for one specific group within the ISHCMC community.

Students learn about difficult choices made within economic systems and use their own research of experiences of other economies to create a manifesto for the future economy of Vietnam.



Sciences

The MYP Sciences course at ISHCMC allows students to develop critical and analytical thinking skills. MYP Sciences in each grade level is a combination of Biology, Chemistry, Physics and Environmental Systems, which ensures that students are well prepared for the Diploma Programme courses ahead.

Aims

The aims of MYP Sciences are to encourage and enable students to:

- understand and apply scientific knowledge to become scientifically literate inquirers
- think critically to solve problems through research and experimentation
- develop skills to design and perform investigations, evaluate evidence and reach conclusions
- develop sensitivity towards the living and non-living environments.

Examples of inquiries in the Sciences include:

Grade 7 students make a documentary about the impacts of humans on local mangrove forests.

Grade 8 students explore how climate changes over time and how human actions are involved.

Grade 9 students learn Newton's three laws and design an experiment to investigate them in real life.

Grade 10 students audit the school's use of energy and make recommendations to address the identified areas with issues.

Mathematics

The study of Mathematics is a fundamental part of a balanced education. As students progress through the MYP, the curriculum emphasises understanding mathematical concepts, logical communication of ideas and transferring conceptual skills into real-life applications.

At ISHCMC all students have the opportunity to study Mathematics at an appropriate level. From Grade 8 students are placed into three separate pathways based on their ability to grasp and apply concepts taught in Grades 6 and 7. These courses are designed for students to access both IB Diploma Mathematics courses: Analysis & Approaches and Applications & Interpretation.

The Further Mathematics course is the pathway designed for students who are exceptional at Mathematics and intending on studying the Analysis and Approaches course at an HL Level. The Extended Level course is the pathway for students to study the IB Diploma courses at any level and the Standard Level course is the pathway for students to study the IB Diploma courses at Standard Level only.

Calculators: A CASIO FX 9860 calculator is required from Grade 9 - the calculator costs VND 3,000,000 and is available from the ISHCMC uniform shop.

Aims

The aims of MYP Mathematics encourage and enable students to:

- develop logical, critical and creative thinking
- develop confidence, perseverance, and independence in mathematical thinking and problem solving
- develop powers of generalization and abstraction
- apply and transfer skills to a wide range of real-life situations

Examples of inquiries in Mathematics include:

Grade 6 students investigate the space and shape of different parks to design and build their own park using scale factor and considering real-life implications of their decisions.

Grade 8 students take on the role of graphic designers to discover the art of mathematics. They construct an image using linear and nonlinear functions, restricting the domain and range and shading, using inequalities. They communicate the process and assess their design against the client's design specifications.

Grade 9 students connect with PYP students during a 'Chance Carnival'. They are tasked to use their understanding of probability to design a game based on chance that will be suitable for Studio Four and Five learners.

Grade 10 students use patterns and functions to investigate how they are going to pay for university, by making regular payments over a number of years.



Design

MYP Design links innovation with creativity and inquiry and problem solving lie at the very heart of the course. Students learn how to think beyond their personal ‘bubbles’ by examining a problem critically, and unleashing their creativity, while continuously reflecting on what could be done to modify and improve.

MYP design requires the use of the ‘design cycle’ as a tool - this provides the methodology used to structure the analysis of problems, the creation of feasible solutions, and the testing and evaluation of the proposed solution which could be a prototype, product or system that has been developed independently and/or collaboratively.

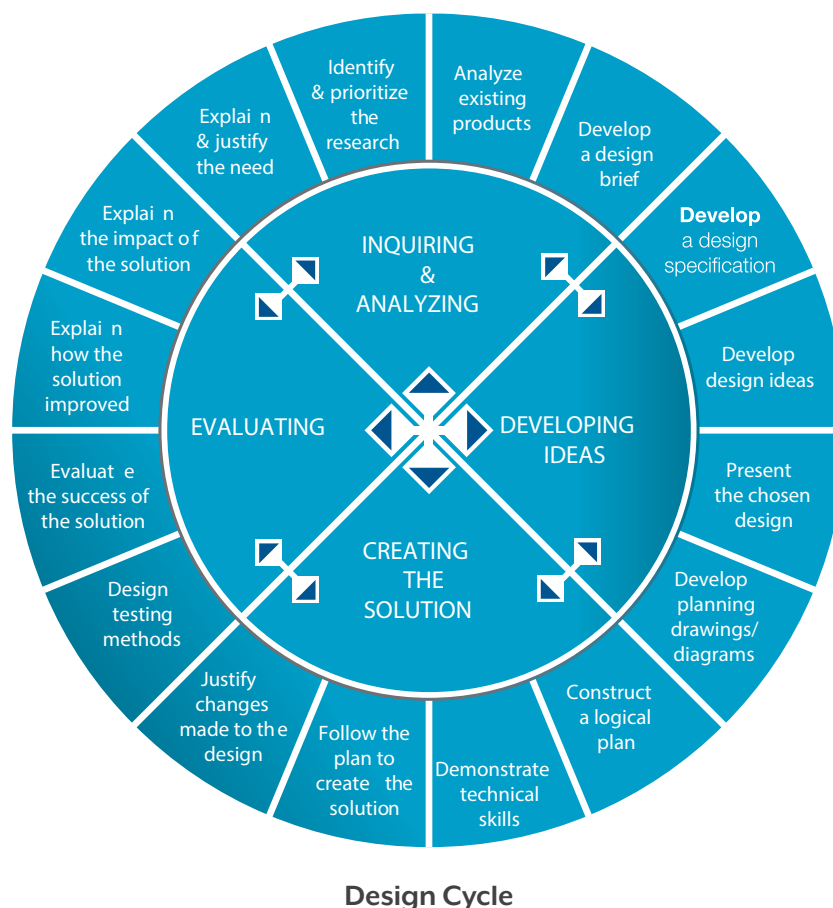
Aims

The aims of MYP Design are to encourage and enable students to:

- develop knowledge, understanding and skills from different disciplines to design and create solutions to problems using the design cycle
- apply technology effectively as a means to access, process and communicate information
- solve problems through modeling and creating solutions
- develop an appreciation of the impact of design innovations for a global society, making connections between user needs and possible solutions

In Grades 6 - 7, students rotate throughout the year and experience courses in Digital Design, Product Design, Textile Design and Food Design.

From Grade 8, students can choose from a range of semester-long Design courses themselves, until Grade 10 when students can choose Design as a year-long course.



Digital Design

Students develop a range of fundamental computer programming skills to create digital products such as animated graphics and visual displays. The course leads on to more advanced skills such as robotics and student-led projects that encompass and develop their prior learning to solve problems.

An example of an inquiry in Digital Design includes:

In Grade 8, students consider how robotics can aid in solving the everyday problems that surround us, and consider the ethical implications in the use of robotics and/or the replacement of the human workforce.

Product Design

Students are introduced to the safe use of a range of workshop tools, techniques and processes to develop the skills required to design and create practical products/solutions to problems. CAD-CAM, such as 3D printing, plays a larger role as students progress through each grade and are used as a resource for prototyping and testing ideas.

An example of an inquiry in Product Design includes:

In Grade 10, instead of being asked to simply make a chair, students are first asked to question, what makes a chair, a chair? This initial question then informs their research and ultimately, their final product.

Food Design

Students build a fundamental understanding of how to be safe and hygienic in the kitchen while being introduced to culinary basics. They will develop an understanding of how ingredients work in relation to each other while creatively manipulating their functions to create a variety of food products.

An example of an inquiry in Food Design includes:

Grade 8 students explore different ingredients as they develop their own menus and work collectively as a kitchen system.



The Arts

The Arts are a universal form of human expression and a unique form of knowing study that engages us in effective, imaginative and productive activities. Learning through the Arts helps us to explore, shape and communicate our sense of identity and individuality.

Aims

The aims of MYP Arts are to encourage and enable students to:

- engage in a process of creative exploration and self-discovery
- make purposeful connections between investigation and practice
- understand the relationship between the Arts and their contexts
- respond to and reflect on the Arts

Drama

Drama in the MYP engages students in an active relationship with theater and it encourages the growth of creative, reflective, collaborative and communication skills. Emphasis is placed on the students' artistic development through continuous investigation, planning, goal setting, rehearsing, performing, reflection and evaluation.

Examples of inquiries in Drama include:

Students in Grade 7 explore how human relationships with technology might change in the future and create their own short plays to communicate their ideas to a peer audience.

Grade 9 students explore how theater can be used as an educational tool to inspire change in the community and take on the roles of writers, directors and actors to create a group play for a younger audience.

Grade 10 students explore points of view about fairness and injustice to create a short monologue that they perform in front of a live audience.

Music

Music in the MYP gives students access to musical experiences that allow for the development of thinking, practical and performance skills, and the ability to relate to others.

Engagement with music from the local community and right across the globe allows students to understand the significance of music to the cultures of the world. By engaging in practical work students develop an understanding of how the act of making music is a significant and universal aspect of human expression.

Examples of inquiries in Music include:

Students in Grade 7 explore how self-expression is influenced by cultural identity and audience.

In Grade 10, students examine how composers push the boundaries of genre and aesthetics to develop new and emerging musical ideas.

Visual Arts

MYP Visual Arts students investigate the impact of art on our identity and society with our aesthetic perspectives. This course provides students with a deeper understanding of the role and importance of art in society.

Students learn through a process of investigation, developing skills and creative thinking skills, and are given the opportunity to be independent, especially with ideas and artistic expression.

Inquiries in Visual Arts include:

Before visually representing their identity, Grade 7 students examine the impacts of identity on artistic response and develop their research skills in art by studying self-portraits.

Grade 8 students complete a research project and present their findings on Surrealism, inquiring into the connection between art and its social function.

After exploring different artistic skills and techniques, Grade 9 students integrate their prior learning into a media investigation to engage in a process of creative exploration.



Physical & Health Education

The MYP Physical & Health Education (PHE) course aims to empower students to understand and appreciate the value of being physically active and develop the motivation for making healthy life choices.

PHE focuses on both learning about and learning through physical activity. Through opportunities for active learning, different units embody and promote the holistic nature of well-being. The course provides a balance of physical and health-related knowledge, aesthetic movement, team sports and individual sports.

PHE students also learn how to appreciate and respect the ideas of others to develop effective collaboration and communication skills.

Aims

The aims of the PHE course are to encourage and enable students to:

- understand the value of a physical activity
- achieve and maintain a healthy lifestyle
- build positive relationships and demonstrate social responsibility

Examples of inquiry in PHE include:

Grade 6 explore and develop their creative movement skills through circus performances.

Grade 8 students look at the displacement and exchange of movement and space in a range of invasion games.

Grade 9 students investigate different training methods before selecting one to create and develop themselves.

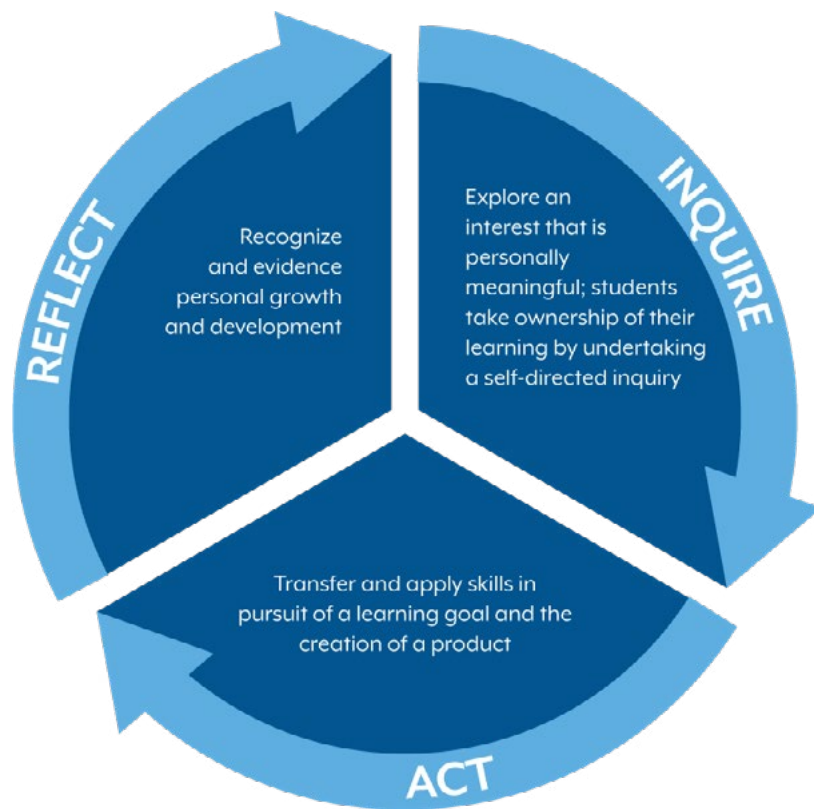
Looking at different forms of dance, Grade 10 students learn and develop the skills involved then modify them to create their own dance routine.



The MYP Personal Project

A unique feature of the MYP is the Personal Project, an investigative inquiry that enables students to showcase the skills they have acquired throughout their time at ISHCMC. Students investigate, plan, take action and reflect upon an area of personal interest.

This journey begins with students establishing a challenging goal and Global Context to shape the direction of their inquiry. They keep a process journal to capture their learning journey, support their developing organizational skills, and ensure that reflection is prioritized. The Personal Project follows a cycle of inquiry learning which students will have previously encountered in Design.



Celebrating Personal Project success

To enable Grade 10 students to showcase the learning and outcomes of their Personal Project, ISHCMC hosts an annual Personal Project Fair. Students inspire their younger peers, families and teachers by presenting on a range of highly challenging goals from a spectrum of Global Contexts. Examples of projects include:

- writing and producing an EP album of songs for teenagers which address relatable topics and encourage the expression of emotions
- studying the aerodynamics of airfoils in order to design and create a modular drone that can test the properties of different airfoils
- providing a glimpse into the lives of people in Saigon by creating a book of street photography
- creating a video to raise awareness of the potential extinction of the traditional Mid-Autumn Festival lanterns along with their creators and artisans
- designing and creating a floating wetland that can clean water and provide an aesthetically pleasing decoration
- creating an action proposal for Vinacapital Foundation to debunk taboos around menstruation and reduce the barriers it forms for Vietnamese girls

In addition, other students have presented on outcomes such as football tournaments with orphans, documentaries advocating against human trafficking, artificial coral reef design, video game creation, dance therapy classes, mental health awareness campaigns, and solar panel engineering.

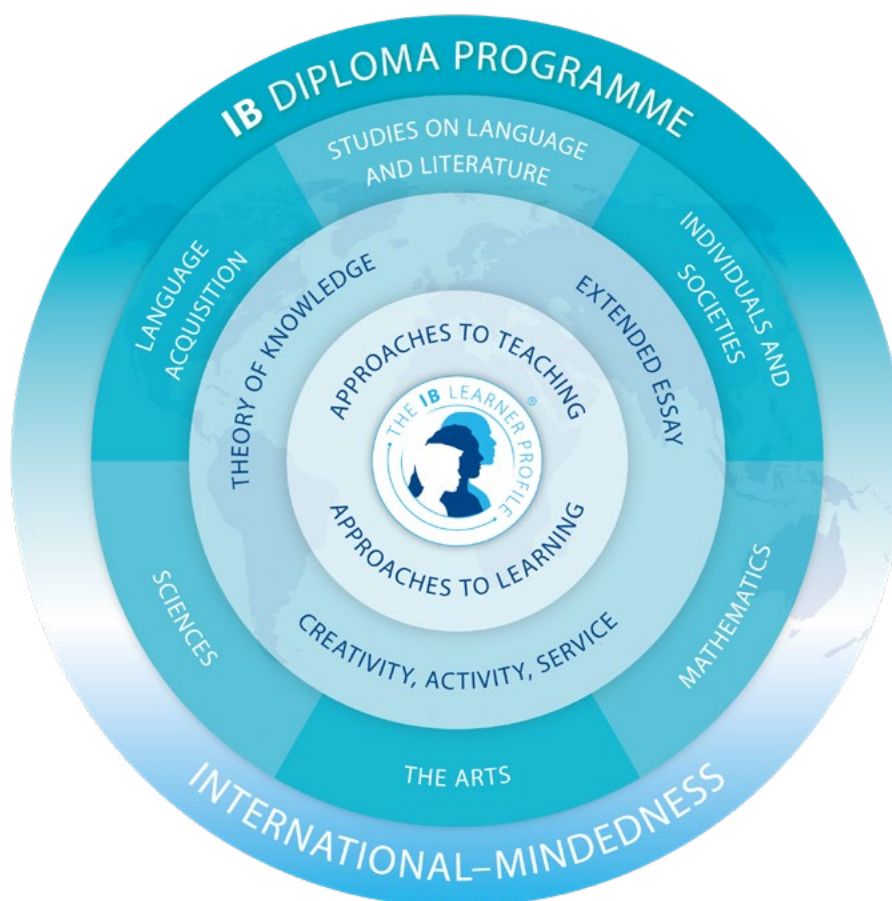




Grades 11 & 12



Courses and Pathways explained



IB Diploma Model

The Grade 11/12 curriculum is designed for students aged 16-19 and is recognized and respected by the world's leading universities.

ISHCMC is proud to present multiple pathways to learning and success. Through learning at ISHCMC, students will:

- develop an excellent breadth and depth of knowledge
- flourish physically, intellectually, emotionally and ethically
- study at least two languages
- excel in traditional academic courses

10 Reasons



why the IB Diploma Programme (DP) is ideal preparation for university

1



It increases academic opportunity

Research* shows that DP graduates are much more likely to be enrolled at top higher education institutions than entrants holding other qualifications.

2



IB students care about more than just results

Through creativity, action, service (CAS) you learn outside the classroom and develop emotionally and ethically as well as intellectually.

3



It encourages you to become a confident and independent learner

For example, the extended essay requires independent research through an in-depth study.

6



The IB encourages critical thinking

Learn how to analyse and evaluate issues, generate ideas and consider new perspectives.

5



Graduates are globally minded

Language classes encourage an international mindset, key for increasingly globalized societies.

4



It's an international qualification

The DP is recognized globally by universities and employers.

7



DP students have proven time management skills

Take good study habits and strong time management to further education and the working world.

9



Subjects are not taught in isolation

Theory of knowledge (TOK) classes encourage you to make connections between subjects.

10



It encourages breadth and depth of learning

You are able to choose courses from six subject groups and study subjects at different levels.

8



It assesses more than examination techniques

Learn to understand, not just memorize facts or topics and prepare for exams.



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Pathways to Graduation

At ISHCMC we believe in supporting students to pursue individual pathways with a purpose that will reflect their interests and passions and we encourage students to make healthy and thoughtful course and pathway selections. The conversations between parents, students, and the school will be as unique as the individuals involved and selections should reflect that individuality and allow students to be the best learner they can be.

Pathway 1: ISHCMC High School Diploma

All students at ISHCMC are eligible to earn the ISHCMC High School Diploma, a qualification equivalent to a North American High School Diploma and accredited by the Council of International Schools. Students may take any combination of courses, provided they earn a minimum of 24 credits from Grades 9 - 12 and meet the 95% attendance requirements. CAS must be completed as a graduation requirement from ISHCMC. Please see the ISHCMC Secondary School Handbook for details on credit requirements for graduation.

Pathway 2: IB Diploma Programme + ISHCMC High School Diploma = IB Courses

A combination of part ISHCMC High School Diploma and part IB Diploma Programme creates the IB Courses pathway. This flexible program allows for students to take some classes in the ISHCMC High School Diploma pathway and some in the IB Diploma Programme pathway. Students can pursue an IB Diploma Courses pathway by choosing individual IB courses which are both their passion and recommended for university acceptance. These choices require consultation and approval from the IB DP Coordinator and students receive an official IB certificate for IB courses successfully completed. There is no requirement to take three courses at Higher Level, and the Extended Essay (EE) and Theory of Knowledge (TOK) do not have to be completed - although IB Courses candidates may choose to do the EE and/or TOK. CAS must be completed as a graduation requirement from ISHCMC.

Pathway 3: IB Diploma Programme

The majority of students at ISHCMC pursue the full IB Diploma. Students who meet the requirements of the two year IB Diploma Programme are awarded an IB Diploma by the International Baccalaureate Organisation (IBO). The Diploma Programme (DP) curriculum is made up of six subject groups and the DP core courses: Theory of Knowledge (TOK), Creativity, Activity, Service (CAS) and the Extended Essay (EE). Through the DP core, students reflect on the nature of knowledge, complete independent research and undertake a project that often will involve community service.

For every pathway, and in order to ensure both breadth and depth of knowledge and understanding, students must choose at least one course from each of the following groups.

Group 1	Studies in Language & Literature
Group 2	Language Acquisition
Group 3	Individuals & Societies
Group 4	Sciences
Group 5	Mathematics
Group 6	The Arts

The IB Diploma Programme in detail

The IB Diploma Programme is an academically rigorous two year (Grades 11 & 12) program where students study six courses concurrently. Typically students choose three courses at Higher Level (HL) and three at Standard Level (SL). There is the option to choose either an Arts course or a second course from one of the groups above.

3 Higher Level Courses
3 Standard Level Courses
Theory of Knowledge (TOK)
Extended Essay (EE)
Creativity, Activity, Service (CAS)

The IB Diploma Programme Core

Students engage in the three elements of the IB Diploma Programme Core: Theory of Knowledge (TOK), the Extended Essay (EE), and Creativity, Activity, Service (CAS). The Core supports the IB programme which aims to develop the whole person. The Diploma takes students beyond the acquisition of knowledge, supporting them to build skills that will enable them to enjoy life to the fullest, and learning values that will lead to a positive contribution to society.

+28 Courses Offered

The courses listed in this section of the guide are subject to change when there are insufficient student numbers to run the course.

	Group Description	Course Offerings
Group 1	Language & Literature or Literature	English Literature (HL/SL) English Language & Literature (HL/SL) Vietnamese Literature (HL/SL) Vietnamese Language & Literature (HL/SL) Korean Language & Literature (HL/SL) School Supported Self-Taught Language (SL)
Group 2	Language Acquisition	English B (HL) French B (HL/SL) Mandarin Ab initio (SL) Mandarin B (HL/SL) Spanish Ab initio (SL) Spanish B (HL/SL)

	Group Description	Course Offerings
Group 3	Individuals & Societies	Business Management (HL/SL) Economics (HL/SL) Geography (HL/SL) History (HL/SL) Psychology (HL/SL)
Group 4	Sciences	Biology (HL/SL) Chemistry (HL/SL) Design Technology (HL/SL) Environmental Systems & Societies (SL) Physics (HL/SL) Sports Exercise & Health Science (HL/SL)
Group 5	Mathematics	Mathematics Analysis and Approaches (HL/SL) Mathematics Applications and Interpretations (SL)
Group 6	The Arts	Music (HL/SL) Theater (HL/SL) Visual Arts (HL/SL)



Online Learning

ISHCMC will support any student who chooses to independently study IB courses online with Pamoja Education, in those subjects that ISHCMC is unable to offer face-to-face. Parents are responsible for payment of the Pamoja fees if their child is approved to undertake an online course and tuition fees range from US \$1292 to \$1956 per year. More information on Pamoja courses and fees can be found on their website:

<http://www.pamojaeducation.com>.

Group 1

In the IB programme there is an emphasis on supporting the development of the student's mother tongue, as well as learning new languages. Each student will ideally study his or her "best" language for Group 1 and students may also study a second Language and Literature course instead of Language B.

Language A: Language & Literature - SL/HL (English, Vietnamese and Korean)

Course Overview: Students study a wide range of literary and non-literary texts in a variety of media. By examining communicative acts across literary form and textual type alongside appropriate secondary readings, students will investigate the nature of language itself and the way it is shaped and influenced by identity and culture. Approaches to study in the course are wide-ranging and can include literary theory, sociolinguistics, media studies, and critical discourse analysis among others.

Units of study include:

Representing conflict using *The Sorrow of War* historical fiction novel by Bao Ninh and *War Photography* by Philip Jones Griffiths.

Transforming ideas about gender using *The World's Wife* poetry anthology by Carol Ann Duffy, United Colours of Benetton advertising campaigns and *GEORGE* magazine covers.

Growth, transformation and finding a voice using *Woman at Point Zero* by Nawal El Saadawi and *A Doll's House* by Henrik Ibsen.

Course Prerequisite: Two or more years in an MYP (or equivalent), English Language and Literature class (Phase 5 or above) for English Language and Literature. To undertake Korean and Vietnamese Language and Literature, approval is needed from corresponding teachers.

Internal Assessment	External Assessment
Individual Oral	Paper 1: Guided Literary Analysis Paper 2: Comparative Essay HL Essay

Language A: Literature - SL/HL (English and Vietnamese)

Course Overview: Students focus exclusively on literary texts, adopting a variety of approaches to textual criticism. Students will explore the nature of literature, the aesthetic function of literary language and textuality, and the relationship between literature and the world.

Units of study include:

Moral ambiguity using *The Things They Carried* by Tim O’Brien and *Selected Essays* of George Orwell.

Resistance, advocacy and solidarity using *Human Acts* fiction novel by Han Kang, *Behind the Beautiful Forevers* nonfiction prose by Katherine Boo (HL Only) and *The Handmaid’s Tale* prose fiction novel by Margaret Atwood.

Institutions and justice using *The Reader* fiction novel by Bernard Schlink and *The World’s Wife* poetry anthology by Carol Ann Duffy.

Course Prerequisite: Two or more years in an MYP (or equivalent), English Language and Literature class (Phase 5 or above) for English Literature. To undertake Vietnamese Literature, approval is needed from corresponding teachers.

Internal Assessment	External Assessment
Individual Oral	Paper 1: Guided Literary Analysis Paper 2: Comparative Essay HL Essay



School Supported Self-Taught Language A Literature - SL Only

Course Overview: In support of a student's mother tongue, when their language is not offered at ISHCMC, an alternative is the School Supported Self-Taught (SSST) option. In this program students focus exclusively on literary texts, adopting a variety of approaches to textual criticism, aligned with our English and Vietnamese Literature courses. Students will also explore the nature of literature, the aesthetic function of literary language and textuality, and the relationship between literature and the world.

With the School Supported Self-Taught' (SSST) option students are assigned a school supervisor who liaises between the student, parents, and tutor. Although ISHCMC is supportive of this program, it is the responsibility of the student and parents to arrange and pay for a tutor to meet face-to-face or online with the student - at least one time per school cycle, either during or after the school day.

Course Prerequisite: This course is for students who have sufficient proficiency in the chosen language to engage in literary discussion. Students should have strong ATL skills; be capable of self-direction, possess good time-management skills, and be willing to study independently.

Internal Assessment	External Assessment
Individual Oral	Paper 1: Guided Literary Analysis Paper 2: Comparative Essay



Group 2

For Group 2, students may choose a language to study at a level that provides an appropriate challenge. An alternative to a Group 2 language is to choose a second language to study as a Group 1 course.

Language B - SL/HL (English, French, Spanish, Mandarin)

Course Overview: Language B is an additional language course designed for students with some previous learning of that language, with a focus on language acquisition and the development of language skills. These skills will be developed through the study and use of a range of written and spoken material that extends from everyday oral exchanges to literary texts, and should be related to the culture(s) concerned. The material is chosen to enable students to develop a mastery of language skills and intercultural understanding.

Units of study include:

English B: Identities - To what extent do language, culture, and values contribute to forming our identity?

Spanish B: Lengua y cultura - creencias y valores, el concepto de la belleza.

French B: Partage de la planète - Qu'est-ce que l'éco-citoyenneté?

Course Prerequisite: English B - Only students that have been in an English medium school for less than two years are eligible and they will need approval from the Diploma Coordinator, Leader of Learning in Group 1 and the Leader of Learning in Group 2.

Other languages: Students may choose a language to study at a level that provides an appropriate challenge.

SL Course Prerequisite: Two years of study of the language (Phase 2 or above).

HL Course Prerequisite: students can express ideas verbally and in written form in the target language to a degree of coherency. (Phase 3 and 4).

Internal Assessment	External Assessment
Individual Oral	Paper 1: Productive Skills Paper 2: Receptive Skills

Language Ab initio - SL (Mandarin and Spanish)

Course Overview: This course is designed to provide students with the necessary skills and intercultural understanding to enable them to communicate successfully in an environment where the language studied is spoken. The process encourages the learner to go beyond the confines of the classroom, to gain a greater awareness of the world, and to foster a respect for cultural diversity. The language Ab initio course develops a student's linguistic abilities through the development of receptive, productive, and interactive skills by providing them with opportunities to respond and interact appropriately in a range of everyday situations. Language Ab initio is available at Standard Level only.

Units of study include:
Mandarin ab initio - Human ingenuity: surfing the internet, online shopping (zhu fu bao/tao bao).

Spanish ab initio - Compartiendo el planeta: Clima, geografía física y medio ambiente.

Course Prerequisite: None or minimal background/Phase 1 or 2 (*Phase 2 at the discretion of the Diploma Coordinator in combination with the Group 2 Leader of Learning)

Internal Assessment	External Assessment
Individual Oral	Paper 1: Productive Skills Paper 2: Receptive Skills



Group 3

For Group 3 students choose a course that falls under the category that is known elsewhere as “human sciences”, “humanities” or “social sciences” and explore the interactions between people and their environment in a cultural and social context.

Business Management - SL/HL

Course Overview: The study of Business Management develops an understanding of international cooperation and responsible citizenship, as well as an appreciation for ethical concerns and social responsibility in the global business environment. The course aims to foster an understanding of the international perspective of business and to promote cultural diversity through the study of essential topics in business management. Business Management provides an opportunity for students to develop an understanding of business practices and skills, as well as business theory. The course analyzes complex business activities while considering the cultural and economic context in which a business operates.

Units of study include:

Business organization and environment/finance and accounts - the role of business; types of organizations; organizational objectives; key stakeholders; the external business environment; business growth and evolution; sources of finance; costs and revenues; break-even analysis.

Finance and accounts/operations management - profitability and liquidity ratio analysis; efficiency ratio analysis (HL only); cash flow; investment appraisal.

Marketing/human resource management - the role of marketing; marketing planning; sales forecasting (HL only); market research; the four Ps; the extended marketing mix (HL only); E-commerce.

Course Prerequisite: Students will have studied Grade 10 Integrated Individuals and Societies or an equivalent course in another school.

Internal Assessment	External Assessment
Written Commentary SL Research Project HL	Paper 1 Paper 2

Economics - SL/HL

Course Overview: This course focuses on theories of macro and microeconomics and how they are applied in real-world issues. Key issues are fluctuations in economic activity, international trade, economic development, and environmental sustainability. Students are expected to reflect on the ethical implications of economic goals at a local and global level. Through analysis and inquiry, students develop international perspectives of the effects of economic change in an increasingly interdependent world.

Units of study include:

Microeconomics - demand and supply; competitive market equilibrium; a critique of the maximizing behaviour of consumers and producers; elasticity of supply and demand; the role of government in microeconomics; market failure.

The global economy - the benefits of international trade; types of trade protection; economic integration; exchange rates; balance of payments; sustainable development; measuring development; barriers to economic growth and/or economic development.

Macroeconomics - measuring variations in economic activity; aggregate demand and aggregate supply; the economics of inequality and poverty; monetary policy and fiscal policy; supply-side policies.

Course Prerequisite: Students will have studied Grade 10 Integrated Individuals and Societies or an equivalent course in another school.

Internal Assessment	External Assessment
Portfolio - three commentaries based on different sections of the syllabus	Paper 1 Paper 2 Paper 3 (HL only)

Geography - SL/HL

Course Overview: The Geography course is firmly grounded in the real world and focuses on the interactions between individuals, societies, and the physical environment. It seeks to identify trends and patterns in these interactions and examines the processes behind them. The course also investigates the way that people adapt and respond to change and evaluates the management strategies people have developed in response to these changes. The course embodies global and international awareness in several distinct ways: it examines key global issues, such as poverty, sustainability, and climate change; and it considers examples and detailed case studies at a variety of scales, from local to regional, national and international. The content is underpinned by four key concepts: Places, Power, Processes, and Possibilities.

Units of study include:

Changing populations - factors affecting population distribution; classifying economic development; the impact of youthful versus ageing populations; the challenges of megacity growth; the causes and consequences of forced migration; population policies.

Leisure, sport & tourism - changing leisure patterns; the impact of tourism on different places; the changing geographic influences on a sports league; the role of transnational corporations; national tourism strategies; the impact of hosting the Olympics; future sport and tourism - sustainable tourism, equal opportunities in sport.

Power, places & networks (HL only) - the changing balance of superpowers; the role of multi-governmental organisations; globalisation versus nationalism; the rise of anti-immigration movements; migration control.

Course Prerequisite: Students will have studied Grade 10 Integrated Individuals and Societies or an equivalent course in another school.

Internal Assessment	External Assessment
Field Work	Paper 1: Optional themes Paper 2: Core Paper 3 (HL only)

History - SL/HL

Course Overview: The DP History course is a world history course based on a comparative and multi-perspective approach to the subject. It involves the study of different types of history, including political, economic, social and cultural, and provides a balance of structure and flexibility. The course focuses on the importance of developing skills as well as gaining factual knowledge, and puts an emphasis on developing the skills of critical thinking and an understanding of multiple interpretations of history. The DP History course involves a challenging and demanding critical exploration of the past and has six key prominent concepts: change, continuity, causation, consequence, significance, and perspectives.

Units of study include:

The move to global war - Japanese expansion 1931-1941; German-Italian expansion 1933-1940; the emergence of Mao's China; the Sino-Japanese war.

20th-century authoritarian states - the emergence of authoritarian states; consolidation and maintenance of power (Hitler and Mao); the aims and results of policies (The People's Republic of China 1949-2005).

Course Prerequisite: Students will have studied Grade 10 Integrated Individuals and Societies or an equivalent course in another school.

Internal Assessment	External Assessment
Historical investigation	Paper 1 Paper 2 Paper 3 (HL only)



Psychology - SL/HL

Course Overview: Psychology is the rigorous and systematic study of mental processes and behavior and it is a complex subject that draws on concepts, methods, and understandings from a number of different disciplines. There is no single approach that would describe or explain mental processes and behavior on its own, as human beings are complex animals, with highly developed frontal lobes, cognitive abilities, involved social structures, and cultures. The study of behavior and mental processes requires a multidisciplinary approach and the use of a variety of research techniques whilst recognizing that behavior is not a static phenomenon - it is adaptive, and as the world, societies, and challenges facing societies change, so does behavior.

Units of study include:

The biological approach to understanding behaviour - the relationship between the brain and behaviour; hormones and pheromones and their effects on behaviour; the relationship between genetics and behaviour; the role of animal research in understanding human behavior (HL only).

The cognitive approach to understanding behaviour - cognitive processing; the reliability of cognitive processes; emotion and cognition; cognitive processing in a technological world (HL only).

Abnormal psychology - factors influencing diagnosis; the etiology of abnormal psychology; treatment of disorders.

Course Prerequisite: Students will have studied Grade 10 Integrated Individuals and Societies or an equivalent course in another school.

Internal Assessment	External Assessment
Experimental study report	Paper 1 Paper 2 Paper 3 (HL only)



Group 4

The IB emphasizes the need for students to learn about the overarching Nature of Science (NOS). Through inquiry and active discussions, students are expected to learn about scientific endeavors, how science impacts public opinion, and the role of collaboration in the development of scientific ideas. All Diploma Science courses combine experiential scientific investigation and information technology skills with theoretical study.

Biology - SL/HL

Course Overview: Through the study of biology students should become aware of how biologists work and communicate with one another and in this course, there is an emphasis on a practical approach through experimental work. In this context all biology students should be able to: develop their experimental and scientific investigative skills, develop an ability to analyze, evaluate, and synthesize biological information, and apply and use the body of knowledge, methods, and techniques that characterize working biologists. The Biology course is aimed at students who wish to learn about living organisms and the structures and systems by which they function, evolve and affect one another. Cells, Biochemistry, Ecology, Genetics, and Evolution underpin this course and form the basis for analyzing a variety of situations of biological discovery.

Units of study include:

Classification of life and biomolecules - the classification of organisms; the classification of biomolecules; cell biology; plant biology.

Ecology and evolution, human health and physiology - ecology; evolution; speciation; human health and physiology; animal physiology (HL only).

Biochemical reactions and genetics - biochemical reactions; nucleic acids (HL only); metabolism; genetics; inheritance (HL only).

Course Prerequisite: Students will have studied Grade 10 Integrated Sciences or an equivalent learning experience in another school.

Internal Assessment	External Assessment
Scientific investigation	Paper 1 Paper 2 Paper 3

Chemistry - SL/HL

Course Overview: This course provides the widest opportunities for further study in Science as chemical principles underpin both the physical environment in which we live, and all biological systems. Students will study inorganic and organic chemistry as well as learn about energetics and equilibrium as a basis for wider studies in Chemistry or other sciences at university.

Units of study include:

Atomic structure, periodicity and bonding - the nuclear atom; electron configuration; the periodic table; periodic trends; ionic bonding and structure; covalent bonding; covalent structures; intermolecular forces; metallic bonding.

Energetics, kinetics, equilibrium, acids and bases - measuring energy changes; Hess's law; bond enthalpies; energy cycles, and entropy and spontaneity (HL only).

The Redox process and organic chemistry - oxidation and reduction; electrochemical cells.

Course Prerequisite: Students will have studied Grade 10 Integrated Science or an equivalent learning experience in another school.

Internal Assessment	External Assessment
Scientific investigation	Paper 1 Paper 2 Paper 3

Design Technology - SL/HL

Course Overview: The creative tension between theory and practice is what characterizes design technology within the DP Sciences subject group - inquiry and problem-solving lie at the heart of this subject. DP Design Technology requires the use of the DP design cycle as a tool, which provides the methodology used to structure the inquiry and analysis of problems, the development of feasible solutions, and the testing and evaluation of the solution. In DP Design Technology, a solution can be defined as a model, prototype, product, or system that students have developed independently.

Units of study include:

Human factors and ergonomics - anthropometrics; psychological factors; physiological factors.

Modelling - conceptual modelling; graphical modelling; physical modelling; computer-aided design (CAD); rapid prototyping.

Resource management and sustainable production - resources and reserves; waste mitigation strategies; energy utilization, storage and distribution; clean technology; green design; eco-design.

Course Prerequisite: Students are advised to take an MYP Design course in Grade 10.

Internal Assessment	External Assessment
Design project	Paper 1 Paper 2 Paper 3 (HL only)

Environmental Systems & Societies - SL

Course Overview: This course is an interdisciplinary group 3 and 4 course that is offered at Standard Level (SL) only and it provides students with a coherent perspective of interrelationships between environmental systems and societies. Students form personal responses to a wide range of environmental issues and evaluate the scientific, ethical, and socio-political aspects of issues.

Units of study include:

Ecosystems and ecology - species and populations; communities and ecosystems; flows of energy and matter; biomes, zonation and succession; investigating ecosystems.

Water and aquatic food production systems & societies - access to freshwater; aquatic food production systems; water pollution.

Climate change and energy production - energy choices and security; the causes and impacts of climate change; mitigation and adaptation to climate change.

Course Prerequisite: Students will have studied Grade 10 Integrated Sciences or an equivalent learning experience in another school.

Internal Assessment	External Assessment
Practical project	Paper 1 Paper 2



Physics - SL/HL

Course Overview: Physics is the most fundamental of the sciences as it seeks to explain the universe itself, from the very smallest particles to the vast distances between galaxies. Physics is explored as a human activity, involving observation, experimentation and theoretical modeling. This includes both classic Physics as well as more recent articulations of the physical world. Mathematics is viewed as a language of physics and therefore proficiency in Mathematics is essential for Physics students.

Units of study include:

Mechanics - motion; forces; work, energy and power; momentum and impulse.

Waves - oscillations; travelling waves; wave characteristics; wave behaviour; standing waves. HL only: simple harmonic motion, single-slit diffraction; interference; the Doppler effect.

Atomic, nuclear and particle physics - discrete energy and radioactivity; nuclear reactions; the structure of matter. HL only: the interaction of matter with radiation; nuclear physics.

Course Prerequisite: Students will have studied Grade 10 Integrated Sciences or an equivalent course in another school.

Internal Assessment	External Assessment
Science investigation	Paper 1 Paper 2 Paper 3

Sports Exercise & Health Science - SL/HL

Course Overview: This course involves the application of scientific principles in sports and exercise as well as critical analysis of human performance. The program incorporates the traditional disciplines of anatomy and physiology, biomechanics, psychology, and nutrition in the pursuit of excellence in sport.

Units of study include:

Anatomy and movement analysis - the skeletal system; the muscular system; neuromuscular function; joint and movement type; the fundamentals of biomechanics.

Genetics and athletic performance (HL only) - the role of genes in the inheritance of human characteristics; the relative contribution of genetic and environmental factors on performance in different sports; the implications of genetic screening for sports, exercise and health.

Energy systems - nutrition; carbohydrate and fat metabolism; the production of ATP from glucose and fatty acids by the aerobic system; the phenomena of oxygen deficit and oxygen debt; the production of ATP by the lactic acid system.

Course Prerequisite: Some background knowledge of scientific investigation at a Grade 10 level.

Internal Assessment	External Assessment
Science investigation	Paper 1 Paper 2 Paper 3



Group 5

Mathematics can be seen as a set of abstract ideas, a system of knowledge, or as a useful tool. Mathematics is viewed as an essential key to understanding the world and is therefore a compulsory course.

Mathematics: Analysis and Approaches - SL/HL

Course Overview: This course has an emphasis on calculus appropriate for pure mathematicians and is intended for students who wish to pursue studies in mathematics at university or subjects that have a large mathematical content. The course has been designed for students who enjoy developing mathematical arguments, problem-solving, and exploring real and abstract applications, both with and without technology.

Units of study include:

Algebraic skills - number systems; quadratic expressions and equations; deductive proof exponents laws and logarithm laws; arithmetic and geometric sequences and series; binomial expansion.

Functions and calculus - quadratic, exponential, logarithmic and rational functions; introduction to the laws of Calculus.

Trigonometry - trigonometric principles; trigonometric functions and equations; application of laws of Calculus to trigonometric functions, including the development of Kinematics (study of linear motion).

Course Prerequisite:

Standard Level: this course is most similar to the Mathematics SL course and is accessible to students from both MYP Standard and Extended Mathematics pathways. However, students in the Standard pathway need a minimum of MYP level 5 to be recommended for this course.

Higher Level: this course is most similar to the Mathematics HL course and is accessible to students from the MYP Extended Mathematics pathway. Students need a minimum of MYP level 5 to be recommended for this course.

***Possible Career Pathways:** pure mathematics, physical science (physics, chemistry, astronomy and earth science), engineering, and economics.

Internal Assessment	External Assessment
Exploration	Paper 1 Paper 2 Paper 3 (HL Only)

Mathematics: Applications and Interpretation - SL

Course Overview: This course has an emphasis on statistics, modeling, and the use of technology and is intended for students with an interest in the applications of mathematics and how technology can support this. Mathematics: Applications and Interpretation has been designed for students who enjoy describing the real world and solving practical problems using mathematics, and those who are interested in harnessing the power of technology alongside exploring mathematical models.

Units of study include:

Number and algebra - nature of numbers; accuracy; arithmetic and geometric sequences and series with a real-life application; exponents and logarithms; Pythagoras; right angle trigonometry; non-right angle trigonometry; sectors and arc lengths; matrices and use of their inverses to solve systems of equations; matrix transformations.

Space - coordinate geometry in 2D and 3D and vector representations; common linear models and Voronoi diagrams; properties of different types of functions and applications to modelling and problem solving; linear, quadratic, exponential, logarithmic, trigonometric, logistic and piecewise functions; complex numbers and their representations.

Calculus - applications of calculus including kinematics; integration including areas and volumes of revolution; differential equations; probability and probability distributions; combinations of variables.

Course Prerequisite:

Standard Level: this course is most similar to the Mathematical Studies SL course. It is accessible to students from both MYP Standard and Extended Mathematics pathways.

***Possible Career Pathways:** statistics, social sciences, a selection of natural sciences, and business.

Please note that these pathways are suggested by the IBO. Students are encouraged to ensure they choose the correct course based on their teacher’s recommendation, and in combination with the entrance requirements from the universities which they wish to attend.

Internal Assessment	External Assessment
Exploration	Paper 1 Paper 2 Paper 3 (HL Only)



Group 6

The fundamental human need to communicate personal and social meaning through art is explored through the courses in Group 6, which encourage respect for cultural and aesthetic differences and promote creative thinking and problem-solving.

Music - SL/HL

Course Overview: This is an enriching academic course through which students can appreciate the diversity and universality of music and its expression of cultural thought, and it provides a foundation for further study in music at university level or as a career pathway.

Units of study include:

Music for sociocultural and political expression - music that expresses and communicates social and cultural messages; conveys political ideas and/or helps preserve social and cultural traditions - examples may include protest songs, liturgical music, national anthems.

Music for dramatic impact, movement and entertainment - music for dramatic effect; music that supports choreographed movement or dance and/or music that is incidental or intended to purposefully serve as entertainment; examples that may include music for film, music for ballet, musical theater.

Music technology in the electronic and digital age - music created, performed and/or produced using electronic or digital technologies; examples may include Electronic dance music, Elektronische Musik or technology in popular music production.

Course Prerequisite: Some working skill in playing a musical instrument is essential for students who wish to study Music as part of the Diploma Programme. During this course, students will not receive lessons in learning to play an instrument, but rather in musical theory, composition, and performance and therefore, throughout the course, students are expected to continue to develop their skills in playing their chosen instrument outside lesson time.

Internal Assessment	External Assessment
Experimenting with Music (experimentation report)	Exploring Music in Context (portfolio submission) Presenting Music (a collection of works) The Contemporary Music Maker (multimedia presentation)

Theater - SL/HL

Course Overview: This course is designed to encourage students to examine theater in its diversity of forms around the globe. This may be achieved through a critical study of the theory, history, and culture of theater, and will find expression through workshops, devised work or scripted performance. Students will come to understand the act of imagining and producing theater in its past and present contexts and how this is an art that investigates and finds explanations for the world around us.

Units of study include:

The Director's Notebook - the staging of a selected playtext, Things I know to be true by Andrew Bovell; introduction to Frantic Assembly & Physical Theater; directing and design aspects for a student's chosen moments of theater.

Collaboratively creating original theater - researching and examining the various contexts of at least one starting point (idea, issue, theme, non-dramatic text, music, object, image, event or site) and at least one professional theater company that collaboratively creates original work.

Theater processes - different processes involved in making theater from the perspectives of a creator, designer, director and performer; develop the skills required to make theater and to observe and reflect on processes used in different theater traditions and performance practices from around the world.

Course Prerequisite: None

Internal Assessment	External Assessment
Collaborative project	Director's notebook Research presentation Solo theater piece (HL only)

Visual Arts - SL/HL

Course Overview: : This course encourages an active exploration of Visual Arts in a students' own cultural heritage as well as others and it's focus is for students to study and produce art while locating their ideas in an international context. Students are encouraged to develop a critical and personal view through investigative techniques as well as skills associated with the production of art.

Units of study include:

"As you like it" - lens media - a focus on photography, montage projection, and any work captured through a lens; learning the use of chosen lens media techniques specific to selected materials, technologies, and processes within a specific area of visual expression.

"Truisms" - printmaking - exploring printmaking art forms; learning the use of chosen printmaking techniques specific to selected materials, technologies, and processes within a specific area of visual expression; formulating personal intentions for creating and displaying individual artwork.

Refining a body of work - understanding Body of Work - what to consider conceptually, functionally, stylistically, visually: motifs, colour, mood, scale, space, lighting; building a body of work - investigating artists' exhibitions and presentation techniques, making connections; finding strengths and making a plan for their own.

Course Prerequisite: There are no prerequisites for this course, it is suited for students with diverse career aspirations and there is no written examination - although regular critical reflections must be recorded in the form of the investigative workbook throughout the course.

Internal Assessment	External Assessment
Exhibition Folio	Comparative Study Process Portfolio



FAQs on pathways in Grades 11 & 12

Students often ask how some of their course decisions can affect their future career choices. We have collated some frequently asked questions (FAQs) that you may find useful.

I don't want to be an artist or musician. Why should I choose an Arts course?

Studying the Arts is an opportunity to develop skills of analysis and interpretation of a wide range of cultural products of human expression, and it can develop a students' understanding of the human spirit and the world.

Competitive universities around the world are interested in students who have a wide range of skills as well as aptitude in their chosen field. Choosing an Arts course, developing new perspectives and expressing these ideas can often give university applicants a feature that helps them stand out.

If a student is sure that he or she wishes to apply for a specialized field such as medicine, however, it would be more appropriate to choose a second Science instead of one of the Arts courses.

What do I do if I want to change my courses after the beginning of Grade 11?

Students may add or drop courses within a period of 20 teaching days from the start of the academic year. If a student does wish to add or drop a course, he or she must obtain written permission from their parents, the Diploma Coordinator, and the University Counsellor.

After 20 days, changes to selections should occur only if:

- A student finds the course is not meeting his or her expectations.
- Any further issues deemed academically relevant.

A form must be collected from the Diploma Coordinator to request this change.

I would get a better grade if I chose Chinese Ab initio instead of Chinese B for Group 2. Can I choose this option?

Language B courses are designed to provide students with an appropriate challenge and learning experience. The skills of each student are ascertained at the time of course selection and placement in courses is guided to ensure the integrity of the IB Diploma Programme is maintained.

If a student has the skills in a particular language to study the SL or HL Language B course, it is inappropriate to choose the Ab initio option.

Is it better to choose two Language A courses or to choose one Language A & one Language B course?

The important difference between Language A and B courses is the level of ability and prior learning in that language.

Language B is focused on acquiring a language and its application in a cultural context and Language A is for students who can read, write and speak the language proficiently. For example, a student attaining an MYP level 5 or above in MYP Grade 10 English Language & Literature would take English A.

IB Diploma Examination Fees

Additional fees are charged by the IB for exam registrations and ISHCMC will issue an invoice to families as soon as registration is complete with the IB, typically by December 1 in Grade 12. Please note that due to Vietnamese tax laws, an additional charge will be levied to cover the costs of withholding tax in relation to this transaction in terms of both VAT and CIT. All other administrative, invigilation and freight costs to have the completed exam papers marked will be covered by the school. Please see the IB scale of fees below:

The Scale of Fees

	USD	VND
1. Annual fee (per school)	11,650	270,629,500
2. Subject fee (per subject per candidate) The fee is for each subject that a candidate is registered for	119	2,764,370
3. Core fees (per candidate) The fee is for each core requirement of the DP a course candidate is registered for, and for any diploma candidates retaking a core requirement. These core fees do not apply to a diploma category registration.		
Extended Essay (EE)	91	2,113,930
Theory of knowledge (TOK)	46	1,068,580
Creativity, activity, service (CAS)	10	232,300
4. Late subject fee (per subject per candidate) The fee is for the addition of a subject and each amendment to a subject, level or response language, including TOK or an EE, after the first registration deadline.		
During the late registration period	3	882,740
After the late registration period (After the six-month retake deadline)	150	3,484,500
5. Enquiry upon results		
Category 1 re-mark – per candidate/subject/level	123	2,857,290
Category 1 report (stage 1: return of material) – per candidate/subject/level	18	418,140
Category 1 report (stage 2: report) – per candidate/subject/level	211	4,901,530
Category 2A – per subject/level/component	55	1,277,650
Category 2B – per candidate/subject/level	18	418,140
Category 3 re-moderation – per subject/level sample	296	6,876,080

*These fees are subject to change.



Our Culture Of Care



Our Wellbeing Curriculum

Advisory and wellbeing

Every student is a member of an Advisory group that meets in the morning each day. As well as providing an anchor point for students, a key part of Advisory is to promote a sense of wellbeing as an ISHCMC student.

In addition to Advisory each morning, students are enrolled in pastoral education classes. These lessons occur once per cycle (every 10 days) and are delivered to students by ISHCMC pastoral leaders - they are designed to support:

- Social-emotional awareness and wellbeing
- Digital citizenship
- Study skills
- Character growth
- Personal Health

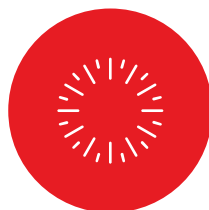
Wellbeing is the balance of four main areas: personal, relational, mental and physical which allow us to function positively in all areas of life.

The ISHCMC touchstones of wellbeing are the **PERMAH** framework, based on Positive Education: Positive Emotions, Engagement, Relationships, Meaning, Accomplishment and Health. Our 'Positively ISHCMC' approach to wellbeing aims to empower our students to flourish in every aspect of their lives.



Positive Emotions

The right balance of acceptance and happiness to boost our resilience.



Meaning

A sense of connection to something greater than ourselves through respected and valued relationships that allow for equity.



Engagement

Regular development of our strengths and mindful practice - those things we are encouraged to do and recognized for doing.



Accomplishment

The belief and the confidence to do the things that give us purpose and promote resilience.



Relationships

The creation of safe, authentic and energizing connections through clear communication and a caring environment.



Health

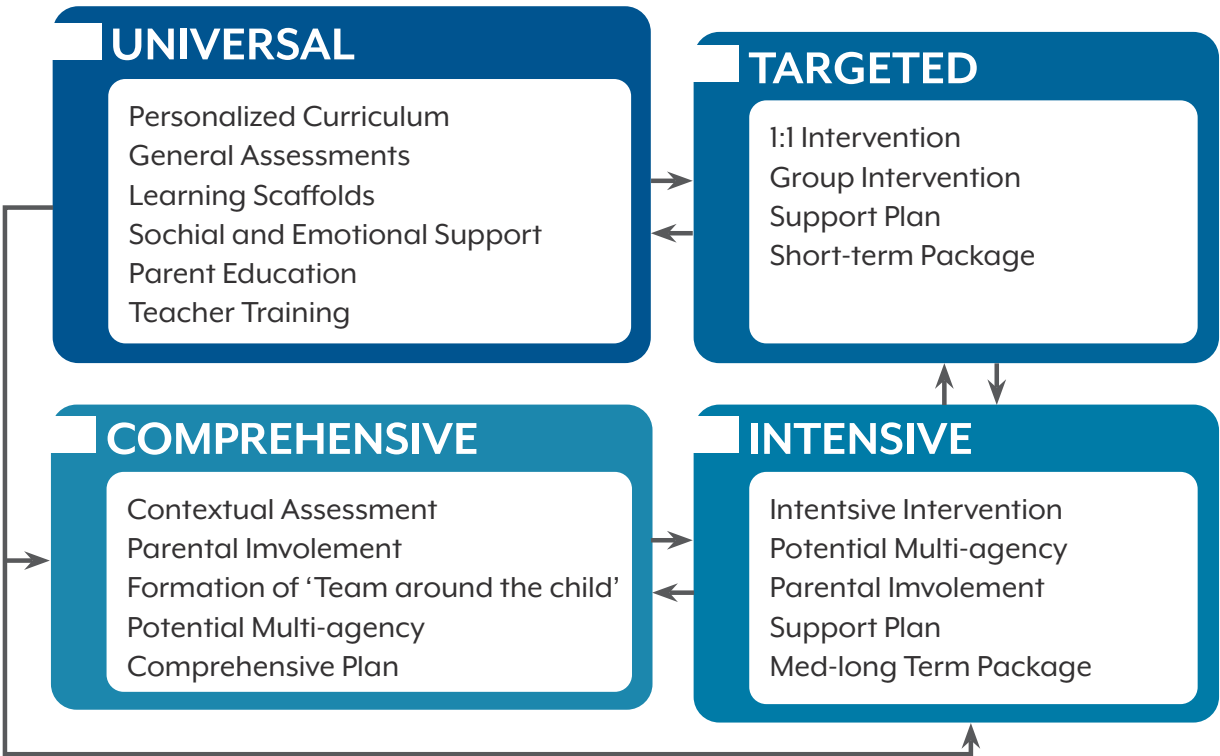
Eat well, move well, sleep well.

Student Support Services

The Student Support Services team at ISHCMC aims to energize, engage and empower all community members to remove barriers and open doors to provide opportunities to flourish.

Student Support Services consists of Learning Support, English as an additional language (EAL), and support from our highly trained counseling team.

Student Support Services can be understood as a four-tiered process:



Entry and exit points for support

	Entry	Exit
Learning Support	<p>Formal identification/diagnosis of the impacts on learning.</p> <p>A psycho-educational report.</p> <p>An 'Individual Learning Plan' (if one is available from a student's previous school).</p>	<p>When a student is working to his/her potential at the standard of the relevant grade level for a sustained period of time of at least half a school year, based on standardized assessments.</p> <p>The student understands their learning profile and can demonstrate the use of strategies to compensate effectively for their disability.</p> <p>He/she demonstrates effective self-advocacy skills.</p> <p>A parent requests to exclude the student from receiving Learning Support Services on the condition that a student will not be severely hindered in their learning as a result.</p>
English as an Additional Language (EAL)	<p>A non-native English speaking student joins an English Language Acquisition course (instead of Language & Literature) if the reading and writing WIDA score is below 5 in Grades 6 - 8; 5.5 in Grades 9 - 10. Students that need further support in English join the EAL support class instead of another language until they have reached the required level.</p> <p>As well as WIDA, the following evidence is also taken into consideration:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Writing samples • Teacher recommendations from previous English teachers • MAP scores in reading and language usage 	<p>A WIDA score of 5 or above in Grades 6 - 8, and 5.5-6.0 in Grade 9. There will be no movement in Grade 10 as those students will move into IB Diploma English B the following year.</p> <p>Again, a decision to exit the program uses other evidence, including writing samples.</p>

Learning Support

The Learning Support team collaborates with teachers and families to provide support for all students, which may include:

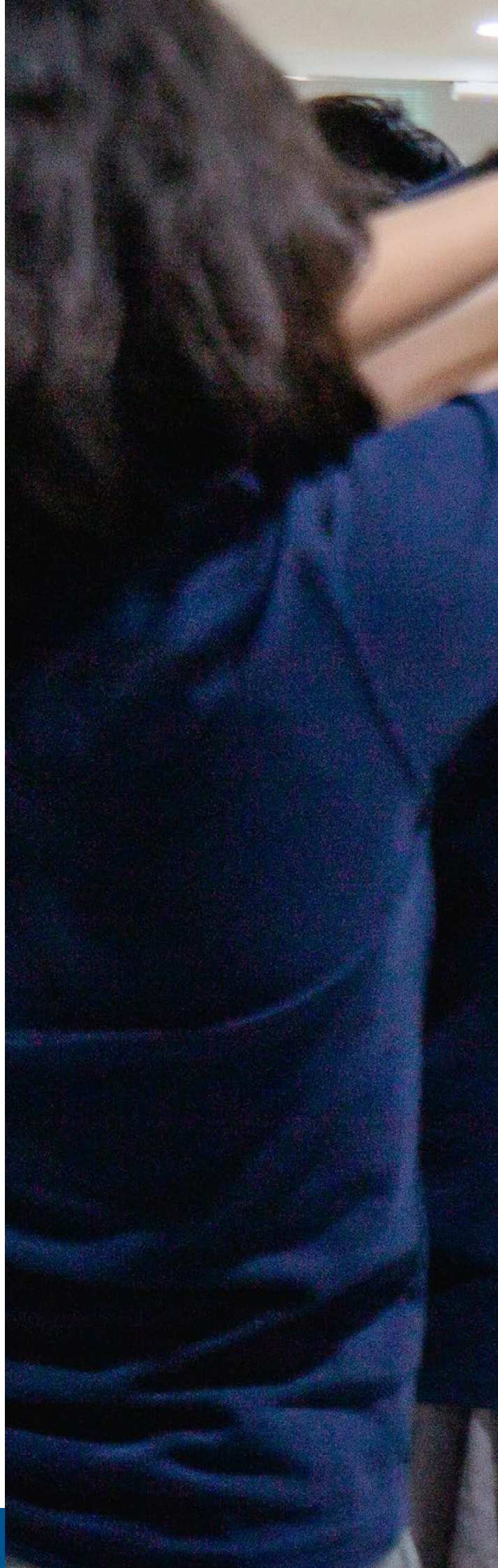
- differentiated support in the classroom
- targeted short-term interventions both within and outside of the classroom
- long-term support guided by Individualized Learning Plans (IEPs)

English as an Additional Language (EAL)

EAL support is provided for students in the English Language Acquisition (“Capable”) classes instead of taking a course in another language. The EAL team provides a personalized program adapted to a student’s reading, writing and speaking needs. Periodic testing monitors improvements in a student’s command of English until they have reached a level when they are recommended to exit the class (and take another language course).

Counseling Support

Our counselors are here to support our students as and when needed, on an individual or within a small group basis. Counseling supports students to help them overcome any barriers that may be preventing them from flourishing..





Contact us



Primary Campus

28 Vo Truong Toan Street, An Phu Ward, Thu Duc City, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam

Secondary Campus

1 Xuan Thuy Street, Thao Dien Ward, Thu Duc City, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam

Tel: (84-28) 3898 9100 - Fax: (84-28) 3898 9382

Email: admissions@ishcmc.edu.vn



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