

PROCESS•PROGRESS•RESEARCH•COMMUNICATION•SOCIALIZATION
CREATIVITY•BELIEFS AND VALUES•ROLES•CREATION
THINKERS•PROBLEM SOLVING•PREDICTORS
EVALUATORS•EMPATHETIC•RISK TAKERS
BALANCED•REFLECTIVE•RATIONAL
GLOBAL CITIZENS•LOGICAL

SELF-MANAGING
KNOWLEDGE
PRE-UNIVERSITY-FOCUSED

BISHOP

INTERNATIONAL•CARING

EXPLORERS•INQUIRY
COMMUNICATORS
PRINCIPLED•SERVICE

O'BYRNE

OPEN MINDS

FLEXIBLE
POSITIVE

HIGH

UNDERSTANDING

SINCERE•WELL-ROUNDED
RESPONSIBLE•THOUGHTFUL
SELFLESS•DEDICATION

SCHOOL

ADAPTABLE•ORGANIZED

ETHICAL•ACCURATE

ENVIRONMENTAL

COMMITMENT

CONFIDENT

CURIOUS•BRAVE

SMART

INDEPENDENT

RESPECTFUL

TOLERANT

COOPERATIVE

REASONING

ANALYTICAL

BALANCE



Diploma
Programme

What is the INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE PROGRAMME?

In 1965, in Switzerland, the International Baccalaureate Organization (IBO) set out to establish a program of studies that would assure quality educational standards for students in international schools around the world. Today, the International Baccalaureate Programme is offered in more than 3340 schools located in more than 141 countries serving close to 1 million students. The Curriculum and Assessment Center in Cardiff, Wales is responsible for continuously updating the curriculum, developing examinations, assessing student work, training teachers, and evaluating the program with input from IB teachers worldwide.

The International Baccalaureate (IB) Programme at Bishop O'Byrne High School is a deliberate compromise between the specialization required in some educational systems and the breadth preferred in others. The general objectives of the IB Programme are to provide young people with a balanced education, to facilitate geographic and cultural mobility, and to promote international understanding and responsible citizenship through a shared academic experience. Since its founding, the IB diploma has been a symbol of academic integrity and intellectual promise. A student who achieves an IB Diploma demonstrates a strong commitment to learning, both in terms of mastery of subject content and in the development of the skills and discipline necessary for success in a competitive world.



What is unique about the IB PROGRAMME?

The International Baccalaureate Programme has a philosophy for a complete, balanced, global individual. Students are asked to become life-long learners that can create a better, more peaceful world through intercultural reasoning and respect utilizing a globalized educational system. Students who take the IB Diploma Programme will achieve two curricula throughout their three years and have both an Alberta High School Diploma and an International Baccalaureate Diploma, both of which are recognized nationally and all over the world as comprehensive educational programs.

What are some advantages of the IB PROGRAMME?



BREADTH AND DEPTH – students follow several higher-level programs that are further detailed into particular units of study

INDEPENDENCE – students work an area of special interests culminating in a major essay

CRITICAL THINKING – students develop intellectual rigor and the philosophical backgrounds to evaluate the knowledge that they acquire

CREATIVITY, ACTION, SERVICE – students participate or lead projects of community volunteerism to contribute their talents to the betterment of society

INTERNATIONALISM – students learn a utilizable second language, developing awareness and respect for cultures and traditions within the global community

PEER GROUPS – students benefit in peer groupings with like-minded individuals that demonstrate strong commitments to learning and education

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS – students prepare for multiple high-stakes assessments throughout the year and consistently score above provincial averages on Alberta Diploma exams

VOLUNTEERISM – students contribute to volunteerism outside of academics and have evaluations and reflections of their experiences

UNIVERSITY PLACEMENTS – students who graduate from the IB programme are sought after due to their experience with academic rigor and their experiences in contributing to the community. Colleges and universities all over the world recognize the IB Diploma and may offer advanced standing or course credit to students with strong IB subject results. In some cases, offers of admission are made to students based solely on the successful completion of the IB diploma. Some universities offer scholarships that are available exclusively to IB diploma candidates. A useful web site is: www.ibo.org/university-admission/recognition-of-the-ib-diploma-by-countries-and-universities/

Are you a POTENTIAL IB STUDENT?

IB students seek to be learners in an increasingly complex world. IB students commonly:

- read for pleasure
- enjoy school and learning
- possess a good work ethic
- like to challenge themselves
- are interested in politics and global awareness
- are involved in extracurricular activities
- are curious about the physical laws of the sciences
- experience boredom of their academics in school
- plan to maintain an academic focus in grade 11 and 12 with university aspirations



Students of the IB Programme strive to become learners that embody the IB Learner Profile, taken from IBO. The IB Learner profile believes that the following attributes can help individuals and groups become responsible members of local, national, and global communities with international mindedness.

INQUIRERS: Learners nurture curiosity and develop skills for inquiry and research. They learn with enthusiasm and sustain their love for learning throughout life.

KNOWLEDGEABLE: Learners develop conceptual understanding, exploring knowledge across a range of disciplines. They engage with issues and ideas that have local and global significance.

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

COMMUNICATORS: Learners express themselves confidently and creatively in more than one language. They collaborate effectively, listening to the perspectives of others.

PRINCIPLED: Learners act with integrity and honesty, a strong sense of fairness and justice, and with respect for the dignity and rights of all people. They take responsibility for their actions and their consequences.

OPEN-MINDED: Learners critically appreciate our own cultures and personal histories, as well as the values and traditions of others. They seek and evaluate many points of view and are willing to grow from experiences.

CARING: Learners show empathy, compassion, and respect. They have a commitment to service, and act to make positive differences in the lives of others and the world around them.

RISK-TAKERS: Learners approach uncertainty with forethought and determination. They explore new ideas and innovative strategies and are resourceful and resilient in the face of challenges.

BALANCED: Learners understand the importance of balancing different aspects of their lives (intellectual, physical, and emotional) to achieve well-being for themselves and others.

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 developments.

What's the difference between a DIPLOMA STUDENT & A CERTIFICATE STUDENT?

In grade 11, candidates may enroll in one or more IB classes. These students will not graduate with an IB Diploma but can also benefit from the program. These students are certificate (partial IB) students. For candidates who choose to study selected IB subjects (certificate candidates), there is no requirement for any combination of higher level and standard level courses, nor is there a requirement to undertake Theory of Knowledge, CAS, or the Extended Essay.

Students intending to complete the IB diploma fulfil six academic requirements, and three core components of the program. Students are awarded an International Baccalaureate Diploma if they earn at least 24 points (maximum of 7 points for each IB course, and a possible 3 bonus points for TOK and the Extended Essay) out of a maximum of 45 points.

Note that diploma candidates will have priority over certificate candidates with regards to admission into the IB Programme and availability of individual IB courses.





What classes can I take in IB?

IB Subjects are offered at either Higher Level (HL) or Standard Level (SL). The IB Diploma student takes courses from six IB subject groups (a combination of 3 HL and 3 SL classes). A Candidate (partial IB) student may take any desired courses. All students will also comply with the Alberta High School Diploma requirements. Students write Alberta Diploma Exams in the following subjects: English Language Arts, Social Studies, Mathematics, Chemistry, Physics, and Biology. Each of the subjects also has a culminating IB assessment which may include an exam, presentation, or portfolio. The IB subject groups are:

GROUP 1 - STUDIES IN LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE

English A1: Literature HL – The English A1: Literature course encourages students to appreciate the artistry of literature and to develop the ability to reflect critically on their reading. The study of works from a variety of cultures and eras introduces students to new and changing perspectives. The students' response to the study of literature is through both oral and written communication, enabling them to develop and refine their command of language.

GROUP 2 - LANGUAGE ACQUISITION

Spanish or French SL – These language acquisition courses are for students with little or no experience in the language. Through receptive, productive, and interactive skills, students develop the ability to respond and interact appropriately in a defined range of every day situations. These classes will enable students to communicate with people from a new culture and make the most of any time they spend in French or Spanish speaking countries.

GROUP 3 - INDIVIDUALS AND SOCIETIES

History HL – Our World History course helps students develop an understanding of the modern world through the lenses of economics, politics, and twentieth Century history. Students develop critical thinking skills as they engage in the analysis, synthesis, and purposeful use of information. Major topics including capitalism, communism, fascism, democracy, authoritarianism, and the Cold War provide the bases for examining modern issues.

GROUP 4 - SCIENCES

Chemistry SL - Chemistry allows students to learn some topics in greater detail than the Alberta Curriculum and includes a more extensive laboratory experience. Many of the additional topics covered allow for a smoother transition into post-secondary Chemistry. The additional laboratory experience also provides students with more confidence as they move into the post-secondary Chemistry Lab.

Biology HL - Biology focuses on structure and function within human systems, interactions within ecosystems, genetics, and molecular biology. Some of the highlights are field work in an ecological setting, an emphasis on experimental design, and carrying out independently-directed investigations. Students become knowledgeable about the concepts that are fundamental to Biology, while also being challenged to think about how Biology exists within a global context.

Physics HL - Physics seeks to explain the universe, from the very smallest particles to the vast distances between galaxies. The Physics IB course progresses beyond gravity, magnetism, and atomic physics, and continues on to study quantum theory, circuit analyses, thermodynamics, and technologies such as medical imaging.

GROUP 5 - MATHEMATICS

Mathematics SL – Mathematics is the international language. Apart from slightly differing notation, mathematicians from around the world can communicate within their field, transcending politics, religion, and nationality. This offers a unique way to describe the world around us. Students build on their previous knowledge to learn new skills, develop logical, critical, and creative thinking skills, and develop patience and persistence in problem solving.

GROUP 6 - THE ARTS

Visual Arts HL – “Do something your future self will thank you for.” -Pablo Picasso
Are you a painter, sculptor, photographer, film maker, architect, character designer, animator, or game designer? Perhaps you don't know what your future holds, and you simply love making Art? IB Visual Arts is all about creativity. At the heart of the program is keeping a Visual Arts Journal. This course will ask you to flex your creative muscles and examine the context of your work. You will also learn the importance and application of process, and Art Criticism.



What is the IB CORE CURRICULUM?

The IB Core Curriculum give students opportunities to broaden their experiences and apply their knowledge and skills. These core elements are essential to the Diploma Programme.



THEORY OF KNOWLEDGE

Theory of Knowledge is a curriculum unique to the IBO. It seeks to challenge learners to think critically and reflect on knowledge and its role in the global community. It is designed to be an interdisciplinary course and encourages students to become aware of themselves as thinkers and learners in an increasingly interconnected world.



CREATIVITY, ACTIVITY, SERVICE (CAS)

CAS aims to strengthen interpersonal and leadership skills through participation or leadership in various volunteer and extracurricular activities in order extend students' talents into their local and global communities.



EXTENDED ESSAY

Extended Essay – This core component is an in-depth study on a topic of the student's choice. Students are partnered with a teacher-mentor who provides insight and guidance during the research and writing process. This essay is then published and remains a part of Bishop O'Byrne's school library.

BISHOP O'BYRNE INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE PROGRAMME ENROLLMENT CONTRACT

The International Baccalaureate Programme offers an enhanced learning experience that develops intellectual skills and emphasizes academic achievement through a rigorous course of study. Internationalism is foundational to the program and is used to foster global citizenship. To meet those goals, a sincere commitment is asked of those families who undertake this journey.

1. Academic expectations and grading standards are high; homework and independent study are a mainstay for success in all IB courses. The achievement of a student in this programme will depend upon the effort of the student, not on the actions of others.
2. IB Diploma and Certificates candidates must be self-motivated and possess or acquire effective time management and organizational skills.
3. IB Diploma candidates have a culminating independent research project or study and will write a paper of approximately 4000 words over their junior and senior years. This paper will be published in the Bishop O'Byrne Library.
4. Second language acquisition is a requirement of the IB Diploma Programme. The language acquisition program facilitates cultural study and global citizenry.
5. All IB courses culminate in an assessment upon the completion of each course. These may include exams, portfolios, presentations, and/or essays.
6. The IB Programme emphasizes participation in school and community organizations. IB Diploma students are required to contribute to their community in the areas of Creativity, Action, and Service.
7. Students are expected to maintain satisfactory grades while in the IB programme. Maintenance of course and programme deadlines are conditions of continued enrollment in the IB programme.
8. Academic honesty is a cornerstone of the IB philosophy. Students will only provide work that is original, reflecting their own study and efforts. There are serious consequences for violation of these principles.
9. Parental involvement and support are crucial to a student's success in the IB Programme. Continuous monitoring of student participation, with an open and honest dialogue, will provide for emotional well-being during the student's IB journey.
10. Payments for enrollment and exam fees are sent directly to the IBO and are non-refundable.



What are the fees associated with the IB PROGRAMME?

IB students are responsible for fees associated with IBO registration and evaluation. These fees are collected in October of the grade 11 and 12 years, as students are registered directly with the IBO for their exams. The approximate fee for a full IB diploma student over two years would be \$1200. A complete statement of fee structure will be provided in September of each year and may change after this printing. These fees are sent directly to the IBO and are non-refundable.

How do I enroll in the IB PROGRAMME?

GRADE 9 – Register for Bishop O’Byrne’s Grade 10 Honours program by completing the Bishop O’Byrne IB Registration Form. Teacher or counsellor recommendations or academic standing may qualify students for one or more Honours courses.

GRADE 10 – Students complete Grade 10 Honours pre-requisite courses, and register for grade 11 and 12 in the IB Programme. Students will require teacher recommendations and continued academic standing.

GRADE 11 – Students participate in IB courses as an Anticipated Diploma Candidates or as a Certificate Candidates, with completion of the programme in grade 12.

GRADE 12 – Students will complete their courses. Those students who fulfill all program requirements will receive an Alberta High School Diploma and an International Baccalaureate Diploma. Certificate students will receive an Alberta High School Diploma and IB issued transcripts and certificates.



How are IB students ASSESSED?

IB students complete parallel outcomes in each subject to satisfy the requirements of the Alberta High School Diploma. In most cases, there is considerable overlap between the IB and Alberta Education programs of study. Each student

will be assessed and awarded grades for the outcomes expected by each educational authority. Two sets of marks are generated for each student, one for the IBO and one for Alberta Education. Each mark is based on the outcomes expected by each authority. This will ensure that the student is not penalized for attempting the more rigorous program of study. The Alberta Education transcript does not report IB grades. IBO transcripts are arranged with separate requests from students or valid post-secondary institutions.

In IB, the assessments utilize a range of techniques. Some are internal assessments and graded by our teachers over the two-year period. Others are written examinations which are prepared and marked internationally by examiners selected and trained by the International Baccalaureate Organization. With classroom teachers and international examiners working in partnership, the emphasis is on ensuring that students have many opportunities to demonstrate what they have learned.

What is the ANTICIPATED SCHEDULE?

GRADE 10

English 10H
 Social Studies 10H
 Science 10H
 CALM 20 Phys Ed 10
 Mathematics 10H
 Mathematics 20IB
 Art 10H or Option
 Religious Education 15/25
 French 10H or Spanish 10H

GRADE 11

English 20IB
 Social Studies 20IB
 Chemistry 20IB & 30IB
 Mathematics 30IB
 Biology 20IB or Physics 20IB
 or Visual Arts 20IB
 Religious Education 35
 Theory of Knowledge 25IB
 French 20IB or Spanish 20IB

GRADE 12

English 30IB & 35IB
 World History 35IB
 Social Studies 30IB
 Mathematics 31IB
 Biology 35IB or Physics 35IB
 or Visual Arts 35IB
 Biology 30IB or Physics 30IB
 or Visual Arts 30IB
 French 30IB or Spanish 30IB
 Theory of Knowledge 35IB

Students may also take choral and/or instrumental music offered outside of the schedule.



IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS

COORDINATOR CONTACTS

IB Coordinator

Mr. Brendan Bulger
brendan.bulger@cssd.ab.ca
403 500 2103 ext. 516

Vice Principal

Ms. Pat Toporowsky
pat.toporowsky@cssd.ab.ca
403 500 2103 ext. 304

Principal

Ms. Monique Baker
monique.baker@cssd.ab.ca
403 500 2103 ext. 306

SCHOOL INFORMATION

Bishop O'Byrne High School
#500 333 Shawville Blvd. SE
Calgary Alberta T2Y 4H3
403-500-2103
www.cssd.ab.ca/schools/bishopobyrne/

Brochure Design by Daniela Szeoke
in collaboration with



Brochure Concept by Kelsey Aikhionbare,
Vivian Obiakor, & Daniela Szeoke



**CALGARY CATHOLIC
SCHOOL DISTRICT**