



PRAGUE BRITISH  
INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL  
A NORD ANGLIA EDUCATION SCHOOL

# IB DIPLOMA AT PBIS





# DEAR PARENTS

The final stage of your child's journey with PBIS is the International Baccalaureate programme, the only curriculum designed specifically for the global community. All students pursue six IB subject options (three at Standard Level plus three at Higher Level) based on a blend of their strengths, interests and aspirations for university study or careers.

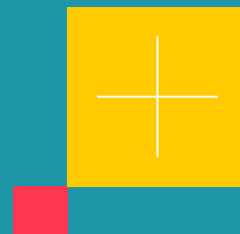
It is crucial that each of these important factors is considered during course selection as the fast pace and academic rigour of the IB Diploma challenges all abilities. Students must be equipped and motivated in equal measure to realise their full potential.

Our young peoples' minds will be opened to a wealth of intellectual opportunities in their subjects; alongside self-discovery and reflection through the Diploma Core (Theory of Knowledge, Extended Essay, and Creativity, Activity, Service).

Ultimately, students leave PBIS as rounded individuals with unforgettable memories and a strong sense of purpose and direction.

**Mark Buckley – IB Coordinator**





# IB SUBJECT GROUPS

1

## LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE

English or Czech Language and Literature, or School Supported Self Study of the Literature Course

## LANGUAGE ACQUISITION

English, French, German, Spanish, or Spanish Ab Initio

3

## INDIVIDUALS AND SOCIETIES

Business Management, Economics, Geography, Global Politics, History, Psychology

## SCIENCES

Biology, Chemistry, Computer Science, Environmental Systems and Societies, Physics, Sports, Exercise and Health Science,

5

## MATHEMATICS

Mathematics: Applications & Interpretations or Analysis & Approaches

## THE ARTS

Music, Theatre, Visual Arts

2

4

6

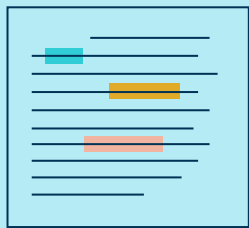
Courses may be Standard or Higher Level (SL/HL), depending on demand.  
Courses with insufficient student demand may not run.



# ENTRY REQUIREMENTS



- Students will be accepted onto HL courses with a grade B or higher (or international equivalent) at IGCSE in the same course
- Students will be accepted onto SL courses with a grade C or higher (or international equivalent) at IGCSE in the same course
- Grade B or higher in IGCSE maths required for HL or SL Computer Science, Chemistry and Physics
- In mitigating circumstances, and subject to PBIS discretion, students who do not achieve the above grades may be considered for the full IB Diploma following completion of a successful trial period in term 1 of Year 12



# IB SUBJECT ASSESSMENT

All subjects are assessed through a variety of internally guided essays plus external examinations at the end of Year 13. These examinations start at the very end of April and run through to the end of May (the end of the first half of the Summer Term). There are no external IB examinations in Year 12. Subject grades range from 1-7 with 7 being the highest.

## THE IB CORE

The Creativity, Activity, Service element must be completed but does not count towards Diploma points. The Extended Essay and Theory of Knowledge components are awarded grades A to E, with A being the highest grade and E being the lowest. A maximum of 3 points are available from Extended Essay and Theory of Knowledge.

The minimum passing total Diploma score is 24. The total maximum available score is 45.

## NON-DIPLOMA IB COURSE-ONLY CANDIDATES

As an IB World School, we always aim to offer the full Diploma to the maximum number of students. However, pursuing the full IB Diploma is highly challenging, and may not be in the best interests of all PBIS students. This can be determined prior to enrolment, based on academic achievement at the end of Year 11. Alternatively, students may be guided to revert from the Diploma to IB Certificates during Year 12 or 13. This can happen due to a variety of factors ranging from academic performance below the required DP points levels, failure to meet deadlines, non-compliance with the above DP Core commitments (such as CAS), and/or personal reasons beyond a students' control.

Students taking IB Certificates do not follow the IB Core, although are expected to complete a CAS portfolio. They will take four to six IB subjects at either Higher or Standard Level, depending on their skills, interests and future aspirations.

In comparison to the full Diploma, IB Certificates is recognised by a limited range of university and further study institutions. Our University and Careers guidance counsellor is always available and ready to advise on individual pathways for each student.





**IB SUBJECTS  
ON OFFER  
AT PBIS**



# 1 STUDIES IN LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE

## Language and Literature A (English or Czech)

A dynamic syllabus that introduces the interconnected nature of language and literature. Students explore a range of **non-fiction texts and wider 'Bodies of Work' alongside literary texts** from different time periods and cultures. Across two years, students approach the texts through the concepts of: **Culture, Creativity, Communication, Identity, Perspective, Representation and Transformation**. Students are required to engage with and identify the ways in which writers introduce and communicate Global Issues. There is a strong emphasis on student choice, independence, and development of ideas; and in order for students to keep track of their ideas, a Learner Portfolio is a non-assessed requirement of the course.

### Requirements

You should like reading and writing and be interested in finding out what great writers have to say about the global issues of our world: gender, power, environment, culture, and the creative process. You should be motivated, enthusiastic, reflective, and willing to become well-organised in your working habits.

### Why Study This?

The study of language and literature is great for developing the critical faculties, encouraging people to think for themselves, and being analytical in their responses to texts. It requires close reading, summary, and evaluative skills. It also requires an empathetic approach to human relationships and dilemmas. As such, it is invaluable in any career requiring analytical thought and an ability to communicate clearly and succinctly, both in writing and in person. Language and Literature specialists often excel in careers such as publishing, law, advertising, marketing, politics, journalism, communications, and PR.

## School Supported Self-Taught Literature Course – Standard Level Only

This course is designed to allow students to study **the above literature course in their mother tongue/dominant language**, if their dominant language is not either Czech or English. Students read all of the required texts and complete oral and written assignments in their mother tongue/dominant language.

All SSST students have a set of books in their chosen language selected in consultation with a teacher/tutor from a wide range of authors authorised by the IB. As well as having timetabled lessons, each student works with an external supervisor or tutor (paid for by the parents) who can read, mark, and assess their work in their mother tongue. If no such supervisor is available in Prague, students can find an equivalent person outside Prague or online.



# 2 LANGUAGE ACQUISITION

## Spanish Ab Initio – Standard Level

Designed for beginners, the main focus of Spanish Ab Initio is on learning how **to communicate and understand Spanish in everyday situations**. By the end of the course, you will be able to communicate basic information and ideas clearly and effectively. To illustrate the difference between this course, and other Group 2 courses, the following example may be of use: an ab initio student, standing in the Plaza Mayor in Madrid, should be able to direct someone to the nearest bullring, describe the area in basic detail and compare the city to their own city/area. Language acquisition will be achieved through the development of the **receptive, productive, and interactive skills** and competences. Elements of language include vocabulary, grammatical structures, register, pronunciation, and intonation.

### Requirements

No prior knowledge is required for this course, although some experience of language study is useful. Dedication, motivation and a “stick at it” attitude are the key requirements at IB level. You should also be well organised and prepared to work seriously and effectively over the two-year period. To achieve top grades, you should be prepared to make mistakes, communicate willingly, and dedicate yourself to the learning of new vocabulary.

### Why Study This?

Studying a language can lead directly into a number of career paths – the business world, the tourism industry, literature, journalism and the media, translation or teaching. However, its real value lies in the skills you will acquire over the two-year period. An understanding of people, foreign culture and a perspective on an increasingly “global” world is without doubt crucial. Furthermore, a wide range of employers value language graduates above many others, simply because they have developed the people skills to communicate and interact with others.



## Language B (Second Language English, French, German or Spanish)

The course comprises five themes: ***Identities, Experiences, Human ingenuity, Social organization and Sharing the planet***. These prescribed themes are illustrated with guiding principles and recommended topics, such as health and wellbeing, customs and traditions, communication and media, education, and the environment. IB languages provide a suitable foundation for further study and/or practical use, as well as being a coherent, satisfying, and worthwhile course of study for students who do not progress to further study in the subject. Students will learn to communicate confidently with native speakers on a wide range of general topics.

### Requirements

A genuine interest in the language is crucial for this course. You should have studied the language for at least three years and should be keen to develop the level of your language. Literary extracts are included in both courses but are only explicitly examined at Higher Level.

### Why Study This?

In today's interconnected world, the art of communication is a distinct asset, whatever career path you choose. Beyond the obvious careers requiring a foreign language as a primary skill (such as diplomacy, sales, interpreting, teaching, and translating) there are many fields where speaking a foreign language is a highly desirable skill. These include publishing, the media, government services, banking, intelligence, travel and tourism, fashion, law, international marketing, and real estate. The study of a language not only provides tangible communicative skills but also teaches general linguistic precision and an awareness of cultural differences.



# 3 INDIVIDUALS AND SOCIETIES

## Business Management

The main goal is to allow students to examine decision-making processes and understand how these impact on and are affected by internal and external environments. Students will develop an understanding of business theory and an ability to apply business principles, practices, and skills. During the course students will **explore a wide range of business organisations and activities, as well as the cultural and economic context in which businesses operate.** This will furnish students with the knowledge and skills needed for a successful career in the corporate world. In addition to the topics studied on the Standard Level course, the Higher Level course also focuses on business strategy, allowing students to appreciate a more holistic and long term view of business organisations.

### Requirements

Students should have a keen interest in the business world and have an ability to apply theoretical business concepts to real life business scenarios. They should be enthusiastic and motivated to learn, and this should be demonstrated by their sustained awareness of the business world around them. As such, students should regularly follow the business news through print media or news websites. The internal assessment (a written report of up to 2000 words) requires both strong research and report writing skills.

### Why Study This?

The Business Management course is excellent preparation for the world of work as, no matter what career a student decides to follow, there will always be an element of business within it. Whether it be a career in medicine or law, architecture or horticulture, an understanding of how businesses operate will prove invaluable. Business Management requires students to have an inquisitive mind and to have the ability to apply theory to real life business situations. Students are encouraged to have an astute awareness of the world around them and an understanding of how organisations and society interact.

## Economics

The main goal is to allow students to gain an understanding of economic theory and its application to the world around them. **Economics provides the knowledge and insight necessary to understand the impact of developments in business, society, and the world economy.** It enables us to understand the decisions of households, firms and governments based on human behaviour, beliefs, structure, constraints and need. Economics addresses many issues that society currently faces but can equally be applied to questions such as ‘what makes a luxury item such as a diamond more expensive than a necessity like water?’. And ‘why should public transport be subsidised by the government?’.

## Requirements

No prior knowledge of Economics is necessary to undertake this course of study. Strength in mathematics is desirable. However, a familiarity with economic concepts would be an advantage. You should have an interest in global current affairs and in exploring the points of view of different individuals, nations, and cultures in the world economy. The rigours of the course will require you to be motivated, enthusiastic and committed to your studies.

## Why Study This?

The study of Economics will provide numerical, analytical and descriptive skills, and through the study of economics you will learn how to extract the essential elements from complex issues and gain an understanding of the relationship between the different elements. You will learn how to think in a careful and precise way, how to analyse problems and communicate your findings effectively. All of these skills, developed through the study of economics, are valued in a wide range of careers such as such as accountancy, financial services, business management, marketing, politics, sales and the civil service.

# Geography

Geography is a globally dynamic subject firmly grounded in the real world, and ***focuses on the interactions between individuals, societies and the physical environment in time and space***. It provokes the ever-inquiring mind of developments, links and changes between the physical and human worlds. Patterns and processes are studied, and trends identified, looking to the future geographical world in which IB students will live and help to shape. IB Geography will investigate the way that people adapt and respond to change and help to develop ideas and management strategies associated with such change. Geography helps to explain the similarities and differences between spaces and places. Local fieldwork will take place to support and enhance the course and students may take part in a residential field trip overseas.

## Requirements

The usual requirement for IB Geography is an appropriate IGCSE grade in Geography. However, students with a lively and enquiring mind, a willingness to explore new ideas and an interest in current affairs may be considered without IGCSE Geography. The nature of the subject, and its methods of assessment, is such that students need to have a sound level of both numeracy and literacy.

## Why Study This?

Current concern about climate change, shrinking energy resources and sustainability make Geography a contemporary and very relevant course to study. Geography students are highly sought after in areas such as finance and banking, hydrology and flood management, education, surveying, GIS, climatology, urban and transport planning, emergency management, demography, oceanography, and many other areas. Geography students have excellent transferable skills making them attractive to virtually all employment sectors. "Team workers, self-starters, IT literate, good data interpretation and research skills these are all attributes where Geographers 'tick the box'." (Royal Geographical Society).

# Global Politics

The course is designed to be conceptual and active, so that you ***will learn the key ideas behind global politics, and then use this to engage with political issues of today.*** It couldn't be more relevant! The topics that will be covered include power, sovereignty, and international relations; human rights, development, peace and conflict; and at Higher Level: political challenges.

## Requirements

Above all, you need to have an interest in the world around you and what makes it tick. You should be the sort of person who sees stories in the news and wonders what has brought it about and how it could be dealt with for the best outcome. You want to know how to ascertain how to differentiate between fake news and what the real pressing issues are. You want to know what the unavoidable structures are that dictate the relationships around us – whether at our community or right up to global level. You should want to explore some issues of your own choosing, but in a professional and effective way.

## Why Study This?

International relations and politics are experiencing a growth in interest and as a result, a growth in related careers. It has traditionally lent itself well to careers directly involving politics such as elected representatives, political advisors, civil servants, members of international organizations, diplomatic service, foreign affairs, working with pressure groups and voluntary NGOs, media, journalism, human rights activism, international relations, education, and research.

# History

History is a discipline that will give you an understanding of yourself and others in relation to the world, both past and present. At PBIS we have ***chosen a course which provides a mixture of cultural, political, religious, and ideological diversity which spans the twentieth century.*** We have selected an interesting and thought-provoking range of leaders and events which will provide ample opportunities to see how wide the web of history spreads in terms of causes and consequences. It will prove greatly interesting and will provide an in-depth view of some of the most influential elements of the last century. The course is assessed via a source analysis paper, an essay paper, and an historical investigation.

## Requirements

You should be an enthusiastic and capable reader and written communicator as the course requires a great deal of independent research from a variety of sources, but principally from several in-depth textbooks. A successful candidate should have a great interest in current affairs, which should extend to an appreciation of the political, cultural, racial, religious, and ideological diversity of the world. The greater prior understanding of this diversity the better, although it is not a requirement.



### Why Study This?

History is renowned as a subject of great academic rigour which develops highly knowledgeable people with a well-rounded view of the world and an appreciation of diversity and an awareness and understanding of often conflicting interpretations. It has traditionally lent itself well to careers in media, journalism, politics, international relations, education, and research. However, because of the analytical approach and evaluation of evidence and interpretation it is also favoured by the accounting and legal professions.

## Psychology

This course offers students a fascinating insight into the diverse influences on human behaviour. Students are introduced, through a variety of studies, to ***the notion of humans as biological systems and how physiological influences such as our brain structure, hormones and inherited characteristics can have a profound influence on our behaviour***. The course also focuses upon the cognitive influences on human behaviour through the study of processes such as memory and perception. Social influence, that is how the presence and behaviour of one or a few people affect the behaviour and attitudes of another individual, as well as the power of culture in determining behaviour, are also a central focus of the course.

### Requirements

Although there is no need to have studied psychology before, an interest in understanding the complexities of human behaviour is a must. Detailed background reading of studies, independent research, self-motivation, and enthusiasm for discussing topical issues are expectations for study of this subject.

### Why Study This?

Psychology is useful in a variety of career paths and professions where interactions with others are important. Occupations such as journalism, advertising, law, marketing and nursing all welcome students of Psychology. As well as being invaluable in most professions, the study of Psychology is a useful tool for life as it helps foster analytical thought and an appreciation of what motivates others.

# 4 SCIENCES

## Biology

It is important to recognise that all sciences share a common approach and attitude to the acquisition of knowledge and apply a similar standard of rigor and analysis to their findings. Biology has, however, developed some **distinctive approaches which are used to answer the sorts of questions that biologists ask about the living world**. The relevance and concepts of Biology will be taught to emphasise its practical use in the laboratory. By its nature, the subject lends itself to an experimental approach and this will be reflected throughout the course. Global issues and the collaborative nature of this science mean that internationalism is an integral and crucial part of biology and this is reflected in the course. In the course an attempt is **made to understand the living world at different levels, at one end of the scale is the cell and at the other end is the ecosystem**. You will be challenged and tested through practical investigations, written exercise and projects. These will encourage you to combine real world data, experimentation and theoretical concepts to make sense of the biological world and solve practical problems. .

### Requirements

The appropriate passing IGCSE grade in Biology plus a good track record in IGCSE Mathematics. It helps if you are analytical and logical, and you should want to know what makes the world around you work. Students are required to use statistical tools such as standard deviation and chi - squared.

### Why Study This?

Universities and employers value the skills that Biology students develop, including those in communication (both written and verbal), critical thinking, data analysis, experimental work, information technology, team working and time management. The study of Biology leads into careers such as medicine, the pharmaceutical or chemical industry or in laboratories involved in environmental research. Students interested in conservation and the environment often work for governmental conservation agencies, private consulting firms, or even computer companies.



## Chemistry

An understanding of **Chemistry is essential preparation for studies in the life sciences** and is compulsory for many medical based degrees. Studying Chemistry is therefore necessary not only for chemically related careers but also as preparation for courses in other sciences. **Global issues and the collaborative nature of this science mean that internationalism is an integral and crucial part of chemistry**, and this is reflected in the course. A universal chemical language and worldwide issues, such as global warming, bring together different cultures and backgrounds. The relevance and concepts of Chemistry will be taught so as to emphasise its practical use in the laboratory and its applicability and relevance to real-world international issues and problems e.g. industrial processes and pollution associated with them. You will be challenged and tested through practical investigations, written exercises, and projects. These will encourage you to combine real-world data, experimentation, and theoretical concepts to make sense of empirical findings and solve practical problems.

### Requirements

To study a Science subject in the IBDP, it is necessary that the applicant can demonstrate appropriate competence in the subject, and in mathematics, up to IGCSE level or similar.

### Why Study This?

Chemistry provides an excellent pathway for the development of your critical faculties and intellect. It also instils a variety of important transferable skills that will serve you well whatever your subsequent choice of career. If you are interested in careers such as medicine, dentistry, veterinary medicine, civil or chemical engineering, you should take this subject at Higher Level.

## Physics

The course presents **the best aspects of traditional Physics along with modern concepts in an exciting and flexible way**. Students will question the way they learn, reflecting on how knowledge and understanding are obtained. Students will also be expected to **explore ideas, investigate different physical situations by means of simulation, modelling, and experimentation** and to develop key skills, such as: analysis and presentation of data, communication and empathy with peers and scientific researchers and educators. You will be studying methods of mathematical analysis of laboratory data, kinetics, Newton's laws, momentum, work and energy, gravitation, thermodynamics, wave motion including light and sound, electromagnetism, atomic and nuclear physics. Approximately 25% of class time is allotted to laboratory investigations.

### Requirements

To follow Physics, students should have appropriate competence in the subject, and in maths, up to IGCSE level or similar. You should be naturally curious and tenacious in your pursuit of a fuller understanding of how our universe works. You should be motivated, enthusiastic and willing to become well organised in your working habits. As the course involves some complex ideas and emphasises the application of concepts in real life contexts, you should be ready to read around the subject independently outside of lesson time.

### Why Study This?

The successful Physics student will find a wide range of careers open-up. Skills acquired on the course, along with the discipline and rigour of the core material, will allow students to consider just about any future pathway, from university courses in pure science, engineering, to business, humanities or languages.

## Environmental Systems and Societies (ESS) – Standard Level Only

A course growing in popularity. It's **a dynamic and complex course which draws together the sciences, geography, politics, economics and sociology**. It requires a diverse and sometimes challenging set of skills from its students, ranging from the ability to perform research and scientific investigations to contributing to philosophical discussions. The course is firmly rooted in both scientific investigation of environmental systems in their structure and function, as well as in the exploration of cultural, economic, ethical, and socio/political interactions of societies with the environment. It is recognised that to understand the environmental issues of the 21st Century and to be able to suggest suitable management solutions, **both human and scientific elements have to be fully considered**. By the end of this course, you will be able to adopt an informed response to environmental issues on a range of scales from local to global. You will have a deeper understanding of the impact of the choices and decisions you make in your own lives on the environment. .

### Requirements

A good IGCSE grade in a Science and/or Geography is an advantage. You should also be able to perform basic arithmetic functions. You should also be interested in developing a deeper understanding of the world around you and be enthusiastic about exploring current environmental issues such as conservation, climate change, overpopulation and pollution management. You should also be willing to foster an international perspective and appreciate alternative viewpoints including the perceptions of different cultures.

### Why Study This?

The Environmental Systems and Societies course provides students with a broad understanding of the many pressing environmental issues facing humanity. Such an understanding will prove invaluable in careers that deal directly with society such as journalism, politics, law, surveying, and environmental management. You will also develop many transferable skills such as public speaking and presentation delivery, group work, forming and expressing personal opinions, the ability to analyse a wide range of data and reason effectively. These skills will undoubtedly prepare you for careers in management and business.



## Computer Science

Students with an interest in a career with computers or in developing their analytical problem-solving skills should consider Computer Science. It is a practical, yet ***academically rigorous subject offering students a detailed view of how computers work and how systems can be developed (programmed) to work on them.*** Successful computer systems result from a systematic approach to problem solving, along with a technical understanding of how computers operate. The aim of the course is to develop both of these aspects of understanding. While learning to program is a significant element of the course, the primary purpose is not to be a vocational programming course, but to allow complex theoretical concepts to be explored practically and experimentally.

### Requirements

The appropriate passing IGCSE grades in Computer Science and Mathematics are important. In both SL and HL students' approach to study, characterised by specific IB learner profile attributes, inquirers, thinkers and communicators, will be significant here. At HL, the additional logic and problem solving would be complimented with a solid grounding in mathematics, possibly taking HL Mathematics.

### Why Study This?

There is no career path that does not involve computing or problem solving to some degree. Software is increasingly used and developed in all walks of life and a solid knowledge of computational theory gives students the chance to be a part of this. For students interested in further study at university, Computer Science also complements many engineering, science, mathematical, business and management courses.

## Sports, Exercise and Health Science

An applied science course with ***aspects of biological and physical science*** being studied in the specific context of sports, exercise and health. After studying the course, learners are able to prescribe exercise for the promotion of health and well-being. The course involves the study of the science which underpins physical performance and provides the opportunity to apply these principles. The course incorporates the ***traditional disciplines of anatomy and physiology, biomechanics, psychology and nutrition.*** Students will cover a range of core and optional topics and carry out experimental investigations in various settings. This will provide an opportunity to acquire the knowledge and understanding necessary to apply scientific principles and critically analyse human performance.

### Requirements

Students do not have to have studied PE at IGCSE, however a minimum of a Grade B at IGCSE Biology will be required. Due to the theoretical nature of the course sporting ability is not necessary. An interest in sport is more beneficial!

### Why Study This?

The course is suited to a wide range of students; obviously those interested in sport or pursuing a career in Sports Science, Physiotherapy or Sports Medicine.

# 5 MATHEMATICS

## Mathematics: Applications & Interpretations – Offered at Standard Level Only

Students taking this course will normally follow courses at university which do not relate directly to Mathematics. Others may take this subject because they have an interest in mathematics, enjoy meeting its challenges and engaging with its problems and want to extend their understanding or skills. The course develops a strong statistical approach following its founding units. The students will need a graphical display calculator (GDC) which will be used throughout the course. Students will ***learn to develop their mathematics for describing our world and solving practical problems***. They will also learn to harness the power of technology alongside exploring mathematical models. They will enjoy mathematics in more practical contexts such as statistics.

### Requirements

Students will have completed IGCSE Mathematics or equivalent and have been accepted on to the IB Diploma course. They are sure they do not want to follow a course that relies on pure Mathematics at university. It is important that all students discuss which Mathematics course they should follow with an informed person prior to making a final decision. Students need to be particularly careful about choosing between Math Applications SL and Math Analysis SL. These two courses are viewed differently by different universities around the world.

### Why Study This?

Maths AI has the similar foundational skills of mathematics as Maths AA; however, it has a specialised focus on statistical thinking. This focus of mathematics benefits careers in the social sciences, the arts and design. Please be aware that we advise students to check with universities they would potentially like to attend to ensure that Math Applications SL is acceptable for their prospective course.

# Mathematics: Analysis & Approaches

This course caters **for students with a good background in Mathematics** who are competent in a range of analytical and technical skills. The majority will be expecting to follow a university course where mathematics supports the subject area, for example: medicine, biology, chemistry, business, economics, physics, psychology, or computing. Others may take this subject because they have an interest in mathematics itself, enjoying meeting its challenges and engaging with its problems. The course covers **five broad areas of Mathematics: number and algebra, geometry and trigonometry, functions, statistics and probability, and calculus**. The students will need a graphical display calculator (GDC), which will be used throughout the course. They will develop skills in mathematical thinking. They should enjoy mathematics in its more abstract form such as calculus and functions.

## Requirements

To follow the SL Analysis course students need to be motivated and interested in mathematics and need to be particularly careful about choosing between Maths Applications SL and Maths Analysis SL. These two courses are viewed differently by different universities around the world. To follow the Math Analysis HL course, students should be expecting to achieve a A\* in IGCSE Mathematics. Most importantly they need to be very motivated and interested in mathematics, relishing the proofs and abstract form in particular calculus and functions.

## Why Study This?

Maths AA is excellent for developing critical thinking, problem solving and being analytical in response to diverse problems. It requires dedication and helps students develop independence. As such, it is invaluable in any career but particularly important in careers requiring use of mathematics. These careers include engineering, the actuarial profession and other financial sectors, economics, IT, computer programming and systems administration, research and development and statistical analysis. Intelligence agencies require top class mathematicians, as do many other careers. Analysis particularly suits courses with a high mathematical content e.g. Maths, Physics, Economics.

# 6 THE ARTS

## Music

The new DP course has been designed to prepare 21st century musicians for a world in which global musical cultures and industries are rapidly changing. It teaches students to be able to **strategise, plan, execute and justify their creative choices. It will equip students with strongly developed creative thinking skills, holistic mindsets and flexible design-and project-based skills**, all of which are highly sought after by universities and employers. Throughout the course, students embody three roles: the researcher, the creator and the performer. They will have the freedom to personalise their learning.

### Requirements

Students who have studied music at IGCSE level or have done formal practical or theory examinations (such as ABRSM/Trinity Guildhall) would be at an advantage for taking IB HL Music. However, students who have secure musical skills and a strong interest in the subject can certainly succeed at IB Music (SL or HL). This subject can be accessed by any student who has an interest in music, plays a musical instrument or sings to a reasonable standard. The ability to read music is desirable but not essential.

### Why Study This?

The course provides an enriching and valuable course of study for students who may pursue other careers. This course also provides all students with the opportunity to engage in the world of music as lifelong participants. Potential pathways for careers in music are music production and studio engineering, composing and arranging, performance and live music, legal/business/management aspects of music, recording labels, media, TV, radio and print, education and music therapy. For students not wishing to pursue Music at University, Music is very highly regarded by top universities around the world.

## Theatre

Theatre is a practical subject encouraging discovery through experimentation and the presentation of ideas to others. It results in **the development of both theatre and life skills; the building of confidence, creativity and working collaboratively**. The Theatre course gives students the opportunity to make as creators, designers, directors, and performers. It emphasises the importance of working both individually and collaboratively as part of an ensemble. It offers the opportunity **to engage actively in the creative process, transforming ideas into action** as inquisitive and productive artists. Students experience the course from contrasting artistic perspectives. They learn to apply research and theory to inform and to contextualise their work. The Theatre course encourages students to appreciate that through the processes of researching, creating, presenting, and critically reflecting on theatre, they gain a richer understanding of themselves, their community, and the world. It enables students to discover and engage with different forms of theatre across time, place and culture and promotes international mindedness.



## Requirements

You will need to enjoy the processes of making theatre: designing, directing, and performing, as well as the theory and practice upon which performance and production skills are based. You should be able to work collaboratively as the majority of the course content will be delivered through practical workshops and projects, that are supported by independent reading, research and journal work. You will need to be self-motivated and possess good time management skills. IGCSE Drama is advantageous but not essential.

## Why Study This?

The arts industry is one of the world's largest and most diverse employers, from production and performance to events management and creative marketing. The study of theatre is fundamental for pursuing careers in theatre, acting, film, television and radio. However the transferable skills which IB Theatre offers, such as critical thinking, problem solving, risk taking, resourcefulness and teamwork, allow students to enter a career not necessarily in the arts; theatre students have progressed into law, journalism, politics, public relations, media, business, education, drama/speech therapy, community/social work, advertising, event organisation and marketing.

## Visual Arts

The course provides students with the opportunity to **develop a critical and personal view of themselves in relation to the world**. Students are expected to engage in many ways. They will be encouraged to visit galleries, learn about the work of others in both a historical and contextual framework as well as undertake independent critical investigation. They will have the opportunity to work with practising artists, work in the studio and out in the environment. Students have the freedom to explore self-set themes within the course and will **work towards a final exhibition**. The course is designed to enable study of visual arts in higher education, while welcoming those students who seek life enrichment through visual arts. Throughout the course, students are expected to experience working with a variety of different art-making and conceptual forms. Students should, as a minimum, experience working with at least two art-making forms.

## Requirements

Although there is no need to have previously studied art to follow this programme, a portfolio of artwork displaying appropriate skills and working practices will be an asset. Equally important is a genuine interest in the visual arts, an enjoyment of experimentation and exploration, and a willingness to think creatively. You should be willing to work with a wide range of media and keen to discuss your ideas and progress. Pace and commitment are crucial.

## Why Study This?

The study of visual arts is useful in a wide range of careers. As well as being desirable for careers within the arts such as fine art, graphics, fashion, product design, theatre design, textiles, architecture, photography, advertising/marketing, ceramics, metalwork, education, curation, and art history, it encourages creative approaches to problem solving, dexterity and control on a practical level, and a sequential development of ideas.



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