



# International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme at John McGlashan College



Preparing students for success in higher education and to be active participants in a global society







## What is the IB Diploma?

The International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme is a path for our year 12 and 13 students because it embodies the same purpose and the same ideals that we hold and value at John McGlashan College.

#### The IB Mission Statement

The International Baccalaureate aims to develop inquiring, knowledgeable and caring young people who help to create a better and more peaceful world through intercultural understanding and respect.

To this end the organisation works with schools, governments and international organisations to develop challenging programmes of international education and rigorous assessment.

These programmes encourage students across the world to become active, compassionate and lifelong learners who understand that other people, with their differences, can also be right.

The IB Diploma Programme (IBDP) is an academically challenging and balanced programme of education with final examinations that prepares students, aged 16 to 19, for success at university and in life beyond. It has been designed to address the intellectual, social, emotional and physical well-being of students. The programme has gained recognition and respect from the world's leading universities. John McGlashan College became an authorised school in 1999 and has had hundreds of our students graduate with the Diploma.

We firmly believe that the IB diploma programme is accessible for students who are of medium-high academic ability who also have a strong work ethic. We consider an IB grade of a 4 to be equivalent to that of an Achieved mark in NCEA. An IB grade of a 5 is equivalent to that of a Merit mark and a 6 or a 7 is equivalent to an Excellence mark.

Students do not have to be Excellence level students in all subjects. An IB diploma is awarded to those candidates who gain 24 points across six subjects. That is a grade of 4 on average which is equivalent to an Achieved level in NCEA.







## The Diploma Programme Core

The DP features three core elements that broaden students' educational experience and challenge them to apply their knowledge and skills.

The EXTENDED ESSAY asks students to engage in independent research through an in-depth study of a contemporary Global issue of their own choice. This 4000 word essay develops both research and academic writing skills invaluable at tertiary level.

THEORY OF KNOWLEDGE (TOK) is taught both as a separate subject as well as being integrated into all other 6 subjects. It develops a coherent approach to learning that unifies the academic disciplines. In this course on critical thinking, students inquire into the nature of knowing and deepen their understanding of knowledge as a human construction.

CREATIVITY, ACTIVITY, SERVICE (CAS) complements a challenging academic programme in a holistic way. It involves students in a range of activities alongside their academic studies. The three strands of CAS are creativity (exploring ideas leading to an original product or performance), activity (physical exertion contributing to a healthy lifestyle) and service (collaborative with the community in response to an authentic need).

#### Assessment

Students sit written exams at the end of the programme. Students also complete internally assessed tasks in school which are 20-25% of their final grade. These are either initially marked by teachers and then moderated by external moderators or sent directly to external examiners.

The IB diploma is awarded to students who gain 24 points across six subjects studied. The marks awarded in each subject range from 1 (lowest) to 7 (highest). Students can also gain up to three further points for their TOK and the Extended Essay. The highest total that a DP student can be awarded is 45 points.

Achievement is measured against assessment criteria based on each subject's curriculum, rather than the performance of other students. The range of scores that students have attained remains statistically stable, and universities value the rigour and consistency of Diploma Programme assessment practice.

## **Course Costs**

To be an IBDP student at John McGlashan College, it costs \$320 per term invoiced at \$640 per semester. Costs cover: IB Subject fees and College related resource fees. Costs for the IBDP camp are to be confirmed (~\$315) - this is to be held in week 7 of term 4 of year 1.







#### The Curriculum

IBDP students must choose six subjects;

- 1. Literature (English or other first language)
- 2. Language Acquisition (second language)
- 3. Humanities (Social Science)
- 4. Science
- 5. Mathematics
- 6. Arts (music or visual art) or a second course from one of the other subject groups.

IBDP courses can be taken at higher level or standard level. Three subjects are taken at higher level (240 teaching hours), and the remaining courses are taken at standard level (150 teaching hours). The academic rigour of Higher level subjects falls between first year university and NCEA Level 3. The academic rigour of Standard level subjects falls between Level 2 and Level 3 NCEA. In this way, students gain the best balance between depth and breadth in their University preparation.

The language acquisition courses offered at the College are Spanish ab initio and English B (ESOL). If a language has not been taken previously, students can take a language at a beginner level (Language ab initio) and not be disadvantaged in gaining the Diploma.

## Available IB Subjects at John McGlashan College

## Literature

- English (HL & SL)
- Self Taught Language options (SL only) for other first languages e.g. Chinese, Korean, Thai, ...

#### Languages

- German B (SL)
- English B (HL & SL) [ESOL]
- Spanish ab initio (SL)

#### **Humanities**

- Economics (HL & SL)
- History (HL & SL)

## Sciences

- Biology (HL & SL)
- Chemistry (HL & SL)
- Physics (HL & SL)
- Computer Science (HL & SL)

#### **Mathematics**

Mathematics (HL & SL)

#### The Arts

- Music (HL & SL)
- Visual Arts (HL & SL)

Subjects offered in any one year may be dependent on numbers. Students can also enrol in a range of authorised <u>DP online courses offered via the College through Pamoja Education</u> at a cost of ~\$2000 NZD per year.

Theory of Knowledge will be taught for two periods per week in the first year. Time will also be scheduled to accommodate the CAS and Extended Essay requirements. All other classes will be taught for four periods per week over the two year programme.

While not every combination of subjects may be possible, students should look at this opportunity holistically and consider the benefits that the full Diploma programme offers rather than subject by subject.

Some students wish to take three sciences (Physics, Chemistry and Biology). While this degree of specialisation is not truly in line with the IB philosophy, we are currently able to make provision for this.







For further information visit www.ibo.org or contact the IB Coordinator using the details below.

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