



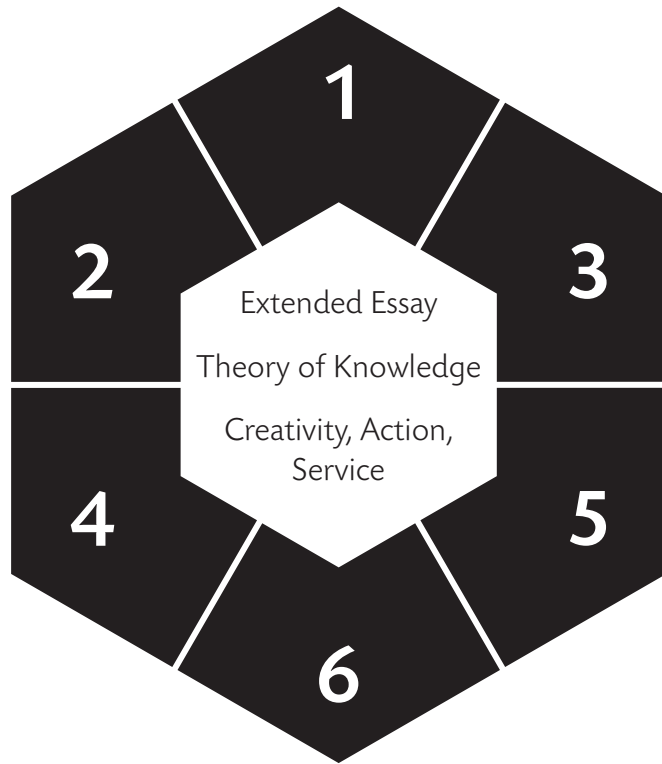
Leeds City College

The IB

International Baccalaureate Programme 2010



Leeds City College is an authorised IB world school. These are schools and colleges that share a common philosophy—a commitment to high quality, challenging, international education. Only schools/colleges authorized by the International Baccalaureate Organization (IBO) as IB World Schools can offer any of its three academic programmes: the Primary Years Programme (PYP), the Middle Years Programme (MYP), or the Diploma Programme. For further information about the IBO and its programmes, visit www.ibo.org



1. Literature

2. Second Language

- > French
- > Italian Ab Initio
(beginners – only available at Standard Level)
- > English

3. Individuals & Societies

- > Business
- > History
- > Psychology

4. Sciences

- > Biology
- > Chemistry
- > Physics

5. Maths

- > Maths
- > Maths Studies (only available at Standard Level)

6. Arts & Electives

- > Chemistry
- > Psychology
- > Theatre

"A decade ago teaching the International Baccalaureate was eccentric. Now it seems, it is the future."

(The Independent, Oct 2007)

International Baccalaureate Programme

For a qualification that has been available worldwide for over 40 years, the International Baccalaureate (IB) programme isn't as well known as it should be in the UK

The Diploma Programme is a two-year course leading to final examinations and a qualification that is welcomed by leading universities around the world.

The IB is an alternative qualification to the traditional AS / A Level route to university.

"IB students perform well and do not fail or drop out."

University of Dundee*

"IB students are more flexible, more open to new ideas and are more ready to question and challenge."

University of Essex*

Things you might not know about the IB:

- > Students have been admitted to UK universities and institutions of higher education on the basis of their International Baccalaureate Diplomas since 1970.
- > Of 117 respondents from a wide range of higher education institutions, faculties and departments, 96% favoured the broader curriculum of the IB qualification.*
- > The IB is an international qualification, recognised worldwide – if you have plans to work abroad, this might be the programme for you.
- > It is transferable, so if you move abroad whilst still studying, you may be able to pick up where you left off at your new destination. There are more than 610,000 IB students at 2,294 schools in 127 countries.
- > It is growing in popularity almost daily, and it is now offered at around 200 schools and colleges across the UK as an alternative to A Levels. The number of IB students has grown between 10% and 20% for the last 10 years.
- > As the programme is available worldwide, the course attracts international and home students. You will study together in the same classes, which will broaden your knowledge of a global community.
- > In spite of the name, the International Baccalaureate is not a French course!

What is Involved?

This 2 year course follows a broad range of studies, chosen from 6 groups of options:

- > **First Language** (English and World Literature)
- > **Second Language** (developing bi-lingual competency for International students; French or Ab Initio (beginners) Italian for home students.)
- > **Individuals & Societies**
- > **Sciences** (Biology, Chemistry, Physics)
- > **Maths**
- > **The Arts**

Students compile a programme of six subjects to study, 3 at higher level (240 hrs) and 3 at standard level (150 hrs).

Additionally there are three core components that all students must follow. These are under the headings of Creativity, Action and Service (CAS); Theory of Knowledge; and Extended Essay. The CAS component complements your studies and generates new interests and skills as well as contributing a service to the community. Such activities are of particular interest to admissions officers when considering university applications.

The 4000 word extended essay, that each student must complete, follows distinct academic standards. The Theory of Knowledge course aims to extend critical thinking abilities.

Why Choose the IB?

The IB is an accessible but demanding course. However there are rewards for working extra hard:

- > **It is possible to attain a higher point score** ... A common IB score of 30 (the minimum required is 24 and the maximum you can get is 45) gives a candidate 392 UCAS tariff points against 360 for three A grades at A level and 420 for three A stars. Remember too that the IB has an unchallenged reputation for stability of results while A Levels have suffered from accusations of becoming easier to achieve.
- > **Your final results on the IB Programme are available a month earlier than A Levels**, again giving you the advantage of being able to confirm your results to the best Universities in advance of the A Levels.
- > The IB enables you to study 6 core subject areas from a larger selection, so unlike A Levels, **you don't need to specialise before you're ready**.
- > The programmes are 'holistic' which means that **what you learn in one subject might be picked up in your other subjects** too e.g. if you learn about chaos in science, you might then talk about the same theme in theatre arts or theory of knowledge making learning far more interesting and relevant.
- > You will **only sit exams at the end of the two year course**. Your course will be spread over the two years.
- > Each of the 6 subjects contains a **significant element of internal assessment** (around 20-30% for most subjects)

When Can I Start?!

Leeds City College is accepting students onto the IB course (starting September 2010) who mainly live in Leeds and surrounding areas. The College also welcomes applications from International students.

In general, learners who would like to work alongside internationally-minded students, are keen to get involved in the life of the college and the community, and are able to identify themselves as global citizens, are welcome to apply. This is not an elitist course but it does demand a strong work ethic.

Home (British) students wishing to join the course should have a good range of GCSE results and be able to demonstrate at interview an interest in international affairs and continuing their studies in a broad subject mixture.


Your passport to see the world!

- > The IB can be used to gain entry into the best universities in the world. It is a qualification that is welcomed by leading universities around the globe.
- > The IB is an international qualification, recognised worldwide – if you have plans to see the world or work abroad, this might be the programme for you.
- > It is transferable, so if you move abroad whilst still studying, you may be able to pick up where you left off at your new destination.
- > There are more than 610,000 IB students at 2,294 schools in 127 countries.
- > As the programme is available worldwide, the course attracts international and home students who study together in the same classes, which will broaden your knowledge of a global community.
- > Languages are an important component of the IB and in addition to English you will study a second language.

What qualifications do I need to start the IB?

The IB is a demanding course and as such requires you to be a good all-rounder. With this in mind, we would like you to have a good range of GCSE subjects at grades A* to C. To do a Higher Level subject you will certainly need a B in that subject.

At interview we will be looking for evidence of commitment and motivation. Please note that the IB timetable will be around 26 hours a week. This means that there will be little opportunity to do part-time work.



“Much of the attention paid to the qualification has been because of its ability to open doors to the best universities”

(The Independent, Oct 2007)

Jenny Parkinson

International Baccalaureate Co-ordinator

Tel: +44 113 216 2485

Anne Hurworth

Tel: +44 113 216 2160

+44 845 045 7275

Leeds City College

Park Lane Campus

Park Lane Leeds

LS3 1AA

United Kingdom

www.leedscitycollege.ac.uk

**See: 'Perceptions of the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme': A report of an inquiry carried out at UK universities and institutions of higher education (www.ibo.com).*

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