

# International Baccalaureate Middle Years Programme award

## IB MYP course results and the IB MYP Certificate

From 2016

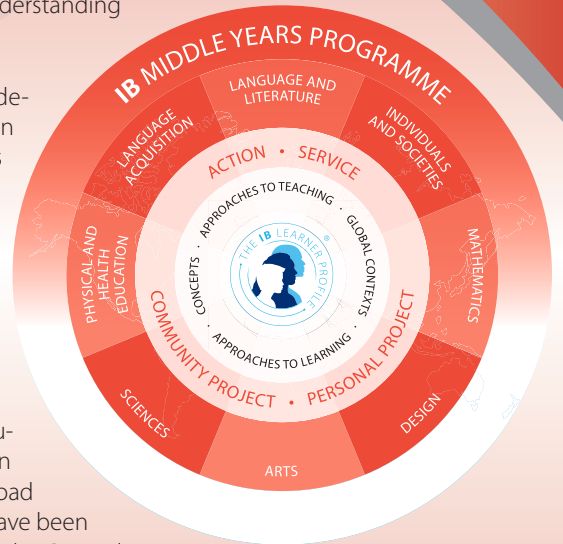
The IB Middle Years Programme (MYP) is designed for students aged 11 to 16. It provides a framework of learning that emphasizes intellectual challenges and encourages students to make connections between their studies and the real world. It fosters the development of skills for communication, intercultural understanding and global engagement—essential qualities for young people today.

Interdisciplinary teaching and learning builds a connected curriculum that addresses the developmental needs of students and prepares them for further academic study and life in an increasingly interconnected world. The MYP uses concepts and contexts as starting points for meaningful integration and the transfer of knowledge across eight subject groups.

The MYP focuses on “learning how to learn” through the systematic development of approaches to learning (ATL) skills for communication, collaboration, organization, self-management, reflection, research, information literacy, media literacy, creative thinking, critical thinking, and transfer of learning.

For students seeking a formal qualification at the end of the programme, the IB offers eAssessments that lead to IB MYP course results and the IB MYP certificate. Additionally, students who demonstrate additional proficiency in a second language or mother tongue can earn the IB MYP Bilingual Certificate. The MYP recognizes student achievement across a broad and balanced curriculum using a range of assessment strategies to establish grades that have been externally validated against a common, rigorous global standard. MYP eAssessments meet the General Conditions for Recognition established by England’s Office of Qualifications and Examinations Regulation and is recognized by other national education systems as preparation for further study at the senior secondary level.

I. Academic achievement    II. Other programme requirements    III. General grade descriptors    IV. Results and certification



## I. Academic achievement

Students seeking IB MYP course results or the IB MYP certificate must complete end-of-programme on-screen examinations, which demonstrate their achievement of course objectives in language and literature, individuals and societies, sciences, mathematics, and interdisciplinary learning. On-screen examinations are formal external assessments.

For other subject groups, students complete an ePortfolio, comprising coursework that provides a range of time-constrained evidence. The IB carefully defines and monitors the development and marking of ePortfolios. Award of the IB MYP certificate requires the successful completion of an ePortfolio for a course in language acquisition, and at least one course chosen from Physical and health education, Arts, or Design.

MYP eAssessments offer students the opportunity to demonstrate disciplinary and interdisciplinary understanding, international-mindedness, critical and creative thinking, problem-solving skills and the ability to apply knowledge in unfamiliar situations. On-screen examinations and ePortfolios provide a balanced model of assessment for schools seeking IB-validated grades.

Official IB recognition of achievement in the MYP is only available for students who participate and successfully complete the required eAssessments. IB MYP course results state positive achievement for verified courses, including those which may not contribute the awarding of the IB MYP certificate.

## II. Other programme requirements

### School-based (internal) assessment

Students participating in the MYP complete a range of school-based summative assessments that demonstrate achievement against specific criteria. In the MYP, this internal assessment focuses less on content coverage, delivering instead a more comprehensive view of students’ conceptual understanding, subject-specific skills, and their ability to transfer knowledge to unfamiliar situations.

### Personal Project

The MYP personal project is a student-centred and age-appropriate practical exploration in which students consolidate their learning throughout the programme. This long-term project is designed as an independent learning experience of approximately 25 hours. The personal project formally assesses students’ ATL skills for self-management, research, communication, critical and creative thinking, and collaboration.

### Community service

MYP students must participate each year in service with and for their community. Through engagement with service as action, MYP students can make have a positive difference in the lives of others and in the world around them.

Through their community service, MYP students pursue important objectives for personal growth:

1. become more aware of their own strengths and areas for growth
2. undertake challenges that develop new skills
3. discuss, evaluate and plan student-initiated activities
4. persevere in action

5. work collaboratively with others
6. develop international-mindedness through global engagement, multilingualism and intercultural understanding
7. consider the ethical implications of their actions.

### III. General grade descriptors

In MYP subject groups, objectives align with four equally weighted assessment criteria. Candidate performance is summarized by general grade descriptors that explain overall work quality, conceptual understanding, thinking skills and transfer of learning. The IB maps the attributes of candidates' work to the grade descriptors in order to determine subject-specific grade boundaries (using either marks for on-screen examinations or criterion level totals for ePortfolios) for each assessment session. Final student achievement for each subject is reported on a seven-point scale.

Grade	Descriptor
1	Produces work of very limited quality. Conveys many significant misunderstandings or lacks understanding of most concepts and skills. Very rarely demonstrates critical or creative thinking. Very inflexible, rarely using knowledge or skills.
2	Produces work of limited quality. Expresses misunderstandings or significant gaps in understanding for many concepts and contexts. Infrequently demonstrates critical or creative thinking. Generally inflexible in the use of knowledge and skills, infrequently applying knowledge and skills.
3	Produces work of an acceptable quality. Communicates basic understanding of many concepts and contexts, with occasionally significant misunderstandings or gaps. Begins to demonstrate some basic critical and creative thinking. Is often inflexible in the use of knowledge and skills, requiring support even in familiar classroom situations.
4	Produces good quality work. Communicates basic understanding of most concepts and contexts with few misunderstandings and minor gaps. Often demonstrates basic critical and creative thinking. Uses knowledge and skills with some flexibility in familiar classroom situations, but requires support in unfamiliar situations.
5	Produces generally high-quality work. Communicates secure understanding of concepts and contexts. Demonstrates critical and creative thinking, sometimes with sophistication. Uses knowledge and skills in familiar classroom and real-world situations, and, with support, some unfamiliar real-world situations.
6	Produces high-quality, occasionally innovative work. Communicates extensive understanding of concepts and contexts. Demonstrates critical and creative thinking, frequently with sophistication. Uses knowledge and skills in familiar and unfamiliar classroom and real-world situations, often with independence.

7	Produces high-quality, frequently innovative work. Communicates comprehensive, nuanced understanding of concepts and contexts. Consistently demonstrates sophisticated critical and creative thinking. Frequently transfers knowledge and skills with independence and expertise in a variety of complex classroom and real-world situations.
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### IV. Results and certification

Students who complete MYP year 5 are eligible to receive IB MYP course results that report their achievements in the programme, including the successful completion of the personal project and the school's expectations for community service. IB MYP course results provide official documentation of successful grades that have been externally validated by MYP eAssessment.

The IB MYP certificate is the highest standard of achievement in the programme. The IB MYP certificate requires participation in at least year 5 of the programme (with recommended participation for the final two years), and IB-validated grades of 3 or higher in:

- five on-screen examinations (one from each of four required subject groups, plus an interdisciplinary assessment)
- one ePortfolio from a course of study in language acquisition
- one ePortfolio from a course in physical and health education, arts, or design
- the personal project.

In order to obtain the IB MYP certificate, candidates must achieve at least 28 total points across the certificate's 7 components, and meet the school's expectations for community service.

The IB MYP Bilingual Certificate is awarded to candidates who also achieve an IB-validated grade 3 or higher in:

- two language and literature courses  
or
- a course in any MYP subject group (other than Language acquisition), or interdisciplinary learning, or the personal project, in a response language that is not the same as that chosen language and literature.

Full conditions for awarding of the IB MYP certificate are detailed in *General regulations: Middle Years Programme*.

#### Preparation for further study

MYP course results and the IB MYP certificate report student ability and achievement, which helps to demonstrate their preparation for further study, including participation in advanced academic and career-related programmes.

About the IB: For over 45 years, the IB has built a reputation for high-quality, challenging programmes of education that develop internationally minded young people who are well prepared for the challenges of life in the 21st century and are able to contribute to creating a better, more peaceful world.

For further information on the IB Middle Years Programme, and a complete list of MYP subject briefs, visit: [www.ibo.org/myp/](http://www.ibo.org/myp/).

Complete subject guides can be accessed through the IB online curriculum centre (OCC) or purchased through the IB store: <http://store.ibo.org>.

For more on how the MYP prepares students for success, visit: [www.ibo.org/recognition](http://www.ibo.org/recognition) or email: [recognition@ibo.org](mailto:recognition@ibo.org).