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## **IB Diploma Admissions Policy**

### **Taipei European School (TES), British Secondary and High School**

#### **The IB Diploma Programme at Taipei European School**

The IB Diploma programme (IBDP) is one of four programmes offered by the International Baccalaureate. It is a rigorous two year curriculum leading to an IB Diploma or individual IB subject course certificates. The IBDP encourages students to become *“active, compassionate and lifelong learners who understand that other people, with their differences, can also be right”*.

Students who are successful in achieving the full Diploma demonstrate a strong commitment to learning both in terms of mastery of challenging subject content and skills. The programme has gained wide recognition and respect from the world’s leading universities who value students that:

- Have excellent breadth and depth of knowledge
- Flourish intellectually, emotionally and ethically
- Study at least two languages
- Excel in traditional academic subjects
- Explore the nature of knowledge through Theory of Knowledge

Students take written examinations at the end of the programme, which are marked by external IB examiners. Students also complete internal assessment tasks in the school, which are either initially marked by teachers and then moderated by external moderators or sent directly to external examiners. The marks awarded for each course range from 1 (lowest) to 7 (highest). Students can also be awarded up to three additional points for their combined results in Theory of Knowledge and the Extended Essay. The diploma is awarded to students who gain at least 24 points, subject to certain minimum levels of performance across the whole programme and to satisfactory participation in the creativity, action, service requirement (CAS). The highest total that a Diploma Programme student can be awarded is 45 points. (*adapted from [www.ibo.org](http://www.ibo.org)*)

At Taipei European School students begin the Diploma Programme in H3 upon successful completion of their IGCSE subjects (or approved equivalent). For some students the full IB Diploma is not the most appropriate course of study. In these circumstances TES BSHS will support a student in the completion of IB Diploma subject courses certifications; in which case a student may follow an individualized programme and fulfill the requirements for some IB subjects but not meet the complete requirements of



the full Diploma. The IB Courses route still provides access to tertiary education opportunities. Entry into the full IB Diploma Programme or the IB Courses route is at the discretion of the BSHS Head of Section as per the standards outlined in this policy document.

### **Entry into the full IB Diploma Programme at Taipei European School**

Students who have met the school's entrance requirements, are motivated, work hard and keep the IB Learner Profile at the heart of their learning are in a good position to succeed in the full Diploma. Students who have not met the requirements stated below are likely to find the full Diploma to be a significant academic challenge and may struggle to access the full curriculum. These students may not have a strong enough academic foundation on which to embark on the full IB Diploma.

#### **Entrance requirements for existing TES students:**

- Students must achieve 5+ A\*-C grades in their IGCSE subjects, including Mathematics, Science and English, upon the official release of results in August
- Students must achieve at least a C grade at IGCSE in order to pursue that subject, or another subject in the related IB subject group at IB Standard Level
- Students must achieve at least a B grade at IGCSE in order to pursue that subject, or another subject in the related IB subject group at IB Higher Level
- Some subjects have specific prerequisites (prior learning requirements) and these are outlined in the subject guidance found in the TES BSHS IB Curriculum Guide and communicated through information evenings and the Destination IB subject selection process. *Eg: Students who would like to take IB Mathematics HL should have achieved a B grade or higher in the IGCSE Accelerated Mathematics programme, or an A grade or higher in the mainstream Extended Mathematics course. Students who sat the IGCSE Core Mathematics examination cannot undertake IB Mathematics at HL.*
- Students are expected to demonstrate adherence to the mission, vision and core values of TES BSHS in their behaviour and character

#### **Academic Probation**

Where a student is accepted into the full IB Diploma Programme when they have not met the above requirements they will have to complete a period of **academic probation** at the end of which the Head of Section, in consultation with the IB Co-ordinator and Deputy Head of Section will approve their status as either a full Diploma candidate or a Courses candidate.

Some students may achieve all of the requirements for entry into the full Diploma bar one subject. In these cases students will have to complete a period of academic probation in that subject at the end of which the IB Co-ordinator, in consultation with the Head of Department will approve their registration in that subject or make a recommendation that they adopt a different subject/level or they move to a Courses certification programme.