











Welcome to the WCHS I.B. Information Night for Grade 9 Parents and Students



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.









STUDIES IN LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE NONDER SOCIETIES NONDER SOCIE

THEORY OF MAINTENANT AND MITTENANT AND MITTE LANGUAGE ACOUISTION EXTENDED ESSAY ROACHES TO TEACHING LEAR NED TO ACHES TO LEARNING SCIENCES CAPEATIVITY, ACTIVITY, SERVICE

THE ARTS

THE ARTS

THE ARTS

MATHEMATICS

IB Diploma Model







All WCHS IB students choose 2-6 subjects in 6 groups & participate in the "core".

This includes an extra-curricular <u>C.A.S.</u> expectation as well as 50 - 100 hours of the <u>Theory of Knowledge</u> curriculum. The <u>Extended Essay</u> (over Grade 11/12) is mandatory for full IB students <u>only.</u>







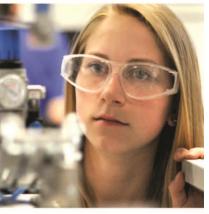
Who should choose IB...? Students excited about learning!!

- Partial IB students choose courses for interest or career aspirations & should pick two or more classes in which they are **strong**.
- Full diploma IB students should be efficient, self-motivated students who are not currently challenged and love delving deeper.
- Drive and ambition are helpful.

The WCHS IB Learner









- Students with academic integrity
- Students who are fast learners (25-50% more material per class than regular stream)
- Students who continue learning on their own and can get motivated by set-backs
- Students who take responsibility for group work, big projects, heavy workload and deadlines (and ask for help when required)
- Students who develop time management and avoid procrastination









The IB Learner Profile IB students are....

Balanced Communicator Principled Knowledgeable Caring Risk-taker Open-minded **Inquirers** Reflective **Thinkers**









- If something is hard, brain research shows you need to work that part of your brain extra hard before age 20 to maximize potential for life-long learning.
- You get to work with like-minded students.
- Universities appreciate students taking enriched curricula (apply as an "IB Student").
- Advanced credit or advanced standing may be given based on performance on IB exams.
- Qualify for more scholarships
- The IB Diploma is seen as the "classic" liberal arts education by post-secondary institutions.

French Immersion IB







- French Immersion IB courses and the full Bilingual IB Diploma are only offered at Western so any F.I. "resident of the CBE" can apply
- French Language Arts will need to be one of the chosen IB classes (Math and Social Studies will be the only other two subjects taken in French).
- Francophone, early & late immersion students are all together in classes
- Science, ELA, PE, and options are all in English

French Immersion IB FAQ's









- Can I apply for F.I. IB, but take S.S. and Math in English? No
- Can I apply for partial IB in French Immersion?
 - Yes, you can take any (2 or more) IB classes you like (one of which must be FLA IB).
- Can I apply for FI IB from an English school? No
- Can I switch from French Immersion "regular" to Partial English IB to stay at WCHS if French Imm. is too hard?
 - There is a process in place if we have space.
- Can I apply for English IB and still take FLA IB?
 - not possible as FLA is part of a whole program
 - students who switch to English can take Spanish or Chinese IB or may be able "challenge" Alberta FSL 30 credits (Gr. 10) and continue to FSL 30-6y IB (Gr. 11) and FSL 30-9y IB (Gr. 12) as an alternate pathway to French B HL.
 - Students who do not get offered a place in the English IB programme can still do regular French Immersion
- Don't forget to fill out the transfer if you are switching to the English IB program from F.I.

How to get into the IB Programme...









Current CBE Students		Current non-	CBE Students
In regular boundary (English / French)	In IB boundary (English / French)	In regular boundary (English / French)	In IB boundary (English / French)
IB E of I to WCHS Feb. 1-Mar. 15			
Grade 9 report to WCHS Feb. 1-Mar. 15			
		School Engage after ~Jan. 18	School Engage after Jan. 18
	On-line transfer Feb. 1-Mar. 15		On-line transfer Feb. 1-Mar. 15

Expression of Interest (E of I) Process

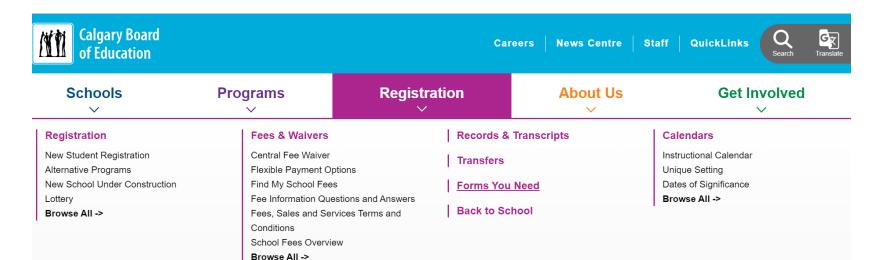








- Go to <u>www.cbe.ab.ca</u> under the Registration tab and "Forms you need" (it is the first link)
- Students email the CBE area IB school for their primary residence an "E of I" between Feb 1 – Mar 15 (must live with a legal guardian).
- Email <u>westerncanada@cbe.ab.ca</u> (***please don't c.c. me or anyone else at the school)
- Please email the E of I and Grade 9 interim report card together in one email
- Please attach documents as .pdf or .doc (no links to a Google drive, please don't embed photos into the body of the email).
- Leave the CBE # blank if it hasn't been issued.



Forms You Need

Calendars

Registration
Fees & Waivers
Records & Transcripts
Transfers

Registration or Transfer

Forms You Need

Back to School

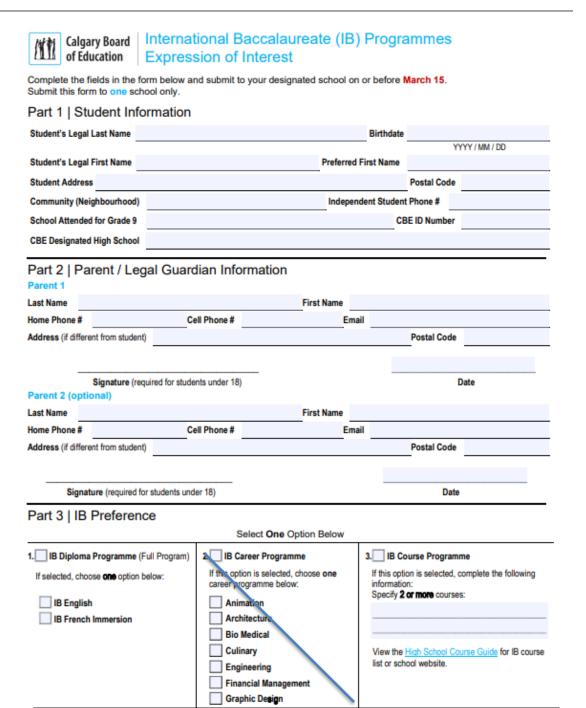
International Baccalaureate (IB) Registration Information and Expression of Interest

Off-campus Education Acknowledgement of Risk
Off-campus or On-campus Education Agreement
Parent Acknowledgement of Understanding for Alternative Program Registration
Student Records Request and Authorization Form
Transfer Request for Unique Setting High School
Transfer Request Form ECS-Grade 9 Schools & Early Development Centres
Transfer Request: Change of Address for High School

Please type this form. (Please note that Western does not offer the IB Career Programme (but you can transfer to Lester B. Pearson for

it).

FULL IB



French
Immersion /
Francophone
students
should
complete the
IB Expression
of Interest in
French

PARTIAL IB



The School Engage Process







Students who are not currently in a CBE school must register with the school board through the on-line School Engage process.

- Register for the regular English or French Immersion program at the designated CBE high school.
- This cannot happen until next year's registration opens (~Jan. 18)

Not A CBE Student?

If you are **not** a CBE student with a valid CBE Student ID, please follow the prompts below to first register at your designated regular program school and be assigned a Student ID number. Student ID numbers will be updated in your SchoolEngage account **after Feb.**21 and you can then proceed with a transfer request.



I'm Not A Student In The CBF

You **first** need to register at your designated regular or alternative program school

New Student Registration



Find Your Designated School

Use your address to find your designated school

Find a School Tool

Current School Year

2025-2026

Children must be at least six years old as of Dec. 31, 2025 to start Grade 1 in 2025-2026.

Register for the Current School Year

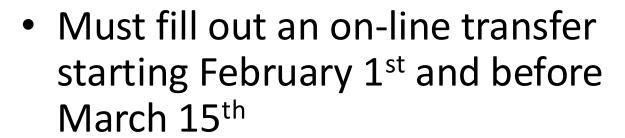
Next School Year

2026-2027

Children must be at least six years old as of Dec. 31, 2026 to start Grade 1 in 2026-2027.

Begin Registration

On-line transfer (for CBE and non-CBE)



- A current CBE # is required (start
 School Engage at your designated
 regular program CBE high school
 early and CBE #'s should be ready by
 the end of February)
- The CBE will send confirmations of transfer approval from March to late April. (10 days to accept)













Transfers

The IB programme at Western has a cap of 250 Grade 10 students.

Order of acceptance:

- French Immersion IB
- In regular boundary English IB
- IB boundary English IB
 - A draw may be necessary. Students not offered a place at Western will likely be offered a spot in another IB programme.
 - You can turn down the placement and attend a non-CBE school
 - A limited number of excellent Grade 11 students may be accepted to transfer into IB

On-line transfer

High School Transfer

Select from one of the options below:



A transfer request can be made to another CBE high school for the next school year when a program or sequence of courses is not offered at their designated school, or when a student in an alternative program wants to return to their Regular Progam community school.

Learn More

Address Change

To request a transfer, complete the Change of Address for High School Form, including proof of the new, current address.

Learn More

Unique Setting Schools

This is only for requests to transfer to unique settings high schools

Learn More

International Baccalaureate Programme (IB)

The IB Programme is available to students in each CBE Area. Students can request a transfer if the diploma or course programme is not available at their designated school

Learn More

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Moving into the area before March 15









- Our IB programme will be filled using the March 15th applicants.
- Ensure the current middle school has your correct address.
- CBE schools may need to re-designate.
- The IB area will still require the transfer by the March 15th deadline.

Committing to the IB: in boundary









- WCHS will send you a guide on choosing courses
- We will have a virtual course selection workshop for which you can sign up so you can ask questions and get feedback on your choices
- CBE feeder schools take care of course selection
- Non CBE students will email course selections to **WCHS**
- Choose your program carefully as all IB courses (even the IB Options) are highly academic.

Committing to the IB: transfers







- WCHS will send you a guide on choosing courses even before transfers can be approved (this is not official acceptance from the CBE).
- We will have a virtual course selection workshop for which you can sign up so you can ask questions and get feedback on your choices.
- Students email course selections to WCHS
- Once transfers are approved by the CBE and WCHS has course selections, you are officially accepted!
- Students will be re-directed to their regular program designated school in Grade 11 should they not continue into IB.

No Entrance Exams









- There are NO entrance exams or placement tests to get into IB or particular IB courses.
- We do look at Grade 9 interim report cards to counsel students on course selection.
- Middle school teachers and staff should counsel students on course choices, and we are also available to do the same during our virtual course selection workshops.
- Ask the middle school teachers if they think IB would be a good fit for you.
- Mandated IPP Accommodations are possible in the IB programme.

IB Courses are very challenging







- 10/20/30 IB courses also include Alberta curriculum
- Students should assume they will attend tutorials before and after school every Monday-Thursday to maximize potential for success. (8:40am- 9:00am and 3:20pm – 3:40pm)
- Students are encouraged to form study groups and should start working hard from day 1.
- We can definitely make adjustments to some students' programs after they have done a semester (as long as 2+ IB courses continue).
- Other supports are available (peer tutors...).









Frequently asked questions....

- What if I move into the IB boundary in the spring? summer?
 - There is a "Change of Address High School Transfer Request" Online. You should already be enrolled in an IB programme at your area CBE IB school. Late placement in our IB programme is not guaranteed.
- What if I am an elite athlete/musician; will I have time for IB?
 - -It is definitely possible, but ask yourself, how busy am I now?
- What if I already have some Grade 10 courses?
 - Math 10H is still recommended unless students receive 90%+ but please discuss this during course selection time.
- What if I want to change course selections in the summer?
 - We are closed over the summer and would like students to commit to the courses they have chosen for at least the first semester. There is a timetable change request process for late August (class space may be limited).
 - -Please look at your timetable in August and if first semester is "heavier" than second semester, we will try to balance it upon request. Some students get 4 cores scheduled by the computer!
- What if I decide IB is not for me, right away, as soon as I start?
 - We timetable based on March course selections and cannot accommodate most timetable switches in the fall <u>even</u> if you move to our regular designated boundary. Any possible course changes must be completed in the first week of the semester. Grade 10 students are not allowed to have a spare, so dropping classes is not possible.

IB / Honours Courses at Western









- Group 1: English Literature
- Group 2: Spanish & French (beginner, experienced and F.I. will start in different classes). Chinese H is offered on Saturdays through The Chinese Academy.
- Group 3: Global Politics (combined with Alberta Social Studies), Business Management
- Group 4: Biology, Chemistry, Physics
- Group 5: Math Analysis & Approaches (Math Applications & Interpretations is supported)
- Group 6: Visual Art and Band

Other on-line \$\$\$ possibilities starting in Grade 11 ... www.pamojaeducation.com

IB vs. AP







- IB can be taken as individual courses (like AP) or as a full high school diploma.
- IB courses have an inquiry based internal assessment (~25%) and final exams (~75%) whereas AP accreditation is based on exams only (this helped IB grant diplomas and credits during COVID)
- IB has a CORE with CAS, the EE, and ToK
- The IBO has a university recognition department, renews their curriculum on a 7 year cycle, has mandatory professional development, and rigorously evaluates their schools every 5 years.

The Full IB diploma









- Must take 6 IB subjects (3-4 at the higher level)
- One course in each group (1-5) plus one extra course from group 1 - 6 (third language, second science, Art, Band, Business...)
- The CORE is evaluated as part of the diploma
- May qualify for automatic scholarships, early entrance to university ...
- Advanced credit, apply with IB grades and Alberta grades (schools evaluate both).
- Bilingual diploma possible
- \$30 annual fee
- ~\$210 per exam course (6 x \$210 = \$1260 paid in Grade 11/12)
- Our average IB diploma score is 37+ / 45 points and ~50 students complete the diploma each year.

Partial IB ("IB Courses Student")









- Complete 2+ IB courses to the exam level based on interest / passion (you may not have IB every semester)
- Easiest way to get 3 IB Sciences
- You may drop from full IB to partial IB (only at the end of semesters / years)
- Advanced credit, apply with IB grades and Alberta grades...
- \$30 annual fee
- ~\$210 per exam (in Grade 11 or 12)
- 200 250 partial IB students in each of Grade 11 and 12
- Benefit from rigour, knowledgeable classmates, different types of assessments

Course Progressions







- Not every combination is possible.
- There are a maximum of 8 time slots per year and some classes are only offered in a particular semester.
- Students choose their potential IB subjects in the spring of Grade 9 to make their Grade 10 timetable and will meet with a guidance counselor in the fall of Grade 10 to make adjustments during 3 year planning.
- We make every effort to "balance" the difficulty of the two Grade 10 semesters.
- Honours courses in Grade 10 are usually given the designation "cohort IB" on the timetable.

Group 1 – English Literature









Grade 10	English 10 H
Grade 11	English 20 IB
Grade 12	English 30IB English Literature 35IB *SL and HL follow the same path*









Group 2 – Language Acquisition

Beginners – language "ab initio"

Grade 10	French or Spanish 10H (TCA for Chinese) *French Immersion and Francophone always start at FLA 10H*
Grade 11	French or Spanish 20 IB
Grade 12	French or Spanish 30 – 3y IB

Some Experience (Gr7-9) – Language B

Grade 10	French or Spanish 20 Honours / IB *Spanish bilingual students start at 30-3y IB and finish at 30-9y IB
Grade 10 or 11	French or Spanish 30-3y IB (CBE challenge exam possible)
Grade 11 or 12	French or Spanish 30-6y IB
Grade 12 (for HL)	French or Spanish 30-9y IB

Group 3 – SL Individuals & Societies









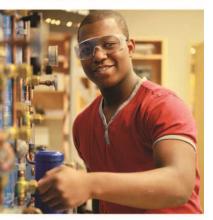
Grade 10	Social Studies 10 H (or 10HF)
Grade 11	Social Studies 20 IB (or 20IBF)
Grade 12 (11 credits SL, 14 credits HL)	Social Studies 30-1 "regular" (or 30-1F) Global Politics IB SL: Comparative Government 20 & Political Thinking 20 (6 credits total) or Global Politics IB HL: Comparative Government 20 & Political Thinking 20 plus International Politics 30 (9 credits)
Grade 10	Business 10 Cohort IB
Grade 11	Business Management 20IB
Grade 12	Business Management 30IB SL
	*regular Social 10-20-30 is required

Grade 11 or 12	Philosophy 20/30IB SL
	No longer offered after 2027

Group 4 – Sciences









Grade 10 – 10cr.	Science 10 H Biology 20 IB
Grade 11 – 8cr.	Biology 25 IB and Biology 30 IB (finish after Bio 30 for SL)
Grade 12 – 3 cr.	Biology 35 IB (optional for HL)

Grade 10	Science 10 H
Grade 11	Chemistry 20 IB
Grade 12 – 11 cr.	Chemistry 25/35 IB Chemistry 30 IB HL

Grade 10 – 10 cr.	Science 10 H Physics 20 IB
Grade 11 – 8 cr.	Physics 25 IB and Physics 30 IB (for SL)
Grade 12 – 3 cr.	Physics 35 IB (optional for HL)

Group 5 – Mathematics









Grade 10 – 10cr.	Math 10 H Math 20 IB
Grade 11 – 10cr.	Math 30 IB Math 31 IB Analysis & Approaches SL – may choose to write the Applications and Interpretations exam (A & I vs. A & A)
Grade 12	n/a (partial IB may be able to fit in 20 in Grade 11 and 30/31 in Grade 12)

Grade 10	Math 10 H Math 20 IB
Grade 11	Math 30 IB Math 31 IB Analysis & Approaches HL
Grade 12	Math 35 IB Analysis & Approaches HL

Group 6 – Fine Arts









Grade 10	Art 10 or 10H
Grade 11	Art 20IB
Grade 12	Art 30IB SL (HL may be offered in the future with a full year in Grade 12.)

Grade 10 10 credits	Instrumental Music 10 H Band 15 Cohort IB am
Grade 11 10 credits	Instrumental Music 20 IB Band 25 IB am
Grade 12 15 credits	General Music IB Instrumental Music 30 IB Band 35 IB SL am

Students who do not have space inside the regular timetable can take non-IB band outside of class, but "dayband" takes priority over any non-IB options.

Band at Western

- **▶ Band 10 H** (new course offering as of 2023)
- **>** Band 10
- **➢** Band 15
- > Band 10 AM





Prerequisites

- Brass, Woodwind, Percussion,
 String players and Pianists are all eligible to enroll in Band Program
- Course registration details can be found in the Fine Arts section of the school website

Visual Art at Western



- **≻Art 10 H**
- >Art 10

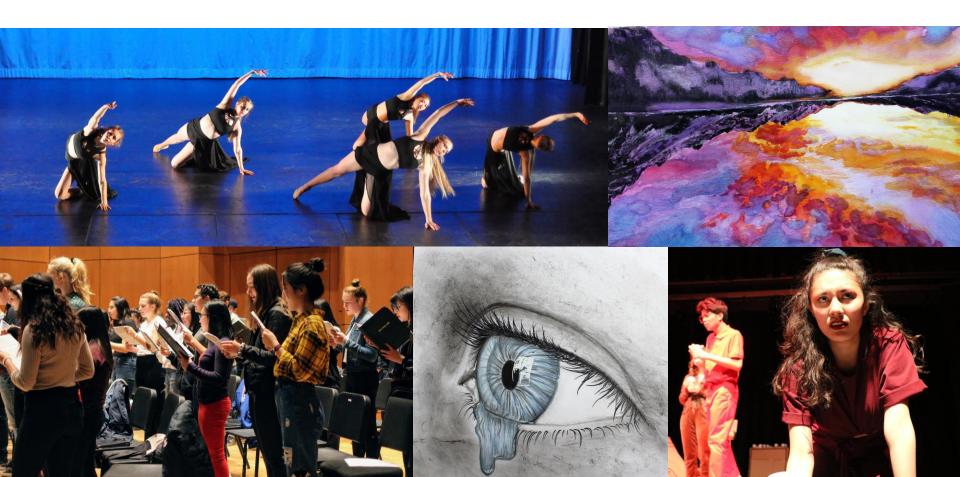
No experience required for enrollment

Course registration information can be found in the Fine Arts section of the school website



Fine and Performing Arts Opportunities

- Our courses in Visual Art, Dance, Drama and Choir at the grade 10 level do not require any previous experience. Band requires some previous instrument exp.
- There are many options to choose from, each providing an opportunity to engage in a healthy balance to your education
- All Fine Arts registration information for incoming grade 10 students can be found on our school website.













- "It is only for the highest achieving students."
- with the right attitude and work ethic, many can do it
- "I can't be well-rounded in IB...no time."
- IB students can be very well-rounded and are leaders in many of our school clubs and organizations.
- "The homework is WAY more than the regular program."
- likely 25% more per core course (plus more core courses per semester)
- "There is no flexibility and no choice."
- With our large IB selections, there is definitely choice but few "options"
- "IB is only for people who want to go to school overseas."
- Can. and US schools respect the IB curriculum, but benefits vary
- "My marks will be way lower if I take IB."
- The grades reflect how students perform in the regular Alberta program (however, not a perfect system and Alberta marks are sometimes lower due to pace and workload)



亚省中文学校 The Chinese Academy 2024-2025





History of The Chinese Academy

The Chinese Academy started in 1997

- Accredited by Alberta Education
- Alliance with the Calgary Board of Education to provide International Baccalaureate (I.B.) Chinese Program
- To offer Mandarin and Cantonese classes from Kindergarten to Grade 12
- To offer Chinese as a Second Language (CSL) classes in the afternoon
- To offer option classes such as English and Maths Tutorials, Adult Mandarin/Cantonese, badminton, ballroom dancing etc. to our students and parents

Founder, Head of School: Elaine Chan, B.Sc., M.A.(Ed.Admin.)

- First certificated teacher to pilot the Chinese IB program in Alberta
- Over 30 years of teaching experience in Canada
- Recipient of many prestigious awards including The People's Republic of China's Overseas Lifetime Achievement Award, The Queen's Diamond Jubilee Medal and The Queen Elizabeth II's Platinum Jubilee Medal

Principal: Vicky Liang B.A., B.Ed., M.A.

- Over 20 years of language teaching experience in both China and Canada
- Specialized in the International Baccalaureate Chinese program, second language teaching and curriculum development
- Currently a teacher at the Calgary Board of Education

Assistant Principal: Rhea Qi B.Ed

- CBE language teacher for over 10 years
- CBE Learning Leader for over 7 years
- Specializes in supporting English as Additional Language Learners (ESL Students)









Classes Offered

		Mandarin Mainstream	Mandarin Mainstream	Mandarin Beginners (Chinese as a Second Language)
Time (Saturdays)		11 AM – 11:45 AM		
Preschool		Chinese Music and Storytime for Parents and Toddlers Age 3 – 4		
Time (Saturdays)		9 AM – 12 PM	1 PM – 4 PM	1 PM – 4 PM
Kindergarten		Kindergarten (K1): age 4 – 5 Kindergarten (K2): age 5 – 6 *As of Dec 31 of the calendar year	Kindergarten (K1): age 4 – 5 Kindergarten (K2): age 5 – 6 *As of Dec 31 of the calendar year	
Elementary		Grades 1 – 6	Grades 1 – 3	Grades 1 – 6
Junior High		Grades 7 – 9		Grades 7 – 9
Senior High	Grades 10	Mainstream Pre–IB Honours Advanced Placement (AP)	Mainstream Pre–IB Honours	Mandarin Beginners Pre–IB Honours
	Grade II	Mainstream IB Language B SL Advanced Placement (AP)	Mainstream IB Language B SL	Mandarin Beginners IB ab initio SL
	Grade 12	Mainstream IB Language B SL Advanced Placement (AP)	Mainstream IB Language B SL	Mandarin Beginners IB ab initio SL



Classes Offered

		Cantonese Mainstream	Cantonese Mainstream	Cantonese Beginners (Chinese as a Second Language)
Time (Saturdays)		9:15 AM – 10 AM		
Preschool		Chinese Music and Storytime for Parents and Toddlers Age 3 – 4		
Time (Saturdays)		9 AM – 12 PM	1 PM – 4 PM	1 PM – 4 PM
Kindergarten		Kindergarten (K1): age 4 – 5 Kindergarten (K2): age 5 – 6 *As of Dec 31 of the calendar year	Kindergarten (K1): age 4 – 5 Kindergarten (K2): age 5 – 6 *As of Dec 31 of the calendar year	
Elementary		Grades 1 – 6	Grades 1 – 2	Grades 1 – 6
Junior High		Grades 7 – 9		Grades 7 – 9
Senior High	Grades 10	Mainstream Pre–IB Honours		Grades 10 – 12
	Grade 11	Mainstream IB Language B SL		
	Grade 12	Mainstream IB Language B SL		









What full IB students don't normally have time for:

- Electives in Grade 10 (except band or choir) – non-IB Band and choir are specifically timetabled to include IB students as classes are offered "outside of the regular timetable")
- Phys-Ed after Grade 10
- Three I.B. Sciences (most Science enthusiasts will take at least one summer school class to complete a third non-IB Science)
- CALM is usually taken on-line during Grade 11 (outside of the timetable)











- Most universities recruit IB graduates. (Though, in general, universities want all of our Alberta grads!)
- Universities will generally evaluate both the IB and Alberta marks and choose the most advantageous to the student.
- (Full IB they will look at the total IB points /45, Partial IB – they may convert the IB grade out of 7 to a percentage grade for the admission average)
- <u>UBC</u> 15% of their undergraduate population is made up of IB grads
- *Google your university of choice with the term "IB recognition" or take a look at the links on our IB page.











- \$2000 for IB diploma students with 35+ points
- Earn up to a full year of university credit (partial IB can take credit for HL classes with a minimum of grade 5-6)
- Conversions:

IB 7 – Alberta 100%

IB 6 – Alberta 91%

IB 5 – Alberta 83%

IB 4 – Alberta 75%

What I.B. Students have said...









- Good students should try full Honours in Grade 10 to keep options open.
- Don't cave in to peer pressure or parental pressure to go into IB or to stay out of IB.
- First year university was a piece of cake.
- "I am a lab goddess" at U Penn.
- Don't procrastinate too much (or your mental health may suffer)

What I.B. Students have said...









- Do (and re-do) all the practice questions.
- There will be tears.
- Most people are not "born smart" but must put in more effort to succeed.
- IB brings out the best in people lots of personal growth, strong sense of responsibility and great work ethic
- Great people, great learning, struggle together, form bonds

Thank you!

- Email Susan Rivers
 <u>serivers@cbe.ab.ca</u> with IB specific questions.
- Email <u>westerncanada@cbe.ab.ca</u> with non-IB specific questions.
- No Grade 9 personal appointments are possible, but most questions can be answered by phone, email, or during class selection in our spring (virtual) group registration session.