



Advancement to the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme

Advancement to the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme

Purpose

The following policy outlines the academic requirements for students at the International School of Bucharest (ISB) who wish to continue their studies in the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme (IBDP) after completing the Cambridge Assessment International Education (CAIE) International General Certificate of Secondary Education (IGCSE) exams at the end of Year 11.

The ISB is committed to ensuring that students are adequately prepared for the rigour of the IB Diploma Programme. This policy establishes clear expectations and standards for students pursuing the IB Diploma after their IGCSE examinations.

Expectations

1. Year 11 Academic Performance:
 - Students must achieve a minimum average grade of 3.00 or above *before the make-up exams if they fail*) in each subject taken in Year 11 to be considered for the IB Diploma Programme.
2. IGCSE Examination Results and IB Higher Level (HL) Options:
 - A minimum grade of B in IGCSE examinations is recommended for students to select the corresponding IB HL subject option.
3. IGCSE Examination Results and IB Standard Level (SL) Options:
 - A minimum grade of C in IGCSE examinations is recommended for students to select the corresponding IB SL subject option.
4. Combination of HL and SL Options:
 - Students are recommended to secure at least 3 Bs and 3 Cs from the IGCSE exams to fulfil the subject requirements for the 3 HL and 3 SL options in the IB Diploma Programme.
5. English Language requirement
 - Students are recommended to secure a minimum of a C from the IGCSE First English and/or Literature examinations. ESL students are recommended to secure a minimum of a B from the IGCSE English as a Second Language examinations.
6. IBDP Option Selection Forms:
 - Option selection forms for the IB Diploma Programme will be available to students before the CAIE IGCSE examinations. Students must understand that if they do not meet the expectations mentioned above, they may be removed from their initially chosen option groups and will be required to re-select their options based on group availability.

7. Discretionary Acceptance:

- The Senior Leadership Team (SLT) holds the discretionary power to make final decisions regarding a student's option selection for the IB Diploma Programme. In exceptional cases, and based on a comprehensive review of the student's Year 11 academic performance, attendance report and behaviour records, the SLT may grant acceptance to a student into an HL or SL option even if they do not meet the expectations mentioned above.

Implementation and Compliance

This policy is effective immediately and is applicable to all Year 11 students intending to progress to the IB Diploma Programme at ISB. Compliance with this policy is mandatory for continuation in the IB Diploma Programme. Students and parents should be aware that non-compliance with the requirements set forth in this policy may result in the student being unable to enrol in desired HL or SL subjects within the IB Diploma Programme.

Communication

This policy will be communicated to students and parents through the school's official channels, including the school website, newsletters, assemblies and parent-teacher meetings. Guidance counsellors and class advisors are also available to discuss this policy and its implications for individual students' academic planning and progression.

Review and Amendments

This policy is subject to annual review by the ISB Secondary SLT. Any amendments made to this policy will be communicated to all stakeholders in a timely manner.

This policy has been developed to support the academic integrity and standards of the International School of Bucharest and to ensure that students are well-prepared for the challenges of the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme.