



Learning beyond frontiers The International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme at Nymphenburger Schools



Nymphenburger Gymnasium is proud to announce that on June 7, 2012 it was designated an IB World School and is therefore authorised to offer the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme.

Nymphenburger Gymnasium is the first officially recognised school in Bavaria to offer both the IB Diploma Programme and the Abitur.

"IB is well known to us as excellent preparation. Success in an IB programme correlates well with success at Harvard. We are pleased to see the credential of the IB Diploma Programme on the transcript."

Marlyn McGrath Lewis, Assistant Dean of Admissions, Harvard University, USA

The Diploma Programme: preparing students for success in higher education and to be active participants in a global society



ABITUR PLUS IB DIPLOMA – THE BENEFITS

In an effort to provide the best possible education for their students, Nymphenburger Schools added the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme to their portfolio of services. It gives aspiring students the opportunity to acquire the Bavarian Abitur as well as the full International Baccalaureate Diploma, thus preparing them for leading positions in the global village. We see a number of advantages in the combination of both qualifications:

1. The overlapping of most IB courses with Abitur courses minimizes the extra time input.
2. The simultaneous acquisition of both Abitur and IB Diploma drastically reduces costs in comparison to separate enrolment.
3. Universities throughout the world recognize the outstanding qualities the IB Diploma Programme has in preparing students for university courses. This often means saving study time and tuition fees, it provides for faster career entry and earlier income.
4. The combination of IB and Abitur courses bring about overall positive synergy effects. IB students have an extra chance of in-depth understanding and developing an integrative, holistic view of the various subject contents.
5. The IB Diploma Programme is designed to educate internationally minded, caring citizens who are forever curious, tackle real-world issues, and provide leadership and support in the local community.
6. In contrast to International Schools the Nymphenburger IB Diploma Programme allows for the thriving of international mindedness in the middle of the social setting of a genuinely Bavarian day school.

WHAT IS THE IB DIPLOMA PROGRAMME (DP)?

The International Baccalaureate Organization (IBO) was founded in Geneva, Switzerland in 1968 as a non-profit educational foundation.

The IB Diploma Programme (DP) is an academically challenging and balanced programme of education with final examinations that prepares students, aged 16 to 19, for success at university and life beyond. It has been designed to address the intellectual, social, emotional and physical well-being of students. The programme has gained recognition and respect from the world's leading universities.

The Diploma Programme prepares students for effective participation in a rapidly evolving and increasingly global society as they:

- develop physically, intellectually, emotionally and ethically
- acquire breadth and depth of knowledge and understanding, studying courses from six subject groups
- develop the skills and a positive attitude towards learning that will prepare them for higher education
- study at least two languages and increase understanding of cultures, including their own
- make connections across traditional academic disciplines and explore the nature of knowledge through the programme's unique theory of knowledge course
- undertake in-depth research into an area of interest through the lens of one or more academic disciplines in the extended essay
- enhance their personal and interpersonal development through creativity, action and service.

THE CURRICULUM

IB Diploma Programme students must choose one subject from each of the five groups (1 to 5), ensuring breadth of knowledge and understanding in their best language, additional language(s), the social sciences, the experimental sciences and mathematics. Students must also choose either an arts subject from group 6, or a second subject from groups 1 to 5.

DP subjects can be taken at higher level or standard level.

At least three and not more than four subjects are taken at higher level (240 teaching hours), while the other subjects are taken at standard level (150 teaching hours). At Nymphenburger Gymnasium, students study and take examinations in English. Subjects offered at Nymphenburger Gymnasium in 2014: German Literature, English B and Mathematics in Higher Level and Biology, History and Film in Standard Level.

In addition to disciplinary and interdisciplinary study, the Diploma Programme features three core elements that broaden students' educational experience and challenge them to apply their knowledge and skills.

THE DIPLOMA PROGRAMME CORE

- **The extended essay** asks students to engage in independent research through an in-depth study of a question relating to one of the DP subjects they are studying. The world studies extended essay option allows students to focus on a topic of global significance which they examine through the lens of at least two DP subjects.
- **Theory of knowledge** develops a coherent approach to learning that unifies the academic disciplines. In this course on critical thinking, students inquire into the nature of knowing and deepen their understanding of knowledge as a human construction.
- **Creativity, action, service (CAS)** involves students in a range of activities alongside their academic studies throughout the Diploma Programme. Creativity encourages students to engage in the arts and creative thinking. Action seeks to develop a healthy lifestyle through physical activity. Service with the community offers a vehicle for new learning with academic value. The three strands of CAS enhance students' personal and interpersonal development through experiential learning and enable journeys of self-discovery.



https://www.ibo.org/img/imagebank/DP_Eng.jpg

ASSESSMENT AND GRADING IN THE IB DIPLOMA PROGRAMME

IB DP students at Nymphenburger Schools will need to take more written and oral tests than those students preparing for the Abitur only. Some of these grades will be given by their course teachers, other tests will be graded by external IB DP examiners. The grades range from 0 points (fail) to 7 points (outstanding). With six subjects covered, a student arrives at 42 points. An additional 3 points can be earned through Extended Essay and Theory of Knowledge, thus bringing the maximum total up to 45 points. Students need

24 points to acquire the full Diploma Programme. (Special regulations may apply if the IB Diploma is used for university entry at a German university.)

The International Baccalaureate Programme places strong emphasis on academic rigour, commitment, international understanding and responsible citizenship. The general regulations set by the International Baccalaureate Organisation state: "The IBO expects students to participate in the IB curriculum as structured and required by the school; to comply with all subject-specific regulations and internal school deadlines, and to complete the Diploma Programme over a period of two years."

Students failing to meet internal school deadlines risk not being able to achieve an IB Diploma. The school endeavours to ease the workload of the student by phasing deadlines over the two years of the IB programme. The student is given a calendar for the year to enable him/her to plan their work schedule and always know when a deadline is approaching.



WHEN THE GOING GETS TOUGH WE KEEP YOU GOING: OUR PASTORAL SYSTEM

The IB DP Coordinator

The IB Coordinator is the pedagogical leader of the IB programme, coordinating, implementing and evaluating all aspects of the IB programme for Year 11 and 12 students. The DP Coordinator is the crucial link between the school and the International Baccalaureate. She interviews and assesses student applicants for the Diploma Programme and advises students on subject selections and ensures that the student's chosen programme fulfils the IBO requirements. She supports, encourages, and counsels students and generally acts as an advocate for student concerns. The DP Coordinator administers the Extended Essay component and drafts and administers the exam and invigilation timetables. She helps parents and students to understand the demands of the Diploma Programme and the special requirements of taking both the Abitur and the DP exams.

The Subject Teachers

All subject teachers at Nymphenburger Schools are traditionally readily available for student counselling and personal discussions of current issues that emerge during courses. Each teacher also has a fixed hour during the week which is reserved for talks with parents. In addition, there is also a fixed hour for telephone conversation with parents. All subject teachers are also involved in CAS - activities.

The Librarian

The librarian advises students in matters of research skills and instructs students on how to achieve academic honesty.



The CAS Coordinator

The CAS Coordinator helps IB students design their personal CAS programme. She establishes and maintains partnerships with local organizations, keeps records in accordance with the IB DP Coordinator, and ensures that all requirements of CAS are met. The CAS Coordinator advises students to stretch out their CAS programme as continuous activities over the first three terms rather than doing them in blocks to fulfil the 150 hour requirement.

Non-IB Teacher Involvement

Nymphenburger Schools regard the IB as a valuable upgrade of their portfolio and expect positive synergy effects with the regular German classes. Since the IB DP at our schools is designed as an integral part of teaching and planning for the whole school, and since all IB teachers teach courses in the German system as well, it seems natural that also teachers who are currently not teaching IB DP courses are involved in the Diploma Programme. This can be through participating in developing the skills the students need, by taking part in the discussion and comparison of grade results, through their involvement in projects and excursions, in CAS, and in the process of tutoring and correcting Extended Essays.

University / Career Counsellor

The students get advice on their further academic development from the school career counsellor.

HOW TO APPLY

If, after careful consideration, you decide on applying for the IB Diploma Programme, please fill in the Enrolment Form (available on www.nymphenburger-schulen.de) and get in contact with the IB Diploma Coordinator, Mrs Susanna Seibert.

After your contact with the IB Coordinator, hand in a folder containing all materials listed below. Give or send it to Mrs Seibert. Do not hand in the folder before it is complete. If Mrs Seibert finds you fit to be a candidate for the IB DP you will be invited for a personal interview.

Your application must contain the following materials:

1. Copies of your final grade sheets grades nine and ten. Your grade average in year ten must not be below 2.5;
2. One typed page (30 lines) in English stating why you want to be part of the Diploma Programme at Nymphenburger Schools;
3. Proof of any activities or achievements other than those done in class, e.g. exchanges, going to school abroad, sports clubs, project work, etc.;
4. Only for external students: one letter of recommendation from a teacher who knows you well.

The quality of the application materials you hand in matters	10 %
Your grades count	70 %
Your extracurricular commitment and soft skills count	20 %

On top of this Mrs Seibert may talk to your teachers to get a clear picture of your skills and abilities. Our aim in this application process is to help you choose the career best fit for you as an individual, whether it be a concentration on a good German Abitur, or facing the additional challenge of the IB Diploma Programme. We want you to leave our school with a strong feeling of satisfaction because you worked to the best of your abilities.

CONTACT

IB Diploma Coordinator:
Mrs Susanna Seibert
susanna.seibert@nymphenburger-schulen.de
Phone 00 49 - 89 - 159 12 - 232

The IB Mission

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.

To this end, the organization works with schools, governments and international organizations to develop challenging programmes of international education and rigorous assessment.

These programmes encourage students across the world to become active, compassionate and lifelong learners who understand that other people, with their differences, can also be right.

