



What does the IBDP pathway offer?

The International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme (IBDP), combined with the High School Diploma, is a **broad** pathway that offers our students the opportunity to explore multiple disciplines at a high academic level. This dual diploma programme is designed for students who enjoy **variety** in their learning.

A distinguishing characteristic of the IBDP is a concern with the **whole educational experience** of each student. The programme is designed to ensure that each student is exposed to a **balanced curriculum**, whilst paving a clear pathway for progression to university.

What are the academic components of the IBDP pathway?

Students study **six subjects** concurrently in the IBDP. These include two languages, one subject from individuals and societies, one science, one mathematics subject, and one subject from the arts or another subject from the other groups.

It is essential that a pre-university education equips students with the **depth of discipline-specific knowledge** and skills that they will need to follow their chosen university course and for use later in their professional lives. Specialisation is encouraged in the IBDP by expecting students to study three subjects at a higher level (HL). This is balanced with a requirement for breadth by expecting students to study three more subjects at standard level (SL).

Our current selection of subjects at IBDP level are divided into six groups and are outlined below*:



Group 1 Language and Literature	Group 2 Language Acquisition	Group 3 Individuals and Societies	Group 4 The Sciences	Group 5 Mathematics	Group 6 The Arts
Language and Literature	French B	Business Management	Biology	Maths Analysis and Approaches	Visual Arts
Literature	Spanish B	Economics	Chemistry	Maths Applications and Interpretation	Theatre
Literature and Performance (SL Only)		Geography	Computer Science		
		History	Design Technology		
		Psychology	Physics		
			Sports Science		

*Selection is subject to change - final course selection will be dependent on demand and resourcing.

Where will the IDBP take you?

ACS Egham students leave us 'Ready' for the next step in their journey. The IDBP equips students with the fundamental academic skills needed for university study, further education and their chosen profession. The programme is designed to support the development of values and life skills which are needed to live a fulfilled and purposeful life.

What is the IDBP Core?

The three elements of the core, Theory of Knowledge (TOK), Creativity, Activity, Service (CAS) and the Extended Essay (EE), are integral parts of the IDBP experience. The academic disciplines, while separate to the core, are nonetheless linked to it. The core relies on the disciplines to provide enrichment, and individual subjects should be nourished by the core.

- **Theory of Knowledge** is a course that is fundamentally about critical thinking and inquiry into the process of knowing rather than about learning a specific body of knowledge. The TOK course examines the nature of knowledge and how we know what we claim to know. It does this by encouraging students to analyse knowledge claims and explore questions about the construction of knowledge. The aim of TOK is to emphasise connections between areas of shared knowledge and link them to personal knowledge in such a way that an individual becomes more aware of their own perspectives and how they might differ from others
- **Creativity, Activity, Service** provides opportunities for self-determination, collaboration, accomplishment and enjoyment. It involves students in a range of activities alongside their academic studies throughout the IDBP. The three strands of CAS are creativity (exploring and extending ideas leading to an original or interpretive product or performance), activity (physical exertion contributing to a healthy lifestyle) and service (collaborative and reciprocal engagement with the community in response to an authentic need). CAS contributes to the International Baccalaureate's mission to create a better and more peaceful world through intercultural understanding and respect.
- **Extended Essay** offers the opportunity for IDBP students to investigate a topic of special interest, in the form of a 4,000-word piece of independent research. The EE acquaints students with the independent research and writing skills expected at university. This leads to a major piece of formally presented, structured writing, in which ideas and findings are communicated in a reasoned and coherent manner, appropriate to the subject or subjects chosen. It is intended to promote high-level research and writing skills, intellectual discovery and creativity. As an authentic learning experience, it provides students with an opportunity to engage in personal research on a topic of choice, under the guidance of a supervisor.

Subject selection

Combining all components of the Diploma programme, the table below shows an example of subject selection by a DP student.

Group 1	Group 2	Group 3	Group 4	Group 5	Group 6	Core
English Literature (HL)	French B (HL)	Psychology (SL)	Sports and Exercise Science (SL)	Mathematics Analysis & Approaches (HL)	Visual Arts (SL)	CAS, EE & TOK

If you are interested in joining us on this exciting journey, or if you would just like to hear more about the pathway, we would love to hear from you. For our existing family members, please contact the DP coordinator via our High School Office. If you are a prospective family, please contact our admissions team on egadmissions@acs-schools.com.