



Scarborough  
College

International  
Baccalaureate



‘IB encourages the development of inquisitive, critical and reflective thinkers...’



# Diploma Programme

The International Baccalaureate Diploma programme provides our Sixth Form students with a stimulating and challenging post-16 curriculum. Our experience has shown that the IB encourages the development of inquisitive, critical and reflective thinkers who engage fully in the learning process to acquire knowledge.

In an era of increasing competition for university places, our IB graduates leave with a qualification that is widely acknowledged to be academically rigorous and untainted by the spectre of year on year grade inflation that has so undermined confidence in the 'A' Level system. Moreover, the breadth of the IB curriculum arms our students with the linguistic, mathematical and scientific skills to venture confidently into the 21st century workplace.

Our IB Programme caters for a wide range of academic ability. Most of our students achieve the full IB Diploma. This requires students to undertake the core elements of the Extended Essay, Theory of Knowledge (ToK) and Creativity, Action and Service Programme (CAS) alongside their six chosen subjects.

Students with a lower GCSE entry profile can elect to take fewer than six subjects. The subjects chosen can be at either Standard or Higher Level. Their grades for each subject are recognised on the UCAS tariff for university entrance.

We hope this booklet gives an insight into how the IB is taught and assessed at the College. Nevertheless, I am sure you will have many questions about the Diploma programme.

I encourage you to approach either myself or our teaching staff who will guide you in deciding which combination of subjects will be the most appropriate for your Diploma.



**JA Fraser**  
IB Diploma Co-ordinator

# The Diploma Programme

The requirements of the IB Diploma Programme are summarised in the curriculum framework circle illustrated.

Students must choose one subject from each of 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 may choose either an arts subject from group 6, or a second subject from groups 1 to 5. Three of the subjects must be studied at Higher Level (HL) and the remaining three at Standard Level (SL).

The Diploma also includes three core elements that broaden students' educational experience and challenge them to apply their knowledge and skills and prepare them well for University and Higher Education study.



The table below shows the potential subjects available at Scarborough College

*This acts as a very good guide, but may be subject to change due to the choices made by students each year.*

Group 1	Group 2	Group 3	Group 4	Group 5	Group 6
English A Literature SL/HL	French B SL/HL	History SL/HL	Biology SL/HL	Mathematics SL/HL	Visual Arts SL/HL
German A Literature SL/HL	German B SL/HL	Geography SL/HL	Chemistry SL/HL	Maths Studies SL	Music SL/HL
English A Language and Literature SL/HL	Spanish B SL/HL	Business and Management SL/HL	Physics SL/HL		Theatre SL/HL
	French <i>ab initio</i> *	Economics SL/HL	Environmental Societies & Systems SL		
	German <i>ab initio</i> *	Psychology SL/HL	Sport Exercise & Health Science		
	Spanish <i>ab initio</i> *				

*\*ab initio = no prior knowledge of the subject is required.  
On occasion other languages may be available on request, e.g. Chinese and Arabic.*

# The Core

The award of the Diploma is also dependent upon a student satisfactorily completing the three core elements described below.

## Extended Essay

A student selects a topic they are particularly interested in and formulates a research question that they want to answer. They write a 4000 word essay for submission at some point in their Upper Sixth year. Although this may appear a rather daunting task, they are supported throughout by subject specialist teachers and each student is appointed an Extended Essay Supervisor who supports and mentors the student throughout the process from the outset.

## Theory of Knowledge

Students complete a course in the Theory of Knowledge. This touches on a variety of academic areas including Philosophy, Ethics and Religious Studies. Much of the content of the course is related directly to ideas and concepts that they learn about in subject classes. They develop reasoning skills and reflect critically on the nature and validity of knowledge.

## CAS (Creativity, Action, Service)

Students engage in a range of community service projects under the broad headings of Creativity, Action and Service. Suitable activities vary in scale and duration, but have included Scarborough College students volunteering their time for good causes both at home and abroad. They log their CAS projects in a diary which is carefully monitored by their tutor. Ultimately, they must reflect on their activities and meet a number of specific learning outcomes.



‘Medicine is very competitive and I think having the IB will give me an advantage. I enjoyed some of the subjects I had not expected to like and got a lot from them.’

**Dan Hay**

# Assessment

The IB is a linear course. Students undertake their examinations in May of their Upper Sixth year. For each subject, they also complete work that is internally assessed and contributes to their final score. They are awarded between 1 and 7 points for each of their subjects and up to 3 additional points from their Extended Essay and ToK assessed work. This gives an overall possible points score of 45.

The IB Diploma scores have not been subject to the same grade inflation that has so undermined the confidence of employers and universities with the 'A' Level system. The award of a '7' in any subject demonstrates academic excellence in that area.

An overall Diploma award of '36' points made twenty years ago holds exactly the same value as a similar award made today. The IB is independent of any educational decisions made for political ends in this country and for that reason has appealed to many schools.

# University Applications

Our students are fully supported through the process of applying to university through UCAS. They receive guidance from the Head of Sixth Form and their Sixth Form tutor, who will know exactly what their potential is. Subject specialist teachers are also available to offer advice on particular courses and institutions. The results are published in early July, allowing students to confirm their place at university at that point. If a student has not received an offer or has missed the points required for a particular course, they are supported and given advice and guidance on how to apply through clearing in August. The list below highlights some of the university destinations of our IB graduates.

COURSE	UNIVERSITY	POINTS
Law	Manchester	32
Philosophy and French	Oxford	40
Politics	Queen Mary, London	32
Business Management	Newcastle	30
Medicine	Oxford	41
	Imperial	39
	Manchester	34
Chemistry and Forensics	UEA	42
Psychology	York	33
European Studies and Politics	UCL	36
Linguistics	UCL	38
Physics	Durham	41
Zoology	Newcastle	32
Agriculture	Harper Adams	28
History	King's College, London	39
Natural Sciences	Bath	44

‘It would have been difficult for me to choose a good combination of A Levels. With the IB I didn’t need to narrow down and could keep my options open.’

**Anna-Elise Harvey**





**Scarborough  
College**



Filey Road, Scarborough, North Yorkshire, YO11 3BA Tel: +44 (0)1723 360620 Fax: +44 (0)1723 377265  
Email: [admin@scarboroughcollege.co.uk](mailto:admin@scarboroughcollege.co.uk) [www.scarboroughcollege.co.uk](http://www.scarboroughcollege.co.uk)  
An Educational Charity: Registered No. 529686