



INTERNATIONAL PRIMARY CURRICULUM

IPC @ ISB
A Primary Answer to
an Elementary Question

14 Most Frequently asked questions

Questions that you may already have been asking yourselves.

- What is the IPC?
- How IPC guides your child's learning?
- What does a class week look like?
- How is the changing World affecting what we learn?
- What is the Subject Spectrum for IPC
- What are the general learning goals?
- What is the role of the teacher?
- Where does all of this come from?
- How do we know the children learn?
- Where is all this leading?
- What is the ultimate aim?
- What is my role as a parent?
- How do I know if my child is being successful?

What is the IPC?

IPC is the International Primary Curriculum

It is

International: Globally appropriate

It is for

Primary: Fundamental experience

How IPC guides your child's learning?

- The IPC is an umbrella for all conventional subjects
- The emphasis on Internationalism
- There is a broad subject spectrum
- There are clearly defined learning goals
- It is a brain friendly learning approach
- It involves commitment from teachers

What does a class week look like?

Typical Grade 4 Timetable

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Maths	Maths	ICT	PE	Art
German	Maths	Art	PE	Art
ICT	German	Art	German	Maths
Maths	drama	Maths	Music	Maths
lunch	lunch	lunch	lunch	lunch
English	English	English	English	German
English	PE	English	English	Library
snack	PE	snack	snack	homeroom
IPC	IPC	Library	IPC	Early finish
IPC	IPC	German	IPC	Early finish

How is the changing World affecting what we learn?

- National boundaries are diminishing
- Internationalism is here
- International understanding is vital

What is the Subject Spectrum for IPC?

- Art
- Geography
- History
- ICT
- English
- Mathematics
- Music
- PE
- Science
- Society
- Technology
- Additional Languages: German and then in Grade 5 exposure to Spanish and French

What are the general learning goals?

- They define as clearly as possible what the vast majority of children are expected to learn
- 3 types
 - Subject based: extends knowledge, skills and understanding,
 - Personal orientation: develops personal attributes
 - International: supports an international perspective

What is the role of the teacher?

- A learning facilitator

Teachers need to have:

- Enthusiasm
- Interest
- Training
- Knowledge
- Flexibility
- Self-confidence

Where does all of this come from?

- Fieldwork is an international company initially commissioned to develop a curriculum for Shell schools. The IPC is now the curriculum choice of international and national schools in over 1,800 schools in over 90 countries around the world.
- Modern brain research guides the development of the programme so that learning can be optimised
- Recognition that each child has a different learning style encourages the teacher to offer a wide range of learning activities
- Learning friendly environments invite children to feel secure in their learning

How do we know the children learn?

- The spiral curriculum- concepts and skills are revisited to increase depth and application as the students work their way up through the school.
- The Early Years Programme : a two-year learning block designed specifically for very young children- EL1 and EL2
- Mileposts 1 – 3 : three two-year learning blocks addressing sets of precise learning outcomes that are described and hopefully mastered by the end of each block - EL3 – Grade 5

The Early Years Programme	EL 1 3-4 yr. olds	EL 2 4-5 yr. olds
Milepost 1	EL 3 5 – 6 yr. olds	Grade 1 6-7 yr. olds
Milepost 2	Grade 2 7-8 yr. olds	Grade 3 8 – 9 yr. olds
Milepost 3	Grade 4 9-10 yr. olds	Grade 5 10-11 yr. olds

Where is all this leading?

IPC > IGCSE Grades 10 – (Secondary Grades 6 through 10) > IB diploma

- The IPC nurtures a love of learning and encourages necessary key skills and personal qualities for student to move up the education continuum.

What is the ultimate aim?

- Our ultimate aim is to prepare students for the International Baccalaureate Diploma.
- The IPC provides ISB students with a sound foundation of knowledge, skills and conceptual understanding which will enable them to develop a style of learning compliant with the successful completion of the IB programme and consequential attainment of the IB Diploma.

What is my role as a parent?

Parental participation is paramount to success and entails sharing.

- Taking an active part
- Showing a sincere interest
- Asking provocative questions
- Answering awkward questions
- Supporting child-driven research
- Sharing personal resources

How do I know if my child is being successful?

Assessment at ISB

EL 1 – Grade 5

- Report cards 3 times a year
 - Oct. – narrative
 - Jan. – developmental = B, D or M
 - Jun. EL 1 – G3 = developmental
 - G4 and G5 = dev. + achievements grade 1 – 7 and effort grades A-E
- Parent / teacher conferences
- Student feed-back