



## 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
<b>Maths</b>	<b>Maths</b>	<b>ICT</b>	<b>PE</b>	<b>Art</b>
<b>German</b>	<b>Maths</b>	<b>Art</b>	<b>PE</b>	<b>Art</b>
<b>ICT</b>	<b>German</b>	<b>Art</b>	<b>German</b>	<b>Maths</b>
<b>Maths</b>	<b>drama</b>	<b>Maths</b>	<b>Music</b>	<b>Maths</b>
<b>lunch</b>	<b>lunch</b>	<b>lunch</b>	<b>lunch</b>	<b>lunch</b>
<b>English</b>	<b>English</b>	<b>English</b>	<b>English</b>	<b>German</b>
<b>English</b>	<b>PE</b>	<b>English</b>	<b>English</b>	<b>Library</b>
<b>snack</b>	<b>PE</b>	<b>snack</b>	<b>snack</b>	<b>homeroom</b>
<b>IPC</b>	<b>IPC</b>	<b>Library</b>	<b>IPC</b>	Early finish
<b>IPC</b>	<b>IPC</b>	<b>German</b>	<b>IPC</b>	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