

Admissions Policy



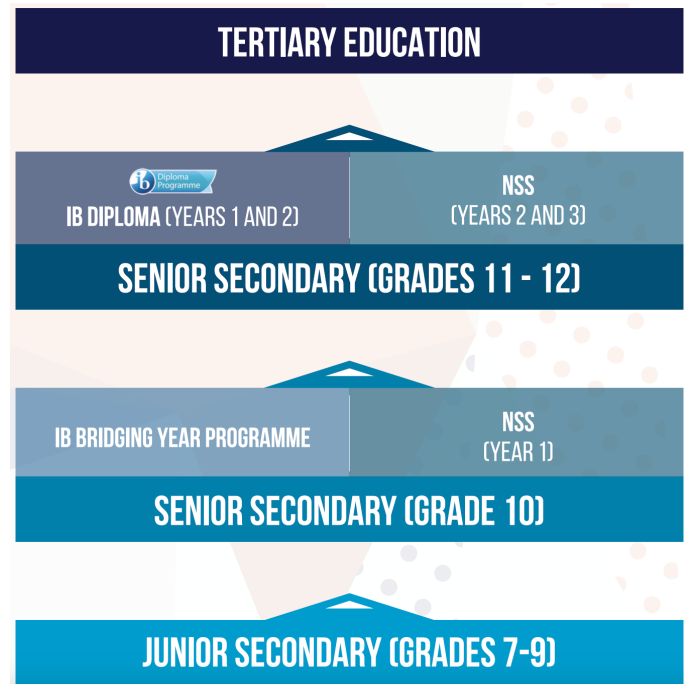
The International Baccalaureate

The International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme, or IBDP as it is widely known, is highly valued by Universities across the world.

The holistic nature of the IB emphasizes high academic standards in the mandatory areas of first and second language, mathematics, humanities, science and arts. Academic excellence is coupled with emphasis on personal development in areas such as philosophy, social awareness and the arts. This can be further observed in the 10 traits of the IB Learner Profile. The IB is unfettered by individual national demands, which allows it to

act as a powerful guarantor of assessment procedures. This explains why universities across the world hold IB graduates in high regard, and why an ever increasing number of schools are adopting it as their senior school curriculum.

The Diploma combines academic rigour with breadth, ensuring that each student finishes the program literate and numerate, capable in a foreign language, knowledgeable in science and a humanistic discipline, and be artistically accomplished . In addition, students will follow a course in critical thinking (Theory of Knowledge), write an Extended Essay, and meet the learning outcomes through Creativity, Activity and Service (CAS) experiences.



Admissions Policy



Admission to the DBS Grade 10 Bridging Programme

DBS welcomes all internal and external Grade 10 Bridging Programme applicants who are able to:

- Demonstrate how they can benefit from the IB Programme
- Demonstrate a strong, independent work ethic and a desire to succeed.
- Demonstrate academic and language abilities, and commitment to learning languages that are at a level appropriate to the Bridging Program.
- Maintain a high level of self-motivation, organization and time management.
- Commit to the Grade 10 Service Program.
- Show a keen interest and awareness of local, international and global affairs.
- Respect the views, values and traditions of other individuals and cultures.
- Be responsible ambassadors for DBS.

Internal and external applicants for admissions to DBS Grade 10 Bridging Year Program (Bridging Year) will undergo an age-appropriate writing and reading English assessment to demonstrate that they are capable of engaging with an English Medium IB Curriculum. A Chinese/French admission exercise and a cognitive test is also administered. Additionally, all external candidates will also take a Mathematics admissions test. The results of these will help us assess the students' ability to engage with the challenges of the IB Diploma. Details of the written assessments are as follows:

English	The G10 Bridging Program English Admissions test consists of two tasks assessing reading skills and writing skills, respectively. The reading task requires a response to a question based on a literary piece of writing; the writing task requires an argumentative response to a prompt. For both tasks, students will be graded on the depth of ideas and understanding presented, and the attention given to crafting. Crafting might include: organisation of ideas, grammar, vocabulary, punctuation and general fluency.
Chinese	IB入學試中文卷的設計，旨在讓學生能展示與語言A課程所要求的相關能力，包括文學分析、鑒賞、詮釋及撰寫文學評論的能力。試卷分為兩部分：甲部分為文學作品分析，乙部分為簡短論文寫作。作答以能反映考生的獨特見解、透徹的理解及脈絡分明為尚。
Mathematics	The admissions test is designed to determine candidates' prior knowledge and aptitude to gauge potential success in IB Mathematics. The skills examined can include routine algebraic manipulation including exponents, factorization, quadratic equations, algebraic fractions, coordinate geometry, and trigonometry, probability and statistics. Non-routine contexts can range from application or word-based problems, patterns and proofs, or modeling and investigation.
Cognitive Test	This test is designed to measure students' ability to use and apply information appropriately. More specifically, their performance on critical thinking, problem-solving, information literacy and research and written communication skills. The test is adaptive. Depending on each individual student's responses, it can take between 25 – 60 minutes to complete. Students may use dictionaries, Google or other reference material during the test. The test does not require any subject-specific knowledge.

Admissions Policy



Applicants who pass the written assessment are invited to an individual interview with a panel of teachers representing different subject Groups of the IB, where each student's potential for learning as well as their ability to engage and succeed within the Bridging Year and IB Diploma curriculum will be explored.

Applicants' academic background, previous school reports and supporting documents will also be taken into account when considering the applicant's learning skills and cognitive ability. Applicants must be able to demonstrate academic and language abilities that are at a level appropriate to the DBS Bridging and IB Programs. The student's responsibility to behave in accordance with the school's standards of conduct and the principles of good citizenship with reference to the IB Learner Profile are also taken into consideration.

Admission to the Bridging Program is open to students of all nationalities and backgrounds, as long as they have the right of abode in Hong Kong, who demonstrate the ability to access and benefit from the challenging international curriculum and program offered by the school.

Admission is dependent on:

- Meeting all admissions procedures and qualifications.
- Meeting all financial obligations.
- Availability of places in appropriate classes and programs.
- Understanding and agreeing to the DBS IB Policies and Guidelines

Students who successfully complete the Grade 10 Bridging Programme will be automatically offered a place in the DBS International Baccalaureate Program (IBDP). Additional information about the G10 Bridging Year Programme admissions process and subject choices can be found on our [website](#).

Admissions Policy



Admission to the DBS G11 International Baccalaureate Diploma Program (IBDP)

A limited number of spaces may be available for direct entry into our G11 IBDP for external applicants who demonstrate the attainment and capabilities of rising G11s from the DBS Bridging Program.

Applicants will take an age-appropriate writing and reading English assessment to demonstrate that they are capable of engaging with an English Medium IB Curriculum. A Chinese/French, Mathematics and Cognitive admissions exercise will also be administered.

The IBDP is very demanding academically, in terms of level of commitment, time and effort required from the student. Applicants who do not meet all of the entry requirements may be considered suitable for Year 11 entry as a *Diploma Courses* student. This decision will be made on a case-by-case basis by the IB Diploma Programme Coordinator. Students will be counselled on the correct choice of either full Diploma status or Courses status during the Admissions procedure, however, the School reserves the right to accept or reject any application at its discretion.

During the admissions process we will offer guidance and support to students when they make their subject choices and subject levels; however, students should initially refer to the IB subject guide for specific subject requirements, before making their initial choices.

Additional information about the G10 Bridging Year Programme admissions process and subject choices can be found on our [website](#).

Admissions Policy



Inclusive Access Arrangements

Our school will accommodate and provide support to students who need inclusive access arrangements, who otherwise demonstrate the ability to access and benefit from our regular curriculum and program, to minimise their barriers to learning. Students who require access arrangements will be admitted on the basis of the admissions panel's review of previous school records and placement, assessments of current intellectual and achievement levels, Individual Educational Plan (IEP) and psycho-educational evaluation. The link to our Inclusion Policy can be found [here](#).

It is parents' responsibility and obligation both to externally provide an inclusive education and to keep the School informed on particulars of the inclusive access arrangements that require undertaking. Failure to do so may affect students' eligibility to stay in the program.

Related Links

Below are some links to documents that will provide further general information for parents on the IB Diploma Program and more specifically on the courses offered by DBS.

- [General Regulations - IBDP](#)
- [Assessment Policy](#)
- [Language Policy](#)
- [Academic Honesty Policy](#)
- [Inclusion Policy](#)

Admissions Policy



Application Forms

IB application documents can be secured through the School's [website](#) or directly from the IB General Office.

Application Timeline

For exact dates for the current year, please refer to the School's website.

Approx. Date/Time Period	Event
February	IB Information Session
March	G10 Application deadline
March/April	Admission Written Assessments
April/May	Interviews
June	Release of results
Late August	Induction Day (for G10 boys) <i>(to be attended by students admitted to the IB accompanied by their parents)</i>
September	IB Orientation (for G10 boys)

Updated August 2023