



International Baccalaureate

The **International Baccalaureate (IB)** Programme is an internationally recognized programme based on the principles of outcome-based education using a common curriculum. Students are evaluated by a team of teachers, and schools are held accountable for the curriculum, the effectiveness of instruction, and student achievement.

The general objectives of the International Baccalaureate Programme are to provide students with a balanced education, to facilitate geographic and cultural mobility, and to promote international understanding through a shared academic experience. The student who meets the requirements of the International Baccalaureate Diploma has demonstrated a strong commitment to learning, both in terms of the mastery of subject content and in the development of the skills and discipline necessary for success in a competitive world.

The International Baccalaureate Programme is taken during the last two years of secondary school, grades 11 and 12. In order for students to achieve the appropriate background, the Ontario curriculum is enriched and adapted beginning in grade 9. Students will be admitted to Lo-Ellen Park's International Baccalaureate Preparatory Programme in grade 9. This will provide the opportunity for students, staff and parents to determine if the International Baccalaureate Programme is appropriate for the student and to decide if he/she should proceed to the International Baccalaureate Programme in grade 11. By the end of grade 12 the student must complete the following requirements:

- Successfully write International Baccalaureate examinations in six subject areas. These examinations are either at the Standard Level (SL) or the Higher Level (HL). All examinations are set and evaluated internationally. In order to receive the International Baccalaureate Diploma, the student must write at least 3 HL examinations. The six subject areas are:
 - Group 1: Language A - English (HL)
 - Group 2: Language B - French (SL)
 - Group 3: Individuals and Society - History (SL)
 - Group 4: Sciences - Biology (HL), and/or Chemistry (HL)
 - Group 5: Mathematics (SL)
 - Group 6: Arts (HL/SL)
- Complete the Creativity, Activity, Service (CAS) requirement of extracurricular and community service activities. CAS may be started at the beginning of the grade 11 year.
- Successfully complete the International Baccalaureate **Theory of Knowledge** requirements. This curriculum is purposefully and thoughtfully integrated into the six subject areas, with a focus on inquiry into different ways of knowing, and considers the role which knowledge plays in a global society. It encourages students to become aware of themselves as thinkers and to recognize the need to act responsibly in an increasingly interconnected world.

- Write an **Extended Essay** which provides the experience of an independent research paper. Each student must choose a topic of interest within the International Baccalaureate curriculum and write a 3,500 - 4,000-word essay that meets international standards of scholarship.

The International Baccalaureate Diploma is recognized throughout the world as a university admission credential. Many universities grant credit and/or advanced placement for Higher Level examinations. In some cases, a full year of university standing may be awarded to International Baccalaureate Diploma holders. These policies have been developed as a result of the experience universities have had with previous International Baccalaureate students, as well as recognition of the challenge that the International Baccalaureate Programme offers secondary school students. Admissions officers appreciate the caliber of the International Baccalaureate students and look to attract them to their campuses. IB students from Lo-Ellen Park have been accepted into highly selective programs at Canadian and American universities.

Admission Requirements

In general, students considering the IB Programme must first complete the IB Preparatory programme in Grades 9 and 10 to build the foundation required to manage the academic rigor of the IB curriculum in Grades 11 and 12. Therefore, the application process begins in Grade 8. Late admission to the programme (in Grade 10 or 11) **may** be considered on an individual basis.

Students will be admitted to the programme if they meet the following requirements.

Lo-Ellen Park IB Preparatory 1 (Grade 9)

Students must demonstrate a strong academic background in the core subjects. Admission is based on all of the following:

- a minimum average of 80% in the core subjects, with an emphasis on numeracy and literacy skills
- the recommendation of Grade 8 academic teacher(s) and/or the principal
- learning skills that suggest self-discipline and commitment to academic success
- completion of the application form with the necessary documentation

Application forms can be found online, on our school website, and should be submitted to Julie Wuorinen, IB Coordinator, by **February 28, 2025**

Lo-Ellen Park IB Preparatory 2 (Grade 10)

Students who have demonstrated success in Lo-Ellen Park's Grade 9 IB Prep programme will be admitted to the second year of the programme. These students will have demonstrated a strong academic background in the core subjects as assessed by their Grade 9 teachers, in consultation with the IB coordinator and/or the principal.

Admission for students from other secondary schools or from a non-IB Prep Grade 9 programme **may** be considered on an individual basis providing space permits. Such a student must be able to demonstrate that he/she has a strong academic background in the core subjects. The student must complete an application form, and be interviewed by the principal and/or IB coordinator. Additional preparatory work may be required to ensure that the student will be able to handle the demands of the IB programme.

IB - Year 1 & Year 2 (Grade 11 & 12)

Students who have demonstrated success in Lo-Ellen Park's Grade 10 IB Preparatory programme will be admitted to the first year of the IB programme. These students will have demonstrated a strong academic background in the core subjects as assessed by their Grade 10 teachers, in consultation with the IB coordinator and/or the principal. In addition, students will be counselled by a staff mentor, IB coordinator and/or the principal.

Admission for students from other secondary schools or from a non-IB Prep Grade 10 programme **may** be considered on an individual basis providing space permits. Such a student must be able to demonstrate that he/she has a strong academic background in the core subjects. The student must complete an application form, and be interviewed by the principal and/or IB coordinator. Additional preparatory work may be required to ensure that the student will be able to handle the demands of the IB programme.

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By: Pamela Potvin, Principal

Julie Wuorinen, IB Coordinator