



# Park High School

*International Baccalaureate World School*



## The International Baccalaureate Diploma Program at a glance

The Diploma Program for students aged 16 to 19 is a demanding two-year curriculum leading to final examinations and a qualification that is welcomed by leading universities around the world.

IB is proud of the reputation for **high-quality education** sustained for over 35 years. The curriculum represents the best from many different countries rather than the system of any one. The challenging Diploma Program assessment is recognized by the world's leading universities. IB maintains high standards by actively training and supporting teachers, and by authorizing and evaluating IB World Schools. In fact, the Minnesota Department of Education calls IB a "superior" education.

IB encourages a **positive attitude to learning** by encouraging students to ask challenging questions, to critically reflect, to develop research skills, and to learn how to learn. IB encourages community service because of the belief that there is more to learning than academic studies alone.

Students learn more than a collection of facts. The Diploma Program prepares students for college and encourages them to:

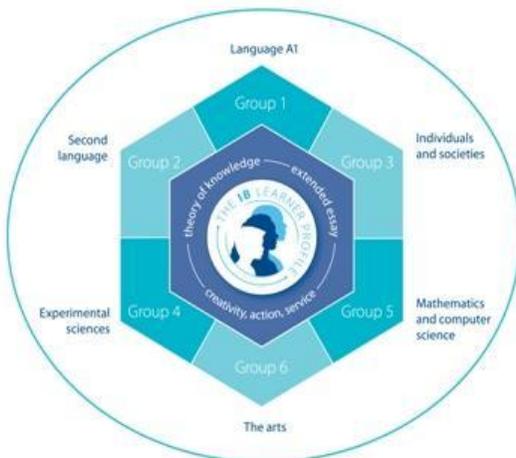
- Ask challenging questions
- Learn how to learn
- Develop a strong sense of their own identity and culture

To achieve this, IB has created six areas of study, and three areas of educational enrichment and growth shown by the diagram below:

## Diploma Program Curriculum

### Program Model

The curriculum is modeled by a hexagon with six academic areas surrounding the three core requirements.



Over the course of the two-year program, students:

- Study six subjects chosen from the six subject groups.
- Complete an extended essay.
- Follow a theory of knowledge course (TOK).
- Participate in creativity, action, service (CAS).

Normally:

- Three of the six subjects are studied at higher level (courses representing 240 teaching hours)
- The remaining three subjects are studied at standard level (courses representing 150 teaching hours).