



## **OAKRIDGE SECONDARY SCHOOL**

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### *Access / Admission Policy*

#### **Philosophy**

Oakridge Secondary School values all students as we seek to engage each student in challenging curriculum, which encourages critical thinking, intercultural understanding, and respect. We welcome applications from potential IB students who aim to meet the challenges of the 21<sup>st</sup> century. By supporting students to develop traits within the [IB Learner Profile](#), teachers at Oakridge support students of the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme (IBDP) to be internationally minded, critical thinkers, collaborators, problem solvers, innovators, and caring learners.

The Thames Valley District School Board and Oakridge Secondary School offer students the opportunity to develop skills associated with the IB Learner Profile so students are better prepared for their continued journey of academic success, global citizenship, and personal growth through post-secondary education and future job markets. We believe that the strong connections between the IB Learner Profile and 21<sup>st</sup> century skills are foundational for the approaches to teaching and learning experienced at Oakridge Secondary School.

#### **Admission Process**

Students who wish to be successful in the IBDP should display skills that demonstrate collaboration, time management, leadership, and responsibility for their learning. As well, students ought to demonstrate success with their academics and extra-curricular activities. Students are supported to take the full Diploma Programme. The IBDP is a rigorous academic program where students can earn international accreditation and prepare for future success within university programs. In grades 9 and 10, students select an academic pathway that support students to take French and Mathematics into the Diploma Programme. The intention of the IB program is to prepare all students so they can attain the full IB diploma. It is not an exclusive program however, there is an application process in place in order to ensure that the IB program is a good fit for prospective students and that the maximum capacity of the school is not exceeded.

Due to limited school capacity, an application process is required for students who wish to take part in the IBDP at Oakridge Secondary School. Grade 8, 9, and 10 student applications are evaluated based on three pieces of evidence: a reference letter, a written response by the student, and a copy of the student's most recent full report card. The review committee,

consisting of Head of School, DP Coordinator, and a Core Coordinator, assess all applications based on evidence of the IB Learner Profile.

Students from outside of the Oakridge Secondary School catchment can apply to the IBDP. Families are informed that transportation to and from school is the responsibility of the family and not provided by the TVDSB for students who live out-of-area. Please understand that at any time if an accepted, out-of-area student withdraws from the pathway to and through the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme they are supported to register at their TVDSB designated home school.

In order for a student to be successful in the IBDP, he or she must first elect to take the challenge. While it is understood that parents or guardians might want their child to participate in the IBDP, experience has shown that the student has to be motivated to participate fully in order to benefit from the program.

International Students with a mother tongue other than English are required to write a placement test in English (STEP) and Mathematics. Students' must achieve the following minimum scores to be considered for the IB Diploma Program:

- STEP level of 5 (ENG3U)
- Grade 12 Math

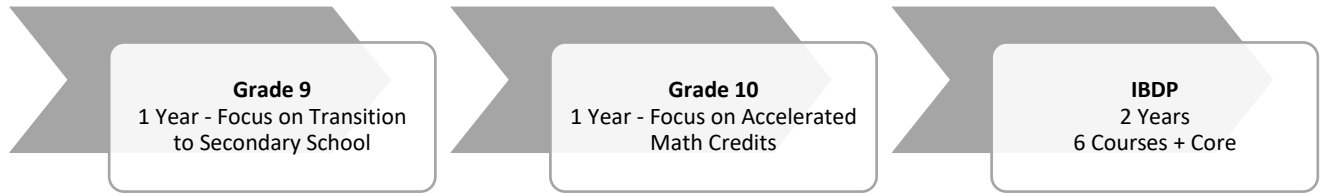
English Language Learners that wish to enter the IB Diploma Programme that do not meet the above language requirement can enroll in ESL classes. After successfully completing ESLEO they can re-apply for the IB Diploma Programme.

Oakridge hosts an IBDP Information Night in early December to share information with prospective families. Applications are due each year in the middle of January. There is an opportunity for late admission if students meet all academic requirements and space is available. Applications are accepted through emailed to the school IB email at: [oakridgeIB@tvdsb.ca](mailto:oakridgeIB@tvdsb.ca). The school has a capacity to admit approximately 90 IBDP students into each grade level with the entire population of the school being approximately 1000 students.

The IBDP is an internationally recognized program with an extensive organization. As such, the IBDP has an associated fee and fee structure. The total payment of \$2500 is divided over a four-year period.

<b>Year</b>	<b>Fee Amount</b>
Grade 9	-
Grade 10	\$300
Grade 11	\$1,425
Grade 12	\$775
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2500</b>

## Progression through Grades for IBDP Students



In addition to their six IB subject courses, full IB Diploma students are required to successfully complete the Core components of the program: Creativity, Activity, Service (CAS), Theory of Knowledge (TOK), and the Extended Essay (EE). Below is a brief summary of these Core components. Successful completion of the Core components of the program (CAS, EE and TOK) is mandatory for passing the IB Diploma.

### IB Diploma Programme Model



Figure 1: A model of the Diploma Programme and its components.

Core Requirements of the IB Diploma Program		
TOK	Theory of Knowledge	Taken concurrently during grades 11 and 12. The course component of TOK finishes at the end of semester one during grade 12. TOK is internally and externally assessed through a presentation (exhibition) and an essay.
CAS	Creativity, Activity, Service	Students create a balanced program of CAS activities and maintain a CAS Portfolio to document their engagement with CAS. This is assessed internally by the CAS Coordinator against the CAS learning outcomes.

		Each student undertakes a CAS Project that demonstrates their capacity to show initiative, demonstrate perseverance, and develop skills like collaboration, decision-making, and problem-solving.
EE	Extended Essay	Students choose an area of investigation and develop an individual research question. Working with a supervisor, they undertake research/writing over eight months, submitting the final 4,000-word essay in their Grade 12 year. The extended essay is externally assessed.

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