

Why should I carry on with English, mathematics and a foreign language?

We believe that these subjects will help you to develop essential skills which are prized by universities and employers. Also remember that you can always choose to pick up a new foreign language from scratch in group 2 and that you can take mathematical studies in group 5. English is an important subject; it is the main language of communication in the world and the skills learnt within the subject will help support your other studies.

FAQ

Will the IB qualify me to go to university abroad?

Yes. The majority of universities in other countries will accept the IB. In fact American universities particularly favour it for their academic courses and for their sport scholarships. Should you want to work abroad, the IB is more readily recognised than many other UK qualifications.

Enrolling for the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme

dallam school



To IB or not to IB?

"A poll of 56 university admissions tutors, commissioned by the ACS International Schools, found they felt the IB was a better preparation for university." The Independent, Sept 2008

This sounds like a lot of work, will I be able to cope?

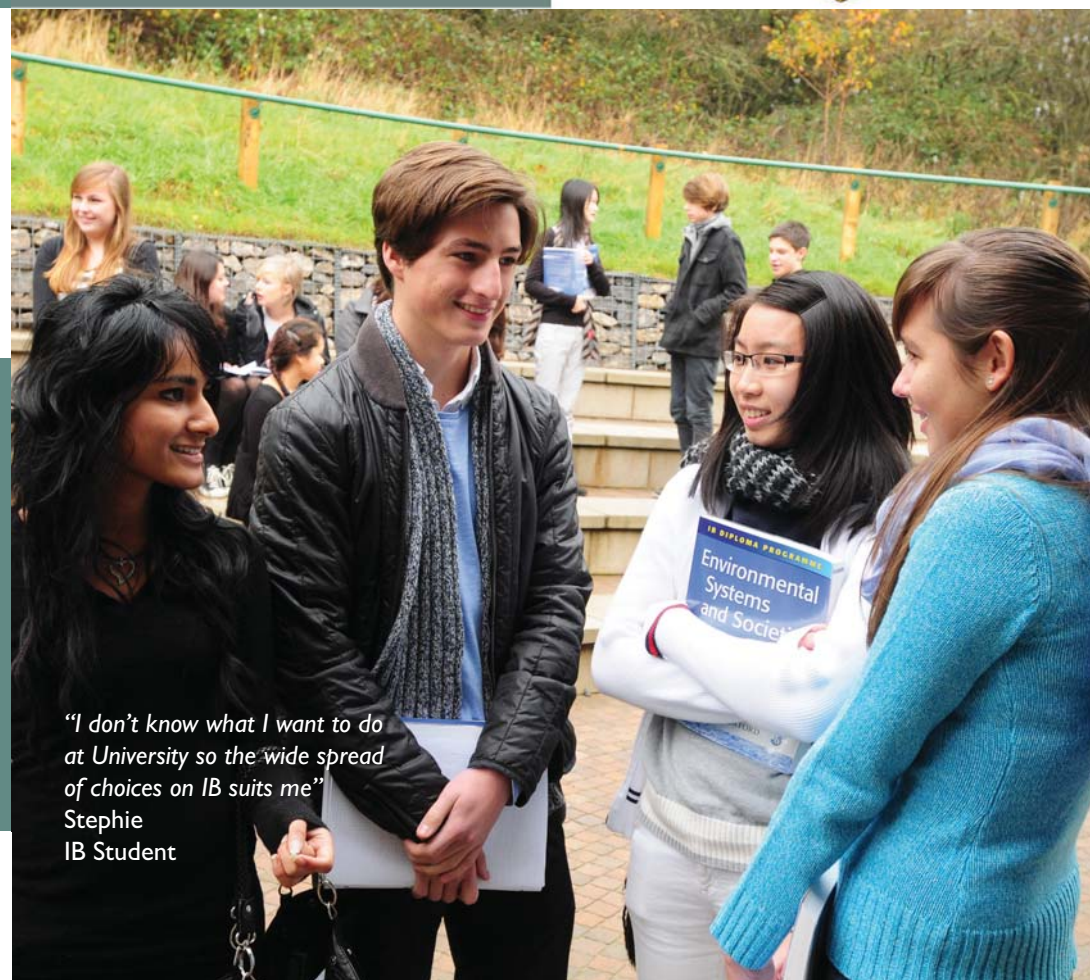
Yes. It is a lot of work and you will be busy but remember that this is a two year qualification with no gaps for modular examinations. It is also worth considering that the six subjects at IB are far less than the wide range of GCSEs you are taking at the moment.

Do I have to be brilliant to take the IB?

No. It is much more important that you are a motivated, organised learner and that you enjoy being challenged and active.

"Students of the International Baccalaureate would probably be required to achieve a level of performance of 38–40 points, including core points, with 6s or 7s in the higher subjects." Oxford University, 2008

"More and more university admissions tutors are recognising the superior academic quality of the diploma, which bodes well for its future. The IB is here to stay." The Telegraph, 2006



"I don't know what I want to do at University so the wide spread of choices on IB suits me"
Stephie
IB Student

dallam school



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The International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme is a world-recognised, highly respected qualification which is a good alternative to A Levels.

Why is IB right for me?

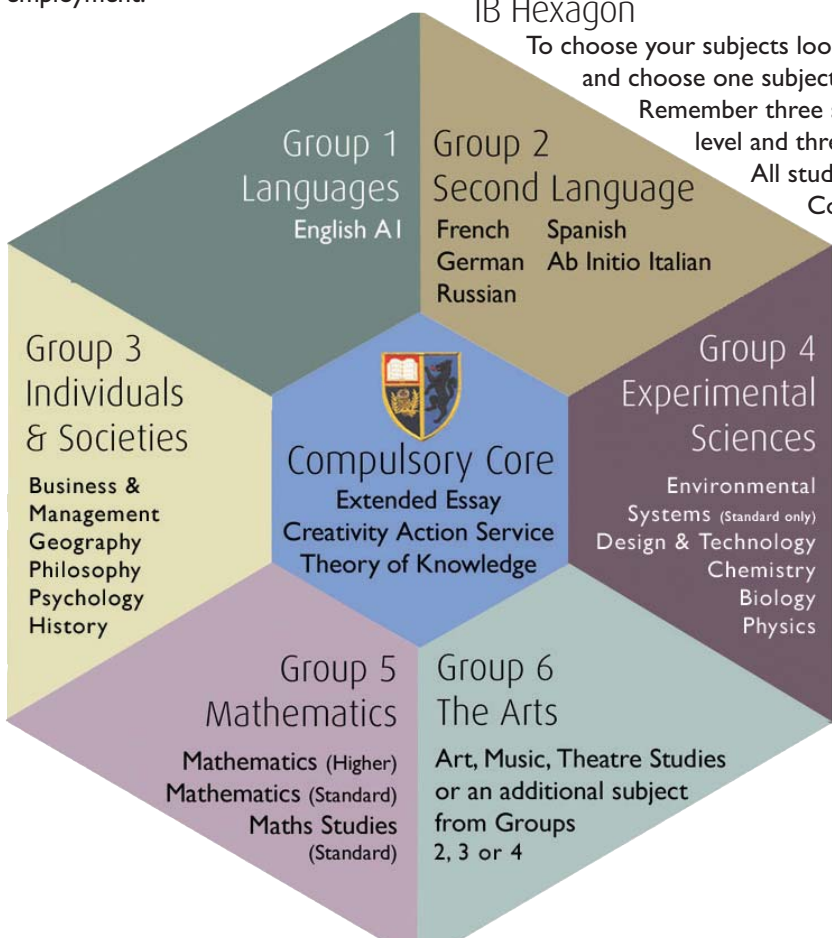
The IB Diploma is readily accepted by **all** UK universities and is highly regarded for its breadth and academic rigour. The course is designed to develop those skills which will equip you to cope with the demands of university life and employment.

Programme of Study

Each student will take six subjects for two years. Three will be at the higher level and three subjects at standard level. In addition you will complete core studies in Theory of Knowledge (TOK), an extended essay and CAS such as sport, voluntary work and creative pursuits.

IB Hexagon

To choose your subjects look at the hexagon and choose one subject from each group. Remember three should be at higher level and three at standard level. All students will take the Compulsory Core.



In May 2008, the Financial Times ranked the International Baccalaureate first out of all the Post 16 qualifications for entry to university, giving it a score of 10/10



If you do not want to study a foreign language that you have studied before, you can start Italian from scratch. This is called Ab Initio and counts as a standard level subject.

If you have passed mathematics GCSE but do not have any interest in taking it further then you could take Mathematical Studies, which is marginally more difficult than GCSE. This also counts as a standard level subject. If you would like to take a second subject from groups 2, 3 or 4, you may choose this instead of a group 6 subject. Each subject you take, whether higher or standard, is worth a maximum of 7 points.

Your extended essay and Theory of Knowledge combined are worth 3 points. The CAS programme is also worth 3 points. These areas need to be passed to gain a diploma.

Opposite you'll find the UCAS tariff outlining the other scores and how they compare to A Level grades. As you can see the UCAS tariff definitely works in an IB student's favour.

If a student achieves fewer than 24 points they will be awarded a Certificate qualification which is still accepted by many universities.



UCAS Tariff

The following is an illustration of the comparison between IB and A Level using the 2010 UCAS Tariff.

IB Diploma Points	UCAS Points	A Level Equivalent
45	720	AAAAAA
40	611	AAAAA
35	501	AAAA
30	392	AAA
28	348	AAB
26	304	ABC
24	260	ACC

Entrance Qualifications

The IB programme is accessible for the vast majority of 16 year olds. To be accepted on the course you should gain at least 5 C grades in your GCSEs, including Maths and English. You should also be looking to gain a B or above in your higher level subjects, though this is only preferable, not essential.

What is important is that you choose a combination of subjects that suits you and your aspirations. To this end every potential student at Dallam Sixth Form is interviewed by an experienced member of staff who will be able to offer advice and guidance. We pride ourselves in treating each and every one of you as an individual.