

Coordinator's notes

Information for Middle Years Programme coordinators and teachers

News

Online curriculum centre reorganized

The International Baccalaureate (IB) has reorganized the online curriculum centre (OCC). This will allow schools to retrieve all curriculum support materials and important Middle Years Programme (MYP) development reports and updates more easily.

Updated MYP materials in the IB digital toolkit

Schools can now download materials in the digital toolkit such as brochures, flyers and PowerPoint presentations that represent the updated eAssessment model. The IB published an updated eAssessment model in the *eAssessment development report* on the OCC in September 2014.

About the toolkit

The digital toolkit (<http://www.ibo.org/en/digital-toolkit/>) is designed to provide authorized IB World Schools with a wide range of communications materials that can be used to present the IB and its programmes to stakeholders such as students, parents, teachers and school boards as well as universities and government bodies.

A wide range of materials are offered in the digital toolkit to help schools promote the MYP in a clear, visible, positive and consistent manner, in full compliance with IB brand guidelines, copyrights and recommended usage.

The following MYP materials can be downloaded from <http://www.ibo.org/en/digital-toolkit/brochures-flyers-and-posters/>.

- MYP sub-brand logo
- MYP programme model
- "10 reasons to do the MYP" poster: A poster explaining why the IB Middle Years Programme is the ideal course of study for students
- MYP roll-out banner: A banner promoting the MYP
- MYP programme brochure: A brochure incorporating the programme model and relevant information
- MYP PowerPoint: A general presentation on the IB Middle Years Programme

School enhancement services

The IB is introducing a new suite of school enhancement services on a trial basis. These services support schools in moving to the next level in curriculum planning, programme implementation and leadership.

Initially, the following four services will be trialled.

- Curriculum Connections
- Building Quality Curriculum
- Strengthening Leadership of Groups of Schools
- Optimizing Assessment Analysis (Diploma Programme)

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Building Quality Curriculum pilot

During quarter one of 2015, the first pilot of the Building Quality Curriculum school enhancement service was completed. The purpose of the service is to improve the curriculum planning process in schools. Participating MYP schools submitted two unit planners with self-assessments from each subject group. The school documents were reviewed by educators who used a template to provide detailed feedback. Once schools received their feedback reports, they had a four-week window in which to ask questions or seek clarifications. The tools used in this pilot were developed collaboratively between MYP Programme Development and Global School Services.

Parts of this service will become mandatory for MYP schools not participating in eAssessments from January 2016, when monitoring of assessment is replaced by monitoring of unit planning (Building Quality Curriculum service). It was therefore critical to ensure the pilot group represented all three regions and a range of school types and contexts. In this initial pilot, there were 10 MYP schools from 8 countries: Germany, Spain, Switzerland, Canada, United States, Singapore, Mongolia and New Zealand. Sixteen educators were trained as reviewers and senior reviewers to work with the schools during the pilot. These educators represented all three regions, and a wide range of school contexts, for example, Australia, Canada, Germany, Jordan, Panama, Sweden, Tanzania, United States of America and Venezuela, with experience in many others. The group included IB educators with significant experience in a number of roles, as well as new recruits to expand IBEN capacity.

The initial training of educators was conducted in mid-November 2014 using “live samples” from the work submitted by the pilot schools. At the end of each day, the reviewers submitted their work to senior reviewers who were located in time zones that allowed them to review the work and upload feedback by the start of the next day’s training. In addition, the senior reviewers provided Skype coaching sessions. Using this process, the teams established a common understanding of the expectations of the role and of the types of feedback. In order to provide high-quality and consistent feedback, senior reviewers were also tasked with standardizing the feedback across subjects. With this in mind, MYP senior reviewers were selected based on expertise across multiple disciplines to provide consistency across subject groups. In addition, to provide consistency across the school, the final step was for a single reviewer to quality check all the reports for each school.

The initial pilot proved to be extremely valuable and the IB is currently revising documents and processes based on survey and interview data from schools and reviewers. An additional pilot is planned to begin in October 2015. If you are interested in participating in the pilot, please email GSS@ibo.org.

The service will become mainstream in January 2016 as a mandatory service for MYP schools at programme evaluation that will not be participating in eAssessment, and as an optional service for all other MYP schools.

Please note that, as previously announced, schools may use monitoring of assessment reports from samples of student work submitted before 31 December 2015 for evaluation visits that occur within two years of submission. Samples submitted after September 2015 must be based on the new assessment criteria.

Curriculum Connections

Curriculum Connections is a support service, tailored for the Primary Years Programme (PYP) and MYP, that focuses on mapping the IB framework to local/national curriculums. Trialling in 21 schools until December 2015, Curriculum Connections has resulted in stronger connections with parents and community leaders.

More on this pilot can be read on the IB community blog, where MYP coordinator Alana Brown discusses the service.

On-screen examinations and ePortfolio

The newly established MYP Assessment team are continuing to develop on-screen examinations and the procedures for ePortfolio subjects to support the new MYP guides. Please read the recently published *eAssessment development report* (May 2015), the *Guide to MYP eAssessment* (2015), together with the April and September 2014 *eAssessment development reports* for information regarding the plans for eAssessment. All of the information in these documents will be developed and consolidated into one document—the *Guide to MYP eAssessment* 2016—which is planned for publication in September 2015. A full range of specimen on-screen examinations will also be published in September 2015.

2015 pilot examinations

The 2015 pilot examinations in language and literature, history, biology, mathematics and individuals and societies is now underway with around 2,000 candidates from over 60 schools taking part. The IB would like to thank participating schools for their support with the pilot session and wish all students luck in their examinations. The session, together with trials underway in ePortfolio subjects and the personal project, will help the IB to develop processes and procedures to support the large-scale participation anticipated in 2016; to establish standards of achievement required for specific grades for the MYP with reference to other international qualifications; to facilitate the collection of other evidence and data required for recognition by Ofqual (England’s qualifications regulatory body).

Deadlines and reminders

The last date to register for monitoring of assessment on IBIS will be 31 October 2015.

From 2016, the new Ofqual-registered MYP qualification will be available as the only route to MYP certificate and MYP course results. The first full session will offer eleven disciplines/ courses examined by on-screen examination including language and literature (which is available in eight languages) as well as language acquisition, arts, design; physical and health education (PHE) will be available via ePortfolio.

From 2016 and beyond, all MYP year 5 students must be registered for the personal project. Costs for this mandatory

registration will be included in the annual fee. Information regarding the assessment of the personal project can be found in the *eAssessment development report* (September 2014), and the *eAssessment development report* (May 2015). The information from both of these documents will be consolidated in the document *Guide to MYP eAssessment 2016*, planned for publication in September 2015.

MYP assessment deadlines and important dates

The table below lists key dates for the May and November 2016 sessions followed by the examinations timetables for the May session.

| | May session | November session |
|---|-------------------------------------|---|
| Candidate registration | | |
| Session available on IBIS for candidate registration | 20 March (14 months before May) | 20 September (14 months before November) |
| First registration deadline (registration fees then increase) (Schools registering candidates for the personal project only must register candidates by this deadline in order not to incur a fee for each candidate that is registered.) | 20 October (7 months before May) | 20 April (7 months before November) |
| Second registration deadline (registration fees then increase very substantially) | 20 January | 20 July |
| Personal project | | |
| School submits special request for language provision for personal project | 20 October 2014 | 20 April 2015 |
| IB notifies school of approval of special request language for personal project | 28 February 2015 | 28 August 2015 |
| Submission deadline for criteria level totals | 10 April | 10 October |
| Submission deadline for sample projects | 20 April | 20 October |
| ePortfolios for language acquisition, arts, PHE and design | | |
| Unit planners published | 1 November | 1 May |
| Submission of criteria level totals | 10 April | 10 October |
| Deadline for submission of ePortfolio samples | 20 April | 20 October |
| Community service (CS) | | |
| Deadline by which coordinators indicate on IBIS whether candidates have completed the CS requirement | 20 May | 20 November |
| On-screen examinations | | |
| Interdisciplinary examination pre-release material | 2 April | 2 October |
| Examination period (two weeks) | Middle two weeks of May | Middle two weeks of December |

| | May session | November session |
|---|-------------|------------------|
| Results | | |
| Issue of results from 12 noon GMT | 1 August | 1 February |
| Enquiries upon results commence | 1 August | 1 February |
| Close of session | | |
| Final date for accepting enquiries upon results | 15 October | 15 April |

IB Middle Years Programme May 2016 examination schedule (subject to change)

- Morning examinations must start after 7.00am and finish by 1.00pm local time
- Afternoon examinations must start after 12.00pm and finish by 6.00pm local time
- All examinations are of two hours duration
- No examination can be rescheduled to an alternative time and/or date without authorization from the IB Assessment Centre

| Date | Morning | Afternoon |
|------------------|---------------------------------|--|
| Monday 9 May | No examination | Geography (in English) |
| Tuesday 10 May | Spanish language and literature | Integrated humanities (in English and French) |
| Wednesday 11 May | French language and literature | History (in English, French and Spanish) |
| Thursday 12 May | Chinese language and literature | Mathematics (in English, French and Spanish) Extended mathematics (in English and French) |
| Friday 13 May | English language and literature | Korean language and literature |
| Monday 16 May | No examination | German language and literature |

| Date | Morning | Afternoon |
|------------------|--|---|
| Tuesday 17 May | Arabic language and literature | Biology (in English and French) |
| Wednesday 18 May | Dutch language and literature | Chemistry (in English and French) |
| Thursday 19 May | Integrated sciences (in English, French and Spanish) | Physics (in English and French) |
| Friday 20 May | No examination | Interdisciplinary learning (in English, French and Spanish) |

Please note that the above schedule is subject to change. The final publication of the May and November examination schedules will be available in August in the *Handbook of procedures for the Middle Years Programme*.

Get involved

MYP examiners

We are continuing to recruit MYP examiners for the new eAssessments. Interested teachers who are not currently MYP moderators are asked to review the MYP examiner recruitment policy and complete an online application, both of which are available on the IB public website at <http://www.ibo.org/en/jobs-and-careers/become-an-examiner-or-assessor/>.

Existing MYP moderators have already been invited to move into this role for 2016, so they do not need to apply.

Please send any queries you have regarding MYP examiner recruitment to examrecruit@ibo.org.

MYP monitors

In order to support the monitoring of assessment service, we are continuing to recruit MYP monitors. In particular, we have a shortage of MYP monitors for the following subjects.

- In English: language and literature: Arabic; language acquisition: Mandarin, Spanish, Arabic and German; arts: drama and music; design; and all individuals and societies subjects
- In French and Spanish: arts: visual arts, music, drama, dance; individuals and societies subjects
- In Spanish: Spanish; physical and health education

The role involves receiving school samples and providing a feedback report to schools commenting on the quality of their assessment tasks and their application of the assessment criteria. Unlike MYP moderation, this work is available on an ongoing basis throughout the year, and we only require MYP teaching experience up to year 3 level for this work. Training is provided online for successful applicants. Interested teachers are asked to review the MYP monitor recruitment policy and complete an online application, both of which are available on the IB public website at <http://www.ibo.org/en/jobs-and-careers/become-an-examiner-or-assessor/become-an-ib-examiner/myp-monitors/>.

Please send any queries you have regarding MYP monitor recruitment to examrecruit@ibo.org.

Latest publications

School IT requirements for conducting MYP on-screen examinations from 2015 onwards: This provides MYP coordinators and school IT administrators with guidance on the IT infrastructure required—including laptop/desktop computer specifications—in order to conduct on-screen examinations from 2015 onwards.

Guidance for the use of the sample unit planners in 2015 (optional use)

Arts sample unit planner 2015 (optional use)

Design sample unit planner 2015 (optional use)

Language acquisition—emergent level—sample unit planner 2015 (optional use)

Language acquisition—capable level—sample unit planner 2015 (optional use)

Language acquisition—proficient level—sample unit planner 2015 (optional use)

Physical and health education sample unit planner 2015 (optional use)

Global context for the May 2015 MYP eAssessment on-screen examinations

Additional support for transition to the new MYP assessment model

Further guidance FAQs for assessed curriculum


eAssessment development report (May 2015)

IB on the web

For inquiries regarding MYP curriculum development, email myp.curriculum@ibo.org.

Ask your peers:

 <http://occ.ibo.org>

 IB MYP Educators

 @ibmyp

#ibmyp

#MYPchat

IB Answers

For all queries about programme implementation/ authorization.

 ibid@ibo.org

IB workshops catalogue

A catalogue of IB workshops and resources 2015.

<http://ecatalogue.ibo.org/t/35963>



PD online workshops

An online workshops calendar.

<http://ibo.org/en/professional-development/find-events-and-workshops/>



Digital toolkit

This digital toolkit contains a wide range of free communications materials.

<http://ibo.org/en/digital-toolkit/>



IB e-newsletters

Stay up-to-date with the most accurate, timely communications. Look for MYP news in the IB's web-based e-newsletters which recipients receive via email.

IB in Practice—Tailored to the IB's community of educators, teachers, coordinators and examiners. It is published bimonthly, alternating with *IB Global News* (with the exception of December and July). This newsletter focuses on news and information related to IB teaching practice and provides current details on IB curriculum, assessment, programme news, professional development (PD) opportunities and the IB educators network (IBEN). It is intended as a tool to support those individuals most heavily

involved in IB teaching and learning. These are sent to the email addresses registered for coordinators in IBIS and are also available to read on this page: <http://www.ibo.org/en/news/newsletter-from-the-ib/>.

IB Global News—Provides an array of IB news, research and information for a broader audience that includes teachers, coordinators, counsellors and heads, parents, educators at prospective IB World Schools, donors, related organizations and colleagues at universities. It is published bimonthly, alternating with *IB in Practice* (with the exception of December and July). This publication may be shared with anyone interested in the IB; subscriptions are available on an opt-in basis. Find the link to subscribe on this page: <http://www.ibo.org/en/news/newsletter-from-the-ib/>.

IB News Update—Exclusively developed for IB heads of school and sent to the email addresses that they have registered in IBIS. Published three times a year.



Continuum

The most recent IB Continuum publications are:

IB continuum support resource

The IB guide to inclusive education: a resource for whole school development



IB store

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sales@ibo.org

The IB store offers a wide variety of exclusive IB resources to support the IB community such as best practice books, examination and task databases, programme support materials, posters, merchandise and more.