

# What is the PYP

## and why do we use it?

**The International Baccalaureate (IB) Primary Years Programme (PYP) was introduced in 1997 and is taught to students aged 3-12.**

Through emphasis on the whole child, PYP students are encouraged to be active, caring, lifelong learners with personal, positive attributes and the capacity to take responsible action.

The programme incorporates local and global issues into the curriculum, asking students to look at six related, trans-disciplinary themes and to consider the links between them.

These are:

- Who we are.
- Where we are in place and time.
- How we express ourselves.
- How the world works.
- How we organise ourselves.
- Sharing the planet.

These themes are selected for their relevance to the real world. They are described as trans-disciplinary because they focus on issues that go across subject areas.

Through the PYP curriculum framework, schools ensure that students examine each theme. The framework provides students with the knowledge, concepts, skills, attitudes, and action that they need to equip themselves for successful lives, both now and in the future.

By choosing to implement the PYP, schools will develop students' academic, social and emotional wellbeing, focussing on international-mindedness and strong personal values. The PYP nurtures independent learning skills, encouraging every student to take responsibility for their learning.

The PYP also delivers excellent results for students aged 3 to 12. For example:

- PYP students outperformed non-IB students in mathematics, reading and writing in a global International Schools' Assessment study that ran from 2009 – 2011.
- A 2014 national study in Australia found that students in the PYP perform better than the national average in nationwide science tests.

The PYP provides an ideal foundation for children to become successful, lifelong learners by developing their:

- social and emotional well-being
- independence, as they take responsibility for their own learning
- international mindedness
- understanding of the world and their ability to function effectively within it
- attitudes and dispositions for learning
- ability to take mindful, appropriate and sustainable student-initiated action
- language skills; all students study an additional language from 3 years of age.

For more information visit [ibo.org](http://ibo.org)



“IB learners strive to become inquirers, knowledgeable, thinkers, communicators, principled, open-minded, caring, risk-takers, balanced and reflective.

These attributes represent a broad range of human capacities and responsibilities that go beyond intellectual development and academic success.

This is the IB's educational philosophy”.