



International Baccalaureate

The International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma option

Important Information for all Students

St Peter's School offers the highly regarded International Baccalaureate Diploma for Year 12 and 13 students. Admission to this two year programme is by application to the IB Co-ordinator. Selection criteria include previous academic results, commitment, time management and motivation.

Parents and students will choose the International Baccalaureate (IB) pathway or the NCEA pathway in consultation with the IB Co-ordinator, Deans and Careers Advisor.

It is important that **all** students consider their option choices carefully prior to Year 12 to ensure they have the required subjects for the IB Diploma should they wish to opt for the IB programme in Years 12 and 13.

There is an additional cost of \$800 per year for students to complete the IB Diploma.

What is the International Baccalaureate Diploma?

The Diploma is a **two-year pre-university programme** which aims to provide a balanced, rigorous curriculum for students in Years 12 and 13 while fostering international understanding and responsible citizenship. It is suitable for average to above average students who are planning to go on to tertiary study.

Students select one subject from each of the six subject groups, three of which are studied in depth at higher level (HL) and three are studied at standard level (SL). The Arts (Group 6) subjects are not compulsory and students may choose another subject from Group 2, 3, or 4 instead.

Students who wish to take three science subjects because their planned university course has these pre-requisites need to apply for a non-regular diploma through the Co-ordinator.

IB Subjects

Group 1: English

Group 2: Learned Language

- French B
- Japanese B
- Spanish B
- Spanish ab initio
- Other Languages

Group 3: Individuals and Societies

- Business Management
- Economics
- Geography
- History
- Psychology

Group 4: Experimental Sciences

- Biology
- Chemistry
- Physics
- Computer Science

Group 5: Mathematics

- Mathematics Higher Level
- Mathematics Standard Level
- Mathematical Studies

Group 6: The Arts

- Dance
- Film Studies
- Music
- Visual Arts



University Entrance and the IB Diploma

To earn an IB Diploma students must gain 24 points from a possible 45. Students must have also completed the extended essay (EE), met the requirements of creativity, activity and service (CAS) and completed the timetabled Theory of Knowledge (TOK) course.

IB Diploma holders are highly regarded by all universities both in New Zealand and around the world. All candidates who hold an IB Diploma will gain admission to a university. For pre-requisites and entry to certain courses, please check university websites. Advanced placement at Universities may be an option.

For further details about the IB Diploma Programme at St Peter's School, Cambridge contact the school, check our website www.stpeters.school.nz or the IB Organisation website www.ibo.org

Subjects on offer

Group 1 English

Group 2 Learned Language: French, Japanese, Spanish (Ab initio – beginners)

Group 3 Individuals and Societies: Business Management, Economics, Geography, History, Psychology

Group 4 Experimental Sciences: Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Computer Science

Group 5 Mathematics: Mathematics (HL), Mathematics (SL), Mathematical Studies (SL)

Group 6 The Arts: Visual Arts, Music, Dance, Film Studies, or a second subject from Group 2, 3 or 4

Students must also complete three additional requirements to gain the Diploma.

- The Theory of Knowledge (TOK) course encourages students to reflect on the nature of knowledge
- Students become familiar with the kind of independent research and writing skills expected at university through the writing of a 4000-word Extended Essay (EE)
- Through Creativity, Activity and Service (CAS) students are encouraged to become compassionate adults and to gain an appreciation of their own identity and that of others

To ensure students who may wish to choose the International Baccalaureate Diploma in the last two years at secondary school are prepared, some careful choices need to be made.

Students who propose to include Music in their IB programme must check the pre-requisites for learning an instrument from Year 9 and check with the HOD Music. Any enquiries about other languages should be made to the HOF Languages.

Year 8 students

- Students wishing to take French as part of their IB programme will need to choose French in Years 9, 10 and 11
- Students wishing to take Japanese as part of their IB programme will need to choose Japanese in years 9, 10 and 11
- Students who do not wish to study French or Japanese take Spanish in Year 12 without prior language study

Year 9 students

- Students who wish to take French as part of the IB will need to continue French through to Year 11
- Students wishing to take Japanese as part of their IB programme will need continue Japanese through to Year 11
- Students who did not choose a language or chose to discontinue their language learning study the Spanish ab initio (beginners) course in Year 12 as a standard level course

Year 10 and 11 students

- Students need to read the proposed IB subject descriptors and pre-requisites. If subjects have pre-requisites students will need to ensure they meet these in Year 11 whilst studying the Level 1 NCEA
- Students who wish to take French or Japanese as part of their IB programme will need to continue study through to Year 11
- Students who have not taken French or Japanese will need to choose the Spanish ab initio course at standard level in Year 12.

IB subjects and pre-requisites (availability subject to minimum class numbers)

Group 1: English A (higher or standard level)

Course Description	This is a literature-based course in which students study both regionally or locally selected pieces and world literature. A wide variety of literature is studied including poetry, short stories, drama and prose fiction and non-fiction.
Assessment	Internal: 30% – Oral. External: 70% – Literature in Translation essay and written examination
Pre-requisites	18 credits in Level 1 English.
Specific Course Costs	IB English skills text book \$50 (approximately)

Group 2: Learned Language**French B (higher level or standard level), Japanese B (HL or SL), Spanish B (HL or SL)**

Course Description	This course focuses on language acquisition and development in the four language skills: listening, speaking, reading and writing. Students develop the ability to interact and communicate clearly and effectively in a range of situations, to express their opinions on a variety of subjects and to understand and use a range of vocabulary. Topics covered include communication and media, global issues, social relationships, cultural diversity, customs and traditions, health, leisure, science and technology.
Assessment	Internal: 30% – Interactive oral, individual oral, written task External: 70% – Written examination (reading comprehension and writing)
Pre-requisites	18 credits in Level 1 French/Japanese/Spanish with Merit grades or better in three Achievement Standards for standard level and Excellence grades in all five Achievement Standards for higher level.
French Specific Course Costs	\$60 two-day French camp either in Y12 or Y13 \$20 Language Perfect Licence (vocabulary program)
Japanese Specific Course Costs	\$30 activity book \$17 resource booklet (Renash) \$20 Language Perfect Licence
Spanish Specific Course Costs	\$20 Language Perfect Licence \$15 Outings, excursions (approx)

Spanish ab initio (standard level only)

Course Description	The main focus of this two-year course is the acquisition of language required in everyday social interaction. The students develop a variety of linguistic skills and a basic awareness of the cultures of the countries where Spanish is spoken. Students learn how to use Spanish in a variety of practical situations (e.g. school, home, travel, work, leisure, shopping).
Assessment	Internal: 25% – Interactive and individual oral, External: 75% – Written examination and written assignment.
Pre-requisites	This course is for students who do not have previous experience in learning Spanish.
Specific Course Costs	\$15 workbook

Other Languages

Further self-directed online study opportunities for second language learning are possible. Please enquire.

Group 3: Individuals and Societies

Business Management (higher or standard level)

Course Description	Individuals belong to organisations such as sole traders, partnerships, companies, clubs and non-profit organisations. This course examines organisational structure relating to principles of delegation, power and responsibility along with theories of leadership, motivation and communication. Analytical techniques used by businesses to make decisions, including improving profitability, producing or out-sourcing production and expanding or relocating, are covered. Marketing strategies to produce the right product, in the right place, at the right time, are discussed.
Assessment	Internal: 25% (HL), 20% (SL) – Guided course work (written assignment) External: 75% (HL), 80% (SL) – Written examination
Pre-requisites	It is highly recommended that students complete the Business Studies course in Year 11. Otherwise a minimum of 14 credits for NCEA Level 1 at the Merit level or a Minimum of 18 Level 1 English credits. Merit grades in two language rich externals. This course caters for students who anticipate a business career or have an entrepreneurial focus.
Specific Course Costs	\$50 which includes a student work book to accompany the course textbook and a comprehensive study guide for the examination case study.

Economics (higher or standard level)

Course Description	This course is aimed at students who wish to understand more about the New Zealand and world economies. It prepares students for further study of social sciences or business and gives them a personal understanding of the economic environment in which they live. Traditional economic theory of demand and supply is taught and applied to a range of current economic situations. We investigate inflation, unemployment, economic growth and development issues, international trade and exchange rates. Destruction of the environment, pollution as a result of production and reduction of poverty in the less developed nations are interesting issues covered from an economic perspective. The higher level course includes a study of the theory of how firms make decisions, which involves using graphical analysis.
Assessment	Internal: 20% HL and SL – Guided coursework (written portfolio) External: 80% (HL) – Written examination
Pre-requisites	Minimum of 18 credits in Level 1 English. Merit grades in two language rich externals and 18 credits in Mathematics Level 1 or 55% in IGCSE
Specific Course Costs	Specific Course costs \$50 student write-on workbooks. \$40 IB- Economics revision book.

Geography (higher or standard level)

Course Description	Geography is the science of describing, analysing, explaining and interpreting the earth as the home of people. Geography places special emphasis on the spatial relations of society and the physical or natural environment. The course enables students to make informed judgements about a range of contemporary human and environmental issues such as population, disparities in wealth and development, patterns in environmental quality and sustainability and patterns in resource consumption. Optional themes include coastal studies, hazards and disasters, and the geography of food and health. HL students will study global interactions. To this end, a number of skills are developed, including being able to extract relevant information from different sources, to present statistical information correctly and effectively and to draw relevant conclusions. In addition, the subject plays a crucial role in fostering international understanding and a respect for different cultures.
Assessment	Internal: 20% (HL), 25% (SL) – Fieldwork (HL), Course work (SL) External: 80% (HL), 75% (SL) – Written examination
Pre-requisites	18 Achievement Standard credits in Level 1 Geography or 18 credits in language rich subjects for students new to Geography.
Specific Course Costs	\$40.00 Fieldtrips approximately (Year 12) and \$40.00 course costs

History (higher or standard level)

Course Description	This course provides students with the opportunity to study individuals and societies in a range of historical contexts through exploring political, economic and social issues and developments. During this course, students investigate a variety of sources, some of which may be of a contentious nature. Students gain an understanding of why the work of historians differs over time and in different parts of the world. Students also reflect on the role of the historian and the role of bias in the selection and interpretation of material.
Assessment	Internal: 20% (HL), 25% (SL) – Historical investigation External: 80% (HL), 75% (SL) – Written examination
Pre-requisites	16 credits in Level 1 History or 18 credits in a language rich subject for a student new to History.
Specific Course Costs	\$20

Psychology (higher or standard level)

Course Description	Students develop an awareness of how research findings can be applied to better understand human behaviour and how ethical practices are upheld in psychological enquiry. Students learn to understand the biological, cognitive and sociocultural influences and explore alternative explanations of human behaviour. The course develops critical-thinking skills, research and independent learning skills alongside intercultural understanding.
Assessment	Internal: 25%, External: 75%
Pre-requisites	none
Specific Course Costs	Approx \$50

Group 4: Experimental Sciences**Biology (higher or standard level)**

Course Description	The following topics are covered in this course: cells, the chemistry of life, genetics, ecology and evolution, human health and physiology, further biochemistry, human reproduction, defence against disease, nerves, muscles and excretion, plant science and one additional option topic.
Assessment	Internal: 20% – Practical work, External: 80% – Written examinations
Pre-requisites	It is strongly suggested that students wishing to take IB Biology take the Y11 NCEA Advanced Biology programme. If Standard Biology or a General Science course is selected at Year 11, entry into IB will be at the HOF's discretion.
Specific Course Costs	\$50 course booklet, consumables

Chemistry (higher or standard level)

Course Description	Chemistry is the study of matter. It involves the behaviour of materials and what happens when substances react to form new substances. This course covers: quantitative chemistry, atomic structure and bonding, states of matter, energy in reactions, rates, organic chemistry, equilibrium, acid/base chemistry, oxidation and reduction, periodicity, and one additional option topic.
Assessment	Internal: 20% – Practical work External: 80% – Written examinations
Pre-requisites	It is strongly suggested that students wishing to take IB Chemistry take the Y11 NCEA Advanced Chemistry programme. Level 1 Advanced Chemistry Achieved, with preferably at least 2 Excellence grades. If Standard Chemistry or a General Science course is selected at Year 11, entry into IB will be at the HOF's discretion.
Specific Course Costs	\$50 course booklet, consumables

Physics (higher or standard level)

Course Description	The course will provide opportunities for scientific study and creativity. It will allow students to develop experimental and investigative skills along with a body of scientific knowledge and techniques and an awareness of what characterises science. Many areas of physics are covered, including: motion, forces, waves, thermodynamics, electricity and magnetism and nuclear physics. There are also options to study biomedical physics, optics, and one additional option topic.
Assessment	Internal: 20% – Practical work, External: 80% – Written examinations
Pre-requisites	It is strongly suggested that students wishing to take IB Physics take the Y11 NCEA Advanced Physics programme. If Standard Physics or a Science course is selected at Year 11, entry into IB will be at the HOF's discretion. It is highly recommended that students taking this course bring a netbook/laptop to class for the processing of experimental results and other classwork.
Specific Course Costs	\$50 course booklet, consumables

Computer Science (higher or standard level)

Course Description	Computer science focuses on the fundamental concepts of computational thinking. A full understanding of computational thinking approaches is required as well as a knowledge of how computers and other digital devices operate. Computer science will provide a highly relevant course that is engaging, accessible, inspiring and rigorous. Students of computer science will acquire the skills required to choose a course from a wide range of disciplines in higher education. This course covers a core component covering System fundamentals, Computer organisation, Networks, Computational thinking, problem solving and programming. The option section is Object Oriented Programming.
Assessment	SL - Internal: 20%, External: 80% Written Examination HL - Internal: 30%, External: 70%
Pre-requisites	It is strongly suggested that students wishing to take IB Computer Science take Year 11 Computer Science.

Group 5: Mathematics**Mathematics (higher level)**

Course Description	This course is aimed at students with a high competence and strong interest in mathematics. The majority of these students would expect to include mathematics as a major component of their university studies, especially within courses such as engineering, physics or technology. Topics include: algebra, calculus, probability and statistics, trigonometry, graphs and geometry. Extensive use of graphic calculators is required.
Assessment	Internal: 20% – Mathematical Exploration, External: 80% – Written examination
Pre-requisites	Entry is at the discretion of the Head of Faculty. Students will require all Merit and Excellence grades in Level 1 Mathematics or 90+% in IGCSE.

Mathematics (standard level)

Course Description	The course focuses on introducing important mathematical concepts through the development of mathematical techniques and caters for students who will expect to need a sound mathematical background as they prepare for future studies in areas such as chemistry, economics, psychology and business. Topics include: algebra, functions, equations, trigonometry, calculus, statistics and probability, vectors.
Assessment	Internal: 20% – Mathematical Exploration, External: 80% – Written examination
Pre-requisites	Entry is at the discretion of the Head of Faculty. 18 Level 1 credits. Merit grades or better in AS 1.2 and AS 1.3 or 75% in IGCSE.

Mathematical Studies (standard level)

Course Description	This course is designed to build confidence and encourage an appreciation of mathematics in students who do not anticipate a need for mathematics in their future studies. Topics include: introduction to the graphic display calculator, number and algebra, sets, logic, probability, functions, geometry, trigonometry, statistics, financial mathematics and introductory differential calculus.
Assessment	Internal: 20% – Project, External: 80% – Written examinations
Pre-requisites	Entry is at the discretion of the Head of Faculty. 15 credits in Level 1 Mathematics or a C Grade IGCSE pass.

Group 6: The Arts**Dance (higher level and standard level)**

Course Description	This course provides students with the opportunity to develop their dance skills. Students will study a variety of world dance forms through exposure to physical practice and observation as well as written investigation. Both SL and HL students are required to compose and/or arrange dances, and to analyse the process. Students will also demonstrate their ability to articulate dance movement physically and to perform for an audience.
Assessment	External: 60% – Composition and Analysis, World Dance Investigation Internal: 40% – Performance
Pre-requisites	SL – While prior dance experience is not mandatory at SL, it is recommended. HL – Previous dance experience (Level 1 NCEA with at least 2 Merit Grades)
Specific Course Costs	\$200 per year to cover guest artists, costs for travel and tickets to dance performances, costs for Dance camp.

Film Studies (higher level and standard level)

Course Description	Film is both a powerful communication medium and an art form. The Diploma programme film course aims to develop students' skills so that they become adept in both interpreting and making film texts. Areas covered are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • textual analysis • film theory and history • creative process (film production) The course explores film history, theory and socio-economic background. It also develops students' critical abilities, enabling them to appreciate the multiplicity of cultural and historical perspectives in film. Students also create and produce an original film, as part of a team or as an individual.
Assessment	Internal: 50% – Production portfolio External: 50% – Independent study / Oral presentation
Pre-requisites	No pre-requisites needed to enter this course. A student's individual ability to be creative and imaginative and to communicate in film form will be challenged and extended over the two-year course.
Specific Course Costs	\$10

Music (higher level)

Course Description	This course enables students to develop their musical skills through solo performance and composition, to develop their perceptual skills in response to a wide variety of music (classical, jazz etc) and to explore the diversity of music throughout the world. Students also undertake an investigation into a topic of their choice consisting of no more than 2,000 words. This course assists students in developing their potential as a musician, both personally and collaboratively.
Assessment	Internal: 50% – Solo performance and written composition External: 50% – Listening examination, musical links investigation
Pre-requisites	18 credits in Level 1 Music with Merit grades in two Achievement Standards. Students must have individual instrumental or vocal tuition throughout the two-year IB course.
Specific Course Costs	Up to \$350 each year for music camp and concerts

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Course Description	This course enables students to develop their musical skills through solo or group performance, to develop their perceptual skills in response to a wide variety of music (classical, jazz and crossover styles) and to explore the diversity of music throughout the world. Students also undertake an investigation into a topic of their choice. This course assists students in developing their potential as a musician, both personally and collaboratively.
Assessment	Internal: 50% – Solo performance or Group performance External: 50% – Listening examination, musical links investigation
Pre-requisites	Basic knowledge of music theory (approximately Grade 2) but formal music study is not essential. Two to three years' experience on an instrument prior to starting the IB course, or experience of playing/singing in a group. Students must have individual instrumental or vocal tuition throughout the two-year IB course.
Specific Course Costs	Up to \$350 each year for music camp and concerts

Visual Arts

Students who choose to study in Group 6 Visual Arts are expected to work with a variety of different art-making techniques. They have the opportunity to work across a wide range of Visual Art related subjects. These may include Painting, Drawing, Graphics, Textiles, Printmaking, Sculpture, Design, Photography, Metals, Wood and Film.

Students are placed with a staff member according to their prime area of interest. IB teachers identify student strengths and areas of interest and work the programme through these. We work towards one examination at the end of Year 2.

The examination is an exhibition of 8-11(HL) or 4-7(SL) works in Visual Arts supported by comprehensive workbooks and a comparative study.

In the first year students complete work in a wide range of mediums. If an assignment requires specialist technical equipment and teaching outside the Art, Textile and Graphics area we draw on the support of other staff and the wider community.

In the second year students choose a more in-depth study often in a narrower range of mediums in the areas students excel in.

Visual Arts (higher level and standard level)

Course Description	The IB Diploma Programme visual arts course encourages students to engage in, experiment with and critically reflect upon a wide range of contemporary practices and media. They develop their own personal style in response to 21st Century art.
Assessment	Investigation: 40% – Exhibition (at the conclusion of 2nd year) External: 20% – External: 20% - Comparative study (analyse and compare artworks by different artists) 40% - Process portfolio (workbook)
Pre-requisites	Previous experience is not essential but it is an advantage to have studied to Level NCEA 1 in one or more of the following; Visual Arts, Design and Visual Communication (Graphics), Fashion Design, Technology Woods and Metals, Design.
Specific Course Costs	Consumables as required according to the projects undertaken.

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