



NOTRE DAME

INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE

NOTRE DAME PREPARATORY SCHOOL AND MARIST ACADEMY

Middle Years Programme

The MYP has been designed as a coherent and comprehensive curriculum framework that provides academic challenges and develops the life skills of students from the ages of 11 to 16. These years are a critical period in the development of young people. Success in school is closely related to personal, social and emotional well-being. At a time when students are establishing their identity and building their self-esteem, the MYP can motivate students to build on their personal strengths and to embrace challenges in subjects in which they might not excel. The MYP offers students opportunities to develop their potential, to explore their own learning preferences, to take appropriate risks, and to reflect on and develop a strong sense of personal identity.

Implementation of the MYP is considered to be a whole-school activity that prepares students for further successful study. The programme is designed to be inclusive; the IB believes that all students can benefit from the programme.

From MYP: *From Principles into Practice*



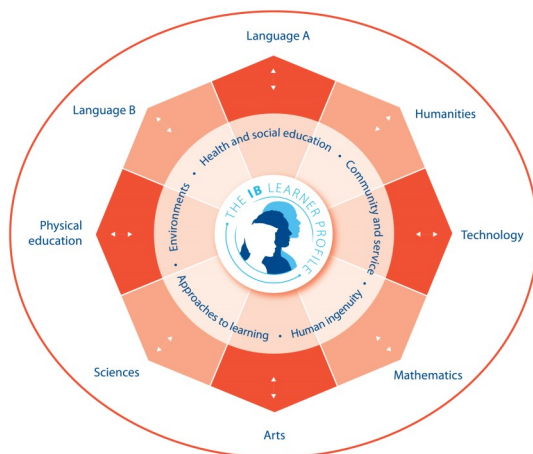
What is IB?

Notre Dame Preparatory School and Marist Academy offers a curriculum centered on the International Baccalaureate Programme, a rigorously academic program that leads to the globally recognized International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma. We are the only Catholic school in the United States with all three IB curriculum levels: PYP, MYP and DP.

The IB Programme is derived from an independent, non-governmental, non-profit educational organization. It is a recognized leader in the field of international education, encouraging students to be active learners, well-rounded individuals and engaged world citizens. Founded in 1968, the IB today works with 3,580 schools in 145 countries to offer and develop its three challenging programs to approximately 1,098,000 students ranging in age from 3 to 19.

The IB aims to develop inquiring, knowledgeable and caring young people who help to create a better and more peaceful world through intercultural understanding and respect.

These programmes encourage students across the world to become active, compassionate and lifelong learners who understand that other people, with their differences, can also be right.



The Middle Years Programme

MYP Framework

The framework of the MYP is rooted in connecting content through concepts and contexts and fostering learning skills.

Each unit is based on trans-disciplinary **key concepts** and subject-specific **related concepts**, big ideas which form the basis of teaching and learning to engage students in higher order thinking and allow students to delve into more complex and sophisticated ideas.

Global contexts are universal lenses that frame the curriculum to help students inquire into what it means to be internationally-minded.

Additionally, the MYP framework includes **approaches to learning** that help students "learn how to learn" by directly teaching communication, social, self-management, research, and thinking skills.

MYP Projects

MYP projects are student-centered and age-appropriate, and they enable students to engage in practical explorations through a cycle of inquiry, action and reflection. MYP projects help students to develop the attributes of the IB learner profile; provide students with an essential opportunity to demonstrate ATL (approaches to learning) skills developed through the MYP; and foster the development of independent, lifelong learners.

From *Projects Guide*

Community Project:

- Completed in Grade 8
- Develops awareness of the needs of the community
- Focuses on service learning
- Completed individually or in groups of up to three students

Personal Project:

- Completed in Grade 10
- Consolidates prior and subject-specific knowledge and develops an area of personal interest
- Produces personal and creative products/outcomes
- Completed individually, with the guidance of a mentor

IB Learner Profile

The **IB learner profile** is the IB mission statement translated into a set of learning outcomes for the 21st century. The learner profile provides a long-term vision of education. It is a set of ideals that can inspire, motivate and focus the work of school and teachers, uniting them in a common purpose.

As IB Learners, we strive to be:

- *Inquirers*
- *Knowledgeable*
- *Thinkers*
- *Communicators*
- *Principled*
- *Open-minded*
- *Caring*
- *Risk-takers*
- *Balanced*
- *Reflective*

Service and Action

The MYP encourages curriculum-based **service and action**, developing students as active members of communities locally, nationally, and/or globally.

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Transition to Diploma Programme

Students intending to continue their IB education in the DP after the MYP must be counselled by the school concerning their subject choices in years 4 and 5 in order to ensure the appropriate preparation. MYP Subject groups form an important common foundation for all students undertaking the MYP globally and provide strong alignment points for students progressing into the DP, allowing them to acquire the necessary skills, knowledge and attitudes to be successful.

From *MYP From Principles into Practice*

