



International Baccalaureate

The most experienced provider in
Somerset with outstanding results



IB at Taunton School

We are the most experienced provider of the International Baccalaureate in Somerset, having delivered the Diploma Programme for over 10 years.

The IB offers an integrated course comprising of six subjects and three compulsory core elements. It is the ideal choice for students who wish to continue studying a breadth of subjects and therefore keep many options open on their route to higher education.

IB results

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Average Diploma Points (World average: 30 points out of a total of 45)	33	36	34	33	36
of which HL grades 7, 6 and 5 (Nearest equivalent to A Level grades A* to B)	76%	83%	77%	71%	85%

The IB will also appeal to those who are clear about three or four main subjects, but recognise the value of continuing with mathematics and a foreign language.

IB results at Taunton School have been consistently excellent for many years, with an average points score per candidate of between 33 and 36 in the past three years (world average is 30, maximum is 45). Many students have received top points.

IB Coordinator, Adrian Roberts said: "I am absolutely delighted with our Diploma results. IB is going from strength to strength at Taunton School and our students consistently impress me with their willingness to aim high and extend themselves beyond the confines of a 'normal' Sixth Form curriculum."

Several IB students in previous years have gone on to highly competitive universities to study medicine.

Apart from lessons, everything else is done with the rest of the Sixth Form, such as sport, drama, music, social events, houses and tutor groups.

"At Taunton School the IB becomes your second family. Because the classes are so small and you spend so much time together you become close with people from all over the world, and you gain an insight into different cultures and beliefs that A Levels just don't offer."

IB Student



What is the **International Baccalaureate (IB)?**

The IB is a globally recognised Level 3 qualification and is an alternative to the UK qualifications of A Levels or BTEC. It is accepted and highly regarded by all universities, particularly Russell Group and Oxford and Cambridge, and prepares students for high level careers. The IB has been studied by over half a million students across hundreds of countries since it began in 1968, making it a well-established and prestigious qualification, relevant to the rapidly evolving and increasingly global landscape. A benefit of studying the IB is that results come out in July so students may be able to secure university places much earlier than A Level candidates. Students also have an advantage when applying to work abroad.

Whilst providing a challenging programme for the very able, it is not just for the high achievers - any student with reasonable GCSE (or equivalent) grades (five grades in the A* to C range, 9-5) who is well-motivated and prepared to work hard will succeed. The top IB students' scores are equivalent to five A* to A Levels and even a low pass is worth the equivalent of three B grades at A Level.

IB develops well rounded students who respond well to challenges with optimism and an open mind. They are confident in their own identities, make ethical decisions, join with others in celebrating our common humanity and are prepared to apply what they learn in real world, complex and unpredictable situations.

How it works

You choose six subjects, three at higher level and three at standard level.

These include a literature course, a second language, a humanity, a science and mathematics (at a level appropriate to the student). Students must also choose either an arts subject from group six, or a second subject from groups two to five.

Assessment

Students take written examinations at the end of the programme and complete assessment tasks in school.

Marks awarded range from one to seven. Students can be awarded three additional points for combined results on Theory of Knowledge and the Extended Essay.

The diploma is awarded to students who gain at least 24 points (subject to minimum levels of performance and participation). The highest total that can be awarded is 45 points. Assessment is criterion-related.

Core subjects

Students also follow three compulsory core elements. These core subjects encourage students to question their approach to knowledge and to develop critical thinking, create a personal project that allows in depth study of a subject of particular interest, and to participate and reflect on a wide variety of co-curricular activities that aid personal development beyond the academic.

Theory of knowledge

Develops a coherent approach to learning that unifies the academic disciplines. It deepens their understanding of knowledge as a human construction.

Extended essay

Students engage in independent research through in-depth study of a question relating to one of their chosen subjects.

Creativity, Action, Service (CAS)

Helps students engage in arts and creative thinking, develop a healthy lifestyle and service the community. It develops students' personal and interpersonal development which is something they do not leave behind when they complete the programme.



Subject groups

Group 1

Language A

For native speakers or reasonably fluent bilingual students.

• English A	Literature
• French A	Literature
• Italian A	Literature
• Spanish A	Literature
• German A	Language & Literature

Group 2

Language B (SL)

For students who are keen to build on previous language studies.

Language B (HL)

For competent linguists who are looking for the next challenge.

• English B	• French B
• German B	• Spanish B
• Latin	

Language Ab Initio (SL only)

For students wishing to learn a new language from scratch

• Italian Ab Initio	• German Ab Initio
• Spanish Ab Initio	

Group 3 Humanities

• Economics	• Geography
• History	• Philosophy
• Psychology	• Business Management

Group 4 Sciences

• Biology	• Chemistry
• Physics	• Design & Technology

Group 5 Mathematics

• Mathematics (HL only)
• Mathematics (SL only)

Group 6 Arts

• Music	• Visual Arts
---------	---------------

(Or an additional subject from groups 2-5)

Subjects are usually available at HL and SL unless indicated above.

The above information is subject to change. For an up to date list of IB diploma subjects please see our website.



Universities IB students have progressed on to:

UK

- University of Bristol
- Cardiff University
- University of Exeter
- Imperial College London
- University of Kent
- King's College London
- London School of Economics
- University of Manchester
- Newcastle University
- University of Oxford
- Queen Mary
- University of Reading
- University of St Andrews
- The University of Sheffield
- University of Sussex
- University College London
- University of Warwick

Worldwide

- NYU, America
- UCLA, America
- University of Miami, America
- Virginia State University, America
- Melbourne University, Australia
- University of British Columbia, Canada
- University of Toronto, Canada
- University Cattolica, Italy
- Erasmus, Netherlands
- Leiden, Netherlands
- Maastricht, Netherlands
- VU, Netherlands
- IE, Spain

“ Writing my Extended Essay has prepared me for the style of essays at university; this will be a great advantage in my first year. ”

“ The IB did not limit my subject choices; it permitted me to study academic subjects whilst allowing me to pursue my love for the arts. Thus, I was able to keep a balance between creativity and academics. ”

“ I chose to study the IB because I knew that I wanted to apply for medicine at university, but I didn't want to spend all of my time studying science subjects. ”



For more information email: ib@tauntonschool.co.uk or visit www.tauntonschool.co.uk/ib and www.ibo.org/diploma.

To book a personal visit contact Admissions: registrar@tauntonschool.co.uk • 01823 703703

Taunton School, Staplegrove Road Taunton, Somerset, TA2 6AD

 @tauntonschool  @tauntonschool  @tauntonschool