



Katedralskolan Skara, 003301 IB Diploma Programme



Admission Policy

At Katedralskolan in Skara our aim is to create an atmosphere based on the values of the International Baccalaureate (*IB*) Learner Profile and the IB Mission Statement. We want to ensure that any student with ambition and a positive attitude will be able to achieve the standards required of an IB diploma. Our aim is to have a student body rich in diversity. Not all students benefit from the IB curriculum. Therefore we have designed our entrance criteria procedures to identify students who could thrive in the program. We also want to identify students with special needs who, given the right support and challenges, will be able to reach the standards required of a full IB diploma.

Preparatory year (Pre-DP)

We recommend an average grade score of at least 200 points from the compulsory Swedish school system. International students, students from other systems or students with special circumstances are also welcome to apply. Every student will be assessed on an individual basis.

Students and parents are invited to **information sessions** about the IB Diploma Program when the students are still in compulsory school.

Students are also invited to come to Katedralskolan and be an **“IB student for a day”** to experience our school and lessons and meet our teachers and students. Students are welcome to visit in this way any time of the year.

All students who have chosen the IB program are invited to an **Entrance Criteria Day**. During this day the applicants take the Standard tests and are interviewed. This is also an opportunity to meet each other, the teachers and current IB students. Our aim is to create a warm and welcoming atmosphere in the spirit of the IB values.

To assess applicants' language and academic proficiencies they are given **Standard tests in English and Mathematics and interviewed in groups**. In the interviews we discuss the IB Learner Profile, the importance of keeping deadlines and attendance, the IB assessment system, ideas for extracurricular activities. We also try to identify students who may need additional support and challenges for their special needs in order to welcome them with extra resources.



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Applicants' written and interview **results are evaluated** by the IB teachers and staff. Letters are sent out informing the applicants of our recommendation to remain an applicant, come to a second Entrance Criteria Day, or to apply to other programs. In case we have more applicants than places we rank the students according to their grades from the Swedish School system. International students can be accepted through a free-quota system. The results are reported to the school district office for application and admission.

IB Diploma program (*DP*)

When designing their individual combination of subjects and levels during the second term of the Pre-DP year students are guided by subject teachers and the DP Coordinator. Parents are also involved in this process during a development talk.

The students must have a passing grade in each subject from Pre-DP that they wish to study in the DP. To qualify for Mathematics SL the student must have at least grade C on the National Mathematics Test for Mathematics 1b and a passing grade in Mathematics 2b. For English we recommend that students have at least grade C in English 6.

If a student has not been able to reach the standards to start the DP courses we either recommend repeating the first year or studying the required subject(s) over the Summer holiday and do retesting in August.

Students who studied Pre-DP (or equivalent) in other systems

Every student who wants to come directly into DP1 after having studied in another system will be assessed on an individual basis.

Students considering an exchange year abroad

Students who go abroad before starting Pre-DP are recommended to start with our Pre-DP year. Each case is individually assessed.

Students who wish to do an exchange year are recommended to do so between Pre-DP and DP1. Upon return they are welcome to begin DP1.