

# International Baccalaureate Diploma programme





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## International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma Programme

St Cuthbert's offers two qualification pathways. National Certificate for Educational Achievement (NCEA) Levels 1, 2 and 3 and the International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma.

All students study for Level 1 NCEA in Year 11 and during that year make the choice about their pathway for Years 12 and 13 when the IB Diploma is an option.

Both NCEA and IB Diploma qualifications open the tertiary pathways and prepare students for offshore universities as well as New Zealand universities. Neither one is better than the other, rather they cater for different styles of learning.

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## The Diploma Programme

The IB Diploma Programme is a challenging two-year curriculum leading to a qualification that is recognised by universities world-wide.

The curriculum contains six subject groups together with a core made up of three separate parts. Students study six subjects selected from the subject groups. Three subjects are studied at higher level, HL (courses representing 240 teaching hours), and the remaining three subjects are studied at standard level, SL (courses representing 150 teaching hours.)

Students must also engage in the three parts of the core - Extended Essay, Theory of Knowledge and Creativity, Activity, Service.

## The Three Core Requirements

The following core requirements are compulsory and are central to the philosophy of the IB Diploma Programme.

- **Extended Essay (EE)**

The extended essay has a prescribed limit of 4,000 words. It offers the opportunity to investigate a topic of individual interest, and acquaints students with the independent research and writing skills expected at university.

- **Theory of Knowledge (TOK)**

The interdisciplinary TOK course is designed to provide coherence by exploring the nature of knowledge across disciplines, encouraging an appreciation of other cultural perspectives.

- **Creativity, Activity, Service (CAS)**

Participation in the CAS programme encourages students to be involved in artistic pursuits, sports and community service, thus fostering students' awareness and appreciation of life outside of the academic arena.

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## What Will It Cost?

Registration fees for the IB examinations are about NZ\$1200 depending on the exchange rate. A fee of \$350 per candidate is also charged for examination paper courier costs.

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## The IB Learner Profile

The aim of all IB programmes is to develop internationally-minded people who, recognising their **common** humanity and shared guardianship of the planet, help to create a better world.



## IB Learners Strive To Be

**Inquiries:** They develop their natural curiosity. They acquire the skills necessary to conduct inquiry and research and show independence in learning. They actively enjoy learning and this love of learning will be sustained throughout their lives.

**Knowledge:** They explore concepts, ideas and issues that have local and global significance. In so doing, they acquire in-depth knowledge and develop understanding across a broad and balanced range of disciplines.

**Thinkers:** They exercise initiative in applying thinking skills critically and creatively to recognise and approach complex problems, and make reasoned, ethical decisions.

**Communicators:** They understand and express ideas and information confidently and creatively in more than one language and in a variety of modes of communication. They work effectively and willingly in collaboration with others.

**Principled:** They act with integrity and honesty, with a strong sense of fairness, justice and respect for the dignity of the individual, groups and communities. They take responsibility for their own actions and the consequences that accompany them.

**Open-minded:** They understand and appreciate their own cultures and personal histories, and are open to the perspectives, values and traditions of other individuals and communities. They are accustomed to seeking and evaluating a range of points of view, and are willing to grow from the experience.

**Caring:** They show empathy, compassion and respect towards the needs and feelings of others. They have a personal commitment to service, and act to make a positive difference to the lives of others and to the environment.

**Risk-takers:** They approach unfamiliar situations and uncertainty with courage and forethought, and have the independence of spirit to explore new roles, ideas and strategies. They are brave and articulate in defending their beliefs.

**Balanced:** They understand the importance of intellectual, physical and emotional balance to achieve personal wellbeing for themselves and others.

**Reflective:** They give thoughtful consideration to their own learning and experience. They are able to assess and understand their strengths and limitations in order to support their learning and personal development.



## IB subjects offered by the School

All subjects offered will run subject to minimum number of students selecting that subject:  
**HL - Higher Level / SL - Standard Level / ab - ab initio (for beginners)**

<b>Group 1</b>	<b>Studies in Languages and Literature (1st Language)</b>	
	English A Literature HL/SL	Chinese A Literature HL/SL
<b>Group 2</b>	<b>Language Acquisition (2nd Language)</b>	
	French B HL/SL Spanish B HL/SL Latin B HL/SL	English B HL French ab SL Mandarin B HL/SL
<b>Group 3</b>	<b>Individuals and Societies</b>	
	Economics HL/SL Geography HL/SL History HL/SL	Environmental Systems and Societies SL Psychology HL/SL Business Management HL/SL
<b>Group 4</b>	<b>Sciences</b>	
	Biology HL/SL Chemistry HL/SL Physics HL/SL	Environmental Systems and Societies SL Design Technology HL/SL
<b>Group 5</b>	<b>Mathematics</b>	
	MAA (Analysis and Approaches) HL/SL	MAI (Applications and Interpretation) HL/SL
<b>Group 6</b>	<b>The Arts</b>	
	Film and Media HL/SL Music HL/SL	Theatre HL/SL Visual Arts HL/SL

## IB and Scholarship

Students studying the IB Diploma course are also eligible to sit some New Zealand Scholarship examinations.

## Further Information

Further details about the IB Diploma Programme can be found at:

**[www.ibo.org/programmes/diploma-programme/](http://www.ibo.org/programmes/diploma-programme/)** or alternatively in the IB Diploma section of the Curriculum Handbook available on the school website.

