

“Diploma Programme students are well-rounded, multifaceted, multiskilled and have studied in depth. They have good time-management skills. They score higher than students in other national systems, and the IB score is worldwide the same measure.”

-Hrilina Lock, undergraduate admissions manager, London School of Economics, UK

‘I would lean over backwards to admit IB students’

- Dr Loebinger, Manchester University

“When I interview for top jobs I always look for people with a breadth of skills and knowledge. The IB Diploma provides this breadth, plus language skills and an all-round balance. It invariably gives applicants who hold it an advantage over other job candidates.”

- Peter Forbes, Head of Sales UK, Streamline Merchant Services, Royal Bank of Scotland

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The IB Advantage in Europe and the UK

When it comes to university admissions around the world, the IB Diploma is the gold standard of world diplomas and it is accepted in all EU countries. Numerous articles attest to its desirability for the level of rigor and critical thinking required to receive high scores.

Many students who finish international education set their sights on the UK university system and the IB Diploma has a clear advantage.

A recent article in The Independent,

(<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/education/schools/the-ib-develops-the-students-top-universities-want-8503818.html>)

describes such benefits to local students.

A speech by Elizabeth Truss, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Education and Childcare, commends IB at IBSCA conference, May 1st 2013 and stated, “The IB does extremely well in terms of preparing students for the top universities, with its focus on facilitating subjects such as maths, English, a foreign language, a science and a humanities course.” Her full speech:

<http://www.ibo.org/ibaem/documents/TrussIBSCASPEECHfinal.pdf>

The IB Diploma simply is the most difficult program on the planet. Principal Paula Holloway of St. Clare’s, Oxford made a clear comparison to British A level results:

“How difficult is the A Level when compared with the IB Diploma?”

The maximum score achievable for the IB is 45. Only about 65 students worldwide are able to do so each year. The pass mark is 24 points. It is possible to fail the Diploma as, worldwide, only 78% of students who take the Diploma each year pass it. Compare this with the A Level where hundreds of schools and colleges are able to report that their students achieved a 100% pass rate when the results are published each year. According to the UCAS tariff, 45 points is the equivalent of 5 grade A* at A Level, 40 points is the equivalent of 4 grade A* at A Level and 35 points is the equivalent of 2 grade A* at A Level and 1 grade A. Finally, the

percentage of students achieving a Diploma each year has remained constant over the last decade which indicates that, unlike the A Level, there has been little grade inflation.”

Most university admissions provide a table of desirable scores and/or courses for their programs. Students may find, however, that they may need to still take entrance level exams especially in their native tongue. Germany, for example requires German to be studied at a higher level. As students get closer to choosing IB courses, ISE will help investigate local requirements to ensure that the students have the right courses and possibilities for the schools of their choice. A great advantage to students who study at ISE is that they receive a tremendous amount of university counseling to apply with recommendations and a CV that works to their benefit. ISE provides essay and personal statement help along with all other issues of the process of applying abroad.

We find, in general that students who are seeking English language university programs are rated above their national peers in the admissions process and are often given special admissions and grants.

Further links: University recognition:

http://www.ibo.org/recognition/documents/IBRecognitionbrochure_FinalV2.pdf

An overview by the British Council between A- Levels, IB Diploma and Pre-U:

http://www.britishcouncil.org/hongkong-eduk-ef_brittin_college_kcversion.pdf

now offer IB throughout the country.

Why the IB?

<http://www.ibo.org/ibworld/may2012/documents/10reasons.pdf>

How does an IB education transfer or compare to European home country standards and expectations for younger students?

Transferring back to a home country is usually in the top three of parent concerns when placing their child in an international school abroad. There is no doubt that student will miss topics or information in a new system. There are great advantages, however to what a student gains.

Students who participate in IB programs who then return to traditional systems find that they exceed their peers in all areas of critical thinking, creativity, depth of learning, global awareness and presentation skills. Students at ISE are world leaders in technology integration and students have clear digital fluency in all forms of media.

Students may be behind if the system focuses on surface content knowledge instead of depth. As an example, some history programs in your home country may emphasize local history and your child will most likely have missed this information. If knowledge in certain subject areas is required, we can assist parents in finding programs to continue while their child is abroad. We can help find space and time in their schedule if there is a mother-tongue need as an example or help in test preparation. We have had students keep up with their home requirements in various countries and you just need to ask for any help to

support your child in this endeavor. Generally speaking, it is not often the case and our transcripts and recommendations allow a smooth transition back. Many of our students have gained entrance in elite boarding schools after attending ISE in places like the UK, Switzerland and Denmark. In some cases, students are immediately placed in honors programs due their advanced abilities.

With the expansion of the IB program to thousands of schools worldwide, you may be able to find an IB school in your new community. Sweden for example has 40 IB World schools. In Britain, over 5000 students participate in IB programs and countries like Poland has 39 IB World Schools. If you need to look for an IB school for your transfer home, use this link: <http://www.ibo.org/school/search/> In this case, students continue on with their studies with a smooth transition as the values and expectations are the same with only topics altering between schools.