

Port Moody Secondary School: IB Pathway

PMSS is the site for the district's IB program that offers a coordinated curriculum from grade 9 through grade 12 for talented and highly motivated students. IB includes appropriately challenging experiences in an environment of positive stimulation that comes from working within class groupings of similarly motivated and talented students.

Grade 9 & 10 years are for students admitted to the school's Pre-Diploma program. Grade 11 & 12 years are for students admitted to the International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma Programme. The IB Diploma Programme is offered at the grades 11 & 12 level as an integral part of the broad educational programme at Port Moody Secondary.

Upon successful completion of grade 12, IB students will (all) earn their BC Certificate of Graduation or "Dogwood Diploma", and either their IBO issued diploma or IBO certificate.

APPLICATION into PRE-DIPLOMA PROGRAM

Most registrants are accepted into our program at the grade 9 level and participate for the full four years. Please review the registration information on our school website for application deadlines and assessment dates. Generally, applications open in December and the intake process concludes with placement offers in February. All applicants receive an email indicating either an offer of acceptance or a waitlisted placement for the upcoming September.

Each year a very limited number of grade 10s may be accepted into the Pre-Diploma program. Placement space is largely made available from seats vacated by those grade 9s who do not wish to continue in the program. Students interested in IB and going into grade 10 are encouraged to apply and sit the intake assessment as per the instructions listed on our website.

IB programmes are committed to the principles of student development and responsibilities beyond academic achievement. All incoming learners are expected to familiarize themselves with the [IB learner profile](#)

PRE- DIPLOMA PROGRAM Grades 9 & 10

Students in the Pre-Diploma Program are scheduled as a cohort in four (4) BC Ministry of Education courses. The pace and content are enriched in the areas of English, mathematics, sciences, social studies.

The remaining courseload per student is made up of elective courses selected as part of the general course selection process. Physical & Health Education is a required course for all students in grades 9 & 10. Some courses run outside of the bell schedule (ie. band and choir) allowing students to register in more than 3 electives.

It is possible during the Pre-Diploma years for the school to facilitate some level of personalized scheduling to support those students recognized as elite performers in external activities. This is not feasible by year one (1) of the DP programme and students need to declare their intentions to the IB coordinator in their grade 10 year, and prior to the course selection process to ensure proper scheduling into the IB DP programme (grade 11; year 1).

For the entirety of the Pre-Diploma program, enrolled students are expected to demonstrate an academic and ethical level of growth in line with this unique opportunity to remain eligible for a placement in the IB Diploma Programme.

Placement in the Diploma Programme will be reviewed in grade 10 should ongoing concerns arise and/or significant violation of the school and district code of conduct is demonstrated. Issues include: chronic or patterned absence and lates; repeated referrals to the coordinator and/or administration; school suspension; academic misconduct.

Sometimes families request to exit the program and return to their catchment high school of record. Placement at any time within PMSS's ministry program is guaranteed. Facilitating a reversion to one's school of record will be attempted by the Head of School but may not be feasible on the timeline requested due to available space at the receiving school and/or the timing within the semester of the request. The most common times to be able to transfer back to one's neighbourhood school relatively quick are at the start of the school year or prior to a semester change.

At any time in the four-year program, students not able to demonstrate the academic and ethical components of the IB programme can be found in:

1. Satisfactory standing – Coordinator and/or HOS monitoring.
2. Conditional placement.
3. Exited from the program. Student maintains registration at PMSS in the ministry program unless other arrangements are determined in consult with the family and/or district.

IB DIPLOMA PROGRAMME

Year One (Gr. 11) & Year Two (Gr. 12)

It is important that students and their families recognize this is a two-year programme. Scheduling a cohort over two years creates little flexibility once underway and students must select their course(s) interest with this timeline in mind. Course selection is a school supported process throughout the program and includes student presentations, parent evenings, reference materials and one to one advisement from the IB coordinator. Students cannot be scheduled with reduced days and/or off blocks to facilitate external interests and meet the requirements of the DP.

Students will participate in the DP programme as either a:

Diploma Candidate = complete the entire programme of courses and core work.

Course Candidate = complete individual IB course(s). Students do not earn an IB diploma.

Some Diploma Candidates do opt out of the full program after it is underway and remain registered as a Course Candidate. Students cannot return to the Diploma Candidate pathway once that decision is finalized.

An important aspect of successful completion of the DP is the students timely and ongoing participation with the IB Core: CAS (Creativity, Activity & Service); TOK (Theory of Knowledge); EE (Extended Essay). Failure to maintain a satisfactory level of ongoing involvement in these courses can result in a student not earning their diploma.

[BC Ministry Page](#)

[What is the DP?](#)

[Assessment & Exams](#)

[Benefits of the IB](#)

DIPLOMA STATUS

In May of year 2, students in good standing as per IB policies and regulations, sit the IB exams as a culmination of the programme. Exams are externally assessed, and results are posted in July. The IB Diploma is earned when a student:

- has achieved a total point score of no less than 24 out of a possible 45 points.
- successfully completes the core components within the time allotted by the school.
- meets all diploma expectations of the IB requirements and standards.

In June, grade 12 students will be issued their BC Certificate of Graduation or “Dogwood Diploma”, having successfully completed the provincial graduation requirements.