



Factsheet - The IBCP at Discovery College

Discovery College will be offering a programme called the 'IB Career-related Programme' (IBCP), alongside the IB Diploma Programme (IBDP), as an option for students in Years 12-13. This new programme provides a pathway in which students in these year groups can learn and progress to Higher Education. The programme will be offered in August 2018, meaning that students in the current Year 11 will be able to choose between studying the IBDP and studying the IBCP.

What is the IBCP?

The IBCP is the fourth International Baccalaureate programme (along with the PYP, MYP and IBDP) and it is aimed at students entering the last two years of Secondary School who have a particular career path in mind. The IBCP allows students to specialise and dedicate themselves to an area of learning that they know they want to pursue. IBCP students may feel that the IBDP is not the best match for them, and that they would be best suited to a career-related programme.

The IBCP is currently offered at two other ESF schools - Renaissance College and South Island School. Discovery College is looking forward to joining a growing movement of schools, in this region and around the world, who are able to offer the CP to their students. It will allow Discovery College to introduce a pathway similar to those that exist at all other ESF schools, who either make use of the IBCP or have BTEC provision.

How is the IBCP structured?

The IBCP encompasses some elements of the IB Diploma Programme (IBDP) within its structure. It also encompasses the IB's educational philosophy and mission.

The IBCP has a taught component that comprises the following:

- A Career-related Study course (see below for details)
- A minimum of two IBDP courses (up to a maximum of four) at Standard Level or Higher Level
- A Personal and Professional Skills (PPS) course*
- A Language Development course*

The IBCP also has independent learning components:

- A Reflective Project*
- Service Learning*

* These course elements constitute the 'IBCP Core' - students taking the IBCP study these elements in place of Theory of Knowledge, CAS and the Extended Essay which are studied by IBDP students.



(Source: International Baccalaureate Organisation, 2016)

What does the IBCP offer in comparison to the IBDP?

The IBCP can be characterised as...	The IBDP can be characterised as...
Specialised - studies focus on one or two areas	Broad - studies encompass six different subject groups
Career-related - studies are framed around a career path and the way learning can be applied to this field of employment ³	Academic - studies draw on knowledge and understanding from across a number of academic disciplines

What Career-related study specialisms are available to Discovery College students?

A provisional list of specialisms for the Career-related study includes:

Art and Design • Business • Game Design • Health and Social Care • IT • Law • Media • Performing Arts • Sport

The list of specialisms will be fine-tuned for the publication of the Year 12-13 Prospectus in November 2017.

Career-related studies occur through a partner-provider. Partnerships with the following institutions are being established in order to offer courses to Discovery College students:

1. New College, Pontefract (UK)
2. HK Academy for the Performing Arts (Hong Kong)
3. Savannah College of Art and Design (Hong Kong/USA)



SCAD

More information about these partner-providers and the role they will play in providing learning experiences for students will be shared at a forthcoming information evening about the IBCP at Discovery College.

What qualifications do students receive at the end and how does this relate to university admissions?

An important feature of the IBCP is that it is a framework of different learning experiences.

- Firstly, the IBCP is a qualification in its own right, similar to the IBDP. Students satisfying the passing conditions will emerge with the IBCP as a qualification.
- Secondly, completion of the IBCP will facilitate graduation from Discovery College. Universities, particularly in the USA, look for High School graduation as an indicator as part of their admissions process.
- Thirdly, the career-related study aspect of the IBCP will, for most students who take this programme, offer a qualification that they can use as part of university admissions. For instance, students taking their career-related study via New College or the HKAPA will complete a BTEC qualification, most likely a Level 3 Diploma. Students studying with SCAD will complete a series of foundation degree modules, which in some circumstances can be transferred as university credit to offset against future university studies.
- Fourthly, students will complete between two and four IBDP courses. Courses can also be the basis for admission to a university.

So the IBCP provides a number of ways in which students can gain access to a broad range of university courses in different countries around the world. An IB study on the experiences of IBCP students in relation to university studies is available via:

<http://www.ibo.org/globalassets/publications/ib-research/cp-research-us-graduates-2017-en.pdf>

Where can I find more information?

Discovery College will be offering an IBCP information evening for students and their families in a few weeks' time. Details are as follows:

Tuesday 7 November
6.30-8pm
4/F Diploma Centre

This information evening will be a chance to hear about the programme in more detail, ask questions and see what life will be like for IBCP students at Discovery College as they pursue their studies. We invite you to join us and look forward to discussing this exciting new element of the Discovery College curriculum.



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