



IB DIPLOMA PROGRAMME AT SVKM INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL:

SVKM International School, Mumbai is a co – education, English medium IB Diploma Programme School affiliated to International Baccalaureate Organization (IBO) and Cambridge International Examination (IGCSE and A Level). Students are enrolled as day boarders. Admission is granted on the basis of the school admission policy.

SVKM International School offers its academics fully based on International curriculum, which is a gateway to universities all over the world. IB diploma is also recognized in India for technical courses such as engineering, pharmacy, management and regular courses as well.

SVKM International School offers education with the blend of deep – rooted culture of our ancient Indian customs and the most contemporary teaching methodologies designed by International Baccalaureate Organization (IBO). SVKM International School stresses on an overall development of the student by carefully balancing the students' academic activities, sports, performing and aesthetics arts in the state of art infrastructure and facilities available within the campus.

The IB Diploma Programme is recognized as a qualification equivalent to 10+2 for entry into Universities into undergraduate programs throughout the world and for advanced placement at many colleges and Universities. IB Diploma Programme is recognized in India by the AIU (Association of Indian Universities). Due to the time overlap between the IB Diploma results and entry into various faculties of the undergraduate program offered by the Universities, admissions are based on Predicted Grades offered by School. However, admissions to various colleges affiliated to Universities are provisional till the receipt the final IB Diploma Transcripts. To avoid discrepancies between the Predicted Grades offered by School and the final IB scores, we at SVKM thrive to reach the closest possible grade that will be achieved by the student as the final DP score where the difference is kept at a ± 2 .



BUILDING AN ACCESSIBLE DIPLOMA PROGRAMME AT SVKM INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

Enrollment into the IB Diploma Programme

IBDP is for the student who is willing to work hard at his/her studies. The school recognizes that motivation, self – discipline and perseverance plays a key role in determining student success in the Diploma Programme. Accordingly, the school conducts interviews in an effort to determine student attitudes and abilities. Students having the following characteristics are considered as potential candidates for the programme:

- Ability to cope with several demanding classes simultaneously
- Willingness to develop study habits, self discipline, self motivation and time management
- A capacity for thinking critically and creatively
- Fluency in a second language, or a willingness to become fluent
- An International outlook and genuine concern for others
- The IB programme, while demanding, is open to the average and above average student. It appeals to students with a wide range of interests, abilities and talents
- Consistent Hard Work and self – study habits
- Careful choices of subjects to meet the career demands for undergraduate studies



Access to entire community

The school actively participates in Mastermind Education Fair under the aegis of the wide SVKM umbrella and other education fairs like the Education Expo where the school voluntarily educates the entire community in all languages used by the community about the philosophy of IB and the benefits and demands of the programme. This helps potential students make an informed decision about enrolling in the diploma programme taking their skills, interests and knowledge into consideration. During such fests admission materials to the diploma programme are readily available and widely distributed.

In addition when students are transferred from another school to SVKM International School to join the Diploma Programme, every effort is made by the school to ensure smooth transitions which include clear and comprehensive communication with the other school, the student and parents.

Eligibility Criteria and Admission Process

SVKM International School supports access for students to the IB Programme and philosophy, where the school provides for the full Diploma Programme and encourages most of its student body to attempt the full diploma and allows only individual subject certificates on parent requests. The reason why this is preferred is that the whole Diploma Programme provides for a breadth and depth of educational experience that goes beyond the collection of individual subject certificates. In addition the school also promotes access to the diploma and certificates (course) for all students who can benefit from the educational experience they provide. The school has strategies to be the IB Programme and Philosophy. The school has taken consistent and meticulous efforts to ensure that students enroll for the diploma programme. Right from the start of the program the students are counseled into subjects of their choices as well as potential such that they can achieve good grades in the same. The students who are not able to perform are assigned tutorial groups where they are given special attention in order to achieve better grades. Students are also offered bilingual diploma.



The admissions process is kept transparent with the eligibility criteria used for admission clearly stated in the admission policy and available to the whole community through SVKM International School Website and also on the Managebac platform.

Admission in all cases is contingent upon a determination by the IBDP Coordinator, Counselor and/or Head of School that:

- (1) The student has met with the minimum eligibility criteria of at least 2 – Bs in the IGCSE examination or 65% in State Board examinations (SSC, ICSE and / or CBSE) and will be able to meet the school's academic standards;
- (2) The student has exhibited acceptable behavior in his/her previous school;
- (3) The school will be able to meet any special needs of the student;
- (4) The student will embrace the school's mission: *SVKM International School is committed to nurture an inquiring, thinking, enterprising, informed, open minded, principled and compassionate generation empowered to meet local and global challenges and act as a harbinger of peace and harmony*

The following checklist shall be referred to before submitting the Application Form

- Application form : Duly filled and signed in original
- Official school records for the last two years. If the school year has not been completed, it is expected that mid – term or most recent grades be submitted.
- Certificate of merit
- Copies of extra / co – curricular activities.
- Three colored passport size photo of the student
- Photocopy of Date of Birth proof: Birth certificate/Passport copy
- Residential Proof (Photocopy of Passport / PAN card / Telephone Bill / Electricity Bill)



Special Education Needs (SEN)

IB programmes “encourage students across the world to become active, compassionate and lifelong learners who understand that other people, with their differences, can also be right” (IB mission statement, 2004). Difference and diversity are central in schools offering the IB Diploma Programme where all students enrolled in IB programmes should receive meaningful and equitable access to the curriculum. At SVKM International School it is appreciated that in the field of special education offered under the guidance and expertise of in – house Special Needs Educator, the IB philosophy and practice is particularly significant for students with special needs.

Students are advised upon entry, concerning the rigorous program requirements to ensure appropriate placement and academic success. In addition to the assistance received from the in – house Special Needs Educator, and employing teaching strategies that include differentiation for students with special needs, students are also supported through special arrangements if necessary. The Diploma Program Coordinator submits to IB the appropriate accommodation forms, along with necessary documentation, requesting assessment modifications when needed.

School Procedures for SEN

- 1) Identification of condition affecting performance via medical practitioner assessments is required.
- 1) The Admission committee evaluates the application and the condition to provide support needed during the 2 – year IB Diploma Programme. Each individual with special needs is reviewed on an individual basis at the time of application by the Special Needs Counselor.
- 2) The Admission Committee further consults with the Special Needs Counselor before accepting students with special education needs into the academic programs offered by the school.
- 3) With guidance received from the Special Needs Counselor, a decision is made whether suitable arrangements for both teaching and assessment can be made to accommodate the student. If a student with special learning needs is accepted into the IB program, careful considerations are given to the candidate’s choice of subjects and universities.
- 4) IB Coordinator submits supporting paperwork and documentation as applicable and in line with



Handbook of procedures for the Diploma Programme.

Selection to the IBDP is based on a three – tier system:

- Academic Records of Middle School
- Entrance Test Examination
- Personal interaction of the student & Parents

The entrance test consists of two sections: English and Mathematics. The duration of the test is for one hour. Students are notified about the date of appearing for the test during acceptances of the form. Test for proficiency in English includes skills of presentation, communication and language. A student is expected to portray these skills in the essays during the entrance test. The test in Mathematics is designed to measure the mathematical abilities and knowledge as well as logical aptitude of the students applying to SVKM International School.

The Admissions committee comprised of the Principal, Academic Coordinators and the University / Special Needs Counselors evaluate each application carefully and make recommendations. The turnaround time for any application is approximately one week after the receipt of completed application form along with supporting documents. The Admission Committee has personal interactions with parents and students to brief them about advantages and opportunities offered by the School during the two year DP Programme as parents play a leading and decisive role during selection of the programmes. Special attention is given to the core requirements (TOK, EE and CAS) and approaches to teaching and learning in alignment with the standards and practices of the IB Diploma Programme which allows them to understand different prospects to make the right choice for selection of subjects and their respective levels. This interaction also facilitates the understanding of the prospects offered by the IB Diploma Programme as a pre-university course that results in advances standing, course credits, merit-based scholarships and internship opportunities. Students and parents are free to visit the School campus and discuss further details with the Programme Coordinator / Counselor with prior appointment.



The course offerings at SVKM International School cover the widest possible range of choices from the 6 subject areas, to address the relevant student skills, interests, linguistic background and potential university requirements.

The subjects offered at SVKM International School are:

English A: Literature (HL/SL); Language and Literature (SL)

Language Acquisition: Language B: Hindi (HL/SL); Spanish *Ab initio* (SL) and French *Ab initio* (SL)

Group 3: Business & Management (HL/SL); Economics (HL/SL); Information Technology in Global Society (HL/SL); Psychology (HL/SL); Environmental Systems and Societies (SL)

Group 4: Physics (HL/SL); Chemistry (HL/SL); Biology (HL/SL) and Environmental Systems and Societies (SL), Design Technology

Group 5: Mathematics (HL/SL/Studies)

Group 6: Visual Arts (HL/SL); Film (HL/SL)

On commencement of the DP course in July, students are taken through a bridge course for duration of two weeks, where they can attend all subject classes irrespective of the subject choices made during the admissions process. This allows the students to get an insight into the course structure, mode of assessments and future career opportunities in various subjects offered by the School.

On completion of the bridge course, every subject is assessed on a wide and varied range of formative and summative assessments through criterion referencing and students' skills are tested, based on which student-parent counseling is done in joint meeting with the DP Coordinator and the University Guidance Officer.



GUIDANCE COUNSELLING

There are multiple points of entry and pathways through the years leading upto the diploma programme at SVKM International School where the school ensures that key skills and knowledge needed for success in the IBDP are developed. The process of counseling in SVKM International School begins from grade 9 and continues into the IB Diploma Programme. The subject choices are made depending on the career opportunities students would want to pursue for their undergraduate studies and the country the students wish to apply to. However, the subject selections / combinations made during the process of admissions are not binding. Since students joining the SVKM International School at grade XI come from a wide number of curricula / boards i.e. state, national and international, the School runs a two – week bridge course for each cohort, to deepen the understanding of the IBDP curriculum. During the bridge course students are given an opportunity to attend all subject classes for better understanding and enable informed decision on subject combinations at the DP and bridge the gap. The end of the course is marked by an assessment which allows the School to understand student aptitudes and inclination towards particular subject(s). The School also offers psychometric counseling from grade 8 onwards to further allow parents and school to decide on the correct choice of international curriculum and future prospects at the undergraduate level. This is an extended school platform facility that is available to parents and students on request.

During the course selection the student are encouraged to enroll in a schedule of classes that is challenging, yet appropriate to their abilities. Hence, throughout the admission process and into the bridge course program at SVKM International School, there is considerable effort on the part of the DPC, University guidance counselor and teachers to educate students and parents regarding the assessment, expectations and content of the courses. Throughout the Diploma Programme, students' current level of achievements, interest and future academic plans guide this process.

Once students have made their subject choice, the IBDP Coordinator along with the University Liaison



In – charge meets parents and students to finalize the subjects and their levels. Here, parents and students are briefed about the different avenues open with subject combination and levels where alternate combinations are also discussed to keep all options to undergraduate studies open. However, students who do not show an aptitude for a particular subject are advised to select subject options made by the School to avoid future hindrances of acceptances into Universities offering higher education. The School takes utmost care to ensure that all students reach a career destination of their preference with subjects offered to them and the opportunities available in Universities in India and abroad.

The SVKM International School supports students during their application process and also facilitates liaising with Universities as per their inclination through exclusive services of a trained University Liaison Officer. The School organizes University fairs, both from India and overseas, to provide opportunities to parents and students to understand the courses available, requirements of each course and process of selection. The School also provides details about Summer Camps organized by Universities in various fields of Sciences, Management Studies and Arts as part of the services extended to the parent – student community of SVKM.

The Scholastic Engagement Programme (SEP), encourages, through the University Liaison Officer subject – specific University and student engagement programmes to develop CALP and trans-disciplinary skills across all subject groups. The SEP also gives an insight into the University-specific research, giving an overview and insight of research opportunities. The School also maintains a strong connect with the School alumni, pursuing an undergraduate degree at coveted Universities across the globe and in India, across a broad spectrum of faculties. Our alumni meet the DP students on a regular basis to give an insight of their experiences at the University, impart their knowledge through workshops and lectures, while also advising them on pathways for a successful university journey.

The School recognizes the need of building every student's profile through experiential learning enabled by CAS activities and activities developed concurrently and coherently. Thus, the current teaching-learning practices imbibed within the School curriculum encourage inter-disciplinary learning that allows students to showcase their skills, facilitating their application and selection process.



Documents (letters of recommendation, transcripts and predicted grades) required by Universities during the admission process are also made available by School. To enhance the guidance counseling department, the University Liaison Officer is encouraged to visit varied Universities in India and Abroad to understand the selection process and facilities available at University campuses, so that students are able to make decisions in complete awareness that will lead them to being successful. Students are also kept informed of all the entrance examinations required as a mandate for various courses offered by Universities, both for India and abroad.



References:

<http://www.ibo.org/recognition/>

Online Coordination workshop <https://onlinepd.ibo.org/course/view.php?id=407&topic=4>

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