
Professional Certificate in International Baccalaureate Teaching

Understanding the IB Learner Profile

IB Learner Profile

The IB Learner Profile is a set of ten attributes that the International Baccalaureate (IB) organization believes all students should strive to develop. These attributes are meant to encourage students to become responsible, compassionate, and globally-minded individuals. The ten attributes are Inquirers, Knowledgeable, Thinkers, Communicators, Principled, Open-minded, Caring, Risk-takers, Balanced, and Reflective.

Inquirers

Being inquirers means being curious and enthusiastic about learning. Inquirers develop their natural curiosity and acquire the skills necessary to conduct inquiry and research. They actively enjoy learning and this love of learning will be sustained throughout their lives.

Knowledgeable

Knowledgeable individuals explore concepts, ideas, and issues that have local and global significance. They have a sound understanding of different disciplines and are open to exploring new ideas and areas of knowledge.

Thinkers

Thinkers exercise initiative in applying thinking skills critically and creatively to make sound decisions and solve complex problems. They are able to analyze and evaluate information critically, and they can construct well-reasoned arguments.

Communicators

Communicators express themselves confidently and creatively in more than one language and in a variety of ways. They collaborate effectively, listening carefully to the perspectives of other individuals and groups.

Principled

Principled individuals 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 actions and their consequences.

Open-minded

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

Caring

Caring individuals 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 in the lives of others and the environment.

Risk-takers

Risk-takers 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

Balanced individuals understand the importance of intellectual, physical, and emotional balance to achieve personal well-being for themselves and others. They recognize their interdependence with other people and with the world in which they live.

Reflective

Reflective individuals 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.

Attributes

Attributes are characteristics or qualities that individuals possess. In the context of the IB Learner Profile, attributes refer to the ten qualities that IB students are encouraged to develop in order to become well-rounded individuals.

International Baccalaureate (IB)

The International Baccalaureate is an international educational foundation headquartered in Geneva, Switzerland. The IB offers four programs for students aged 3 to 19: the Primary Years Program (PYP), the Middle Years Program (MYP), the Diploma Program (DP), and the Career-related Program (CP). The IB aims to develop inquiring, knowledgeable, and caring young people who help to create a better and more peaceful world through intercultural understanding and respect.

Curriculum

Curriculum refers to the subjects or courses of study offered by an educational institution. In the context of the IB, the curriculum is designed to develop the intellectual, personal, emotional, and social skills of students. The IB curriculum is inquiry-based and encourages students to become critical thinkers and lifelong learners.

Assessment

Assessment refers to the process of evaluating the knowledge and skills of students. In the IB, assessment is designed to measure a student's understanding of the subject matter and their ability to apply their

knowledge in real-world situations. Assessment in the IB includes written exams, oral presentations, projects, and other forms of evaluation.

Global Citizenship

Global citizenship refers to the idea that individuals have a sense of belonging to a broader community and a commitment to making the world a better place. In the context of the IB Learner Profile, global citizenship is encouraged through attributes such as open-mindedness, caring, and reflection.

Community Service

Community service refers to volunteer work or other activities that benefit the community. In the IB, students are encouraged to engage in community service as a way to develop their caring and reflective attributes. Community service helps students to understand the needs of others and to take action to make a positive difference.

Interdisciplinary Learning

Interdisciplinary learning refers to the integration of knowledge and skills from multiple subject areas. In the IB, interdisciplinary learning is emphasized as a way to help students make connections between different disciplines and to develop a more holistic understanding of the world.

Collaboration

Collaboration refers to working together with others to achieve a common goal. In the IB, collaboration is encouraged as a way to develop a student's communication and social skills. Collaborative projects help students to learn from each other and to appreciate different perspectives.

Project-Based Learning

Project-based learning is a teaching method in which students gain knowledge and skills by working for an extended period of time to investigate and respond to an engaging and complex question, problem, or challenge. In the IB, project-based learning is used to encourage inquiry, critical thinking, and creativity.

Experiential Learning

Experiential learning is the process of learning through experience, or learning by doing. In the IB, experiential learning is valued as a way to help students apply their knowledge in real-world situations and to develop practical skills. Experiential learning can take many forms, including internships, field trips, and service learning projects.

Reflective Practice

Reflective practice is the process of thinking about and analyzing one's own actions and experiences in order to learn from them. In the IB, reflective practice is encouraged as a way for students to develop their reflective attribute. By reflecting on their learning and experiences, students can identify their strengths and weaknesses and make improvements.

Leadership Skills

Leadership skills refer to the abilities and qualities that enable individuals to lead, guide, and inspire others. In the IB, leadership skills are developed through opportunities for students to take on leadership roles in group projects, clubs, and other activities. Leadership skills help students to become confident, responsible, and effective communicators.

Critical Thinking

Critical thinking is the ability to analyze, evaluate, and interpret information in order to make informed decisions. In the IB, critical thinking is a key skill that students are encouraged to develop. Critical thinking helps students to question assumptions, consider different perspectives, and make reasoned judgments.

Problem-Solving

Problem-solving is the process of finding solutions to difficult or complex issues. In the IB, problem-solving skills are important for students to develop in order to succeed in their academic studies and in their future careers. Problem-solving skills involve identifying problems, analyzing information, and implementing effective solutions.

Creativity

Creativity is the ability to think outside the box, generate new ideas, and come up with innovative solutions to problems. In the IB, creativity is valued as a way for students to express themselves and to approach learning in a creative and imaginative way. Creativity helps students to develop their communication, collaboration, and critical thinking skills.

Communication Skills

Communication skills are the abilities to convey information, ideas, and emotions effectively through verbal, written, and nonverbal means. In the IB, communication skills are essential for students to develop in order to express themselves clearly, listen actively, and engage with others in a respectful and thoughtful manner. Communication skills help students to succeed in their academic studies and in their personal and professional lives.

Technology Integration

Technology integration refers to the incorporation of technology into the teaching and learning process. In the IB, technology integration is important for students to develop the skills they need to thrive in a digital world. Technology can be used to enhance teaching and learning, facilitate collaboration, and provide opportunities for students to create and innovate.

Service Learning

Service learning is a teaching and learning strategy that integrates meaningful community service with instruction and reflection to enrich the learning experience, teach civic responsibility, and strengthen communities. In the IB, service learning is an important component of the curriculum that helps students to

develop their caring and reflective attributes. Service learning projects allow students to apply their knowledge and skills to address real-world issues and make a positive impact in their communities.

Assessment for Learning

Assessment for learning is a formative assessment process that helps teachers and students to identify learning goals, evaluate understanding, and provide feedback to improve learning outcomes. In the IB, assessment for learning is used to support students in developing their knowledge, skills, and attributes. By providing timely and constructive feedback, teachers can help students to reflect on their progress and make adjustments to their learning strategies.

Differentiated Instruction

Differentiated instruction is a teaching approach that recognizes the diverse learning needs of students and provides multiple pathways to learning. In the IB, differentiated instruction is used to accommodate the individual learning styles, abilities, and interests of students. By adapting instruction to meet the needs of all learners, teachers can help students to achieve their full potential and develop a love of learning.

Global Perspectives

Global perspectives refer to an understanding of the interconnectedness of the world and an appreciation for cultural diversity. In the IB, global perspectives are promoted through the curriculum, which includes a focus on international-mindedness, sustainability, and social responsibility. By developing global perspectives, students can become informed and engaged citizens who contribute positively to the global community.

Intercultural Understanding

Intercultural understanding is the ability to appreciate and respect the values, beliefs, and customs of people from different cultural backgrounds. In the IB, intercultural understanding is fostered through the promotion of open-mindedness, empathy, and communication skills. By developing intercultural understanding, students can build positive relationships with others and contribute to a more harmonious and inclusive society.

Environmental Stewardship

Environmental stewardship refers to the responsible use and protection of the natural environment. In the IB, environmental stewardship is promoted through the curriculum, which includes a focus on environmental sustainability and conservation. By developing environmental stewardship, students can become advocates for the environment and take action to address pressing environmental issues.

Academic Integrity

Academic integrity refers to the ethical standards and values that guide students' academic work. In the IB, academic integrity is essential for students to demonstrate honesty, fairness, and respect for the intellectual property of others. By upholding academic integrity, students can build a reputation for trustworthiness and

excellence in their academic studies.

Research Skills

Research skills are the abilities to gather, evaluate, and synthesize information from a variety of sources. In the IB, research skills are important for students to develop in order to conduct independent inquiries and investigations. Research skills help students to explore complex issues, analyze data, and communicate their findings effectively.

Cultural Competence

Cultural competence refers to the ability to interact effectively with people from different cultural backgrounds. In the IB, cultural competence is fostered through the promotion of open-mindedness, respect, and empathy for diverse perspectives. By developing cultural competence, students can build positive relationships with people from different cultures and contribute to a more inclusive and harmonious society.

Empathy

Empathy is the ability to understand and share the feelings of another person. In the IB, empathy is valued as a way for students to develop their caring attribute and to build positive relationships with others. By practicing empathy, students can demonstrate compassion, kindness, and respect for the experiences and emotions of others.

Self-Directed Learning

Self-directed learning is a process in which individuals take responsibility for their own learning and set goals for their academic and personal growth. In the IB, self-directed learning is encouraged as a way for students to develop their reflective and inquirer attributes. By becoming self-directed learners, students can take ownership of their education and develop the skills they need to succeed in their future endeavors.

Resilience

Resilience is the ability to bounce back from setbacks, adapt to change, and overcome challenges. In the IB, resilience is valued as a way for students to develop their risk-taker attribute and to build the confidence and perseverance needed to face obstacles and achieve their goals. By developing resilience, students can learn from failure, embrace uncertainty, and grow stronger in the face of adversity.

Interpersonal Skills

Interpersonal skills are the abilities to communicate, collaborate, and build positive relationships with others. In the IB, interpersonal skills are important for students to develop in order to work effectively in groups, resolve conflicts, and engage with diverse perspectives. Interpersonal skills help students to become effective communicators, team players, and leaders.

Emotional Intelligence

Emotional intelligence refers to the ability to recognize, understand, and manage one's own emotions, as

well as the emotions of others. In the IB, emotional intelligence is valued as a way for students to develop their caring, reflective, and principled attributes. By cultivating emotional intelligence, students can build strong interpersonal relationships, make ethical decisions, and navigate social interactions with empathy and compassion.

Time Management

Time management refers to the ability to prioritize tasks, set goals, and allocate time effectively to achieve desired outcomes. In the IB, time management is an important skill for students to develop in order to balance their academic studies, extracurricular activities, and personal responsibilities. By mastering time management, students can enhance their productivity, reduce stress, and achieve academic success.

Conflict Resolution

Conflict resolution is the process of addressing and resolving disagreements or disputes in a constructive and positive manner. In the IB, conflict resolution skills are important for students to develop in order to work collaboratively, communicate effectively, and build harmonious relationships with others. By learning how to resolve conflicts peacefully and respectfully, students can foster a culture of understanding, empathy, and cooperation.

Active Listening

Active listening is the ability to fully concentrate, understand, respond, and remember what is being said in a conversation or presentation. In the IB, active listening is an important skill for students to develop in order to engage with others, build rapport, and demonstrate respect. By practicing active listening, students can improve their communication skills, deepen their understanding of different perspectives, and strengthen their relationships with others.

Collaborative Learning

Collaborative learning is an instructional approach in which students work together in groups to achieve a common goal. In the IB, collaborative learning is encouraged as a way for students to develop their communication, teamwork, and problem-solving skills. Collaborative learning activities help students to learn from each other, share ideas, and engage in meaningful discussions.

Feedback

Feedback is information provided to students about their performance, understanding, or progress in order to support their learning and growth. In the IB, feedback is an important tool for teachers to help students reflect on their work, identify areas for improvement, and set goals for their academic and personal development. By giving constructive feedback, teachers can motivate students, build their confidence, and enhance their learning outcomes.

Professional Development

Professional development refers to activities, programs, and opportunities that help educators improve their

knowledge, skills, and practices. In the IB, professional development is essential for teachers to stay informed about best practices in education, enhance their teaching techniques, and support student learning. By participating in professional development, teachers can deepen their understanding of the IB curriculum, engage with new teaching strategies, and collaborate with colleagues to enhance student outcomes.

Student-Centered Learning

Student-centered learning is an instructional approach that focuses on the needs, interests, and abilities of individual students. In the IB, student-centered learning is valued as a way to empower students to take ownership of their learning, set goals, and engage in meaningful inquiry. By adopting a student-centered approach, teachers can create a supportive and inclusive learning environment that promotes student agency, independence, and success.

Formative Assessment

Formative assessment is an ongoing process of gathering feedback, monitoring progress, and adjusting instruction to support student learning. In the IB, formative assessment is used to provide students with timely and constructive feedback, identify areas for improvement, and guide their academic growth. By using formative assessment techniques, teachers can help students to reflect on their learning, set goals, and make continuous progress towards mastery.

Summative Assessment

Summative assessment is a culminating evaluation of student learning that measures achievement against set standards or learning outcomes. In the IB, summative assessment is used to evaluate students' understanding of the subject matter, their ability to apply knowledge in real-world situations, and their readiness for further study or employment. Summative assessment includes final exams, projects, and other assessments that determine a student's overall performance in a course or program.

Peer Assessment

Peer assessment is a process in which students evaluate and provide feedback on the work of their peers. In the IB, peer assessment is used to promote collaboration, critical thinking, and self-reflection. By engaging in peer assessment activities, students can learn from each other, develop their communication skills, and gain a deeper understanding of the subject matter.

Individualized Learning

Individualized learning refers to a personalized approach to education that takes into account the unique needs, interests, and abilities of each student. In the IB, individualized learning is important for teachers to differentiate instruction, provide tailored support, and empower students to take ownership of their learning. By offering individualized learning opportunities, teachers can help students to reach their full potential, explore their passions, and achieve academic success.

Interdisciplinary Teaching

Interdisciplinary teaching is an instructional approach that integrates knowledge and skills from multiple subject areas to create a more holistic and connected learning experience. In the IB, interdisciplinary teaching is encouraged as a way to help students make connections between different disciplines, explore complex issues, and apply their learning in meaningful ways. By engaging in interdisciplinary teaching practices, teachers can foster creativity, critical thinking, and collaboration among students.

Multicultural Education

Multicultural education refers to an approach to teaching and learning that recognizes and values cultural diversity in the classroom. In the IB, multicultural education is promoted through the curriculum, which includes a focus on international-mindedness, intercultural understanding, and global perspectives. By embracing multicultural education, students can develop empathy, respect for diversity, and a sense of belonging to a global community.

Social Emotional Learning (SEL)

Social emotional learning (SEL) is the process of developing the skills, knowledge, and attitudes needed to understand and manage emotions, set and achieve positive goals, feel and show empathy for others, establish and maintain positive relationships, and make responsible decisions. In the IB, SEL is integrated into the curriculum to support students in developing their emotional intelligence, interpersonal skills, and resilience. By incorporating