



PARKDALE COLLEGIATE INSTITUTE

IB Diploma Programme

Year 1 Information Session

For students, parents and guardians

Thursday, October 8, 2026



Tonight's agenda

1

The IB at a glance

Mission and the IB learner profile

2

The Diploma

How it is built, PCI courses and scoring

3

Your Courses

How each subject is assessed

4

The Core

Extended Essay, TOK and CAS

5

Grades & university

Ontario equivalents, the OSSD and admissions

6

Policies & support

Course changes, integrity, AI, absences and IEPs



THE IB AT A GLANCE

What is the IB?

A global leader in international education — developing inquiring, knowledgeable, confident and caring young people.

IB programmes empower students to take ownership of their learning and build future-ready skills to make a difference and thrive in a world that changes fast.

HALLMARKS OF THE DIPLOMA PROGRAMME

Rigorous assessment

Broad & balanced

Inquiry-driven

Critical thinking

Research skills

Community service

Choice within structure

Pre-university

Reflection

Learn more at ibo.org

The IB learner profile

The IB mission statement translated into learning outcomes for the 21st century. As IB learners, we strive to be:



Inquirers



Knowledgeable



Thinkers



Communicators



Principled



Open-minded



Caring



Risk-takers

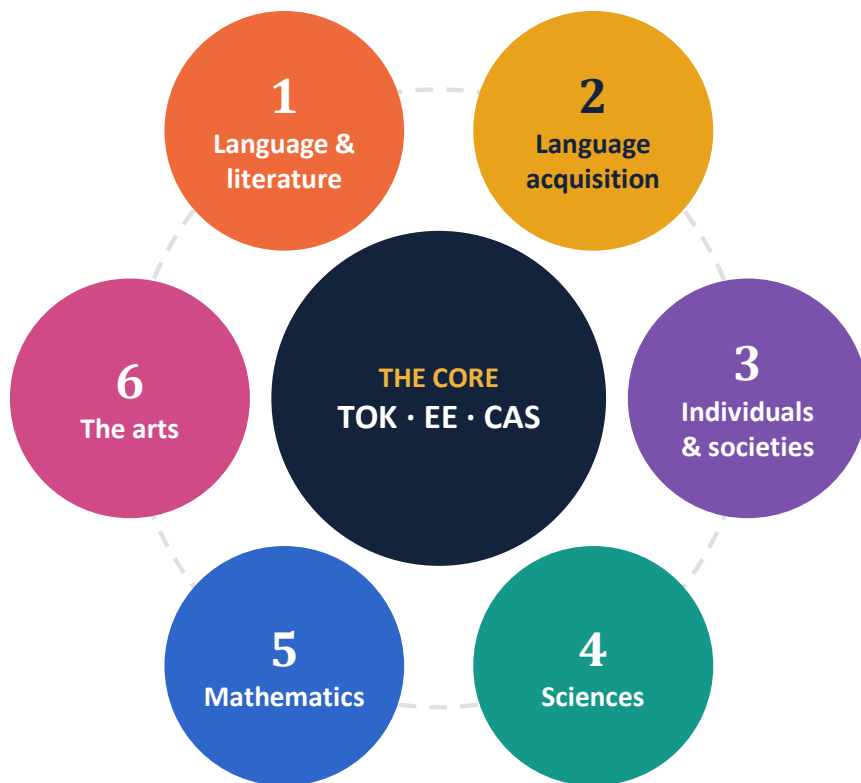


Balanced



Reflective

How the IB Diploma is built



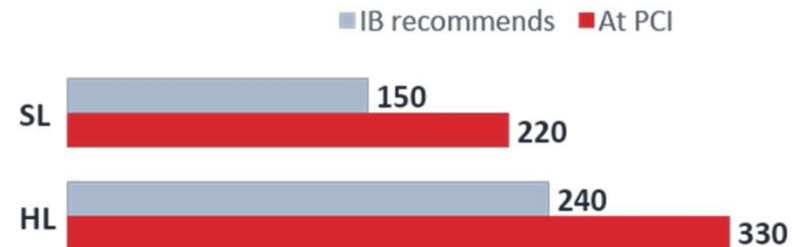
3 HL courses

Higher Level: university-level courses

3 SL courses

Standard Level: enriched Ontario Grade 11 & 12 courses

Teaching hours over two years



Every DP course runs across both years. A level 5+ in an HL course may earn first-year university credit.

THE DIPLOMA

Your IB courses at Parkdale

Subject group	IB course	Level	OSSD credits earned
1 Language & literature	English A: Literature	HL	ENG3U7 · ETS4U7 · ENG4U7
2 Language acquisition	French B	SL	FSF3U7 · FSF4U7
	Spanish ab initio	SL	LWSBU7 · LWSDU7
3 Individuals & societies	Psychology	HL	IDC4U7 · HHS4U7 · HSB4U7
	History	HL	CHA3U7 · CHY4U7 · CPW4U7
4 Sciences	Chemistry	HL	SCH3U7 · SCH4U7 · SNC4M7
	Biology	SL	SBI3U7 · SBI4U7
	Physics	SL	SPH3U7 · SPH4U7
5 Mathematics	Mathematics: Analysis & Approaches	SL	MHF4U7 · MCV4U7
6 The Arts	Film	HL	AWR3M7 · AWR4M7 · ADV4M7

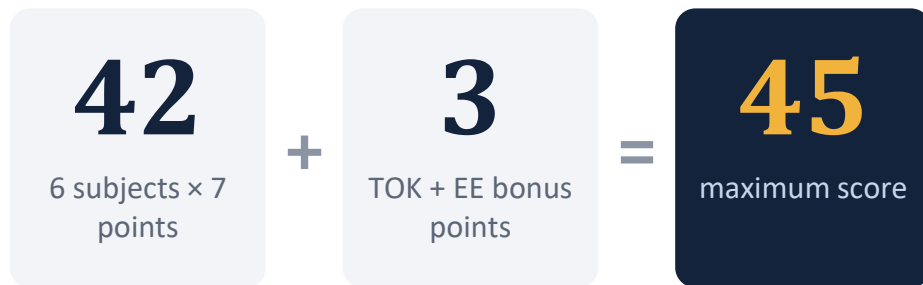


Plus the Core: Extended Essay, TOK and CAS



Also required for the OSSD: 30 credits · literacy (OSSLT or course) · 40 volunteer hours

How the IB Diploma is scored



IA

Internal assessment

Teacher-marked coursework, moderated by the IB

EA

External assessment

Exams and other work marked by IB examiners

 Every IB course has both. Class assignments are modelled on IB assessments.

To earn the Diploma, a student needs:

- ✓ CAS requirements completed
- ✓ At least **24 points** in total
- ✓ A grade in every subject, TOK and the EE
- ✓ At least a 2 in every subject
- ✓ No more than two 2s (HL or SL)
- ✓ No more than three grades of 3 or below
- ✓ At least 12 points across HL subjects
- ✓ At least 9 points across SL subjects
- ✓ No E grade in TOK or the Extended Essay

French B & Spanish ab initio (SL)

25%

Paper 1 · Writing

25%

Paper 2 · Listening

25%

Paper 2 · Reading

25%

Individual oral (internal)

Both courses share this structure: written exams 75%, individual oral 25%.

Component	French B (SL)	Spanish ab initio (SL)
Paper 1: Writing 25% · 30 marks	1 h 15 min · one 250–400-word task from a choice of three, each on a different global theme	1 h · two 70–150-word tasks from a choice of three
Paper 2: Listening & reading 50% · 65 marks	1 h 45 min · listening (45 min, 25 marks) and reading (1 h, 40 marks)	1 h 45 min · listening (45 min, 25 marks) and reading (1 h, 40 marks)
Individual oral 25% · 30 marks	15 min preparation, then a 12–15 min conversation with the teacher based on a photo, plus discussion	15 min preparation, then a 10 min conversation with the teacher based on a photo, plus discussion

YOUR COURSES · GROUP 4

Biology, Chemistry & Physics

Biology · SL

Chemistry · HL

Physics · SL

share one model:

36%

Paper 1

44%

Paper 2

20%

Internal (IA)

Paper 1

Multiple-choice (1A) and data-based questions (1B)

SL 1.5 h · HL 2 h

Paper 2

Short-answer and extended-response questions

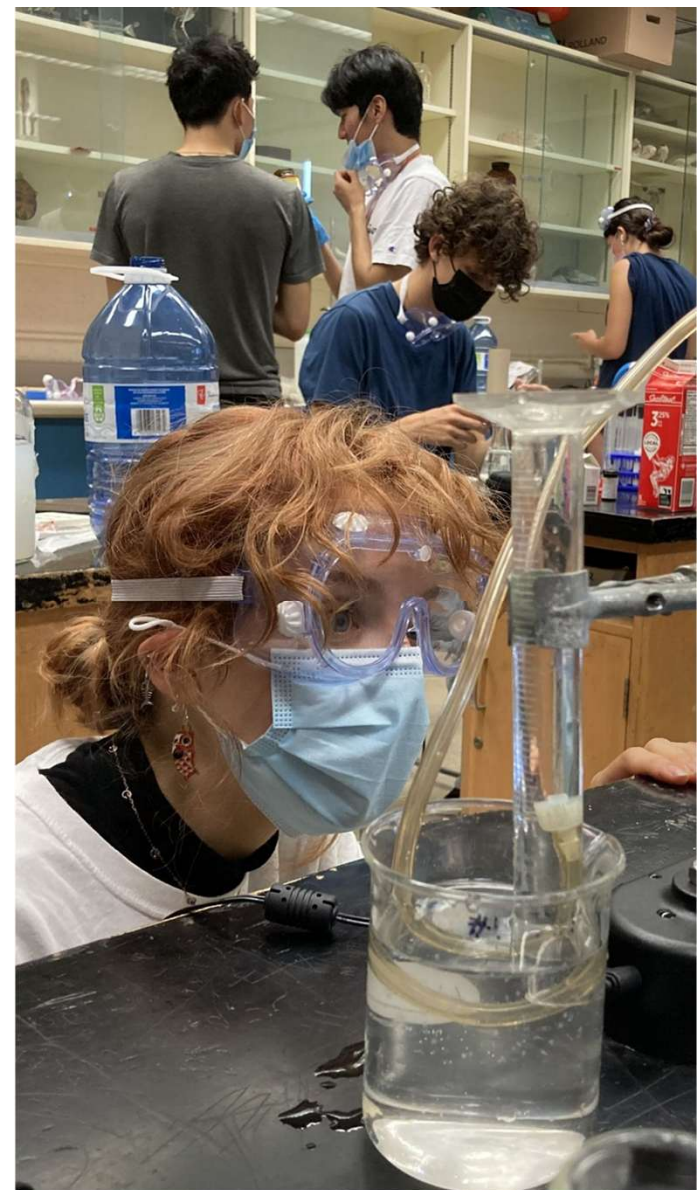
SL 1.5 h · HL 2.5 h

Internal assessment

10 hours

A scientific investigation: students design, carry out and interpret their own open-ended investigation, written up as a report

Papers are written over two days. Biology topics include cells, biochemistry, genetics, ecology, evolution, and human health & physiology.



English A: Literature (HL)

35%

Paper 1 · Literary analysis

25%

Paper 2 · Comparative essay

20%

HL essay

20%

Oral (internal)

Paper 1: two unseen passages, 2 h 15 min · Paper 2: 1 h 45 min · HL essay: 1,200–1,500 words · Oral: 15 min

What's great about IB English?



10 texts, two years

ENG3U7 & ETS4U7 in Year 1; ENG4U7 in Year 2



Known & unseen texts

Critical reading: concepts, context and intertextuality



Global perspectives

Numerous texts studied in translation



Writer's portfolio

Students keep a writer's portfolio, with reflection



Literary theory

Applied to the works students study



Rich, varied tasks

Essays, orals and media productions, using IB rubrics



History (HL)

Current course · first exams May 2028

25%
Paper 1

25%
Paper 2

30%
Paper 3 (HL only)

20%
Internal assessment

External exams 80% · internal assessment 20%

Paper 1

1.25 hours · 20%

Source-based assessment. Students use the sources to analyse context and perspectives regarding an inquiry question.

Paper 2

1.75 hours · 25%

Thematic study on Authoritarian Rule in Asia and Europe. This paper is comprised of two sections. One section includes short answer questions while the other an extended response.

Paper 3 (HL only)

2 hours · 35%

A regional study of History of Europe (1918-1948). Students answer two evaluative essay using relevant knowledge and evidence.

Internal assessment

20 hours · 20%

Historical investigation on a topic of the student's choice. Formulate an inquiry question, select and analyse historical sources and perspectives, synthesize evidence, and evaluate their findings.

Psychology (HL)

Current course · first exams May 2027

25%
Paper 1

25%
Paper 2

30%
Paper 3 (HL only)

20%
Internal assessment

External exams 80% · internal assessment 20%

Paper 1

1.5 hours · 25%

Integrates concepts, content and contexts: short answers, applying knowledge to unseen situations, and a concept-based extended response.

Paper 2

1.5 hours · 25%

Applies concepts and content to research: four questions on the class practicals, plus evaluating an unseen research study.

Paper 3 (HL only)

1.75 hours · 30%

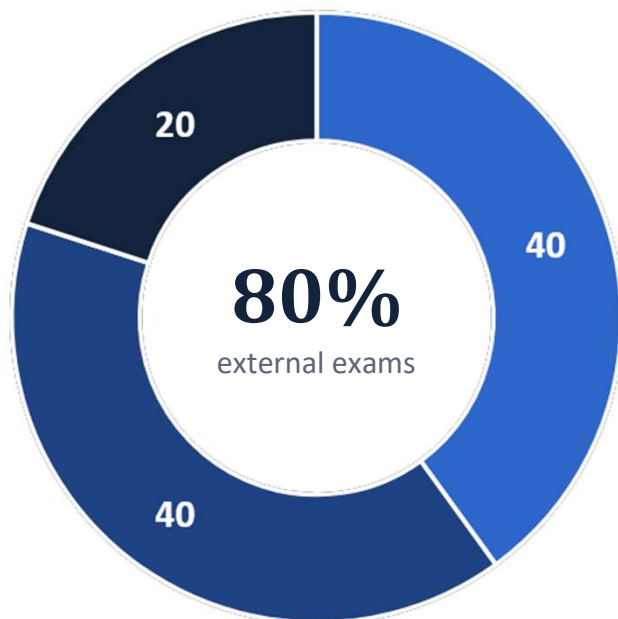
Data analysis and interpretation: source-based questions on research findings from an HL extension (culture, motivation or technology).

Internal assessment

20 hours · 20%

A research proposal using one of the four research methods from the class practicals. Marked by the teacher, moderated by the IB.

Mathematics: Analysis & Approaches (SL)



Paper 1 • 40% • 1.5 hours

Short-response and extended-response questions. Calculators are not permitted.



Paper 2 • 40% • 1.5 hours

Short-response and extended-response questions. A graphic display calculator (GDC) is required.



Internal assessment • 20%

A mathematical exploration: students investigate an area of mathematics that interests them and write it up as a report.

The two papers are written over two days.

Creativity, Activity, Service



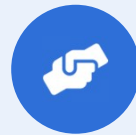
Creativity

Exploring and extending ideas, leading to an original or interpretive product or performance



Activity

Physical exertion contributing to a healthy lifestyle



Service

Collaborative, reciprocal engagement with the community in response to an authentic need

NEED TO KNOW



Starts on the first day of IB Year 1



18 months of consistent engagement in meaningful experiences



Takes place outside academic class time



What students do in CAS



CAS project

With 2+ other students for 1+ month, through all five CAS stages



Reflection

Record their experiential learning on ManageBac at regular intervals



CAS portfolio

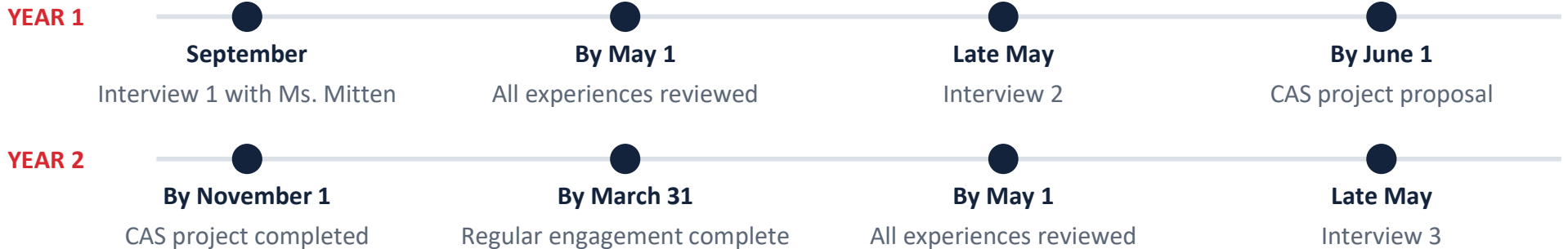
Show the learning outcomes — add photos and video, too



Celebrate

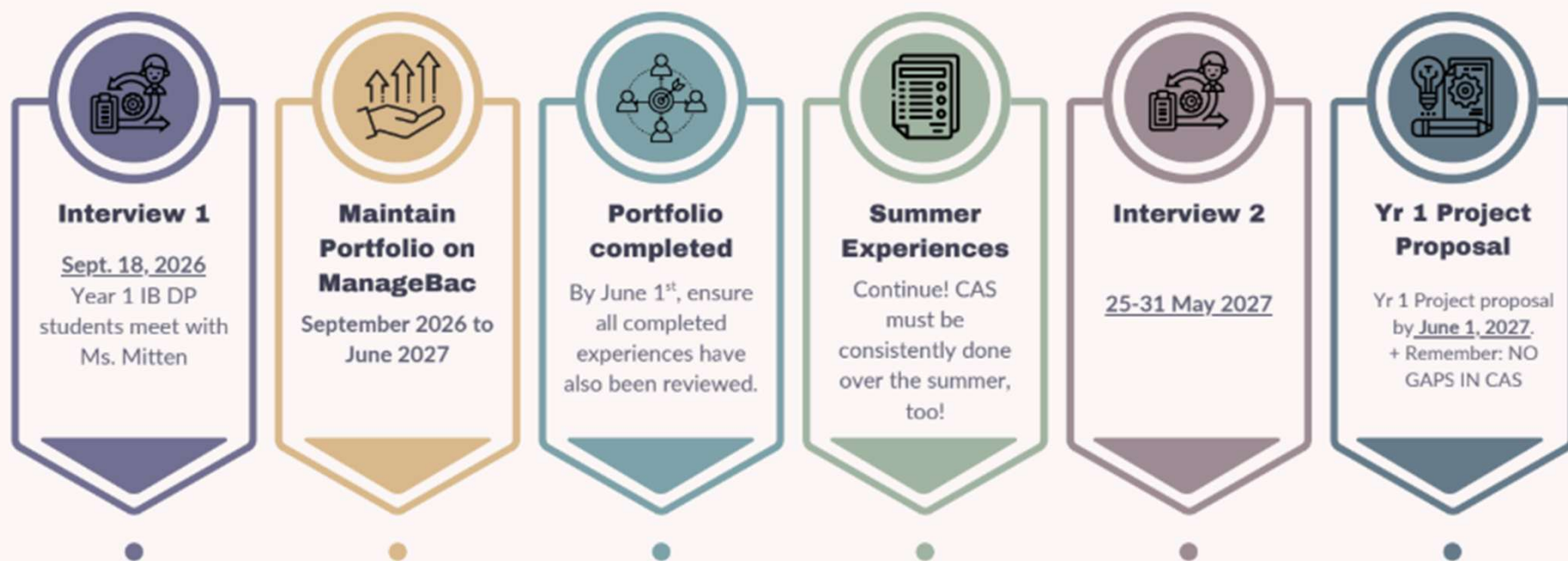
Enjoy and celebrate having made a difference in the world

The two-year CAS journey



YEAR 1 CAS TIMELINES 2026–2027

Your CAS journey is all about YOU as a person, outside of academics. Have fun and contribute. Keep track of important dates by referring to the timeline.



THE CORE

The Extended Essay (EE)

4,000 words

An independent research essay,
externally assessed

~40 hours

of work by the student

3 points

possible toward the Diploma total,
combined with TOK

Student responsibilities



Read the EE Student Handbook, the EE Guide and their subject's details



Meet every date in the handbook, on Google Classroom and on ManageBac



Initiate meetings and work cooperatively with their supervisor



Follow IB and school academic integrity policies



Reflection

Like TOK, the EE builds reflection on how knowledge is produced.

Students reflect on their research in sessions with their supervisor, ending in a short viva voce.

A final 500-word reflective statement on the RPF (in ManageBac) is assessed under criterion E: Reflection.

THE CORE

Theory of Knowledge (TOK)

TOK is about critical thinking — inquiring into the process of knowing, rather than learning a specific body of knowledge.

In Year 1, students learn to build reasoned arguments, paying close attention to interpreting and evaluating evidence.

AREAS OF KNOWLEDGE

The arts

History

Mathematics

Human sciences

Natural sciences

OPTIONAL THEMES

Indigenous societies

Language

Politics

Religion

Technology

CORE THEME
The knower

1/3

of the TOK mark

Exhibition • Year 1

Students explore an IA prompt through three objects with a 950-word commentary, then present to a whole-school audience at PCI's TOK Exhibition Day.

2/3

of the TOK mark

Essay • Year 2

One of six prescribed titles, with support from Group 3 teachers (Psychology or History). Strong essays are analytical, use original real-life examples and weigh different perspectives.

Film (HL)

20%

Comparative study

20%

Textual analysis

25%

Film portfolio (internal)

35%

Collaborative film project

External assessment 75% · internal assessment (film portfolio) 25%

Due Nov 2026

Comparative study

20% · external

A recorded multimedia comparative study of two films (up to 10 minutes), plus sources.

Due Jan 2027

Textual analysis

20% · external

A written analysis of a prescribed film text (up to 1,750 words), plus sources.

Due Jan 2027

Film portfolio

25% · internal

Film-making exercises in three production roles: up to 9 portfolio pages and a 9-minute film reel (3 per role, incl. one completed film), plus sources.

Due Mar 2027

Collaborative film project

35% · external

In a core production team, students plan and create an original film: the film (up to 7 min), a project report (up to 2,000 words) and sources.

IB levels and Ontario grades

From the IB Schools of Ontario (IBSO) Table of Equivalent Grades



Ministry level = Ontario Ministry of Education achievement level (1–4).

University & the OSSD

32

OSSD credits earned by IB students

10–11

of those credits are at the 4U/4M level

Top 6

4U/4M credits (including English and prerequisites) are averaged for Ontario university admissions

University recognition



The IB Diploma is widely recognized by the world's leading universities



Most universities grant transfer credit for HL courses with a level 5 or above



The OUAC application asks whether students are IB Diploma candidates



IB students build the skills, work habits, time management and balance needed to succeed at university



Start exploring now: ouinfo.ca and myblueprint.ca/tdsb

Staying in DP, Switching to Certificate or Leaving IB?

FEBRUARY

Best time to decide

Course selection

This is the **best time to make your course decisions**. Choose carefully based on your goals and future plans. Course availability is based on student demand and staffing. Your February choices help ensure you have access to the courses you need.



AFTER THE DEADLINE

Higher risk

Late in Sem 2 changes

Changing courses after the February deadline can be difficult. Courses may have **limited space**, and some may no longer be available because staffing and timetables are based on February course selections. A late change could affect your **graduation plans or post-secondary pathway**.



END OF AUGUST

Highest risk

Timetables posted

Once timetables are created, **course changes become much more difficult**. There may be no space in the course you want, and changing courses could mean you do not get the courses required for your **university, college, or other post-secondary program**.



Unsure? Talk with your guidance teacher well before the February deadline.

Integrity, AI, Absences & IEPs



Academic integrity

Students follow the IB's academic integrity policy and DP general regulations (on the school website). All work must be authentic, with others' ideas fully acknowledged. Internal deadlines leave time to fix doubtful work.



Artificial intelligence

The IB does not regard work produced by AI tools, even in part, as the student's own. AI-generated text, images or graphs must be clearly identified, credited in the body of the work and referenced in the bibliography.



Planned absences

Any scheduled or planned absence must be discussed in advance with the subject teacher and the IB coordinator. Explained absences are not considered excused absences.



Students with IEPs

To request inclusive access arrangements, submit the current IEP and an official assessment (no older than 3 years on May 2028).

Due: Nov. 1, 2026 - intention for IB exam accommodations

Due: June 1, 2027 - Submit Medical/Psychological doc.

BEFORE YOU GO

What parents need to remember

IB Diploma Programme · Year 1



CAS starts now

18 months of consistent engagement outside class time, with regular reflections on ManageBac. No gaps.



Every part of the Diploma counts

Students need at least 24 points, plus the full Core: the Extended Essay, TOK and CAS.



Course decisions happen in February

Changes after the deadline, and especially after timetables are posted in August, can put university plans at risk.



Deadlines and integrity matter

Internal deadlines keep big tasks on track. Work must be the student's own; AI-generated content must be cited.



Stay connected

Check ManageBac, the school website and the TDSB Connects app, and email teachers at firstname.lastname@tdsb.on.ca.



Questions?

Thank you for joining us tonight.

STUDENT RESOURCES

-  ManageBac
-  Google Classroom / Brightspace
-  Agenda app
-  Parkdale Virtual Library
-  JSTOR
-  ibo.org



STAY INFORMED

-  **School website**
schoolweb.tdsb.on.ca/parkdale
-  **ManageBac**
managebac.com
-  **TDSB Connects app**
-  **Teachers' TDSB email**
firstname.lastname@tdsb.on.ca

Check the school website often for updates and information.