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## IB LINK | FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

During the IB Link online parent information session, we had many questions regarding the IB Link and DP programme. We have condensed these questions and answers into a FAQ sheet below.

### IB LINK (YEAR 10):

#### How many students do you accept as part of the IB link program?

There is no set limit as to how many students we accept into the IB Link program, however, it can be dependent on how many spaces we have available in our Year 10 level.

#### Year 7 didn't have NAPLAN tests two years ago due to COVID; is this exempted from the application this year?

Yes, we do not require Year 7 NAPLAN test results for the 2022 admission, however, we do need their Year 9 results.

#### Does School Zone apply for this admission process?

The IB Link program is an exclusive partnership between Werribee Secondary College and Alamanda P-9 College, for students choosing the IB DP as their senior curriculum pathway. We have been granted a zoning exemption from the Department of Education to facilitate this partnership.

#### Could you please confirm that there is no Edutest this year?

Yes, there is no need for an Edutest. We will determine IB Link admissions based on Years 8 and 9 school reports, Year 9 NAPLAN results, the application form responses and a face-to-face interview.

#### Once we are admitted in the programme, can we no longer switch to VCE?

Yes, the IB Link program is exclusively for students wishing to undertake the IB Pathway. Placement in the IB Diploma Program is locked in. The Year 10 IB Link Program facilitates an IB- specific transition program into the IB DP. Students cannot transfer into the VCE if they have come from Alamanda.

#### We were overseas last year and joined Alamanda in Term 4; what other documents can I submit?

Please submit your school reports from your previous school, whether here in Australia or overseas.

#### Is any written response required as part of the application?

Yes, your child will need to write a 250-word written response to the prompt on the application form.

#### Does our NAPLAN result have a large impact on our admission? If we perform poorly, will that decrease the chances of our admission?

The NAPLAN results are one component of the application process. We get a holistic view of each child who applies by considering school reports, application responses, and in-person interviews. The NAPLAN result provides a perspective of suitability for a university pathway and is considered in conjunction with the strength in the application and interview.

#### So, in year 10, IB students still do the Victorian curriculum until they begin the IB DP in Year 11?

Yes, that is correct. Our IB Link curriculum is still the Victorian Curriculum (this is mandated), however, our pedagogical approaches and assessment are more in line with the IB DP programme.

## **IBDP (YEARS 11 & 12):**

**In terms of IB Maths Analysis and Approaches SL that you offer in the IBDP program, which VCE Maths is it equivalent to?**

IB Analysis and Approaches is closest to a Maths Methods course. There are a variety of IB courses that we have offered in the past, and there is some flexibility in what we can offer in any given year depending on the needs of the students and prerequisite requirements.

**Is IB Diploma ATAR different to VCE ATAR ?**

IBDP students receive a score out of 45 at the end of year 12. Their score is converted to an ATAR using a conversion scale provided by VTAC. This can be easily found online.

**Will a difference between an IB certificate and a VCE certificate affect our university of choice?**

Absolutely not. IB students are not prejudiced against at all during the VTAC university application process. In many cases, universities look more favourably upon IBDP graduates, because they know they have undertaken a rigorous and holistic program. An IB Diploma will also make it very easy to apply to universities overseas, as it is a globally recognised certificate. In some cases, universities will also grant credit for IB subjects.

**Do you intend to introduce new subjects to IBDP? Ex; Legal studies?**

We continually refine and tweak our subject offerings, based on our cohort's interests and teacher expertise. In 2022, we introduced Environmental Systems and Societies, and in 2023 we will be introducing Business Management. Legal Studies is not currently an IB course.

**Can you share median score of IB Diploma students from your school or is the info available on site?**

This information is available online on MySchool.

**Can we choose not to take a subject in group 6 or must we absolutely have one from that group?**

You can choose to not do a Group 6 subject and instead do two sciences (we offer Chemistry in the same block as Art). Some students in the past have chosen to do two Group 3 subjects instead of a Group 6, however, this does involve an extra cost to the family, as students would study it online through Pamoja.

**Where can we read more information about the IB?**

There is plenty of material online, but a good place to start is the IBO website itself: <https://ibo.org/>

**For VCE students taking advanced maths and then sitting the VCE exams in year 11, can we do that with the IB program?**

No, unlike the VCE, IBDP students cannot accelerate their studies. This means that all IBDP subjects run for the full two years and exams are taken at the end of Year 12. Unlike the VCE, there is no benefit to finishing courses early, as DP students cannot do more than 6 subject

