

IB Admissions, Inclusion, and Progression Policy



BEARDEN MIDDLE SCHOOL & WEST HIGH SCHOOL

International Baccalaureate
Middle Years Program Partnership
Career-Related Program (WHS)
Diploma Program (WHS)

Revised: 09/2022

Bearden Middle School and West High School share a combined mission: IB for All.

Admission to International Baccalaureate (IB) Programs

Both Bearden Middle School (BMS) and West High School (WHS) are public schools within the Knox County Schools system. Any student who lives within each school's zone becomes a part of the IB Middle Years Program (MYP) beginning with 6th grade at BMS through completion of the 10th grade at WHS. After completing the MYP, students are encouraged to register for KCS College Preparatory (CP), Honors, Advanced Placement (AP), and IB courses as they choose, based on their individual needs, interests, and goals.

In addition to the state of Tennessee/Knox County Schools' College Preparatory (CP) programs and courses, West High School offers three additional IB course options: IB course certificates, the IB Career-Related certificate, and the IB Diploma. Equal access to all IB program options are available to every student. Students who live outside the West High School zone, or those who attend private schools, may apply for a full-time transfer to West High School to pursue an IB education upon qualification through an IB screening exam.

Inclusion: IB for ALL

The IB programs at Bearden Middle and West High School fully support the mission of the Knox County Special Education and Student Support Services Departments. Our schools provide quality individualized and differentiated support for the whole child by identifying needs, fostering positive relationships with all stakeholders, and teaching real-world skills, so each student can grow to be an impactful global citizen.

At West High School, direct and consultative special education supports are provided for students with a documented need for additional services, and ELL-specific math classes exist for our English Language Learners with significant instructional gaps. Additionally, students with documented need are enrolled in Pre-Vocational Skills and Study Skills classes to build academic soft skills. These courses help students to increase self-advocacy and agency across core classes. Additional language and academic intervention support is built into West's Advisory time for students who have documented needs. Community Work-Based-Learning opportunities are encouraged for our special education students, enabling community experiences and connections for all students.

Finally, our Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS) Rewards System is designed to recognize and reward all students for their efforts in exemplifying the IB Learner Profile Attributes. For those who require behavioral interventions, our Restorative Learning Center (RLC) is a place for additional support. In RLC, students are provided individualized support and instruction toward and individually intentional reflection on their actions and to foster positive personal growth both inside and outside the classroom. Our school-wide behavior programs support our school's commitment to continuously model and reinforce positive global citizenship for every individual.

At Bearden Middle School, there are special education services for students with documented learning needs and English Language Learning classes. Similar to West, rewards are given to students who exemplify the traits of the Learner Profile and there is an RLC system.

Progression through IB at West High School

Middle Years Program (MYP)

As the IB MYP is a 5-year program, progression through all years of that program is non-optional for students who are zoned for BMS and/or WHS. Students who transfer to WHS from a non-MYP middle school are not penalized for non-participation in the first three years of the MYP.

IB Career-Related Program (IB CP)

The IB CP focuses on a Career and Technical Education (CTE) pathway endorsed by the Tennessee Department of Education and offered at WHS. Along with the CTE pathway courses, which IB CP students must pursue for all four years of their high school experience at West (9th - 12th), these students must meet IB CP Core requirements and IB content coursework. IB CP students cannot progress to the next year of the CTE pathway or through the IB CP with less than satisfactory scores/final averages in each of those same courses. The IB content coursework chosen should be relative to students' intended pathway.

Table I: IB CP Pathway Options (2022-2023)

Student Year	STEM Pathway		Human Sciences Pathway	
	<u>Coding</u>	<u>Engineering</u>	<u>Nutrition & Dietetics</u>	<u>Nursing</u>
9th	Computer Science Foundations	Principles of Engineering	Intro. to Human Studies	Health Science
10th	Coding 1	Engineering Design 1	Nutrition Across the Lifespan	Medical Therapeutics
11th	Coding 2	Engineering Design 2	Nutrition Science	Anatomy & Physiology
12th	Coding Practicum	Engineering Practicum	Human Services Practicum	Nursing Education

IB Diploma Program (IB DP)

The IB DP offers a broad and comprehensive approach to college preparatory and/or collegiate-level coursework during the final two years of the high school experience (11th - 12th grade). Students interested in pursuing the IB DP follow a minimum of six IB DP courses, each from a specific content “group” along with IB DP Core requirements. IB DP students cannot progress to the second year of any IB DP course with less than satisfactory scores/final averages in that course. As the IBO requires a mix of Standard and Higher level courses, no student will be allowed to take more than four Higher Level IB DP courses.

Course Planning and Counseling/Guidance

Every effort is made to provide students with college and career preparation and guidance through our Student Services office. College and Career Counselors, Guidance Counselors, and the IB Coordinator work in conjunction with students and parents to craft an individualized, student-centered, program to meet the needs of each IB CP/DP student.

Students and families are encouraged to speak to IB content teachers, Counseling/Guidance staff, and the IB Coordinator regarding the rigor of IB coursework and program options. Once a plan and schedule has been designed, implemented, and begun, a student's schedule may not be changed after the second full week of school in August of the new academic year. An IB CP or DP student may choose not to pursue the second year of that program at the end of their 11th grade year. IB DP students who do not continue with year two will not be enrolled in the Theory of Knowledge course.

Table 2: IB Course and Program Options Compared

<u>IB Certificate Course(s)</u>	<u>Career-Related Programme</u>	<u>Diploma Programme</u>
Any IB course (or combination of courses)	2 IB courses: (1 must span two years)	6 IB courses: 3 SL + 3 HL
One-year or two-year courses	Personal and Professional Skills (class) Junior and Senior year	Theory of Knowledge (TOK) (class) Junior and Senior year
Complete the necessary coursework	Reflective Project 3,000 words on ethical dilemma in career	Extended Essay (EE) 3,000 - 4,000 words (student choice)
"Sit for" all the IB exams for that course (Internal & External Exams)	Service Learning 50 hours Community service related to career	Creativity, Action, Service (CAS) 7 learning outcomes over 2 years
Earn +.5 quality points to your WHS course grade	Language Development Portfolio Must take world language junior year	IB Language B: Acquisition (French or Spanish)
If you earn a passing score on the IB exam, you <u>may be able to</u> earn college credit for that course. Check the college/university website.	Career-related Studies/CTE Pathway (9-12), work-based learning senior year, industry certification/capstone attempt Current Pathways: Coding, Engineering, Health Science, Nutrition and Dietetics Must begin in 9th grade	Diploma Candidates: * minimum of 24 points (average of 4 out of 7) on 6 subject exams: - 12 pts HL - 9 pts SL - 3 pts (CAS, EE, TOK)

Table 3: IB Course Options

<u>Group 1</u> Language & Literature (Language A)	<u>Group 2</u> Language Acquisition (Language B)	<u>Group 3</u> Individuals & Societies	<u>Group 4</u> Experimental Sciences	<u>Group 5</u> Mathematics	<u>Group 6</u> The Arts
Literature SL*	French SL & HL	Global Politics † SL & HL	Biology HL	Math: Applications and Interpretations SL & HL	Theatre † SL
Literature HL*	German SL & HL	History of Europe † SL & HL	Chemistry HL	Math: Analysis and Approaches HL	Visual Arts SL & HL
	Spanish SL & HL	Psychology † SL	Physics HL		
	**Ab initio (SL)	World Religions † SL	Environmental Systems & Societies SL		
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*SL (Standard Level) courses require a minimum of 150 contact hours. HL (Higher Level) courses require a minimum of 240 contact hours.

** Group 2 / Language B: an additional SL course called "Ab initio" may be offered to students who transfer into the DP programme with little to no prior contact with the new language; it is a two-year course. In this unique situation, the course may be offered, on a case by case basis, to students interested in pursuing the IB DP, with appropriate teacher/coordinator approval.

† Global Politics SL (only), History SL (only), Psychology SL, World Religions SL, and Theatre SL are all one-year courses that test at the end of that course.