



Buskerud fylkeskommune

Kongsberg videregående skole in cooperation with Kongsberg International School



Kongsberg videregående skole International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme

What is the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme?

The IB Diploma Programme is an internationally recognized and accepted university qualification programme. It was founded in Geneva, Switzerland, in 1968, and for the last 40 years has provided a comprehensive and rigorous education based on the aims of the International Baccalaureate Organization to hundreds of thousands of students worldwide. Currently, there are over 600,000 IB students enrolled in 2,400 schools in more than 130 countries. They choose the IB diploma because of the depth and breadth of the subject matter studied, and for the special components that make the IB and its graduates stand out to universities around the world.



Through the Diploma Programme's rigorous college preparatory curriculum and its focus on inquiry and international-mindedness, IBO strives to implement the aims of its mission statement:

to develop inquiring, knowledgeable and caring young people who help to create a better and more peaceful world through intercultural understanding and respect.
(ibo.org)

When you take on the challenge of being an IB Diploma student, you join thousands of students across the globe who are part of something bigger than a nation's boundaries, students who are asking more of themselves as learners and as citizens of a global community.

What current IB students have to say about the programme:

“IB prepares you for further education abroad and gives you a greater cultural understanding.”

“I joined IB because here I know I will have teachers with world-wide experience and a good supporting team around me.”

“The IB line is creative, fun, and the students get very close and work well together. It’s an interesting road to take.”

“Awesome class environment + good teachers + big amount of work = IB programme!”

“A weekday without IB is a day filled with darkness and unanswered questions.” ☺

“I chose IB because I like English and wanted to learn it better. We have fun subjects like CAS. We go for little trips (bowling, rafting) with the whole class and are social as a class.”

Why Choose the IB Diploma Programme?

- The teaching is organised in smaller groups allowing for more contact between teachers and students and more in-depth study of each subject
- Students’ progress is closely monitored, and there are regular counselling sessions with the IB coordinator to help keep students on the path to gaining their diploma.
- The DP provides a firm foundation for further studies at national and international universities and colleges.
- The IB Diploma is highly regarded at universities abroad, and some universities also give preference and advanced standing to students with the IB Diploma.
- The DP is suitable for students who have been in international schools.
- The DP meets the demand for increasing geographical and cultural mobility.
- A common mission statement at all IB world schools promotes international understanding and respect.



The Core Components: EE, TOK, and CAS

What makes IB special are the core requirements of the program, which are designed to give students the opportunity to explore their thinking, their passions, and their world.

An **Extended Essay** project allows for in-depth research on a topic of the student's choice; it also provides excellent training for the work that will be expected of them in university.

Theory of Knowledge (TOK) In this course, students practice their critical reading, writing, and discussion skills. They examine what it means to make the claim that we "know" something in a subject. We explore the issues and responsibilities that knowledge, and the search for knowledge, can create.

Creativity, Action, and Service (CAS) plays an important role in helping students fulfill the **Learner Profile**. Students explore their interests artistically, through sports and physical activity, and as active members of their local and global communities through volunteering their time and talents to help others.

The IB Curriculum

- Students take six courses chosen from the six subject groups that IB offers.
- Students decide which three will be pursued at the Higher Level (240 hours), and which three at the Standard Level (150 hours); This allows students to spend more time studying those subjects that interest them most, while still gaining a solid base in other subjects.
- Students also take a Theory of Knowledge (TOK) course, complete an Extended Essay (EE), and participate in Creativity, Action, and Service (CAS).

IB Subject Courses at KOVS

1.	Language A1	Norwegian A1 SL/HL
		Language A1 self-study SL
2.	Language A2, B (Second languages)	English A2 SL/HL
		Spanish ab initio SL
3.	Individuals and Societies	History SL/HL
		Economics SL/HL
4.	Experimental Sciences	Biology SL/HL
		Chemistry SL/HL
		Physics SL/HL
5.	Mathematics	Mathematics SL
		Math Studies SL
6.	Electives	Another course from groups 2,3,4

Internationalism through the IBDP

As an integral part of our international approach, we have exchange programmes for students. In the second year of the Diploma Programme, students travel to the Czech Republic as part of a well-established exchange programme in the sciences. In the first year of the programme, students host the Czech students during their trip to Norway. We will also have a partnership with an orphanage in South Africa, and students are welcome to join in a service learning trip to the orphanage during the February break of their second year in the programme.

Applying to the IB Diploma Programme

Application date: 1. MARCH 2010

In order to apply to the IBDP at Kongsberg videregående skole, you will need to do the following:

- Email a copy of your current grades to the IB coordinator (from the first semester of VG1 or an equivalent)
- Read the student handbook to make sure you understand the course structure before you make your course selections (link on main page)
- Fill out and email the student course survey, making sure you have selected at least **3 courses at HL** and **3 courses at SL** (link on the main page)
- Read the "KOVVS IBDP information/contract sheet" to be sure you have understood the attendance and grading policies of the programme (link on main page; you will bring a signed copy of this document to the first day of classes in August)
- Go to the inntakskontor website (www.vigo.no) and choose "Buskerud" then "studiespesialisering" and there you will find "International Baccalaureate" as your course of study.

Information about the IB Diploma Programme

You can get more information about the IB Diploma Programme by contacting: IB-Coordinator, Anne Fretheim: anne.fretheim@skole.bfk.no

Kongsberg videregående skole
Telephone: +47 32867600
E-post: kovs@skole.bfk.no
Homepage: <http://www.kongsberg.vgs.no/>