International Baccalaureate
Middle Years Programme in AACPS

FAQs: Teaching & Learning

Which grade levels offer the IB Middle Years Programme (IB MYP)?
The IB MYP spans grades 6-10, the three years of middle school and the first two years of high school.

Do all students at an IB MYP school participate in the program?
Yes, the IB MYP is an inclusive, whole-school program. All students attending the IB MYP World School are IB students and receive IB MYP instruction.

Is there an opportunity in AACPS for students to continue their IB education after grade 10?
AACPS offers the IB Diploma Programme to students in grades 11 and 12. Visit aacps.org/magnet to learn about the IB MYP and IB DP high school programs.

Is the IB MYP curriculum different from the AACPS curriculum?
The IB MYP is a framework designed to align with local and national standards. Teachers in IB MYP schools in AACPS use the Common Core, Next Generation Science, and Maryland Content Standards from the AACPS curriculum in order to develop concept-based units of study. Project Based Learning, STEM, and Arts Integration are incorporated within the IB MYP units. IB MYP students attend eight subject areas: Language and Literature (English), Individuals and Societies (Social Studies), Sciences, Mathematics, Language Acquisition, (World Language, see below), Health and Physical Education, Design (Design Technology, Digital Palette, FACS), and the Arts.

Which languages are offered at IB MYP schools?
Each IB MYP school offers students instruction in a selection of second language: Arabic, Italian, French, German, Mandarin Chinese, or Spanish. Please visit the schools’ websites through www.aacps.org to see which languages are offered in the IB World Schools at AACPS.

How are students assessed?
In middle school, courses are only leveled for learning based on skill ability in Language and Literature and Mathematics. In high school, students attend courses based on graduation requirements, interest and skill development.

How are students grouped in an IB MYP school?
Students take the AACPS quarterly assessments each marking period. In Language and Literature and Individuals and Societies, the quarters are based on the MYP units of study. Teachers use assessments to plan for instruction and determine student growth. Summative assessments are authentic, rigorous, and multi-modal. Teachers assess student work based on published IB criteria of assessment (rubrics).

Is there a culminating project at the end of the IB MYP?
In Grade 8, students participate in the Community Project. This culminating project requires students to use the skills they have developed throughout the program to research an area of interest that is also an area of need in their local or global community.

In Grade 10, students engage in the Personal Project which is a significant student-directed inquiry produced over an extended period. The Personal Project provides an excellent opportunity for students to produce a truly personal and creative work of their choice and to demonstrate the skills they have developed. It is a commitment to developing independent, lifelong learners who recognize their interests and their passion in life.

Benefits to the Community

Student-centered approach develops a positive attitude toward learning * Empowers students to contribute to the community * Students develop skills for future success in a complex world * Teachers receive ongoing Professional Development and network of support * Promotes local and global awareness * Addresses holistically students’ intellectual, social, emotional and physical well-being
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WE ARE....

The future innovators
The future local and global business owners
The future diplomats
The future Doctors Without Borders
The future environmentalists
The future artists
The future educators
The future inventors
The future musicians and dancers
The citizens of the future

WE ARE IB!

**MYP Overview**
The Middle Years Programme is designed for all students in 6th to 10th Grade. Continues to develop the Learner Profile while focusing on these Global Contexts:
- Identities and relationships
- Orientation in time and space
- Personal and cultural expression
- Scientific and technical innovation
- Globalization and sustainability
- Fairness and development

Fundamental concepts include Intercultural Awareness, Holistic Learning and Communication.

Subjects taught:
- Language and Literature—English
- Language Acquisition—Chinese, French, Spanish
- Mathematics
- Physical Education and Health
- Individuals and Societies—Social Studies
- Sciences
- Arts—Visual and Performing
- Design

Additional requirements include:
- Community Service—Grades 6—10
- Personal Project—Grade 10

**IB Mission**
The International Baccalaureate aims to develop inquiring, knowledgeable and caring young people who help to create a better and more peaceful world through intercultural understanding and respect.

To this end the organization works with schools, governments and international organizations to develop challenging programs of international education and rigorous assessment.

These programs encourage students across the world to become active, compassionate and life-long learners who understand that other people, with their differences, can also be right.

**AACPS Mission**
It is the mission of Anne Arundel County Public Schools to educate students to the highest standards and to eliminate the achievement gaps among all student groups. We will do this by:
- Holding high expectations for all students
- Building positive relationships with all students
- Creating, delivering and monitoring a relevant curriculum
- Providing appropriate academic and social development support
- Holding ourselves accountable for the success of all students
- Maintaining a safe and supportive learning environment
- Supporting a quality workforce

**Teaching and learning in all IB Programmes**
Based on Inquiry * Focused on developing conceptual understanding * Developed in local and global contexts * Focused on effective teamwork and collaboration * Differentiated for the needs of all learners * Informed by assessment (formative and summative)