

# Admissions policy

Platon School

## THE IB LEARNER PROFILE

*Pages from the IB learner profile booklet*

The aim of all IB programmes is to develop internationally minded people who, recognizing their common humanity and shared guardianship of the planet, help to create a better and more peaceful world.

IB learners strive to be:

<b>Inquirers</b>	We develop our natural curiosity. We acquire the skills necessary to conduct inquiry and research and show independence in learning. We actively enjoy learning and this love of learning will be sustained throughout our lives.
<b>Knowledgeable</b>	We explore concepts, ideas and issues that have local and global significance. In so doing, we acquire in-depth knowledge and develop understanding across a broad and balanced range of disciplines.
<b>Thinkers</b>	We exercise initiative in applying thinking skills critically and creatively to recognize and approach complex problems, and make reasoned, ethical decisions.
<b>Communicators</b>	We understand and express ideas and information confidently and creatively in more than one language and in a variety of modes of communication. We work effectively and willingly in collaboration with others.
<b>Principled</b>	We act with integrity and honesty, with a strong sense of fairness, justice and respect for the dignity of the individual, groups and communities. We take responsibility for our own actions and the consequences that accompany them.
<b>Open-minded</b>	We understand and appreciate our own cultures and personal histories, and are open to the perspectives, values and traditions of other individuals and communities. We are accustomed to seeking and evaluating a range of points of view, and are willing to grow from the experience.

<b>Caring</b>	We show empathy, compassion and respect towards the needs and feelings of others. We have a personal commitment to service, and act to make a positive difference to the lives of others and to the environment.
<b>Risk-takers</b>	We approach unfamiliar situations and uncertainty with courage and forethought, and have the independence of spirit to explore new roles, ideas and strategies. We are brave and articulate in defending our beliefs.
<b>Balanced</b>	We understand the importance of intellectual, physical and emotional balance to achieve personal well-being for ourselves and others.
<b>Reflective</b>	We give thoughtful consideration to our own learning and experience. We are able to assess and understand our strengths and limitations in order to support our learning and personal development.

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## 1. Platon School Mission Statement

Platon School's mission is to support students' academic journey from childhood to adolescence in a safe and nurturing environment augmented by modern technologies, designed to accommodate different learning styles. Our goal is to cultivate international mindedness and a sense of global citizenship by building national and international curricula in a truly bilingual environment, which fosters academic autonomy, intellectual diversity, experimentation and technological advancements. We aspire to cultivate in our students the traits of inquiring life-long learners who not only seek to define themselves, but also pursue their dreams guided by values; our goal is to nurture knowledgeable individuals who are caring and balanced, and whose goal is not only to experience personal success but also strive to help to create a better world.

## 2. Rationale

Platon World School welcomes all students regardless of gender, nationality, religious beliefs, physical, mental and learning differences. However, it is important that candidate students fulfil the admissions criteria which will reflect their capacity to successfully complete a challenging curriculum as the IB Diploma Programme as, not fulfilling the requirements to attain an IB Diploma would result in the student not receiving a High School Certificate.

Prospective students applying to Platon IB diploma should demonstrate elements of the IB learner profile. These features are assessed during an interview with the heads of the Diploma Departments and the DP Coordinator. Prospective students should demonstrate a sense of international mindedness and they should be aware of the basic philosophy of the IB Diploma programme. A sense of independence and career planning is mostly welcomed and will be assessed towards the final decision.

Applications will not be considered if students have been associated with any of the following:

- (a) Academic Honesty malpractice
- (b) Serious disciplinary misconduct
- (c) Substance abuse

### 3. Admission process

#### 3a. Application and interviews

1. Applications open in March of every academic year, as announced on the school's website. The Application Form is available from the school's website and as a hard copy in the Department office.
  - Prospective students are expected to complete the form and submit it, signed by both the student and their parent/guardian, along with the following documentation (all relevant documents will be held in strict confidentiality and will be returned to the student after the end of the application process):
    - A photocopy of the applicant's **identity card** and/or **passport**
    - A recent passport size **photo** of the applicant
    - Transcripts from previous academic years (grade 9 and grade 10)
    - Certificate of equivalency with the Greek grade 10 (issued by the Office of Secondary Education)
    - Language certificates pertaining to the English Language aptitude
    - Special Educational needs certificate (where applicable)
    - Additional documentation reflecting students' profile are welcomed
      - **Language certificates, achievement awards, evidence of community service and recommendation letters**
      - **Art portfolios** following instructions by the Visual Arts teacher (only for candidates interested in Visual Arts)

2. The applications are sort-listed by the Department's administration
  - Any students not meeting the legal requirements (age, completed level of studies) will not be considered for admission and will be informed by the administration in writing
3. Prospective students have an initial interview with the coordinator and the Heads of Departments before the entry exams, to assess whether their student profile is suitable for the DP and its demands. During the interview, students should:
  - Demonstrate elements of the IB learner profile
  - Discuss their future course of studies
  - Express their own opinion and develop a balanced argument on a prompt given by the Coordinator on a global issue.

### 3b. Entry exams

After successfully completing the interview(s) and submitting the necessary documentation, prospective students will be invited to participate in the DP entry exams, on April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023.

The entry exams:

- Are ***compulsory for all students***
- Must be ***taken at school***
- Will cover the subjects of:
  - ***English*** Language (the expected language level is at least B2)
  - ***Maths***
  - Brief exams in ***Sciences*** and ***Humanities*** to assess existing level of knowledge

Each exam is graded on a scale of 1 to 100. Failure to pass one of the four entry exams English, Maths, Sciences, Humanities, that is, receiving a score of less than 45%, means that the student has failed the exam and cannot be considered for admission to the Diploma.

Students that have an average of more than 45% in three exams but have failed to receive a 45% score in any ***one*** of them may be considered for admission after consultation with the family and the administration of the school.

- Upon completion of entry exams, the DP Coordinator and the Heads of Departments reach a final decision on the candidates admitted for the next academic year.
- Final decisions regarding applicants are communicated to the School's High School principal and the administration for final approval.
- The Diploma Coordinator forwards a formal letter of acceptance either by post or email.
- The applicants' place in the school is only secured when the contract has been signed and a deposit has been made to the School's Finance Office. With the former process complete, an additional interview with parents/guardians and applicants is conducted, to finalise students' specific subject choices.
- Policy for late comers: A second round of interviews and exams will take place before school closure, at the end of June 2023. No new applications will be accepted after that.



## Revising the Admissions Policy

This document was first developed in 2010 during the school's authorization. This is the fourth detailed revision of the Admissions Policy of the Department. It is the intention of the leadership team to effectively revise the policy in order to align with the IB requirements.

The group responsible for this revision is:

- a. Dr. Miltiadis-Spyridon Kitsos, IB Diploma Coordinator
- b. Dr. Theodore Chiotis, University Councillor
- c. Dr. Athena Makra
- d. Mrs. Vassia Papadopoulou, Director of studies
- e. Heads of the IB Diploma Departments.