



# International Baccalaureate Diploma programme at the Riga State Gymnasium No. 1



“The International Baccalaureate® (IB) Diploma Programme (DP) is an assessed programme for students aged 16 to 19. **It is respected by leading universities across the globe.**”

(International Baccalaureate, 2019, [www.ibo.org](http://www.ibo.org),  
excerpts used throughout)

The Riga State Gymnasium No.1 offers students the opportunity to join the IB DP, offered by the non-profit International Baccalaureate foundation, as an opportunity to:

- Focus on and study your chosen subjects in both extended breadth and depth compared to the national curriculum
- Develop your affective and reflective skills
- Use a pathway with clear requirements to your chosen university

To enter the IB DP (language of instruction: English), you must have passed the school entrance examination and English requirements test. The school offers preparatory courses to both own and outside students.

## The IB DP curriculum

The curriculum consists of **three core elements**: Theory of knowledge (epistemology), where students reflect on the nature of knowledge and on how we know what we claim to know Extended essay, an independent, self-directed piece of research Creativity, activity, service, in which students complete a project related to those three concepts and **six subject groups**:

- Studies in language and literature,
- Language acquisition,
- Individuals and societies,
- Sciences,
- Mathematics
- The arts.

Students may opt to study an additional sciences, individuals and societies, or languages course, instead of an arts course. Students will take some subjects at higher level (HL) and some at standard level (SL), which differ in scope but use the same grading system.

### **Our requirements for IB DP students:**

- Be ready for English as your language of instruction
- Work and plan your schedule independently, but with support by the school
- Take Latvian as a Higher level subject
- Fulfill all requirements of the national curriculum

### **We provide:**

- An introductory study year where you will interact with graduates and current IB students and your future IB DP teachers
- The following IB DP subjects are available:
  - English and Latvian as the 1<sup>st</sup> language
  - German, French, Russian
  - Economics, Geography, History
  - Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Computer Science
  - Mathematics: Analysis and Approaches
  - Film
- Excellent facilities, support and rigorous requirements

### **Assessment in the IB DP**

The IB assesses students **against set standards**, not by each student's position in the overall rank order.

The IB assesses advanced academic skills, e.g.:

- analyzing and presenting information
- evaluating and constructing arguments
- solving problems creatively.

But also, absolutely requires basic skills such as:

- retaining knowledge
- understanding key concepts
- applying standard methods.

The IB uses both external and internal assessment. Internal assessment may provide up to 40% of your grade, is performed by the teacher and moderated externally, and you perform this work independently, planning your time on your own.

External assessment is used to prove objectivity and may consist of

- essays
- structured problems
- short-response questions
- data/text-response/case-study questions
- multiple-choice questions