

Specialist Schools
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THE SCHOOLS NETWORK™

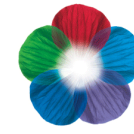
Growing the I.B. Diploma

IBSCA Spring Conference, 18th March, 2011

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Specialist Schools and Academies Trust

Dartford Grammar School



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A is for....



IBSCA/SSAT/IB Conference on 10th Feb

'Embedding the I.B. Diploma'

Conference focused on key challenges:

- 100 UK state schools, colleges and academies with less than 20 students on the IB Diploma
- 38 independent schools <20
- [Funding challenge]
 - Government
 - I.B.
- But this the reality we have to deal with.

Get on with it!



Dartford Grammar School: Context

- Kent selection: top 25%; serves local community
- Boys 11-18; mixed 16-18
- >100 feeder primary schools
- 1210 students, 170 girls
- 64% white British
- 9% ESL
- Wide socio-economic profile
- 3 specialisms
- Schools offers a 7 year IB curriculum



Dartford Grammar School: Context

The growth of the I.B.

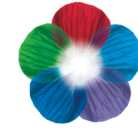
DP first offered in 1996 – 13 students
(from 150)

Examinations in:

1998	13 students
1999	25 students
2000	33 students
2001	70 students (year group 230)
2003	'Tipping Point'
2005	135 (out of 220)
2009	175 (out of 210)
2010	200 (out of 220)
2011	First 100% IB Cohort. MYP.

[2013 Anticipate 260 students]





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Growing the DP: An Overview

7 steps.....

1. Leadership
2. It's all about the students...
3. Post-16
4. Budget/costs
5. Course Offer
6. Marketing
7. Get the ethos right

1. Leadership

- Has to be driven by the Head Teacher
- IB Coordinator must be on SMT (AHT post)
- Heads of Department must be engaged
- Effective (and enthusiastic) Head of Sixth Form



2. It's all about the students...

Ensure students are:

i. Successful

- a. Select IB teachers carefully
- b. Student subject choices
- c. Look at things from a students' perspective

ii. "Stress-free": Enjoy their IB experience

- trips • visits • CAS • ToK • EE
- Make sure it's something students want to be a part of



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Enjoying the I.B.!

- Extended Essay Week
- CAS – opening up creative arts options
- Trips to India, China, Japan, Czech
- Challenge of Management Conference
- Young Enterprise
- VSU
- Charity fundraising, campaigning etc.
- Student leadership – committees, etc.
- Working with other students, other schools, wider community
- D. of E.
- Leadership Development programme
- Theatre Club, Film Club, Debating society,
- Prom, yearbook etc.
- Christmas, St Patrick's Day lunches...!



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Post-16

- It's just about raising standards...!
- Effective form tutors (training needs?)
- Tracking and monitoring
- Motivation & intervention
- Attendance and punctuality
- UCAS advice

These are general issues to get right – not specific to IB!

Post-16

- For students to be academically successful, what are the skills they need to develop lower down the school?
 - Time-management
 - Extended essay-related skills
 - Independent study
 - Feeling of 'can-do' in Maths & languages, regardless of ability
- Start developing the 'I.B.-success' skills in students from Year 7 onwards

Funding/Costs

- If you believe in the IB, this shouldn't be an insurmountable problem!
- 5 year plan
- Development
- Staff Training (IB workshops)
- Marketing
- Class sizes – minimum/maximum
- Be cost effective – where can you reduce staff workload?
- Look at what other schools do





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Course Offer

- Balance appeal & idealism v. pragmatism
- 147 subjects + languages!
- What subjects will draw students into IB?
Philosophy? Film?
- What will students need to prepare them for university?
- Where do your students typically go?



Course Offer

Years 1 & 2 (16 subjects)

1	2	3	4	5	6
English	French	History	Chemistry	Maths HL	Visual Arts
	Spanish	Geography	Physics	Studies	Theatre Arts
	ab initio	Business	Biology		Music
					<i>History</i>
					<i>Biology</i>
					<i>French</i>
					DT

Years 3 and 4 (25 subjects)

1	2	3	4	5	6
English	French	History	Chemistry	Maths HL	Visual Arts
Lit & Perf	Spanish	Geography	Physics	Maths SL	Theatre Arts
	German	Business	Biology	Studies	Music
	Jap ab initio	Philosophy	Ecosystems		Film
	It ab initio	Economics			DT
		Ecosystems			



Timetabling

Model One: 6 IB blocks

- 30 x 50 minute periods timetable – 5 periods HL, 3 SL, 2 ToK
- Merged HL and SL groups
- Good in early years
- Slot ToK and CAS in

1	2	3	4	5	6
English	French	History	Chemistry	Maths HL	Visual Arts
Lit & Perf	Spanish	Geography	Physics	Maths SL	Theatre Arts
	German	Business	Biology	Studies	Music
	Jap ab initio	Philosophy	Ecosystems		History
	It ab initio	Economics			Chemistry
		Ecosystems			Philosophy
					French



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Marketing & Recruitment

- IB should be your USP
- Parents are an easy-win; students can be harder
- Identify potential DP students early on
- Sell, but don't oversell!
- Use the right people to 'sell'
- Engage key subject areas where there might be potential problems early on.
- Internal can be harder than external



Marketing & Recruitment

Sixth Form Choices Evening

- Sixth form choices evening is vital – timing, tone, content etc.
- When in year to have Options Evening
- Use current I.B. students
- Use former I.B. students – higher education forum (let the students pose the questions and have control!)
- Sixth Form 'interviews' - parents in for Options Discussions
- Constant references by subject teachers
- University Speakers
- Letters to external (and internal) applicants
- Sixth Form Induction



Marketing & Recruitment

- Media resources – I.B. produced communications; www.ibsca.org resources/links;
- presentations other schools have used
- Quotations from former students now at university
- Flyers/brochures/course booklets (make it seem exciting)
- ‘Darren Brown’ effect – subliminal messages (displays, ethos, underlying assembly theme)

- Work with form tutors
- Start early – Year 11 clearly (but also too late!)
- Use local press/media always to celebrate your IB students – CAS work etc.
- Sell, but don’t oversell
- ibTV (hmmmmm!)
- Course content: IB v A’level can work to your advantage (History, English..., Creative Arts courses)
- CAS/EE can be used to your advantage – CAS displays!

So....

- Make your first I.B. cohorts feel special, but not guinea pigs!
- Use other programmes:
 - MYP introduces ethos & skills
 - IBCC opens up IB programmes and car effective. IBCC makes '100%' IB sixth forms realistic
- Ensure it's a part of the ethos of your school or academy – in everything you do from Year 7 onwards
- Get ToK and EE Right. Crucial extra points = student success





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Further help...?

Specialist Schools and Academies Trust (SSAT) working with IBSCA....

'By schools, for schools....'

- School visits/links
 - Advice/suggestions
 - Sharing resources/effective practice
 - Consultancy
 - Support with INSET etc.

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