New Westminster Secondary School
International Baccalaureate Programme
2017-18

Grade 9 NWSS Pre-IB Application

Complete this application form and send with all required supporting documents to:

New Westminster Secondary School
Attention: Mrs. Chris Walton
835 Eighth Street
New Westminster, BC
V3M 3S9

Application Process:

Step 1: Pick up a NWSS Pre-IB 9 application form (this form) and **two** confidential teacher referral forms from the NWSS Pearson or Massey Office or from middle school counsellors. **Deadline for receipt of all documents is Friday, January 27, 2017**.

Step 2: Complete Entrance Testing – All applicants will be required to write tests consisting of French, Reading, Writing, Mathematics and Creative Thinking Skills on Saturday, February 4, 2017, from 9:30 am to 12:15 pm, in the Pearson Cafeteria at NWSS. You will be notified in early March of decisions. Register for entrance testing by contacting Mrs. Chris Walton at 604-517-6251 or cwalton@sd40.bc.ca.

Step 3: Apply to register as a NWSS student if not currently enrolled (registration forms available at Pearson Office at NWSS) *if accepted into the NWSS Pre-IB programme*.

We will advise applicants of admission decisions by mail as soon as possible after testing. Please do not phone with enquiries about testing results. Questions? E-mail cwalton@sd40.bc.ca or phone 604-517-6251.

Applying for: ☐ NWSS Pre-IB English OR ☐ NWSS Pre-IB French Immersion

Name: _____
(Last) (Given) (Called Name)

Age: _____ Birthdate: _____ Gender: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Postal Code: _____

Home Phone: _____ Alternate Phone: _____

Parent's E-mail: _____

Current School: _____ Current grade: _____

School Phone: _____ Counsellor: _____

Grade 9 NWSS Pre-IB Application

Checklist:

- ❑ Application form completed and signed by student and parents

- ❑ Copies of Report Cards (Grade 7 final report card and Grade 8 most current report card)

- ❑ Introductory Essay

  On a separate sheet of paper, in your own handwriting, briefly describe yourself, your interests and any activities that you are involved in. Explain your interest in the IB Programme*, what you feel you can contribute to the Programme* (beyond simply being a hard worker, which we assume everyone to be), and what you expect to gain from your IB experience. Describe any significant challenges you have faced and how you dealt with them. Maximum length: 2 pages.

- ❑ Academic Résumé

  On a *separate sheet of paper*, list academic and extracurricular activities in which you have participated. Include school clubs and teams, academic competitions and extra classes or seminars. Maximum length: 1 page.

- ❑ Two Sealed confidential teacher referral forms

  Applicants are required to provide two teacher references. One of these must come from a Humanities teacher (English, Social Studies or French), and the other from a Math/Science teacher. These references are confidential, and should either be sent directly to us by the teacher, or in a sealed, signed envelope with the application.

Declaration by student:

I declare that all statements made in this application and the accompanying documents are true and accurate.

_____

(Signature of student)

Support of Parent(s)/Guardian(s):

We/I have discussed this application to the NWSS Pre-IB Programme with our/my child and fully support his/her participation in the *complete IB Diploma Programme*.

_____

(Signature of parent/guardian)

Date: _____

New Westminster Secondary School
NWSS Pre-IB / IB Diploma Programme

Student Self-Assessment Form

This form is a part of the application process to the NWSS Pre-IB Programme at NWSS. You are to get references from two teachers from your current academic year. One of these references is to come from a Math or Science teacher. The other is to come from a Humanities (English, Social Studies, French, Francais Langue) teacher. *Please give your teacher ample time to complete the reverse side of the form and return it to NWSS before the deadline*.

This side is to be completed **before** giving form on reverse to your subject teachers. Make sure your answers are specific to this teacher's course.

Name: _____ Subject: _____

School: _____ Grade: _____

In this subject area, how often do you (circle one):

Work up to your potential?	Always	Sometimes	Rarely
Show self-motivation?	Always	Sometimes	Rarely
Engage in activities for the academic challenge?	Always	Sometimes	Rarely
Hand in assignments on time?	Always	Sometimes	Rarely
Complete homework on a regular basis?	Always	Sometimes	Rarely
Take initiative?	Always	Sometimes	Rarely

COMMENTS

Briefly explain the reasons why you want to enrol in the NWSS Pre-IB Programme next year.

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Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

Hand this form to your subject teacher. He or she will be asked to return it directly to:

New Westminster Secondary School
Attention: Mrs. Chris Walton
835 – 8th Street
New Westminster, BC
V3M 3S9

New Westminster Secondary School
NWSS Pre-IB / IB Diploma Programme
Teacher Referral Form

Teachers, please consider the student's comments on the reverse, complete this side, and return directly to Mrs. Chris Walton at New Westminster Secondary School, by January 27, 2017. Thanks very much for your help. *Please note that this reference is considered confidential by NWSS.*

Student Name: _____ Subject: _____

School: _____ Grade: _____

1. What is this student's current mark in your class? _____ ❑ Final ❑ Interim
   Is this mark reflective of the student's academic ability in your course? ❑ Yes ❑ No
   If no please explain:

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2. Please comment on the student's self-assessment on reverse.

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3. Compared to other students, how would you rate this student in terms of:

Personal Traits	No basis	Below Average	Average	Good (above average)	Very Good (well above average)	Excellent (top 10%)	One of the best I've encountered in my career
Motivation to succeed							
Creative, Original Thought							
Self-Confidence							
Attentiveness							
Welcomes challenges							
Handles constructive criticism							
Discipline							
Handles Stress							
Time Management							

Academic Traits	No basis	Below Average	Average	Good (above average)	Very Good (well above average)	Excellent (top 10%)	One of the best I've encountered in my career
General knowledge							
Acquires concepts easily							
Generates ideas							
Independence, Initiative							
Written communication skills							
Oral communication skills							
Disciplined work habits							
Homework habits							
Reading speed/comprehension							

4. Would you recommend this student for the NWSS Pre-IB or IB Programme at NWSS?
   Please explain.

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Teacher Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Teacher Name (print): _____

New Westminster Secondary School
NWSS Pre-IB / IB Diploma Programme

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Engage in activities for the academic challenge?	Always	Sometimes	Rarely
Hand in assignments on time?	Always	Sometimes	Rarely
Complete homework on a regular basis?	Always	Sometimes	Rarely
Take initiative?	Always	Sometimes	Rarely

COMMENTS

Briefly explain the reasons why you want to enrol in the NWSS Pre-IB Programme next year.

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Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

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New Westminster Secondary School
NWSS Pre-IB / IB Diploma Programme
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_____

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Discipline							
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Generates ideas							
Independence, Initiative							
Written communication skills							
Oral communication skills							
Disciplined work habits							
Homework habits							
Reading speed/comprehension							

4. Would you recommend this student for the NWSS Pre-IB or IB Programme at NWSS?
   Please explain.

_____

_____

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_____

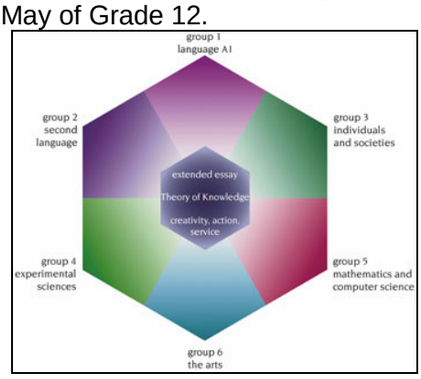
Teacher Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Teacher Name (print): _____

EVERYTHING YOU WANT TO KNOW ABOUT THE INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE PROGRAMME AT NEW WESTMINSTER SECONDARY SCHOOL

What is IB?

The International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme is a two-year, advanced academic program. It covers Grades 11 and 12, and ends with comprehensive exams in May of Grade 12.



Other assessments can include, psychology experiments, science labs, oral presentations, essays, projects, or portfolios of work (depending on the course). The International Baccalaureate Programme curriculum is divided into six sections. Students are required to study courses from all six corners of the IB hexagon. In addition, they must complete the centre section of the hexagon: Theory of Knowledge, a 4,000 word extended essay, and Creativity, Action and Service. Instead of a Group 6 course, a second Group 3 or 4 subject may be taken. Each student must choose three subjects to study at the Higher Level (HL). Each HL course entails an additional class (either after school or at lunch) in one grade.

For example, English HL students study an extra 1.5 hours each Tuesday after school in Grade 11. To compensate for the extra hours of HL classes, all IB students are required to take a spare block in Grades 11 and 12. They generally use this block to work on assignments or to study. The International Baccalaureate Programme at New Westminster Secondary School offers the following course options for Grade 11 students (additional options may become available later):

Group	Courses
1 – Language A1	English HL, English SL
2 – Language B	French HL, French SL, TBA ab initio
3 – Individual & Societies	History of Europe HL & SL, Psychology HL & SL
4 – Experimental Sciences	Biology HL & SL, Chemistry HL & SL, Physics HL & SL
5 – Mathematics	Mathematics HL, Mathematics SL
6 – Arts & Electives	TBA

Some university faculties require students to have all three sciences complete to the Grade 11 level for admission. Students who wish to attend these universities generally take one science (often physics) in summer school before Grade 11, and the other two sciences in their IB Diplomas. Their results have generally been excellent.

Who should be in IB?

The International Baccalaureate Programme is a programme for *academically motivated* students. Student motivation is absolutely necessary in this programme. We don't require students to be "the smartest kid in class," but we do require them to be willing thinkers and workers. While parental support is vital, students who are not interested in being in the program for their own reasons have not been successful in the past.

Why should I take IB?

- Academic challenge
- Well-rounded, broad education
- Small cohort class stays together
- Internationally recognized Diploma
- Improved chances at university admission
- Theory of Knowledge
- Up to one full year of university transfer credit
- Greater likelihood of scholarships

Are there FEES for the IB Programme?

Yes. The major fee, payable in Grades 11 and 12, covers the cost of student exams. The smaller fee, payable each year, covers the cost of the programme's required membership in International Baccalaureate World Schools. *Please note that these fees will be adjusted annually to reflect fluctuations in the Canada/United States dollar exchange rate and the fees charged by International Baccalaureate.*

Grade 9 $75 membership fee in IB World Schools
Grade 10 $75 membership fee in IB World Schools
Grade 11 $75 membership fee in IB World Schools + $550 exam fee deposit
Grade 12 $75 membership fee in IB World Schools + $750 exam fee balance (approx.)

What's the catch?

- More work
- Harder work
- Mandatory 4,000 word research paper in Grades 11 and 12
- No electives
- No band in senior years (except possibly jazz band)

What is NWSS Pre-IB?

In order to prepare students for the demands of the IB Programme, NWSS runs a Pre-IB Programme for students in Grades 9 and 10. This programme will accelerate and enrich studies, so students are prepared for the rigorous Grade 11 and 12 years.

What will I take?

All NWSS Pre-IB students are required to enroll in the full program of study. Their timetables in Grades 9 and 10 will most likely look like this.

English 9 Honours	Socials 9 Honours	Math 9 Honours	French 9 Honours
Research in Motion 9	Science 9 Honours	Physical Education 9	Elective (if in Fr. Imm. it will be Sciences Humaines 10)

English 10 Honours	Socials 10 Honours	Math 10 Honours	French 10 Honours
Science 10 Honours	Planning 10	Physical Education 10	Elective

At the end of each year, student placements in the NWSS Pre-IB and IB programs are reviewed.

How do I get in?

We run entrance testing for prospective NWSS Pre-IB students on:

February 4, 2017 (Saturday) for NWSS Pre-IB Grade 9.
May 18, 2017 (Thursday) for NWSS Pre-IB Grade 10 and IB Grade 11.

To write the test, you must first submit your application package, including two teacher references*, to Mrs. Chris Walton, IB Secretary at NWSS, by:

January 27, 2017 (Friday) for NWSS Pre-IB Grade 9
April 21, 2017 (Friday) for NWSS Pre-IB Grade 10 and IB Grade 11

*Applicants should provide two teacher references from their current teachers. One reference should come from a Science or Math teacher, and the other should come from an English, Social Studies or French teacher.

You **must** register for entrance testing (contact Mrs. Chris Walton, NWSS IB Secretary at 604-517-6251 or cwalton@sd40.bc.ca to register for entrance testing) -- we do not print "extra" tests for drop-ins. Our entrance test is composed of a variety of sections:

- A written test in mathematical and scientific problem solving
- An essay (similar to school-wide writes)
- A French comprehension test
- A creative/critical thinking test
- A poem analysis question

You will need pens, pencils, an eraser, and a snack and drink (no calculators).

I want to know more…

An IB information session for parents and students entering Grade 9 in September 2017 will take place on Monday, January 9, 2017, 6:30 p.m., in the NWSS Library. New Grade 10 and 11 students (and parents) are welcome to attend.

If you require further information, please contact Mrs. Chris Walton, IB Secretary, at: cwalton@sd40.bc.ca or 604-517-6251.

IB world school