



# Admission Policy The IB Diploma Programme

February 2023  
Next revision: February 2025  
Document prepared by: Dana Starostová

## School Mission Statement

We strive to prepare all students to become life-long learners and responsible citizens both locally and globally ready to meet the challenges of the future. In partnership with families and community, our goal is to create relevant learning opportunities for students – both inside and outside the classroom - that help them develop the knowledge, critical thinking skills and character necessary to succeed in a technologically advanced world.

## IB Learner's profile

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:

**Inquirers** They develop their natural curiosity. They acquire the skills necessary to conduct inquiry and research and show independence in learning. They actively enjoy learning and this love of learning will be sustained throughout their lives.

**Knowledgeable** They explore concepts, ideas and issues that have local and global significance. In so doing, they acquire in-depth knowledge and develop understanding across a broad and balanced range of disciplines.

**Thinkers** They exercise initiative in applying thinking skills critically and creatively to recognize and approach complex problems, and make reasoned, ethical decisions.

**Communicators** They understand and express ideas and information confidently and creatively in more than one language and in a variety of modes of communication. They work effectively and willingly in collaboration with others.

**Principled** They act with integrity and honesty, with a strong sense of fairness, justice and respect for the dignity of the individual, groups and communities. They take responsibility for their own actions and the consequences that accompany them.

**Open-minded** They understand and appreciate their own cultures and personal histories, and are open to the perspectives, values and traditions of other individuals and communities. They are accustomed to seeking and evaluating a range of points of view, and are willing to grow from the experience.

**Caring** They show empathy, compassion and respect towards the needs and feelings of others. They have a personal commitment to service, and act to make a positive difference to the lives of others and to the environment.

**Risk-takers** They approach unfamiliar situations and uncertainty with courage and forethought, and have the independence of spirit to explore new roles, ideas and strategies. They are brave and articulate in defending their beliefs.

**Balanced** They understand the importance of intellectual, physical and emotional balance to achieve personal well-being for themselves and others.

**Reflective** They give thoughtful consideration to their own learning and experience. They are able to assess and understand their strengths and limitations in order to support their learning and personal development.

## Admission principles

Choosing the right education and the right school is one of the most critical decisions in a young person's life. The admission process at Gymnázium Šrobárova 1 is committed to ensuring that applicants and their parents receive proper advice and counselling in order for them to be able to make a confident and informed decision. These will be performed via addressing directly a DP coordinator at [ibcoordinator@srobarka.sk](mailto:ibcoordinator@srobarka.sk), school website, social media sites, and promoting activities for public as Open House Day. As a school community we welcome students with diverse backgrounds and a range of talents and abilities.

The IB DP is intended for

- students who like and are interested in studying IB DP
- young students who have finished 2<sup>nd</sup> grade of secondary education or similar equivalent.
- for students who wish to study at university abroad.
- for students whose mother tongue is not Slovak, but they wish to get their degree in Slovakia.
- for students who wish to educate themselves with an international perspective by completing an international degree.

## Language requirements

The language of instruction and working language in IB DP is English. The candidates' knowledge of English language should be at a level B2 and higher. Because we encourage the integration of international students within the wider school community, and because Slovak language is dominant at our school, we advise international student to speak and write basic Slovak language. We are prepared to offer extra lessons of Slovak language for foreign students.

## Academic requirements

IB requires a high level of maturity, motivation and willingness to put in a considerable, independent effort. We expect applicants to have inquiring and open minds, to be diligent and reliable, to be good communicators, and to have openness to learning new things. Whether the student lives up to these requirements will be assessed using recommendations from present school and in the interview before the admission.

## Students with Special Educational Needs

Gymnázium Šrobárova 1 welcomes students with a variety of different abilities and special needs. We offer the support of skilled IB staff and a school psychologist. However, due to the historic nature of the school building, we are not in a position to accept students with walking disabilities. Our school belongs to National Heritage of Slovakia, so unfortunately, it is not possible to consider any constructional changes of the school interior (e.g. building a chair lift).

## Admission process

Students and their parents should write directly to IB coordinator for further information about studying at IB DP at Gymnázium Šrobárova 1.

Every applicant will be assessed individually.

The applicants will receive a confirmation of having received the application and an entrance test and interview will be scheduled. These will take place at our property on Šrobárova 1. In exceptional circumstances, an online exam and interview can be arranged. The candidates who have been admitted will receive written confirmation of their acceptance together with the list and description of subjects offered by our school. They might be advised about the subject choice according to their preferences, their previous study results and university ambitions. The choice of the level (standard or higher) can change according to their performances during their studies. After the acceptance to IB DP the candidates and their parents will be asked to sign the Academic Honesty Policy published on our website.

## Entrance test and interview

The entrance test will have two parts: Maths and English language B2. The details of each will be published annually.

The admission procedure is open to a pupil who has completed the second or third year of study course 7902J with a four-year education programme, the sixth or seventh year of study course 7902J with an eight-year education programme or the third or fourth year of study course 7902J74 with English as the language of instruction.

**Conditions, process and criteria for the admission procedure for the 1st year of the Diploma Programme (DP) for pupils of secondary schools with a national curriculum.**

1) The written part of the selection procedure consists of:

- a) a mathematics test,
- b) an English language test,
- c) a 500-word essay in English

2) The oral part of the admission procedure consists of an interview.

The main purpose of the interview is to assess the candidate's potential to succeed not only in their chosen subjects, but also in the core components of CAS (creativity-activity-service), Theory of knowledge (TOK) and the final longer essay (EE).

**Admission requirements for transfer of students from international schools/schools abroad to the Diploma Programme (DP):**

Students will be admitted by transfer after fulfilling the following conditions:

- 1) Sending a cover letter of up to 500 words
- 2) Recommendation from the high school attended
- 3) Proof of transcripts from the secondary school attended

**Special provisions**

In pandemic emergencies or other life-threatening situations that require a special approach, we will seek solutions that fully respect the general rules and protect public health.

In such a specific case, the rules of the admission procedure will be reduced and applicants and their parents (legal guardians) will be informed of their form through our school's website.

**Bibliography:**

Diploma Programme: From Principles into Practice. IBO. 2015

Set of Internal Criteria for admission at Gymnázium Šrobárova 1, Košice

Školský zákon 245/2008 z.z.