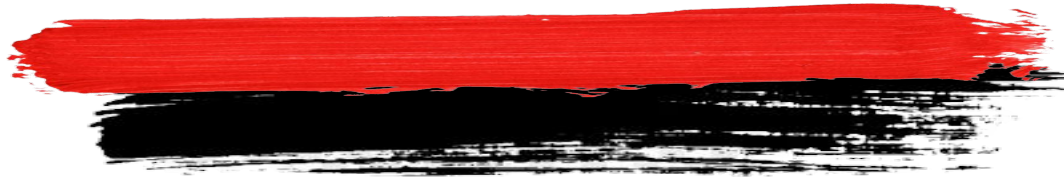


Gr 11 & 12 @ VIS



IB DP



VIS DP



IB CP

***Communicate
Consolidate
CELEBRATE***

**STUDENT HANDBOOK
2021/2022**

Learning @VIS



Effective learning occurs in a positive and nurturing environment fostering a reflective growth mindset.

GUIDING STATEMENTS

We strive to ensure that all our students become **knowledgeable, inquisitive and ethical contributors to our world.**

• OUR VISION

To be the international school of choice, celebrating diversity, empowering and inspiring future generations.

• OUR MISSION

At VIS we strive to ensure that all of our students become knowledgeable, inquisitive and ethical contributors to our world.

• OUR EDUCATIONAL PHILOSOPHY

- To prepare our students to be ready for tomorrow's world by encouraging learning through inspirational education using 21st century learning methods.
- To create a unique environment where each student can grow and discover their true potential.
- To promote an enquiring mind with a thirst for knowledge.
- To embrace diversity in our multi-cultural society.
- We trust that a caring inclusive community will help build a sense of self-worth and a profound respect for others.

STUDENT PROFILE

We strive to ensure that all our students become **knowledgeable, inquisitive and ethical contributors to our world.**

• KNOWLEDGEABLE

Students at VIS have an understanding of concepts, ideas and issues across a broad range of disciplines with global and local significance.

• INQUISITIVE

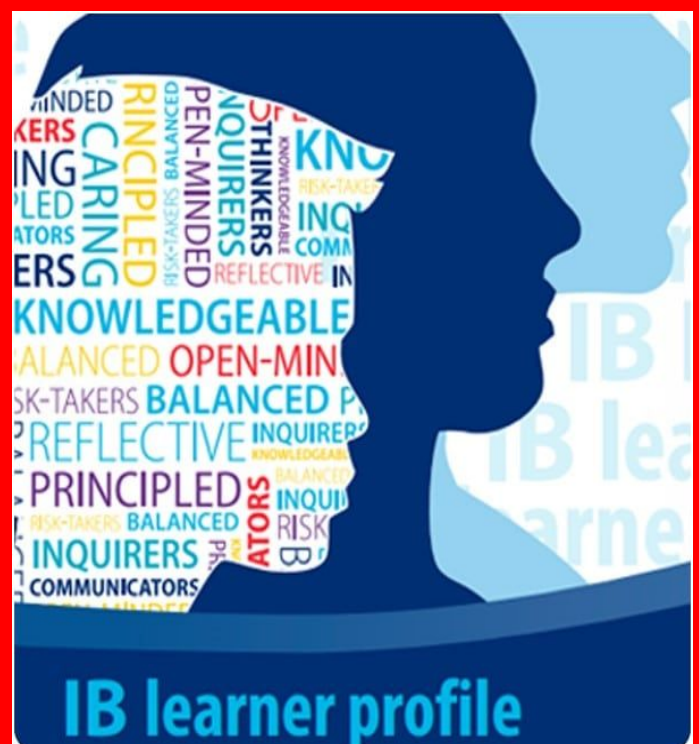
Students at VIS participate in their learning by exploring a variety of situations with courage and an open mind. They are reflective and appreciate diverse points of view.

• ETHICAL

Students at VIS act with integrity and honesty. They demonstrate a strong sense of justice and fairness by respecting individuals, communities and the environment.

• CONTRIBUTORS

Students at VIS actively pursue opportunities to contribute responsibly to their local and global communities.





IB DP



VIS DP



IB CP

THE PROGRAMMES ON OFFER

At Verdala we offer 3 different pathways through High School. The IB Diploma Programme, the VIS Diploma or the IB Career-related Programme.

The IB Diploma Programme is designed as an academically challenging and balanced programme of education with final examinations that prepares students for success at university and life beyond. The programme is taught over two years and has gained recognition and respect from the world's leading universities.

The VIS Diploma is designed as an alternative pathway for students who would like to prepare themselves for specific US colleges or the workplace. It is a school-leaving certification that gives you the opportunity to enrol in three or more DP Courses at either Higher or Standard Level. In addition to the VIS Diploma, students can earn a number of IB certificates through coursework and testing. **CAS requirements will also need to be met in order to obtain the VIS High School Diploma.**

The IB Career-related programme is a framework of international education that incorporates the values of the IB into a unique programme addressing the needs of students engaged in career-related education. The aim of the programme is to provide students with an excellent foundation to support their further studies and specialised training, as well as ensuring success in the workforce. The CP combines highly regarded and internationally recognized IB Diploma Programme courses with an approved career-related study and a unique CP core.

	VIS DP	IBDP	IBCP
DP subjects	3+ Higher or Standard Level	3 Higher Level 3 Standard Level	2+ Higher or Standard Level
Core Program	Senior Essay Creativity Action Service Theory of Knowledge	Extended Essay Creativity Action Service Theory of Knowledge	Personal Professional Skills Service Learning Language Development Reflective Project
Additional requirements			Career-related subject BTEC Enterprise & Entrepreneurship LEVEL 3 DIPLOMA

What makes



unique?

1

Inquiry

2

Action

3

Reflection

As an IB learner you are expected to

- *think critically and challenge assumptions*
- *develop your knowledge through active engagement in all your classes*
- *to consider both local and global contexts*
- *develop the ability to communicate in more than one language*
- *develop ATL & PPS skills to embody the learner profile*

As a VIS student you should consciously apply these skills to your learning.

As a VIS faculty we will support you to understand and learn these skills and provide you with opportunities to put them into practice

Approaches To Learning

Social Skills

Research Skills

Communication Skills

Thinking Skills

Self-management Skills

Personal Development

Intercultural Understanding

Effective Communication

Thinking Processes

Applied Ethics

Personal & Professional Skills

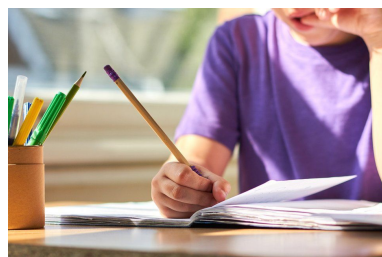
ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

*We make the world a better place when we choose to act with integrity.
Being honest is a choice...a trusting community depends on everyone making the right choice.*

WHAT IS ACADEMIC INTEGRITY?

Academic integrity is a guiding principle in education and a choice to act in a responsible way whereby clothes can have trust in us as individuals. It is the foundation for ethical decision-making and behaviour in the production of legitimate, authentic and honest scholarly work.

Academic Honesty in the Diploma Programme



What is academic honesty?

International Baccalaureate (IB) programmes encourage students to inquire and to think critically and creatively, and to present their thinking in a variety of ways. They should be able to make their thoughts and their learning visible and explicit, show how they have constructed their ideas, and demonstrate the views they have followed or rejected. This is essentially what scholarship and academic honesty are: making knowledge, understanding and thinking transparent.

Students need to understand how knowledge is constructed and, consequently, their own role in furthering knowledge construction and building understanding. An essential aspect of this is an understanding of the technical aspects of academic honesty, of citing and referencing.

Academic honesty is an essential principle of the IB's academic programmes that enhances the organization's credibility and position as a leader in international education. As stated in the IB learner profile, all members of the IB community strive to be "principled", acting with "integrity and honesty, with a strong sense of fairness, justice and respect for the dignity of the individual, groups and communities".

Acknowledging the work of others

Proper citation is a key element to academic scholarship and intellectual exchange.

More guidance can be found in the IB publication *Effective citing and referencing* available in the Digital toolkit section on the IB website (<http://www.ibo.org/myib/digitaltoolkit/brochuresflyersposters/>)

Good practice—recommendations for students

- Make sure that information you have used is acknowledged in the body of the text and is fully listed in the bibliography using the referencing style agreed with your teacher.
- Cite your sources so that readers can find them; if you cannot state the origin of the source it is probably better not to use it.

The IB has no means of knowing whether an act of academic misconduct was deliberate or not. Students should know how to indicate and cite material that is not their own. Students are also expected to follow the rules of acceptable behaviour in the exam room and around the time of the examination.

For these reasons, a student's intent cannot be taken into account if the IB investigates an alleged breach of the *General regulations: Diploma Programme*.

Be aware that a breach of IB regulations will have serious consequences.

Essentials

- Make clear which words, ideas, images and works are not your own (including maps, charts, musical compositions, movies, computer source codes and any other material).
- Give credit for copied, adapted and paraphrased material.
- When using text, make clear where the borrowed material starts and finishes.
- All sources cited in the text must also be listed in the bibliography (or reference list/list of works cited) and all sources listed in the bibliography (or reference list/list of works cited) must be cited in the text.

Expectations of all Grade 11 students



In Semester 1, reflect on how well you are adapting to the new subjects. This is the time when teachers and students alike are able to identify each student's strengths and weaknesses in order to reflect on whether you are on the right path.



Throughout the year you will be expected to satisfy the requirements at each checkpoint(each quarter). This means you should be:

- ✓ on track with your submissions,
- ✓ engaging in your learning
- ✓ show clear evidence of effort and progress



At the end of the first semester of Grade 11, all students will be expected to have a minimum score of '3' for each of their DP subjects & a pass in BTEC (for CP students). There is also an expectation that you are on track with the requirements of the core programme as communicated to you by your teachers. The core programme consists of : **TOK; CAS; EE for IBDP & VISDP students & SL; PPS; LD; RP for IBCP students.** *Failure to meet the requirements outlined above will result in you being put on an intervention plan.*



COMMUNICATION - Our main forms of communication are via MANAGEBAC & GMAIL

As a student you are expected to log onto managebac **every day** and check your messages regularly. These could be messages from your teachers and/or administration. You may choose to respond to these messages via managebac or by emailing the relevant individual.

Your managebac calendar should be up to date. Please refer to it for upcoming assignments, classes and key dates & deadlines. Learn how to use it!

If you are off campus during homeroom then you are expected to read the Homeroom bulletin to keep up with the daily announcements



We expect you to abide by the Code of Conduct that you sign and which is clearly explained in the Parent/Student handbook. It is your responsibility to read through the relevant policies that are key for your success at VIS.



Your privileges are earned through hard work, commitment and the right attitude.

Expectations of all Grade 12 students



Commit to all your subjects from DAY 1. Every assignment you hand in will contribute directly or indirectly to your overall achievement.



Throughout the year you will be expected to satisfy the requirements at each checkpoint(each quarter). This means you should be:

- ✓ on track with your submissions,
- ✓ on track with the CORE requirements
- ✓ engaging in your learning
- ✓ show clear evidence of effort and progress



Your privileges are earned through hard work, commitment and the right attitude.



COMMUNICATION - Our main forms of communication are via MANAGEBAC & GMAIL

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Anticipated & Predicted Grades



Throughout your DP course, you should be able to get a good understanding of how you are performing by looking at your grades in Managebac.



At the start of Grade 12s, teachers might need to submit a predicted grade for some University applications - this will be referred to as an Anticipated Grade. This grade is a calculated guess from your teachers based on your performance so far. These grades will help give you an idea of which University you can apply for and might also give you a clear indication of what you need to do to improve your overall performance.



Following your mocks teachers will be asked to submit your Predicted Grades. Your performance in the mocks and your scores on Managebac, especially the grades you score in your IAs will play a big part in determining this grade.



The predicted grades will be as realistic as possible. The point of the predicted grades is to give you a realistic indication of what you can do after High school.



In the event you wish to discuss your predicted grades, you should connect with Ms. Currie so that she can help you understand the pathways that you might take.

SEMESTER GRADES

Progress/End of Sem Reports

*Reflects the quality
of work produced
during a semester*

ANTICIPATED GRADES

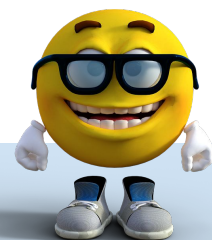
October/November Gr 12

*Teacher's professional judgement
supported by data from
your work in Gr 11 & 12*

PREDICTED GRADES

March - Gr 12

*Teacher's professional judgement
supported by data from
IAs, EAs & mock exams*



Your journey

IB DP

VIS DP

IB CP

Check point #1 - First semester progress reports



Is the student on track?

Does the student have the right attitude to learning?

Do they attend regularly?



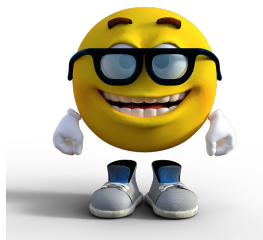
Continue on your
chosen pathway



Support Strategies to help you get back on track



- Learning strategies
- Work plan
- Change of subjects
- Alternative pathways
- Agree on expected improvements



Check point #2 - First semester reports

- Has there been visible improvement in your academic performance?
- Is your attitude reflecting the IB learner profile?
- Are you on track with your work?
- Are your results reflecting your true potential?



Continue on your
chosen pathway



Support Strategies to help you get back on track



- Learning strategies
- Work plan
- Change of subjects
- Alternative pathways
- Agree on expected improvements



Check point #3 - Second semester progress reports

Check point #4 - Second semester reports