



C. Leon King High School

International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme

Language Policy

Philosophy

At King High School, we believe that all students should have access to a high-quality education, regardless of their home language or their proficiency in English. This belief extends to the students of the King High School IB Diploma Programme. The staff and faculty of King High School, and our district partners, are committed to supporting all students in their acquisition of the English language and ensuring that their education is not hindered by the number of languages they are proficient in. We embrace our bilingual students and the 30+ languages they speak as a vital part of our school community.

Language of Instruction

At King High School the language of instruction within the King Pre-IB and IB Diploma Programme, as well as the entire school, is English. All courses and assessments (including the IB examinations) are delivered in English.

- Students within the IB Programme at King High School, like all students within Hillsborough County, have access to appropriate support if English is not their native language. Students can be tested for English fluency by district ELL (English Language Learner) staff, and, if deemed necessary, can receive appropriate support.
 - Most students within the Programme are fluent in English by the time they enter the Diploma Programme but may have received support earlier in their educational pathway.
- While the language of instruction at King is English, the faculty of the IB Diploma Programme embraces the benefit that bilingual students and students who have a home language other than English will have in a global society. We encourage students to embrace their home language and find opportunities to incorporate their gifts into the curriculum. Students who feel most comfortable with their home language are encouraged to discuss options that provide them opportunities to further enhance the development of their home language.

King IB Diploma Programme Goals for Language Policy

- Local, state and IB compliance with language requirements
 - Language of instruction is English
 - Students will complete four years of English in grades 9-12 (2 years pre-IB, 2 years Diploma Programme Language A English Literature HL)
 - Provide appropriate language instruction for Limited English Proficient and Immigrant Students
 - English Language Learner (ELL) support for non-native English speakers (as determined by ELL Specialist/Language and English Proficiency status)
 - Practice academic honesty in Language A and Language B coursework, classrooms, and on assessments
- Provide two options for World Language development – Spanish and French (see course progression chart at the end of this section)
- Assess students' Spanish or French levels prior to entry into pre-IB

- Provide Language B instruction at the appropriate level for each student
- Provide support and resources to students in their mother tongue
- Provide instruction that enables students to develop fluency in an additional language
- Impress upon stakeholders the value of intercultural communication and appreciation
 - Demonstrate respect for all people and cultures
 - Demonstrate open-mindedness
 - Demonstrate international-mindedness
- Provide opportunities for students to develop understanding of cultures other than their own (as well as opportunities to gain additional insight on their own culture)
- Provide opportunities for students/families to celebrate the people, cultures, and heritage of additional languages offered at King IB
- Local, state and IB compliance with policies regarding English Language Learners (ELLs)
- Provide resources, accommodations, and academic support for English Language Learners

Spanish Language Course Progression

9th Grade - pre-IB Spanish I

10th Grade – Pre-IB Spanish II

11th Grade (DP) – IB Spanish IV

12th Grade (DP) – IB Spanish V

French Language Track Course Progression

9th Grade - pre-IB French I

10th Grade – Pre-IB French II

11th Grade (DP) – IB French IV

12th Grade (DP) – IB French V

Stakeholders

- Students
- Parents/guardians
- Faculty
- IB Counselor
- IB Coordinator
- Administration

Resources

- World Languages Department Head
- District World Languages Department
- Textbooks
- Native language dictionaries
- InThinking
- Supplemental resources
- Immersive Reader options
- HCPS ELL Webpage and Brochure: [English Language Learners / Overview \(hillsboroughschools.org\)](http://hillsboroughschools.org)

Responsibilities of Language Acquisition Teachers

- Develop the four language skills: writing, reading, listening and speaking
- Increase multicultural awareness of the target language
- Prepare students for the IB diploma programme Language B exams
- Provide experiences that foster personal, social and academic growth in Language B courses

Professional/Support Staff

- World Language Department Head
- English Language Learner Specialist

Responsibilities IB Counselor

- Provide resources and information to parents and students regarding the King IB Diploma Programme
- Serve as a liaison between parents, teachers, and students

Responsibilities IB Coordinator

- Provide welcome event for incoming families to select a world language for students
- Emphasize that language is a core subject rather than an elective
- Request funding for substitutes for IA Oral Exams
- Work with administration to establish a suitable location and environment for IA Oral Exams

Responsibilities Parent/Family/Guardian

- Work with student to make an informed decision when choosing a world language
- Support student throughout language development in the King Pre-IB and King IB Diploma Programme

Responsibilities IB Diploma Programme Student

- Actively engage in developing the four language skills (listening, reading, speaking, and writing) in order to effectively communicate in the target language
- Establish, maintain, and strengthen multiculturalism (understanding and appreciation of other cultures; to include history and beliefs)
- Maintain esteem for selected language

Responsibilities of Administration and District

- Provide resources and support for teachers and students in the King IB Diploma Programme
- Work with faculty and IB coordinator to establish a suitable location and environment for the IA Oral Exams

Communication

- Policies accessible to stakeholders on the IBC website and Canvas
- Open House/Welcome Night Event
- Grade level assemblies/meetings
- Conference Night
- IBC Website
- Canvas messages and announcements
- One-on-one communication (phone, email, Canvas messages) and meetings/conferences
- Course newsletters, parent links, email

Terminology in Language Acquisition

- Conversational – language acquisition level in which the speaker is able to carry out a conversation in a social setting; language fluency has not been achieved
- ELL - English Language Learners
- ESOL – English for Speakers of Other Languages
- Fluency – language acquisition level in which the speaker can speak or write a language quickly and easily
- Immersion – instruction in target language
- Language skills – skills that allow for communication in a coherent way; the four language skills are reading, writing, listening and speaking

- Proficient - language acquisition level in which the speaker has a high level of comfort speaking and writing a language, but is not as skilled as a native speaker
- Target language – language that student is working to learn

This policy is available is accessible to stakeholders on Canvas and the International Baccalaureate Connection (IBC – Parent group) website (the website is undergoing a transition to a new web host and many policies may not be available at this time).

King IB Language Policy updated April 2023

Resources

Nease Language Policy: [IB – Allen D. Nease High School \(stjohns.k12.fl.us\)](http://stjohns.k12.fl.us)

Williams Middle Magnet School IB MYP Language Policy: [IB Programme / IB Program at Williams Middle Magnet \(hillsboroughschools.org\)](http://hillsboroughschools.org)

Winter Park High School Language Policy: [International Baccalaureate - Winter Park Hs \(ocps.net\)](http://ocps.net)