

IB-education - Upper Years

Schoolyear 2025-2026



 Middle Years Programme



 Career-related Programme



 Diploma Programme

**Johan de Witt
scholengroep**

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What is IB

Johan de Witt Scholengroep is an authorized IB World School for the Middle Years Programme (MYP) of the International Baccalaureate (IB). Johan de Witt Scholengroep is a Candidate School* for the Diploma Programme (DP) and the Career-related Programme (CP). This school is pursuing authorization as an IB World School. These are schools that share a common philosophy—a commitment to high quality, challenging, international education that Johan de Witt Scholengroep believes is important for our students.

The IB is a global organization that develops high-quality educational programmes. It consists of several programmes for students aged 3 to 19. IB World Schools exist all around the world. Through their curricula, the IB aims to foster intercultural understanding to help create a better world together.

**Only schools authorized by the IB Organization can offer any of its four academic programmes: the Primary Years Programme (PYP), the Middle Years Programme (MYP), the Diploma Programme, or the Career-related Programme (CP). Candidate status gives no guarantee that authorization will be granted. For further information about the IB and its programmes, visit www.ibo.org*

Mission IB

“The International Baccalaureate® aims to develop inquiring, knowledgeable and caring young people who help to create a better and more peaceful world through intercultural understanding and respect.”

Learner Profile

Besides cognitive development, the social, emotional, and physical development of students is also a priority. We do this explicitly through the IB Learner Profile. The Learner Profile comprises ten attributes. Throughout the MYP journey, students are encouraged and supported by their teachers in developing these ten traits.

The Klimwijzer – Essential Learning Agreements

The JDW Klimwijzer supports students in their attitude, behaviour, and active participation in class. It helps cultivate good learning habits and strengthens the teacher-student relationship, laying the foundation for a successful school career.

Middle Years Programme (MYP)

The MYP is designed for students aged 11 to 16 and aims to develop active, internationally minded global citizens.

Integration into Subject Groups

Education in the MYP is organized into 8 subject groups. The programme promotes interdisciplinary learning grounded in a solid knowledge base. Topics are not taught in isolation but are interconnected, mirroring how the real-world functions.

Subject Group	School subjects
Language acquisition	English, French, German, Spanish
Language & literature	Dutch
Individuals & societies	Geography, history, philosophy, economics
Sciences	Biology, physics, chemistry
Mathematics	Mathematics
Arts	Visual arts, dance, theater, film, music
Physical & health education	Physical & Health Educatio
Design	Technology

Global Contexts

In the MYP, students make connections between school and the real world through six Global Contexts:

- Identities and relationships
- Personal and cultural expression
- Orientation in space and time
- Scientific and technical innovation
- Fairness and development
- Globalization and sustainability

Conceptual Understanding

IB education is concept-based. This means the focus lies on the core concepts of each subject area. Students use these concepts to explore problems and ideas of personal, local, and global relevance.

Approaches to Learning

Approaches to learning (ATL) skills form the foundation of independent learning and encourage students to apply knowledge and skills in unfamiliar contexts. By developing and applying these social, thinking, research, communication, and self-management skills, students learn how to learn.

IB-education at Johan de Witt Scholengroep

At the Johan de Witt Scholengroep we offer 5 years of the MYP (MYP 1-5).

MYP 1-ISK is designed for students for whom the transition to secondary education may come a little too early. MYP 1-ISK serves as a bridge to facilitate the transition to mainstream secondary education. It combines intensive Dutch language support (NT2) with the broader curricular aspects of the IB-MYP. This hybrid form of education focuses on strengthening basic skills while simultaneously offering a challenging academic framework. The approach in MYP 1-ISK is specifically designed to give students the time and resources they need to overcome existing gaps and prepare them for a successful future in Dutch education and beyond. After MYP 1, students can progress to MYP 2 or regular secondary education (kader, mavo, havo, vwo).

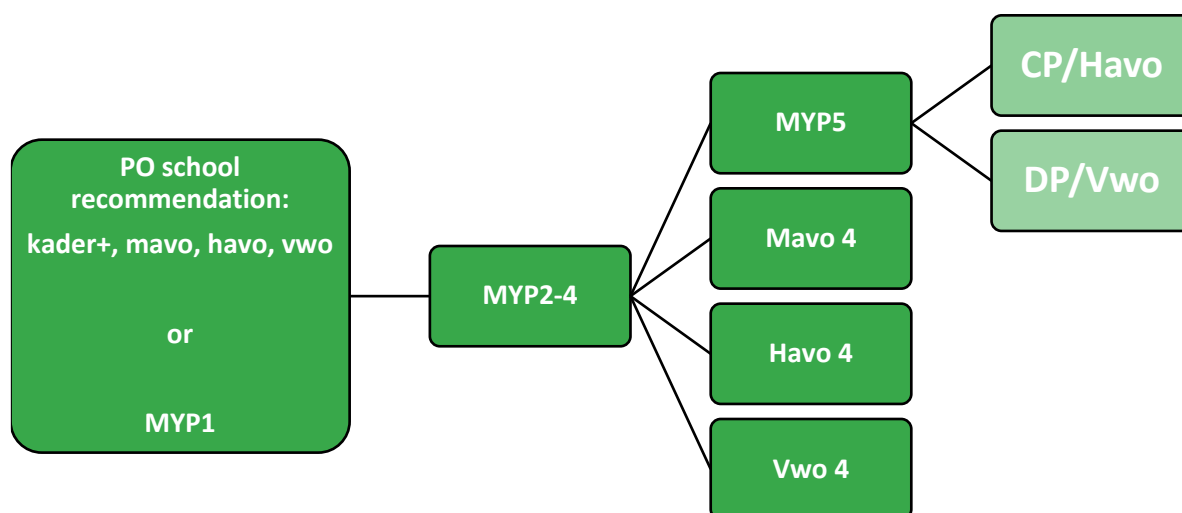
MYP 2-4 (the first three years of secondary education) are offered in a so called 'verlengde brugperiode'. This means that students with different school recommendations for secondary education (schooladvies) are in the same class for three years. Our aim is to help guide every student to the highest achievable and best fitting secondary education after three years in the MYP, whilst making them world citizens with the knowledge and skills to deal with the challenge and opportunities in society. We track our students progress by assessing them on different levels: we assess the learning of our students through the IB prescribed subject-group objectives using the MYP assessment criteria. In addition, we use the Dutch national criteria (SLO kerndoelen) and lastly, we use '*referentietoetsen*' to track progress in the core subjects (Dutch, Mathematics, English).

MYP 5 is the last year of the MYP. If a student wants (and is able) to continue their MYP education, they proceed to MYP 5 after MYP 4. MYP 5 is a preparatory year for the CP or DP.

The Diploma Programme (DP) and Career-Related Programme (CP) are the examprogrammes of the IB. Both programmes are internationally recognized and provide access to higher education (hbo/university), depending on chosen subjects and performance. Personal and academic development is central in both, with a focus on research skills, critical thinking, and reflection.

The main difference lies in orientation. The DP is broad and academic, with six theoretical subjects and strong intellectual rigor. The CP combines academic courses with a vocational component, making it more practice oriented. CP students take at least two DP subjects and supplement them with courses like Personal and Professional Skills and a practical profile. Both paths can lead to higher education, though typically, the CP prepares students for applied sciences (hbo), and the DP for academic university (wo). Specific university admissions may require certain subjects.

There are multiple paths that can be taken at the Johan de Witt Scholengroep (see figure A) with different determination moments. More information on the determination process can be found in our Assessment Policy available on our website (www.johandewittscholengroep.nl)



A. Possible paths for students (CP and DP are still in development)

MYP within the Dutch Education System

As Johan de Witt Scholengroep is not an international school, we adhere to the Dutch law on secondary education.

In MYP 2 through 4, all lower secondary core objectives are covered, and the national reference framework is followed. Upon completing MYP 4, students will have the same knowledge and skills as those in the regular lower secondary curriculum. In MYP 5, we prepare students for the IB exam programmes (CP or DP). After MYP 5, students can still transfer to a final exam year (havo 5 sprint) or pre-exam year (vwo 5) in the regular system.

Multilingualism

In the Netherlands, many students are multilingual, meaning they use more than one language in daily life. At our school, we believe this enriches education and enhances learning. We do not see multilingualism as a barrier or disadvantage. On the contrary, students' linguistic and cultural backgrounds are actively used in the learning process.

By allowing multilingualism, students can use knowledge previously acquired in their home language to continue learning and further develop academic language skills. Recognizing and utilizing the various languages spoken by students also enhances language awareness and intercultural understanding.

For **MYP 1 to 4**, Dutch is the official language of instruction. From **MYP 5** onward, we switch to English to better prepare students for the CP or DP. Students have the opportunity to earn a Cambridge English certificate during the year as preparation for the CP or DP (see Cambridge English). Of course, we always take students' multilingual backgrounds into account.

IB- Upper Years

Final Recommendation

MYP 5 is the preparatory year for the CP and DP. At the end of MYP 4, period 2, students receive a final recommendation for upper secondary. This determines whether a student can continue into MYP 5 or transfers to a regular programme.

MYP 5 - Subject Selection

In MYP 5, students follow the 8 core MYP subjects. Additionally, they choose a foreign language and must select a profile, similar to the regular upper secondary programme.

Core Subjects MYP5	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Dutch (Language and Literature) ○ English (Language acquisition English) ○ Mathematics ○ Biology, Physics, Chemistry (Sciences) ○ Geography, History, Economie (Individuals & Societies) ○ Physical and Health education ○ Arts ○ Design 	
Language Choice (Select 1) *	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ French (Language acquisition French) ○ German (Language acquisition German) ○ Spanish (Language acquisition Spanish) 	
Profile Choice (Select 1) **	
○ Nature (Sciences)	○ Society (Individuals & Societies)
Biology	History
Physics	Geography
Chemistry	Economics

* In MYP5 one language must be selected (2 lessons/week)

** All students take Individuals & Societies and Sciences as core subjects (3 lessons each). The chosen profile adds 3 more weekly lessons for deeper study in that area.

Cambridge English

In MYP 5, the primary language of instruction is English. Students follow an extra hour of Cambridge English in addition to regular English. This is mandatory for all MYP 5 students to prepare for the CP or DP. By the end of MYP 5, students are expected to achieve the Cambridge B2 certificate. This certificate is a requirement for admission to the CP and DP.

Academic Skills & Pre-TOK

The focus in MYP 5 shifts toward academic skill development crucial for the CP and DP. Students practice critical thinking, information processing, and essay writing, building a strong foundation for the next phase. In addition to their subject package, students take pre-TOK (Theory of Knowledge) to delve deeper into these academic skills.

Service as Action - Personal Project

In MYP 5, students complete a Personal Project—a self-directed research project showcasing their interests, skills, and creativity. They choose a topic that inspires them, set a learning goal, and produce a final product. This marks the culmination of the MYP and develops key skills like planning, researching, critical thinking, and reflection.

Teaching Team

MYP 5 subjects are taught by first-degree teachers who also teach in the CP and DP. This ensures that the lessons align with the level and expectations of the follow-up programmes, providing optimal preparation.

Determination and Recommendation

Based on MYP 5 results (summative and reference tests), new recommendation rounds take place. At the end of MYP 5, students receive a well-founded recommendation: to continue to the DP, CP, or transfer to havo or vwo. All information about determination and assessment can be found in our Assessment Policy, available on our schoolwebsite and in Toddle.

DP & CP – Two IB Pathways

After MYP 5, students can choose the Diploma Programme (DP) or the Career -related Programme (CP). Both last two years prepare students for further studies in the Netherlands or abroad. They share many features but differ in focus and structure.

Both programmes are internationally recognized and provide access to higher education (hbo/university), depending on chosen subjects and performance. Personal and academic development is central in both, with a focus on research skills, critical thinking, and reflection. Key components include Theory of Knowledge (TOK), an independent research project and community service.

The main difference lies in orientation. The DP is broad and academic, with six theoretical subjects and strong intellectual rigor. The CP combines academic courses with a vocational component, making it more practice oriented. CP students take at least two DP subjects and supplement them with courses like Personal and Professional Skills and a practical profile. Both paths can lead to higher education, though typically, the CP prepares students for applied sciences (HBO), and the DP for academic university (wo). Specific university admissions may require certain subjects.

The decision between DP and CP is made at the end of MYP 5, based on results, motivation, and future plans. Students receive guidance from mentors and the IB-counsellor in choosing their path and subject package.

DP – Subject Selection

Based on their results in MYP 5 (or havo/vwo) students will choose a profile in the DP. At Johan de Witt Scholengroep students can choose between three profiles in the DP:

The Engineer
The Medic
The Social Scientist

Every profile has mandatory subjects for students. In addition to the IB Diploma Programme, students in DP1 also work towards a Dutch Havo Diploma. This means that students follow a small number of additional subjects during the first year of the DP. Below are the different profiles and subject choices students can make. After DP1 students will only proceed with the DP core and subjects.

Diploma Programme (DP)
DP-core + shared subjects
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Theory of Knowledge (TOK)• Creativity, Activity and Service (CAS)• Extended Essay (EE)• Language A (Language and Literature) Dutch• Language B (Language Acquisition) English

Profile (choose 1)		
○ The Engineer	○ The Medic	○ The Social Scientist
Mandatory profile subjects: choose 1 from each box		
Physics (Sciences)	Biology (Sciences)	Economics (Individual and Societies)
Chemistry (Sciences)	Chemistry (Sciences)	History (Individual and Societies)
Mathematics AA	Mathematics <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ AA ○ AI 	Mathematics (Mathematics) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ AA ○ AI
Profile elective: choose 1 from each box		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Career-related studies/PGP Technology ○ Informatica/Computer Science (Sciences) ○ Biology (Sciences) 	Physics (Sciences)	Career-related studies/PGP Society
Free choice elective: choose 1		
Economics (Individuals and Societies)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Informatica/ Computer Science (Sciences) ○ BSM/ Sports, exercise and health science ○ Spaans/Spanish ○ Frans/French ○ Duits/German 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Informatica/ Computer Science (Sciences) ○ BSM/ Sports, exercise and health science ○ Spaans/Spanish ○ Frans/French ○ Duits/German

CP – Subject Selection

Based on their results in MYP 5 (or havo/vwo) students will choose a profile in the CP. At Johan de Witt Scholengroep students can choose between two profiles in the CP:

- Technology
- Society

Every profile has mandatory subjects for students. In addition to the IB Career-related Programme (CP), students in CP1 also work towards a Dutch Havo Diploma. This means that students follow an additional number of subjects during the first year of the CP. Below are the different profiles and subject choices students can make. After CP1 students can choose to continue with all 5 DP-subjects or they can continue with their best subjects (2 to 4 subjects).

Career-related Programme (CP)	
CP-Core + shared subjects	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Personal and Professional Skills (PPS) ● Community Engagement (CE) ● Language and Cultural Studies (LCS) ● Reflective Project (RP) ● Language A (Language and Literature) Dutch ● Language B (Language Acquisition) English 	
Profile (choose 1)	
○ Technology	○ Society
Mandatory profile subjects (choose 1 from each box)	
Mathematics AA	Mathematics <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ AA ○ AI
Physics (sciences)	Economics (Individuals and societies)
Chemistry (sciences)	History (Individuals and societies)
Profile elective: Career-related Studies	
Career related studies Technology/PGP Technologie	Career related studies Society/PGP Maatschappij

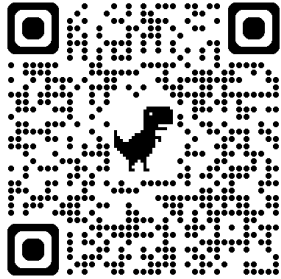
Free choice elective: choose 1

- Informatica/Computer science
- BSM/Sports, exercise and health science
- Spaans/spanish
- Frans/French
- Duits/German

- Informatica/Computer science
- BSM/Sports, exercise and health science
- Spaans/Spanish
- Frans/French
- Duits/German

Scan the QR-codes for more information about the DP & CP

Diploma Programme (DP)



Career Related Programme (CP)

