

The IBCC - A Convergence of Knowledge Acquisition and Skills Development

The International Baccalaureate Career-related Certificate (IBCC)



"Secondary-level education should provide effective preparation for those proceeding to academic or professional tertiary education as well as for those entering the world of work either as trainees, wage employees or as self-employed entrepreneurs, while inculcating the social skills for productive and peaceful life in today's interdependent communities. Such an education must necessarily comprise a harmonious balance of academic disciplines, general practical and social skills and civic responsibility". (UNESCO 2005)



Why has the IB developed the IBCC?

- The IB is responding to a worldwide trend of developing courses that combine academic skills with practical skills
- The IBCC helps meet the IB's access agenda
- The IBCC fills a void for many schools



What is the IBCC?

- It is a pilot project
- It involves collaboration between the IB and schools wishing to provide a career-related/vocational option for students
- IB world schools and non-IB schools partnered with IB world schools are part of the pilot
- It is a unique course offering a variety of pathways for students
- It provides 'value added' to the career-related options being offered by schools and colleges
- It is a framework, not a prescribed curriculum



What are the elements of the IBCC?

- At least two Diploma Programme subjects one must be a foreign language (Group 2). The subjects can be studied at HL or SL and in the case of the foreign language at ab initio level.
- A specially designed IBCC core recognising IB values and the needs of vocational students



What are the three strands of the core?

- A community and service programme this emphasises partnership and the principles of service learning
- An approaches to learning course this emphasises the development of transferrable skills
- A reflective project based on exploring the ethical dimensions associated with an issue related to the student's career-related studies



What does the IBCC actually certify?

- The certificate identifies the DP subjects and the grades achieved (2-7) as well as the reflective project and the grade achieved (pass or pass with distinction)
- If a student gets a 1 in the DP subject or fails the reflective project, they will not be issued with an IBCC.



How is the IBCC assessed?

- The DP subjects are assessed by the IB according to the Diploma Programme regulations
- The community and service strand and the approaches to learning strand of the core are assessed internally. Schools are encouraged to adopt a constructivist approach to teaching and learning, which includes formative assessment techniques.
- The reflective project is assessed by the IB based on moderation of the projects (similar in principle to the internal assessment of DP subjects)

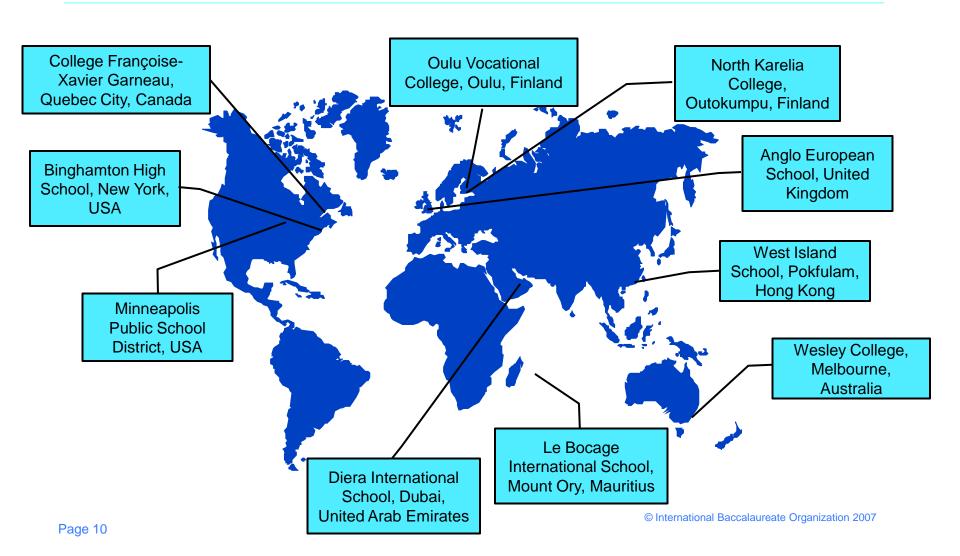


Who is in the pilot?

Currently there are 11 schools are in the pilot



IBCC pilot schools





It is not:

- a programme
- a vocational qualification
- a certificate that assesses every aspect of the student's programme
- a pilot that includes similar schools
- a second-rate vocational course
- a certificate that narrows options
- in competition with the Diploma Programme

It is:

- a certificate
- a unique IB qualification
- a certificate of IB assessed work only
- a pilot that includes a range of schools
- a challenging and rigorous academic course
- a certificate that broadens access and broadens options
- an initiative that complements our existing programmes



What is the future of the IBCC?

- Subject to successful evaluation, the IBCC will go mainstream in 2012
- A pilot of non-IB schools being the sole providers of the IBCC will take place between 2011-2013 and subject to successful evaluation will go mainstream in 2014
- Authorisation processes will be determined over the next year