



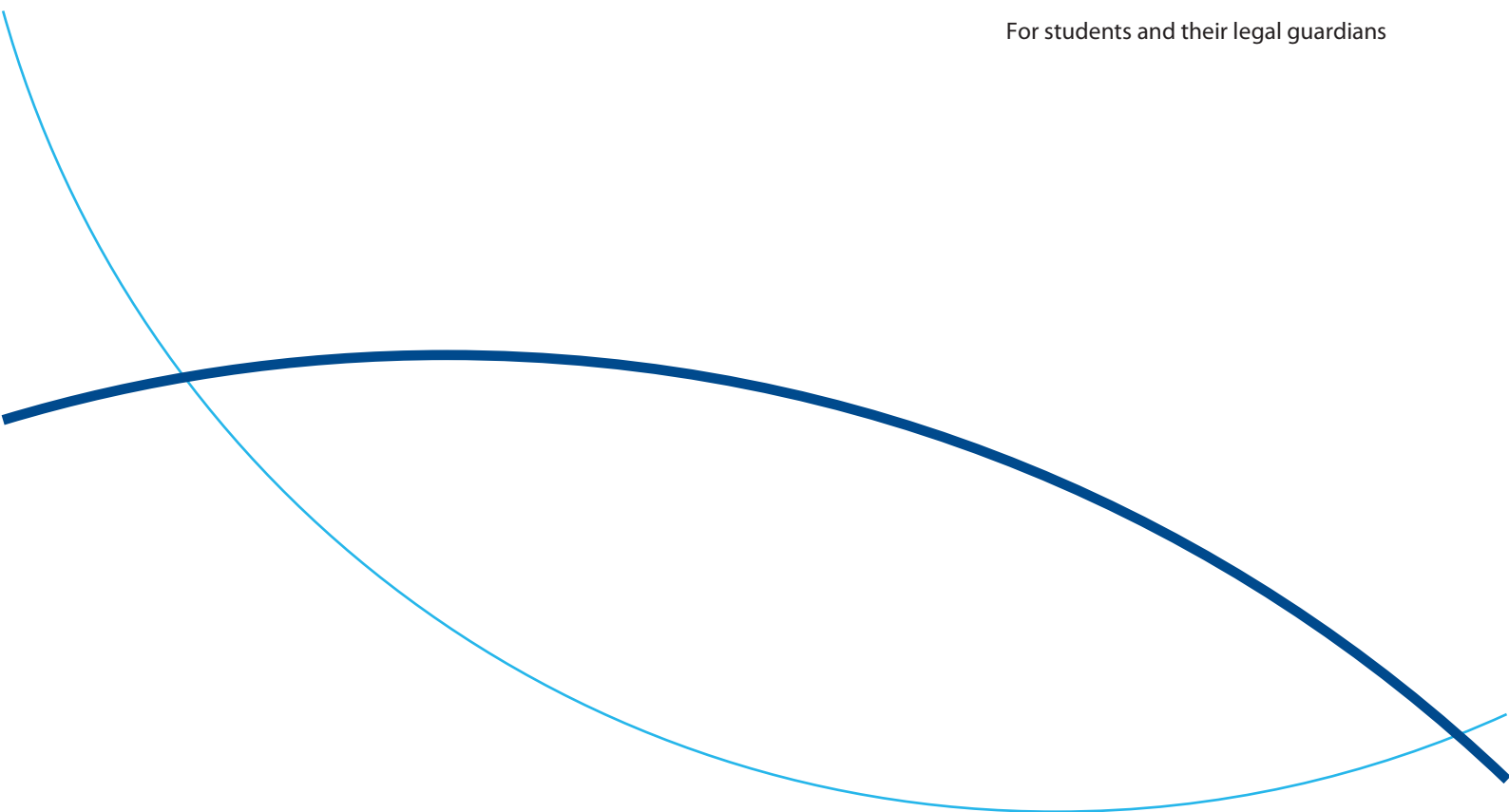
International Baccalaureate®  
Baccalauréat International  
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Primary Years Programme

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# General regulations: Primary Years Programme

For students and their legal guardians



**Primary Years Programme**  
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# I General

## Article 1: Scope

- 1.1 The International Baccalaureate Organization (hereinafter “the IB Organization”) is a foundation that has developed and offers three programmes of international education entitled the “Primary Years Programme” (PYP), the “Middle Years Programme” (MYP) and the “Diploma Programme”. It authorizes schools to offer one or more of these programmes to its students.
- 1.2 An “IB World School” (hereinafter “school”) is a school that has been authorized by the IB Organization to offer one or more of its programmes.
- 1.3 This document describes the regulations that apply to those schools that have been authorized as IB World Schools to offering the PYP.
- 1.4 When used herein the term “legal guardians” encompasses parents and individuals with guardianship of any student enrolled in the PYP.

## Article 2: Role and responsibilities of schools

- 2.1 In addition to the articles in these general regulations *General regulations: Primary Years Programme* (hereinafter “general regulations”), schools must comply with the *Rules for IB World Schools: Primary Years Programme*, which are detailed in a separate document.
- 2.2 The IB Organization has established a curriculum framework, as well as standards, practices and requirements for the implementation of the PYP, which is an inclusive programme aimed at students in the 3–12 age group.
- 2.3 Because the IB Organization is not a teaching institution and does not provide teaching services to students, the PYP is implemented and taught by IB World Schools. Schools are entirely independent from the IB Organization and are solely responsible for the implementation and quality of teaching of the PYP.
- 2.4 Schools are responsible for informing legal guardians regarding the general characteristics of the PYP and how the school implements it.
- 2.5 The IB Organization cannot guarantee that a school will remain capable and willing to implement the PYP. Consequently, schools bear sole responsibility towards students and legal guardians if, for any reason, a school’s authorization to implement the PYP is withdrawn by the IB Organization or a school decides to terminate its authorization.

# II The Primary Years Programme

## Article 3: Content and implementation of the programme

- 3.1 A primary school, or primary section of a school, must offer the PYP as an inclusive programme for all students in the 3–12 age group.
- 3.2 Schools must implement the PYP in conformity with the *Programme standards and practices, Making the PYP happen: A curriculum framework for international primary education; Making the PYP happen: Pedagogical leadership in a PYP school* and the current *PYP Coordinator’s handbook*—the procedures manual issued by the IB Organization for schools.
- 3.3 Teaching and learning in the PYP is predominantly in the context of transdisciplinary themes and through the pedagogy of inquiry that promotes the construction of meaning by students.
- 3.4 Schools must provide instruction in the learning of a language other than the principal language of instruction of the school from at least the age of seven. Schools are not required to offer a third language to their students.

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- 3.5 Schools carry out all teaching and assessment alone, without any intervention or supervision from the IB Organization. This includes the assessment of each student's development in the areas described in the IB learner profile and of each student's learning as demonstrated during the PYP exhibition in the final year of the programme.
  - 3.6 The IB Organization does not award any form of diploma or certificate of merit in connection with the PYP and permits recognition only of a student's participation in the programme, for which purpose it makes available to schools an optional PYP "Certificate of participation", which they may choose to issue to their students.
  - 3.7 Legal guardians must use the school's PYP coordinator as the intermediary for any communication with the IB Organization.
  - 3.8 If legal guardians have any questions regarding the general content (curriculum and philosophy) of the PYP or how a school implements it, they must address themselves to the school's PYP coordinator.

#### **Article 4: Use of materials produced by students**

- 4.1 Students produce materials in a variety of forms during the course of their schoolwork. These materials (hereinafter "the materials") include all forms of written work, audio and visual materials and, in certain cases, materials containing images of the students. From time to time, the IB Organization may ask schools for samples of these materials to use for educational, training and/or promotional purposes relating to the IB Organization's activities, or to those related activities of which it approves.
- 4.2 Upon students entering the PYP, schools must ask legal guardians to indicate in writing whether they agree to their child's materials being submitted to the IB Organization from time to time for educational, training and/or promotional purposes relating to the IB Organization's activities, or to those related activities of which it approves.
- 4.3 By providing written consent to schools, legal guardians are granting the IB Organization a non-exclusive, charge-free, worldwide licence, for the duration of the statutory copyright protection, to reproduce submitted materials in any medium for the uses outlined in article 4.1.
- 4.4 Where the IB Organization uses these materials, it may modify, translate or otherwise change them to meet particular needs and will anonymize them before publication in print or in electronic form.

#### **Article 5: Use of student data**

The IB may use data in ways relevant to carrying out its legitimate purposes and functions, such as research on IB students' educational paths and performance, and will take due care in the use, collection and storage of data and do its utmost to keep all data accurate, timely and secure.

## III Final provisions

#### **Article 6: Governing law**

Swiss law governs these general regulations.

#### **Article 7: Arbitration**

Any dispute arising from or in connection with these general regulations shall be finally settled by arbitration, taking place in and in accordance with the rules applicable in Geneva, Switzerland. The proceedings shall be confidential and the language of the arbitration shall be English.

#### **Article 8: Entry into force and transitory rules**

This version of *General regulations: Primary Years Programme* shall enter into force on 1 September 2011 for PYP schools whose school year begins in August/September, or on 1 January 2012 for PYP schools whose school year begins in January/February. The IB Organization may amend these general regulations from time to time.