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THE IB DIPLOMA PROGRAMME | GLENFOREST S.S.

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IB DIPLOMA  
COURSE  
OUTLINES





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## CENTER OF THE HEXAGON | GLENFOREST S.S.

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The IB Diploma requirements consist of 6 courses and a unique set of 3 experiences which form what is referred to in IB as the **Center of the Hexagon**. These 3 tasks, are unique to the IB Diploma Programme and form the basis of study for all IB students.

The critical thinking aspect of TOK, one of the components at the center of the Hexagon is a thread which weaves through all of the academic courses. The IB Diploma Programme expects students to embrace the philosophy represented by the center of the Hexagon in their approach to all of their courses.

The strength and value of the IB diploma is that students are provided with experiential learning opportunities and encouraged to reflect upon their learning.

### TOK | THE THEORY OF KNOWLEDGE

When does belief become knowledge? If the Big Bang made everything then what made the Big Bang? Why are scientists looking to art to find answers to some of the most puzzling dilemmas in evolutionary biology and quantum physics? Do we learn more about human nature from biology, psychology, history or literature? Is math invented in our heads or discovered in the world? Can you have a sound without a hearer, a colour without a seer? These are the kinds of fascinating questions we discuss in Theory of Knowledge, an interdisciplinary course that looks at how and what we humans can actually know! Aimed at developing broad-mindedness, critical and creative thinking, TOK is sure to be enjoyed by bright young people looking to get philosophical, broaden their vision and investigate the supportive, if semi-illusory, framework of their reality!

TOK  
EXTENDED ESSAY  
CAS





### EXTENDED ESSAY:

- Is an opportunity for students to explore a topic of interest in depth
- Is completed under the guidance of a Mentor
- Is completed independently by the student
- Usually represents 40 hours of work
- Is approximately 4,000 words in length
- Is written on the student's topic of choice
- Is highly regarded by universities

### CREATIVITY, ACTION, SERVICE (CAS)

- 150 hours community service during the anticipated and diploma years (grade 11 and 12)
- 50 hours each of creativity, action and service

### THE LINK BETWEEN TOK, CAS, & EE

**TOK** is the “Jewel in the Crown”;  
the driving force of the entire IB Programme

**Extended Essay** - What is learned in TOK helps students analyze themselves so that they can identify what they are interested in exploring through the Extended Essay.

**CAS** - TOK helps students identify the aspects of the learning outcomes which they possess and those which they need to further develop. With this knowledge, students can appropriately plan their CAS activities.





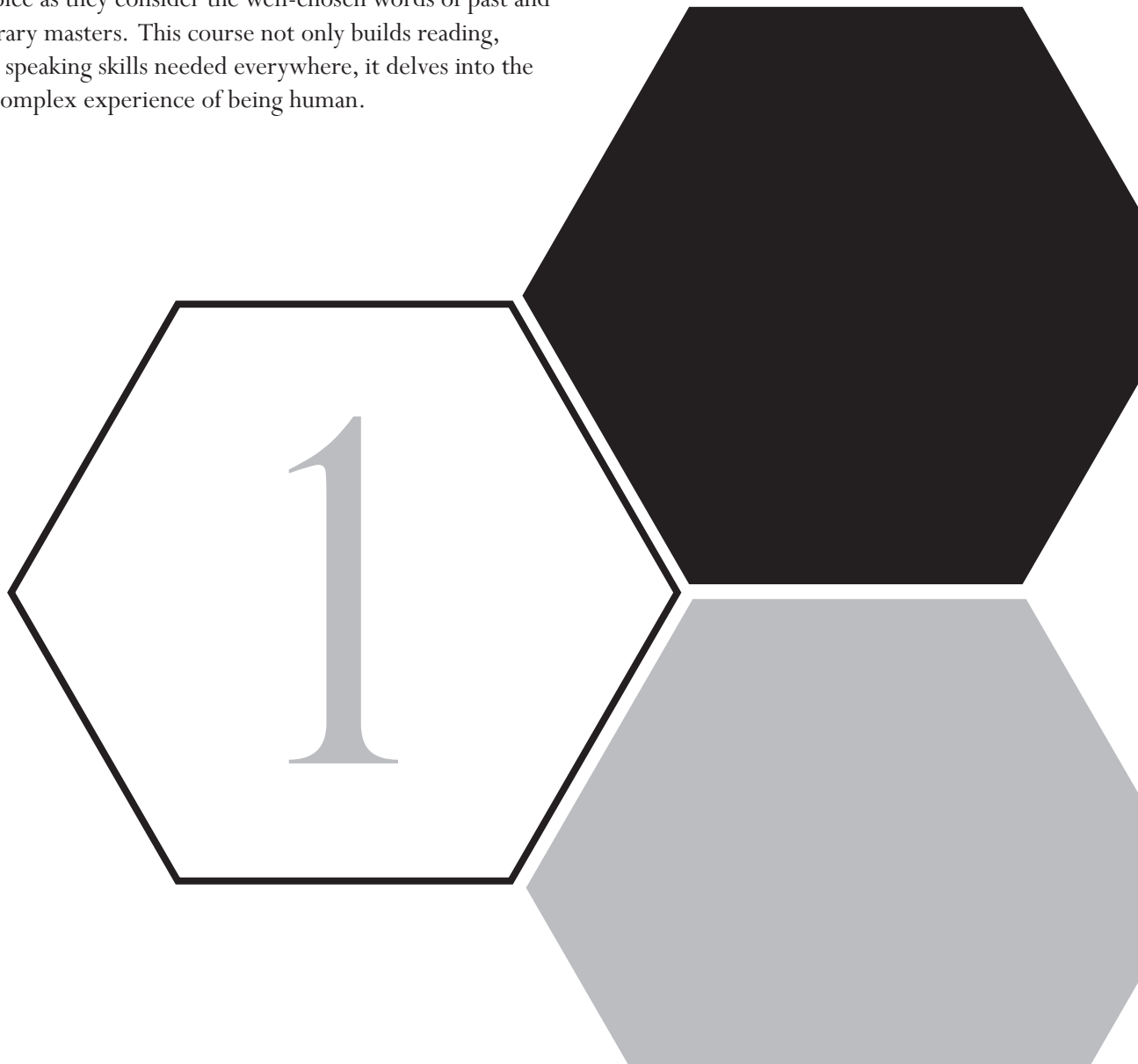
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## GROUP 1 OFFERINGS | LANGUAGE A1 | GLENFOREST S.S.

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### HL ENGLISH

Students of *IB HL English* will laugh at farcical comedy, feel a chill during gloom-filled tragedy, be moved by Romantic poetry, appreciate the barb of pointed political satire, ponder the future painted in the pages of imaginative science fiction and, live through the ups and downs of affecting real-life narratives. All of this while sharpening vital oral and written communication skills and learning to appreciate the interaction of style and content in great literature! There are ample chances to be creative and analytical, to have fun and to take a thoughtful turn. Students can sound their own maturing voice as they consider the well-chosen words of past and present literary masters. This course not only builds reading, writing and speaking skills needed everywhere, it delves into the profound, complex experience of being human.





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## GROUP 2 OFFERINGS | SECOND LANGUAGE | GLENFOREST S.S.

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### SL FRENCH

*Parlez-vous français?*

This course will enable students in the IB French programme at Glenforest to learn about the international importance of French as a first language in many nations throughout the world, in addition to France and Quebec. La Francophonie will be incorporated throughout the course, and thus aid students in developing competence in language, cultural interaction and message. Through a variety of different reading, listening and writing activities IB French students will continue to perfect their skills in a very enjoyable and interactive atmosphere. Students will be exposed to a variety of authentic French text and media, such as: poetry, song, film, newspaper and journal articles. The course will offer excursions to further immerse students in Francophone culture.

*Vive la Francophonie! Venez fêter avec nous!!*

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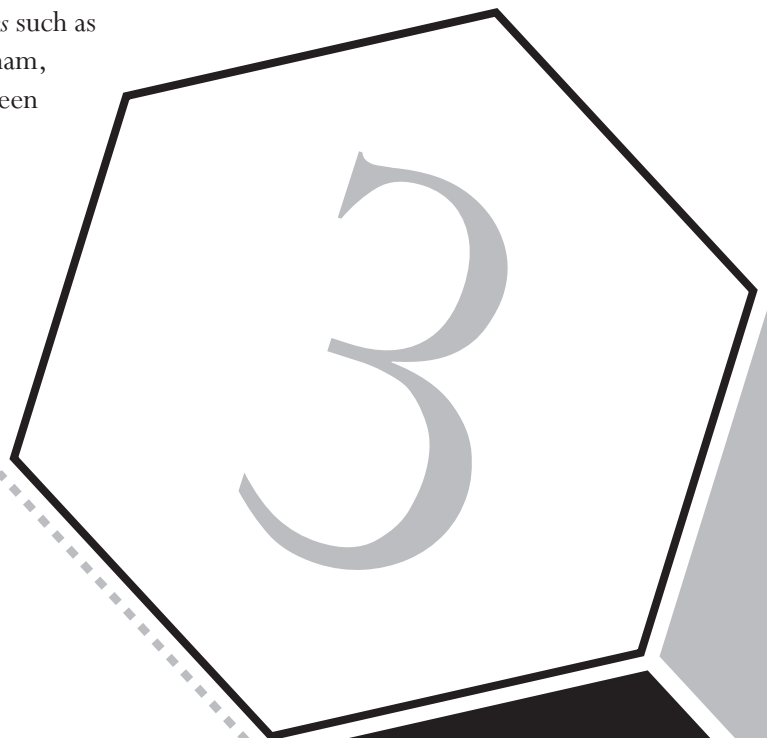


## GROUP 3 OFFERINGS | INDIVIDUALS AND SOCIETIES | GLENFOREST S.S.

### SL HISTORY | 20TH CENTURY WORLD HISTORY | PEACEMAKING

The twentieth century world, with its social, political, economic, technological, religious and cultural nuances, can be appreciated best perhaps through an understanding of its globalization. It was during the twentieth century that the world became more of an interconnected unity – events on one side of the globe had immediate repercussions on the other. The world was filled with states and nations that became inextricably linked by finance and trade, waged wars with advanced technology, and negotiated peace using sophisticated diplomatic practices. It was a world in which people, many directly affected or influenced by internationalism, fought for individual liberties and a higher standard of living, saw their ancestral religious and historic rulers in a new light, formed new political parties, and joined revolutionary movements.

To appreciate the dynamics of the twenty-first century, students must understand the struggles of the twentieth. The IB History course analyzes three principal twentieth-century topics: *wars and revolutions* such as World War One, the Chinese Civil War, the Indo-Pakistani Wars, the Gulf War; *the rise and development of single party states* such as Germany, U.S.S.R., Argentina, China, Korea, Vietnam, Kenya; and *the Cold War*, particularly relations between the U.S., U.S.S.R., China and Germany.





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## GROUP 3 OFFERINGS | INDIVIDUALS AND SOCIETIES | GLENFOREST S.S.

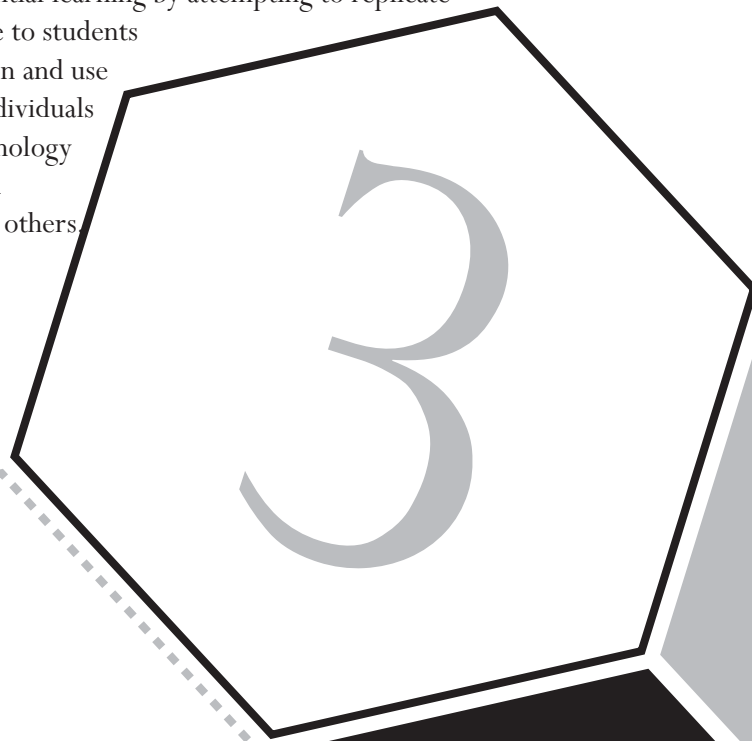
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### HL ECONOMICS

Economics is essentially about the concept of scarcity and the problem of resource allocation. Economics helps explain the actions of individuals, businesses and nations. To achieve this understanding, students are taught to consider economic theories, ideas and happenings from the points of view of different individuals, nations and cultures in the world economy. Topics include: introductory economic theory, microeconomics and the theory of the firm, macroeconomics, international economics and development economics.

### HL PSYCHOLOGY

Psychology is the study of behaviour and experience. It is one of the three main branches of social science, offering students an interesting look at the intersection of the studies of biology and human culture. Throughout the course, students will be introduced to the three major psychological perspectives (biological, cognitive and learning) which are lenses that affect the ways in which our behaviour is interpreted. Students in psychology will have the opportunity to learn about the psychology of dysfunctional behaviour (more commonly known as abnormal psychology), cultural psychology, social psychology and/or lifespan psychology through the examination of well known experiments and foundational studies. Students will also test the validity of these major studies through experiential learning by attempting to replicate their findings. This course is of increasing relevance to students who may find that the rapid increase in globalization and use of technology calls for greater insights into how individuals interpret meanings, relationships and health. Psychology addresses these complex issues so that students can develop a greater understanding of themselves and others.





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## GROUP 4 OFFERINGS | EXPERIMENTAL SCIENCES | GLENFOREST S.S.

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### SL/HL BIOLOGY

Biologists have accumulated huge amounts of information about living organisms, and it would be easy to confuse students by teaching large numbers of seemingly unrelated facts. In the Diploma Programme biology course, it is hoped that students will acquire a limited body of facts and, at the same time, develop a broad, general understanding of the principles of the subject.

Although the Diploma Programme Biology course at standard level (SL) and higher level (HL) has been written as a series of discrete statements (for assessment purposes), there are four basic biological concepts that run throughout. These are: Structure and Function; Universality versus Diversity; Equilibrium within Systems; and Evolution

These four concepts serve as themes that unify the various topics that make up the three sections of the course: the core, the additional higher level (AHL) material and the options.

*It is also strongly recommended that all students buy a Biology IB Study Guide @ \$40.00*

### SL/HL CHEMISTRY

Chemistry is an experimental science that combines academic study with the acquisition of practical and investigational skills. It is called the central science, as chemical principles underpin both the physical environment in which we live and all biological systems. Apart from being a subject worthy of study in its own right, chemistry is a prerequisite for many other courses in higher education, such as medicine, biological science and environmental science, and serves as useful preparation for employment.

The IB Standard Level (SL) Chemistry course is a one year two Semester course of study completed in the grade 11 year. It is recommended for students who are interested in science and enjoyed Chemistry in grade 10.

The IB Higher Level (HL) Chemistry Course is a more rigorous two year – three Semester course of study and is recommended for the student who is very interested in Science. By its very nature, Chemistry lends itself to an experimental approach and, this will be reflected throughout both the SL and the HL the courses.

*A Data Booklet will be provided for all tests, quizzes and the final exam.*

*It is also strongly recommended that all students buy a Chemistry IB Study Guide @ \$40.00*



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## GROUP 4 OFFERINGS | EXPERIMENTAL SCIENCES | GLENFOREST S.S.

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### SL PHYSICS

Physics is a fundamental science and those who study it will gain an understanding of the basic laws that govern everything from the very small subatomic scale to the very large cosmos scale. The study of physics provides us with an unparalleled power of analysis that is useful in the study of the other sciences, engineering, and mathematics, as well as daily life.

The topics of core study include: measurement and interpreting experimental data, mechanics, thermal physics, waves, electricity and magnetism, and atomic physics. The optional topics selected are optics, and an extension of core mechanics.

Assessment is based on individual laboratory work (24%), and an IB exam (76%).

A group project is required that includes interaction with the other sciences (chemistry & biology). This standard level course begins in September and culminates with an exam in May.

*Here at Glenforest we use a Physics book that is written expressly for the IB curriculum. In addition, students are encouraged buy a \$40 study guide that summarizes the key elements of the curriculum.*

#### *Objectives for all group 4 subjects:*

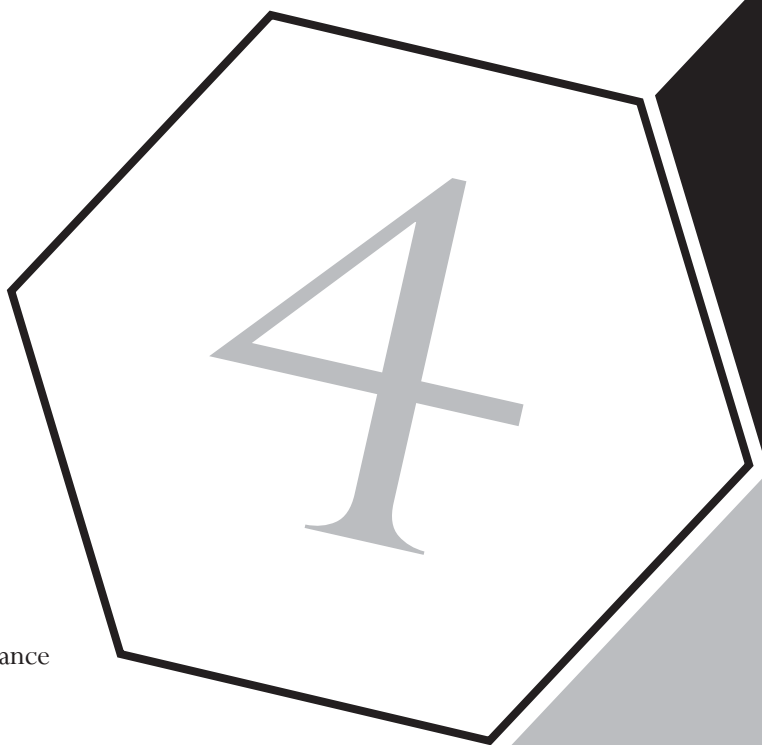
Demonstrate an understanding of:  
scientific methods and techniques  
scientific facts and concepts  
scientific terminology  
methods of presenting scientific information.

Apply and use:  
scientific facts and concepts  
scientific methods and techniques  
scientific terminology to communicate effectively  
appropriate methods to present scientific information.

Construct, analyse and evaluate:  
hypotheses, research questions and predictions  
scientific methods and techniques  
scientific explanations.

Demonstrate the personal skills of cooperation, perseverance and responsibility appropriate for effective scientific investigation and problem solving, as well as

Demonstrate the manipulative skills necessary to carry out scientific investigations with precision and safety.





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## GROUP 5 OFFERINGS | MATHEMATICS | GLENFOREST S.S.

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### SL MATHEMATICS

Mathematics SL covers seven compulsory topics: algebra; functions and equations; circular functions and trigonometry; matrices; vectors; statistics and probability; and calculus. By completing the 3 Pre IB Mathematics courses offered in the Glenforest IB Preparatory programme, students will be well prepared for the expectations of SL Mathematics.

This course caters to students who already possess knowledge of basic mathematical concepts, and who are equipped with the skills needed to apply simple mathematical techniques correctly. The majority of these students will expect to need a sound mathematical background as they prepare for future studies in subjects such as chemistry, economics, psychology, architecture, engineering and business administration.

### HL MATHEMATICS

This course caters to students with a strong background in mathematics who are competent in a range of analytical and technical skills. The majority of these students will be expecting to include mathematics as a major component of their university studies, either as a subject in its own right or within courses such as physics, engineering and technology. Others may take this subject because they have a strong interest in mathematics and enjoy meeting its challenges and engaging with its problems.

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## GROUP 6 OFFERINGS | THE ARTS | GLENFOREST S.S.

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### SL/HL ART

The impulse to make art is common to all people. From earliest times, human beings have displayed a fundamental need to create personal, social, cultural and aesthetic meaning through art. Artistic learning requires a high level of cognitive activity that is both intellectual and emotional. For students to communicate visually they must locate themselves within a cultural context, or contexts, from which to discover and develop appropriate techniques.

*The aims of the Visual Arts course at Higher Level and Standard Level are to:*

- Provide students with opportunities to make personal, sociocultural and aesthetic experiences meaningful through the production and understanding of art
- Exemplify and encourage an inquiring and integrated approach towards visual arts in their various historical and contemporary forms
- Promote visual and contextual knowledge of art from various cultures
- encourage the pursuit of quality through experimentation and purposeful creative work in various expressive media
- Enable students to learn about themselves and others through individual and, where appropriate, collaborative engagement with the visual arts





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## GROUP 6 OFFERINGS | THE ARTS | GLENFOREST S.S.

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### SL/HL MUSIC

The study of music allows for exploration of the shared human perceptions and emotions which temper our lives; those common or singular experiences which by other means are imperfectly expressed, or cannot be expressed at all. The art of music demands that the educated musician and music lover be able to recognize and articulate musical elements realized in diverse examples of music making.

*The aims of the Music course at Higher Level and Standard Level are to:*

- Give students the opportunity to explore and enjoy the diversity of music throughout the world
- Encourage students to develop perceptual skills through a breadth of musical experiences, where they will learn to recognize, speculate, analyse, identify, discriminate and hypothesize in relation to music
- Enable students to develop creatively their knowledge, abilities and understanding through performance and composition
- Assist students to develop their potential as musicians both personally and collaboratively, in whatever capacity, to the fullest

*Students are expected to:*

- Use appropriate language and terminology to describe their critical understanding of music
- Develop their perceptual skills in response to music
- Demonstrate an understanding of music in relation to time and place

*In Higher Level students will:*

- Develop their performance skills through solo music making
- Develop their compositional skills through exploration and investigation of musical elements

*In Standard Level students will:*

- Choose to develop their performance skills through solo or ensemble music making or develop their compositional skills through exploration and investigation of musical elements





**Grade 9 and 10** - grade 9 and 10 students are taking Ontario courses not IB courses. Therefore students are marked according to Ontario criteria. Some of the Pre IB courses however have been designed to introduce the structure, language and expectations of IB to the Pre IB students. In addition, a lot of care and attention has been paid to the sequence of courses students are expected to take in grade 9 and 10 in order to ensure that they meet all the Ontario requirements for an Ontario Secondary School Diploma - OSSD.

**Grade 11 and 12** - The IB Diploma Programme begins in grade 11 and covers two years; grade 11 and 12 - or in IB language, the Anticipated year (grade 11) and the Diploma year (grade 12). All Diploma courses are evaluated on a scale 1 - 7. Levels 5,6 and 7 are at the upper end (like an Ontario level 4 -, 4 and 4+) and an IB level 4 is the average - like our **Ontario** level 3.

It is important to note that assessment criteria is unique to each individual course. Teachers of IB courses, will clarify specific assessment criteria for **each** course with the students. These will usually include the exam and the Internal Assessment consisting of either a portfolio, an essay, an oral, a project, a recording, or a research workbook. Exams are written in May and consist of either 2 or 3 papers.

**Ontario Credits:** All IB courses are assigned Ontario course codes and are eligible for Ontario credits.

**Predicted Grades:** In March of the exam year, teachers submit predicted grades to IB based on course performance, Internal Assessments, sample exams and grade descriptors which are the IB expectations for the levels 1 - 7. That predicted grade, is then entered as the **midterm mark** as a **percentage grade** using the Marks Translation Scale (see below), in the second semester. This mark remains unchanged until the final grade is released by IB in July.

**Final Grades:** On July 5th IB releases the final marks (Levels 1 - 7) for all courses in which exams were written the previous May. At that time, the final mark is entered as a percentage for the Ontario credits based on the Marks Translation Scale as developed by IB Schools in Ontario in conjunction with Ontario Universities.

**The Marks Translation Scale:** The reporting system for Ontario **cannot** accept a level 1 - 7. As a result for reporting purposes, schools have to translate the IB level that a student earns to a percentage mark. translation of Levels into percentages occurs only at mid-term and final report cards. The marks attached to the IB levels set out in the translation scale are intended as a reflection of not only the content and scope of the IB courses, but also an acknowledgement of the unique requirements of the center of the hexagon.

**MARKSTRANSLATION SCALE**

| LEVEL | ONTARIO % | LEVEL | ONTARIO % |
|-------|-----------|-------|-----------|
| 7     | 96% - 99% | 3     | 60% - 69% |
| 6     | 90% - 95% | 2     | 50% - 60% |
| 5     | 80% - 89% | 1     | 40% - 49% |
| 4     | 70% - 79% |       |           |





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## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION | GLENFOREST S.S.

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### IB Fees:

There is no fee for the grade 9 and 10 Preparatory IB Programme at Glenforest S.S.

There is a fee for the Diploma Programme in grade 11 and 12. It is not a tuition fee, rather it is intended to offset the costs of offering the programme, belonging to the IB organization and the administering of the examinations including the courier costs.

The fee schedule is as follows:

Full Diploma Programme: \$2,400.00 (payments due in 4 installments of \$600.00 beginning in February of the grade 10 year)

Certificate Courses (currently only available at the SL level) : cost per course: each SL course = \$300.00,  
Each HL course = \$550.00 (HL courses are available as certificate only under special circumstances and only in the grade 12 year)

IB and University Admission: Ontario Universities receive both the Ontario grade and the IB predicted grades. Final IB grades are sent directly to the universities from IB at the request of the student. Beyond Ontario Universities IB transcripts are forwarded at the request of the students.

Each University has its own way of evaluating student applications depending on the admissions policies and requirements for the various programs. Some universities offer Transfer Credits for some IB courses. Students and their families must research the offerings/opportunities at individual universities according to their area of interest and their Post Secondary Education plan.

Benefits of the IB Diploma Programme: There are many advantages to the programme and visiting the IB website at [www.ibo.org](http://www.ibo.org) will provide specific information about the IB as a world wide organization.

The IB programme provides unique opportunities for students interested in preparing for success at university. In particular the Extended Essay, CAS and TOK are unique to the programme. In addition, all courses are independently evaluated by an external examiner which means that students will be assessed consistently with other students around the world. IB students gain experience in writing world wide exams, again a good preparation for university.

In addition, the courses are designed to form a cohesive broad liberal arts experience with connections and integration between the subjects as a major focus. IB values the journey and the growth of the student over the two years more than anything else. This is demonstrated by the requirements of the centre of the hexagon. The Theory of Knowledge course, the Extended Essay, and CAS (Creativity, Action and Service) as well as the emphasis on Global Mindedness are integral components of the Diploma Programme.



For more information refer to our website at [www.glenforestlibrary.com](http://www.glenforestlibrary.com)



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## ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES | GLENFOREST S.S.

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With the successful completion of the grade 9 and 10 IB preparatory programme, pre-IB students are invited to join the IB Diploma Programme for grades 11 and 12. The Diploma Programme is a comprehensive program including 3 SL and 3 HL courses as well as ToK, EE and CAS.

Peel District School Board Regional Programme Policy # 73 indicates that if a student leaves a regional Program, they are required to return to their home school. Students who withdraw from the Diploma Programme may be considered for available courses for SL certificates. Because of the nature of the Diploma Programme, certificates are only available for courses at the SL level. HL courses are not available to be selected as certificates in the grade 11 year. In grade 12 and only under special circumstances may a student take an HL course as a certificate. Exceptions include art and music with the permission of the teacher and the coordinator.

Students should remember that they are making a commitment for a two year program including the completion of the requirements for ToK, EE and CAS which are mandatory requirements of the Diploma Programme and are necessary to earn the IB Diploma. As a result, remember that they are choosing courses for the next two years and it is not normally possible to change courses once the school year has begun. The following time lines are established for course selections and withdrawal from the Diploma Programme:

- **February** of the grade 10 year - students in the Diploma Programme choose courses for the next two years;
- **May/June** of the grade 10 year - students not in the Diploma Programme who have selected an SL course as a certificate are informed of the availability of the course;
- **September** of the grade 11 year - students may make a limited number of course changes. Students may choose at this time to withdraw from the Diploma Programme and switch to an academic program at their home school. Students who withdraw may be considered for available courses for SL certificates.
- **February** of the grade 11 year - students confirm their courses for grade 12 of the Diploma Programme (i.e. their 3HL courses, SL French and ToK). At this time, students may choose to leave the Diploma Programme and switch to an academic program for grade 12 at their home school. Note that it is not possible at this time to make any changes to individual student's grade 11 IB courses;
- **June** of the grade 11 year - students may choose to leave the IB Diploma Programme and switch to an academic program at their home school. The two SL courses completed in grade 11 will be automatically converted by IB to certificate status;
- **September** of the grade 12 year - students may choose to leave the IB Diploma Programme and switch to an academic program at their home school.

### EXPECTATIONS

All IB students should refer to their agendas for Glenforest rules and expectations regarding attendance, lates, deadlines & plagiarism

As a successful IB Programme, Glenforest S.S. has put in place a structure to ensure that all IB students have the opportunity to be successful. This includes internal deadlines that have been designed to balance the students' workload over the two years and meet the expectations of the IB external assessments. IB students are expected to meet all internal Glenforest deadlines.

It is important that students be aware that failure to meet the requirements of the programme may result in the loss of the Diploma and or cause the student to be removed from the IB Programme. Breaches can include:

- Plagiarism;
- Failure to complete a reasonable number of CAS hours by the end of the anticipated year (grade 11);
- Failure to meet internal IB deadlines for course work , specifically Internal Assessments; or
- Failure to meet the conditions of the EE.

