

Admissions Policy 2022/2024

The IB Diploma Programme is a challenging, broad and balanced two-year programme of international education for students aged 16 to 19. The programme is designed to equip students with the basic academic skills needed for university study, further education and their chosen profession, as well as developing the values and life-skills needed to live a fulfilled and purposeful life.

Requirements

IB at Vardafjell requires a student to study languages, social sciences, natural sciences and mathematics over two years. It is based on the first year of Norwegian videregående skole, or similar academic preparation. The IB Diploma course is taught in English, and is designed to cater for internationally mobile student applicants and Norwegian students interested in a secondary school education offering notably a somewhat greater in depth study in three of the university preparatory subjects, taught in English.

Admissions Committee and decision-making process

All students that have completed Vg1 studiespesialisering or Vg1 studieforbereidende in the national school system may apply to the IB Diploma Programme (DP). However, we do recommend that students attend Bilingual Vg1 (Internasjonal klasse) at Vardafjell to be prepared for the DP.

The Admissions Committee is comprised of the IB coordinator and the school's YoU rådgiver (youth and education counsellor). When appropriate, additional members of staff (usually Vg1 subject teachers) will also be consulted. Application files are reviewed by each member in turn and comments/recommendations are circulated on paper in accordance with the GDPR regulations. In cases where it is deemed necessary, the Committee will meet to discuss issues relating to the application in question. *The final recommendation on all applications rests with the IBDP coordinator.* Rogaland Fylkeskommune pass the resolution about intake.

Necessary qualifications:

- Completed Vg1 studiespesialisering or Vg1 studieforbereidende
- Grade 4 or better in Vg1 English – or a similar English course
- Satisfactory grades in Vg1 1T Mathematics – or similar level of mathematics
- A fulfilled IB middle years program (MYP5) – mature students with good academic records will also be considered after MYP4
- IGSCE



- Completed 10th grade in the Norwegian school system if students are mature and have completed Matematikk 1T and Vg1 naturfag
- Equivalent qualifications to any of the above, including a minimum of 10 years of schooling

Personal Interviews and School Visits

While it is not always possible for overseas families to arrange a visit of the school, it is always preferable to do so. The school reserves the right to request to meet in person any applicant in cases where this is considered necessary (for instance, if the candidate has never attended school in Norway before, has had a lengthy absence etc.).

Furthermore, a compulsory interview will always be required to discuss a candidate's application in more depth in order for a decision to be made. The interview will focus on the candidate's motivation and choice of subjects. An entrance examination in English and/or Mathematics may also be required if the admissions committee is unsure of the student's ability in one or both subjects.

Criteria for admission

Each candidate's application materials are carefully studied in order to assess suitability for admission. We look for candidates:

- who are motivated/determined
- whose academic performance is average to excellent
- whose conduct is good overall, and who are respectful to others
- who are committed to the school's vision, mission and philosophy
- who are internationally-minded
- who would benefit from the IBDP curriculum
- who want to take a full IB Diploma
- whose qualities would enrich the IB community and be a positive contribution to it
- who have a registered address in Rogaland county or parts of Hordaland county (Sveio, Vindafjord, Bømlo) by the application deadline which is March 1st.

Applicants who are in the process of moving to the region are eligible to apply for a place. They will, however, not secure a place until they provide documentation to prove that they have moved to an address in Rogaland or parts of Hordaland (Sveio, Vindafjord, Bømlo) together with or in order to join their parent(s) before the start of the school year. Students must have registered address in Rogaland or parts of Hordaland (Sveio, Vindafjord, Bømlo) throughout the time they attend the school.

Students should usually follow the same age cohort as Vg2 and Vg3 students in Norwegian public schools. Students at Upper Secondary courses typically begin at Vg2 in their 17th year.

The Admissions Committee has the right to accept or refuse any applicant based on their assessment of the applicant's suitability.



To stay in the IB Program

Students will need to meet all requirements listed in the 2IB calendar before they are allowed to start 3IB, including the TOK exhibition, first draft of the EE and have completed any other IA processes listed in the 2IB year calendar. Students will have the first 20 full school days of the 2IB year to “switch” IB courses. Students’ grades will be reviewed at Christmas, and students with predicted grades lower than 20 marks in total will be placed on Academic Probation. Grades will be reviewed at the end of 2IB. Students with predicted grades lower than a total of 20 marks will be advised to start Vg2 studiespesialiserende instead of moving to 3IB.

How to apply:

Electronic applications should be submitted to www.vigo.no by 1 March.

All applicants must also fill out an IB application form which is to be sent directly to the school. The form is to be found on the homepage of the school. An important part of this application is a *400 word motivational letter* where the applicant writes about the reason/background for the wish to start the IBDP in Vardafjell upper secondary school. If you wish to apply, please print out the application form and send it to the school before 1 March.

Alternatively, if you are applying from abroad and do not have a Norwegian identity number and/or do not have records of previous schooling from Norway, you should send in an application in paper format to "Inntakskontoret" as well as applying directly to the school and sending the *motivational letter*.

Your application will be reviewed by the school’s Admissions Committee in April/May.

More information about the IB can be found on the school website and on the IBO website: <http://www.ibo.org/>

If you have any further questions, please contact the IB Coordinator at Vardafjell Upper Secondary School: Gro Torill S. Nypan
e-mail: gro.nypan@skole.rogfk.no

Ragnhild A. Alvsaker
Head of School

Gro Torill S. Nypan
IB coordinator

I hereby confirm that the Admissions Policy has been read and accepted:

Student signature

Parent/guardian signature

