



IB Diploma Subjects Predicted Grades Policy

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Review Date:	tbc
Reviewed by:	SMT
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Staff Responsibility:	Academic Deputy Head

Introduction

The aim of this policy is to ensure we can:

1. Demonstrate that we are creating predicted grades for each of our IB students in a way that follows the IB guidelines.
2. Ensure an equal playing field for all our IB Diploma students so that the process of creating predicted grades does not disadvantage or advantage any group of students or individuals
3. Protect the interests of all students and the integrity of their qualifications.
4. Protect the reputation of the school.

Deadlines

The IB have extended the date for final predicted grades for UK schools to be entered by Tuesday 11th May. With this in mind we have created an opportunity for students to confirm our grade predictions during a series of on-site assessments starting on Monday 26 April and ending on Wednesday 5 May. This gives staff time after this process to finalise their predicted grades.

Final assessment series

This assessment series is the final opportunity for students to confirm the grade that they are operating at whilst working under full examination conditions and with no access to the internet or course notes. In certain cases (e.g. where a student is on the borderline of two grades) it will help staff to confirm their final decision.

Each subject will have one assessment, with revision lists handed out by the end of the Spring term. The assessments will take place in the morning of each day, with time for revision beforehand. The series of assessments have deliberately been spread out to ensure that students have time to revise thoroughly, and to reduce stress levels.

The programme for the assessments is currently:

- Monday 26 April - Maths
- Tuesday 27 April – Language A
- Wednesday 28 April – Psychology
- Thursday 29 April – History/Geography
- Friday 30 April – Biology/Physics
- Monday 3 May (Bank Holiday – school runs as normal) – Chemistry
- Tuesday 4 May - Economics
- Wednesday 5 May – Group B Languages

The final assessment programme will be confirmed by the end of the Spring term.

Students do not have to take all of these assessments if they feel that they are happy with the full range of grades they have been awarded throughout the year, and they understand how their grade is being created. However, we are unable to share the final predicted grade in each subject with students or parents, and so each student will need to be clear about how their teachers are creating the grades.

The process of working out which students will sit assessments in each subject will be arrived at on a case by case basis. Students already know the grades they have achieved in each subject since the start of Year 12, they know the range of data we are using in each subject and this information will be consolidated through conversations students are having with their individual subject staff and tutors.

If these assessments are taken, the grade awarded will NOT stand alone as the final predicted grade in a particular subject, but it will contribute towards it.

The process whereby students, with staff support and advice, will decide their own individual programme is:

1. Staff will discuss attainment and performance throughout the course with each class to clarify which tasks and assessment points will be used to create predicted grades. This will be the same for every student in that class.
2. Students will complete an online Form to say which assessments they would like to take.
3. The IBDP and IBCP coordinators, along with the Head of Sixth Form, will look at this spreadsheet and then, after discussions with staff and students, finalise who is doing what. This is not a negotiating process, but a way to ensure each student is clear about the decision-making system and that opportunities to take an assessment are taken up by students where we feel it is in their best interests to do so.
4. A letter will go out to each student and their family explaining the process, the overall programme and the individual programme for that student. Each family will sign electronically to say that they have read the letter and agree to the assessments their son/daughter is doing (and to them not doing every assessment).

Final examination series for students not on-site

This final series of assessment are only available to students on-site or remotely for students who are unable to return to the UK (e.g. students currently in Hong Kong) or who are having to self-isolate due to having Covid or being contacted by NHS Track and Trace. A preference to learn remotely will not count as a reason to take the assessments online.

Where a student is sitting as assessment remotely, they and their parents/guardians must sign an honour form, and the assessment must take place with supervision (with an agent if possible) and with the camera and microphone on.

How to create predicted grades

IB guidance states that the predicted grade should be based on:

- All evidence of the candidate's work;
- The teacher's knowledge of their IB standards.

It is important that each prediction is made as accurately as possible, based on the IB published grade descriptors. Teachers should base their predicted grades on the expected overall performance of an individual in a subject. The predicted grade should reflect a candidate's overall understanding and their likely performance in the subject as a whole, not just on coursework tasks(s).

Internal Policy

The predicted grade should be based on the whole body of work that the student has completed (including internal assessment tasks and internal examination material).

The IB published grade descriptors are the foundation of awarding IB grades. The relevant IB Diploma Programme grade descriptors should be read carefully to determine which grade most closely describes the student's body of work, rather than highlights of it. Grade descriptors are holistic, describing skills and understanding that should be evident within a student's body of written, oral and practical work for a subject, in order to justify award of a particular grade. For a subject with a reduced assessment model, the student's body of work will reflect the modification, and the grade descriptors should be applied to that body of work using a best fit approach.

Expectations of students

Students need to engage positively and proactively with the process for creating predicted grades, and listen carefully to the advice of their subject staff. Students should speak to the IBDP Coordinator (Miss Loughlin) if they have any questions or concerns relating to predicted grades in any of their subjects. It is better to raise issues now rather than wait until July when grades are published.

Expectations of teachers

Staff must discuss how their predicted grades will be generated with students taking their subject, and be available for advice on a one-to-one basis. Staff will ensure a level playing field for all students, and be able to offer concrete evidence for all of their data points. Staff should consult with the IBDP coordinator if they are unsure of anything, and in order to ensure the IB grade allocation is suitable for their classes and fair to all students. Staff must not engage in conversations about grade allocations with students or discuss specific predicted grades.

Support for pupils with additional needs, e.g. AGT, SEND and EAL

Staff have considered any specific IB approved examination access arrangements when setting and supervising assessments. No further consideration should be given for the creation of predicted grades.

Further Details

Additional information can be found by consulting the IB Coordinator, Miss E Loughlin (eloughlin@windermerschool.co.uk)

Compiled	Version 20.1	March 2021	E Loughlin E Vermeulen
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