

International Baccalaureate Careers Certificate

For Year 12 & 13 Students



St Mary
Magdalene
Academy

Welcome

Thank you for showing an interest in studying in the sixth form at St Mary Magdalene Academy.

The Academy has decided to offer two parallel courses in the Sixth Form certified by the International Baccalaureate Organisation (IBO):

- **International Baccalaureate Diploma (IBD)**
- **International Baccalaureate Careers Certificate (IBCC)**

The **International Baccalaureate Diploma (IBD)** is a purely academic course and suits students who are confident learners, able to express themselves well orally and in writing, and can cope with the demands of external written exams.

The **International Baccalaureate Careers Certificate (IBCC)** is a brand new qualification. It allows students to combine the academic rigour of the existing IBD subjects with core elements designed to develop the whole person and to accompany this with a choice of more vocational subjects. This option allows students to keep all options open: University, Further Education and employment.

This brochure deals with the specifications of the IBCC. It explains the course and how to choose your options.

The aims of the International Baccalaureate Organisation fit very comfortably with our own vision to 'nurture fulfilled young people who are high achievers discovering their vocation in a global society.' They also complement our specialism in Humanities and Global Citizenship.

My commitment to the course is so whole hearted that I

deliver elements of the core programme. Like myself, teachers at St Mary Magdalene Academy are experienced graduate subject specialists who have all received specific training from the International Baccalaureate Organisation. Students choosing to continue their studies at St Mary Magdalene Academy will benefit from working in small groups and being given close support and attention from their subject teachers.

The Academy has set ambitious targets for academic performance for all its students from Reception to Year 13 and to this end progress is recorded, monitored and reviewed regularly. Parents/carers receive four reports a year as well as additional opportunities to meet with the academic and pastoral staff.

It is our hope that the Sixth Form students from St Mary Magdalene Academy will leave as confident learners, high achievers, well equipped for the challenges of University or employment and prepared to take their place in the modern global society.

I hope that you will consider applying to our Sixth Form. Please do not hesitate to get in touch with us at IBenquiries@smmacademy.org if you have any queries.



Principal.

The new Sixth Form has made an excellent start to challenging students to meet the demands of the International Baccalaureate Diploma. While examinations have not yet been taken, observations to teaching and learning, discussions with students and scrutiny of their work confirm that the quality of provision is outstanding. Highly effective and inspirational provision contributes to students making good progress.

Sixth Form teachers use a range of activities that are sharply and accurately focused on meeting individual student's needs.

Leaders are ambitious and expectations are high. These are reflected in a range of excellent initiatives which are shared and welcomed by staff, students and parents. There is a powerful trust to deliver the very best for students. Consequently, training for staff is rigorous as is the approach to monitoring and reviewing student performance, self-evaluation and planning for high results.



International Baccalaureate Careers Certificate

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Overview

The IBO has been providing courses throughout the world for the last 40 years. The qualifications are recognised by universities and employers around the globe. The IBCC is the newest development in its provision and offers a unique mix of academic and vocational elements which has long been missing in the United Kingdom.

The Three Elements

Academic		Core	Vocational
Pick two subjects, one from (a) and one from (b)		Four compulsory elements	Pick two subjects
List (a)	List (b)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Action Service • Approaches to Learning • Reflective Project • Basic Foreign Language* 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applied Business • Performing Arts • Travel & Tourism • Applied ICT • Design and Technology: Product Design
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Economics • Geography • History • Philosophy • Psychology • Sport, Exercise and Health Science 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chemistry • Film Studies • History • Italian • Music • Psychology • Spanish • Theatre • Visual Arts 		

Now read the course outlines before returning to look at your choice.

Academic	Vocational
(a)	(a)
(b)	(b)

* If you study a language from list (b) you do not have to take language in the Core element.

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Academic Certificates – 3 hours study per week

Chemistry

Chemistry contributes to our quality of life by enabling us to make new substances ranging from detergents and plastics to anti-cancer drugs; by helping us to monitor the environment, detect crime and much more. It is hard to imagine any product of today which did not require the creative talents of a chemist at some stage in its development.

In this course you will study organic, inorganic and physical chemistry, considering numbers infinitely large and particles infinitesimally small. You will learn crucial facts, as well as a wider range of transferable skills which will last a life time. The global environmental issues connected with chemistry will provide an international dimension to the course.

Studies are supported through practical work, the use of ICT and project based learning. All students participate in an interdisciplinary Group 4 project.

Assessment

	External Assessment	Internal Assessment
Standard Level	76%	24%
	3 papers (total 3 hours)	

Economics

Economics is a dynamic social science, forming part of the study of individuals and societies. The study of Economics is essentially about the concept of scarcity and the problem of resource allocation. Although Economics involves the formulation of theory, it is not a purely theoretical subject: economic theories are applied to real-world examples.

A key theme will be an awareness and understanding of internationalism in economics and you will look at issues of international and development economics. Internationalism can be defined as the ideal or practice of co-operation and understanding among countries. Economics has an important role to play in promoting such international cooperation and mutual understanding because of its focus on global issues.

Assessment

	External Assessment	Internal Assessment
Standard Level	75%	25%
	3 papers (total 3 hours)	A portfolio of four commentaries

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Academic Certificates – 3 hours study per week

Film Studies

Film is a powerful art form, and an important communication medium. This course aims to develop skills of critical analysis and practical filmmaking. You will use a combination of analysis, research, theory and creative work to study examples from British, American and World Cinema, examining their production, form and reception, and relating these to cultural, social and political contexts.

The course will encourage your creativity, inventiveness and imagination, and offers opportunities for both independent individual initiative and cooperative collaboration. You will make films of your own, learning the professional and technical skills of production, and engaging creatively in the art and craft of film.

Assessment

	External Assessment	Internal Assessment
Standard Level	50%	50%
	Independent study and 10 minute presentation	Production portfolio including a 4 to 5 minute film

Geography

Geography is concerned with place, the way people live and their interaction with the physical environment. It is influential in many of the world's most pressing economic, social and environmental issues. The course will enable you to develop an understanding of this inter-relationship whilst allowing you to develop key skills using a range of geographical methodologies and research techniques.

Internationalism is fundamental to the course and you will look at a wide range of social, political and economic issues from around the world. You will consider the concepts of global interdependence and the international impact on human activity of climate hazards, ecosystem destruction, globalisation and population growth and migration.

Assessment

	External Assessment	Internal Assessment
Standard Level	75%	25%
	2 papers (total 2 hours 50mins)	Fieldwork

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Academic Certificates – 3 hours study per week

History

This History course allows you to study the past as a means of understanding yourself and others. It is an exploratory subject that poses questions without always providing definite answers. It requires you to engage with historical sources, interpreting data and critically evaluating it. You will need to appreciate how the past has been interpreted through generations, allowing for alternative interpretations of events as well as developing empathy for people living in other periods and contexts.

You will study a broad range of worldwide historical issues and controversies from the late 19th and 20th centuries including the rise and rule of single party states, the development and fall of communism and the causes, practices and effects of war, peacemaking and peacekeeping.

Assessment

	External Assessment	Internal Assessment
Standard Level	75%	25%
	2 papers (total 2½ hours)	Free choice in-depth research

Modern Languages – Italian ab initio, Spanish standard level

Learning a language provides you with an exciting opportunity to communicate with people of different cultures and societies. When studying a language, you will be studying its culture and history as well as reflecting on your experiences in relation to your own first language.

All courses are designed to develop your confidence in using the language. The focus is on the four aspects of communicative languages: listening, speaking, reading and writing. You will have the opportunity to practise your conversational skills with native speakers of your chosen language. The cultural context is explored through authentic texts, films, some literature, contemporary press and internet based resources covering a wide range of subjects.

You can choose from learning a new language – Italian – or continue learning Spanish to standard level.

Assessment

	External Assessment	Internal Assessment
Standard Level	70%	30%
	2 papers (total 3 hours)	2 oral activities

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Academic Certificates – 3 hours study per week

Music

The Music course is ideal if you are passionate about music and want to develop your skills and understanding to an advanced level. The course covers a broad spectrum of musical styles and genres, encouraging you to engage with music from different times, places and cultures. It allows plenty of opportunity for you to pursue your own personal interests increasing your practical skills both in composing and performing.

You will learn to work both independently and collaboratively to create and perform music. You will develop investigative and thinking skills to allow you to critically appraise the music you study and develop techniques for comparative analysis of different pieces of music.

All students will study solo performance, group performance or composition.

Assessment

	External Assessment	Internal Assessment
Standard Level	50%	50%
	2 papers (total 3 hours)	Composition and performance

Philosophy

Philosophy is the pursuit of wisdom and forces you to confront academic questions you may have been pondering for years. These are the essential, big questions which have puzzled and perplexed great minds the world over for millennia. This course provides the opportunity for you to develop your skills as a young philosopher and reflect on the important business of 'doing philosophy'.

The core theme explores 'What does it mean to be a human being?' Covering issues of identity, artificial intelligence, free will and determinism. These and related philosophical themes are considered through the use a variety of media, cartoons, news articles and video clips. The characters of the set text, Plato's Republic provide a means to consider political philosophy, philosophy of education and ideas about justice.

Assessment

	External Assessment	Internal Assessment
Standard Level	70%	30%
	2 papers (total 2½ hours)	1600-2000 word project

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Academic Certificates – 3 hours study per week

Psychology

Psychology is the study of human beings as individuals and as members of social groups. This course focuses on the study of human experience and behaviours with specific reference to different perspectives: biological, cognitive and sociocultural.

Cultural diversity is explored and you are encouraged to develop empathy for the feelings, needs and lives of others within and outside your own culture.

You will follow a practical course in research methods and statistics and will be expected to conduct and interpret psychological research.

Assessment

	External Assessment	Internal Assessment
Standard Level	80%	20%
	2 papers (total 3 hours)	Simple experimental study

Social and Cultural Anthropology

Social and cultural anthropology is the study of culture and human societies. Anthropology contributes to an understanding of contemporary issues such as war and conflict, the environment, poverty, injustice, inequality, and human and cultural rights. This understanding is reached through the study of societies and cultures and the exploration of the general principles of social and cultural life.

Recognising your own preconceptions and assumptions, you will explore the principles of social and cultural life and the characteristics of specific societies and cultures. You will learn the techniques and strategies used in the generation of anthropological data and appreciate the methodological issues involved in research.

Social and cultural anthropology contributes a distinctive approach to intercultural awareness and understanding and fosters the development of citizens who are globally aware and ethically sensitive.

Assessment

	External Assessment	Internal Assessment
Standard Level	80%	20%
	2 papers (total 3 hours)	2 tasks

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Academic Certificates – 3 hours study per week

Sports Exercise and Health Science

This course is relevant to athletes, and anyone who wishes to further their understanding of human anatomy, and how the human body responds to exercise. The interdisciplinary nature of the subject means that students learn to apply scientific principles to a range of topics related to sporting performance including: nutrition, physiology, biomechanics and psychology.

The core topics provide a challenging and stimulating framework that incorporate theoretical study and practice in both field and laboratory settings. The options chosen, psychology and nutrition, add to the breadth of content and incorporate a global understanding of cultural practice and variance in approach.

Assessment

	External Assessment	Internal Assessment
Standard Level	76%	24%
	3 papers (total 3 hours)	Practical project

Theatre Studies

You will examine theatre in its diversity of forms around the world through a critical study of the theory, history and culture of theatre. At the core of the Theatre course lies a concern with clarity of understanding, critical thinking, reflective analysis, effective involvement and imaginative synthesis – all of which should be achieved through practical engagement in theatre.

The course emphasises the importance of working individually and as a member of an ensemble. You will be encouraged to develop the organisational and technical skills needed to express yourself creatively in theatre. A further challenge is for you to become aware of your own perspectives and biases and to learn to respect those of others.

You will be involved in several performances (Theatre in the Making – TiM), taking on a variety of performance and production roles. You will research, plan and deliver workshops as part of your assessments.

Assessment

	External Assessment	Internal Assessment
Standard Level	50%	50%
	2 tasks	2 tasks presentation and portfolio

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Academic Certificates – 3 hours study per week

Visual Arts

The study of visual arts offers a unique opportunity for you to develop your creative practice. You will be able to work in a variety of specialist areas including, 3D Design, Fine Art, Painting, Life Drawing, Sculpture and Ceramics as well as Digital Photography. You will record your research through sketchbook and reflective journals, developing your ideas towards more ambitious final pieces. You will also make visits to exhibitions, galleries and professional studios and engage with practicing artists.

In addition you will develop aesthetic appreciation and engage in philosophical debate. You will explore three main areas: Visual Language, where you will develop skills working in different art, design and craft areas; Themes and Ideas, where you will develop your own ideas and interests looking at possibilities in art, design and craft contexts, and Social, Cultural and other Contextual references, where you will explore the global influences and experiences that affect your own work and that of other artists.

Assessment

	External Assessment	Internal Assessment
Standard Level	70%	30%
	Studio exhibition of selected work	Sketch book and journal

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Vocational Certificates – 4 hours study per week

Applied Business GCE A/S & A Level

This is a broad based qualification that provides the opportunity for you to explore the world of business in a practical way. You will look at the core business functions of marketing, finance, human and physical resource management.

In Year 12 there are three modules

- Investigating People at Work
- Investigating Business
- Investigating Marketing

In Year 13 there are three modules

- Business Development
- International Diversions of Business
- Organising an Event

Assessment

Year 12	Year 13
1 exam – 1hr 30mins	1 externally set assignment
2 internally assessed pieces of coursework	2 internally assessed pieces of coursework

Progression

This course provides progression to Higher Education (University Degree, National Diploma) training (advanced modern apprenticeships in administration or management) and employment in business and commerce.

Performing Arts GCE A/S & A Level

This course gives an understanding of all aspects of performing arts combined with the opportunity to specialise in either performance or production support. This qualification encourages talent by offering a genuinely practical approach allowing you to apply working methods used by professionals.

In Year 12 there are three modules

- Exploring Skills for a Performance
- Planning an Event
- Performing to a Commission

In Year 13 there are three modules

- Employment Opportunities
- Advanced Performance
- Production Delivery

Assessment

Year 12	Year 13
1 single performance externally assessed.	1 single performance externally assessed.
2 internally assessed portfolios	2 internally assessed portfolios

Progression

This course provides progression to Higher Education (University Degree, Drama College, National Diploma) further training (theatre) and employment.

International Baccalaureate Careers Certificate

For Year 12 & 13 Students

Vocational Certificates – 4 hours study per week

Travel and Tourism

GCE A/S & A Level

The course gives a broad understanding of travel and tourism related occupations and an opportunity to gain practical and technical skills relevant to the industry. You will develop a critical understanding of travel and tourism and the connections between its sections resulting in a more holistic view of the industry and an appreciation of its global and dynamic nature.

In Year 12 there are three modules

- The Travel and Tourism Industry
- The Travel and Tourism Customer
- Destination Europe

In Year 13 there are three modules

- Responsible Tourism
- Current Issues in Travel and Tourism
- Special Interest Holidays

Assessment

Year 12	Year 13
1 written exam 1hr 30mins	1 written exam 1hr 30mins
2 portfolios internally assessed	2 portfolios internally assessed

Progression

This course provides progression to Higher Education (University Degree, National Diploma) further training (advanced modern apprenticeships in travel services) and employment.

IAM Certificate in ICT

Equivalent to A Level

The course is designed to develop practical ICT skills with a focus on employment. This is an interactive course which will equip you with knowledge, understanding and practical skills as well as linking with your other chosen subjects.

In Year 12 there are four modules

- Data Handling
- Internet Research
- Word Processing
- Application of ICT

In Year 13 two from the following six modules

- Personal Computer Configuration
- Web Design
- Complex Data Handling
- Graphics
- Music Technology
- Programming

Assessment

Year 12	Year 13
1 portfolio of evidence externally assessed.	3 on-line assessments
3 controlled assessments externally assessed	

Progression

This course provides progression to Higher Education (University Degree, National Diploma) further training (ICT) and employment.

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Vocational Certificates – 4 hours study per week

Design and Technology: Product Design **GCE A/S & A Level**

This course is designed to offer the opportunity to study, propose and realise prototype solutions closely linked to the real work of product manufacturing in a range of material areas.

Students can choose to focus on any of the following areas

- Built environment and construction
- Engineering
- Food
- Graphic products
- Manufacturing
- Resistant materials
- Systems control
- Textiles

In Year 12 there are two modules

- Advanced innovation challenge
- Product study

In Year 13 there are two modules

- Design, make and evaluate
- Product design

Assessment

Year 12	Year 13
1 advanced Innovation Challenge (externally assessed)	1 internally assessed piece of coursework
	1 internally assessed piece of coursework
	1 written exam (2.5 hours)

Progression

This course provides progression to Higher Education (University Degree, National Diploma) further training (advanced modern apprenticeships in travel services) and employment.

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The Core

CAS Creativity Action Services

This is concerned with the education of the whole person. It gives you the opportunity to develop activities and interests outside your chosen subjects.

Creative activities include: dance, theatre, art, music and similar extra curricula activities.

Action involves participation in individual or group projects designed at achieving a personal goal.

Service involves doing something for others; in school, locally, nationally or internationally.

All this work is co-ordinated by an experienced member of staff and you are required to keep a log of your activities.

Approaches to Learning

An integral part of the course, Approaches to Learning helps you to learn and develop invaluable study skills. These include: good intellectual habits, problem solving, individual awareness, thinking skills, communication skills, and perceptual skills.

This course is continually assessed during the two year programme and is based on the construction of a 'learning portfolio'.

Reflective Project

The project is an in-depth piece of work based on your chosen vocational subject and linked to an ethical issue which stems from the course of study. It allows you to develop strong research and communication skills and encourages personal inquiry and reflection.

The submission must be the equivalent of 3000 words in length and can be in the form of an essay, a play or a power point presentation with accompanying notes.

Basic Foreign Language

If you have not selected a Modern Foreign Language from the 'Academic Category' you will be required to study a new language from the OCR Assets Languages Ladder (<http://www.assetlanguages.org.uk/>). You will study this to a self-determined level, from the most basic 'Breakthrough' qualification to the 'Advanced' level. Your teacher can help you identify the best option for you.

Assessment is continuous and based on attainment in any of the skill areas of Writing, Reading, Speaking or Listening.

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Learner Profile

The aim of all IB programmes is to develop internationally minded people who, recognizing their common humanity and shared guardianship of the planet, help to create a better and more peaceful world.

Inquirers – They develop their natural curiosity. They acquire the skills necessary to conduct inquiry and research and show independence in learning. They actively enjoy learning and this love of learning will be sustained throughout their lives.

Knowledgeable – They explore concepts, ideas and issues that have local and global significance. In so doing, they acquire in-depth knowledge and develop understanding across a broad and balanced range of disciplines.

Thinkers – They exercise initiative in applying thinking skills critically and creatively to recognise and approach complex problems, and make reasoned, ethical decisions.

Communicators – They understand and express ideas and information confidently and creatively in more than one language and in a variety of modes of communication. They work effectively and willingly in collaboration with others.

Principled – They act with integrity and honesty, with a strong sense of fairness, justice and respect for the dignity of the individual, groups and communities. They take responsibility for their own actions and the consequences that accompany them.

Open-minded – They understand and appreciate their own cultures and personal histories, and are open to the perspectives, values and traditions of other individuals and communities. They are accustomed to seeking and evaluating a range of points of view, and are willing to grow from the experience.

Caring – They show empathy, compassion and respect towards the needs and feelings of others. They have a personal commitment to service, and act to make a positive difference to the lives of others and to the environment.

Risk-takers – They approach unfamiliar situations and uncertainty with courage and forethought, and have the independence of spirit to explore new roles, ideas and strategies. They are brave and articulate in defending their beliefs.

Balanced – They understand the importance of intellectual, physical and emotional balance to achieve personal well-being for themselves and others.

Reflective – They give thoughtful consideration to their own learning and experience. They are able to assess and understand their strengths and limitations in order to support their learning and personal development.



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