

L'Ecole des Benjamins (EdB) offers the **Primary Years Programme (PYP)** an integral part of the International Baccalaureate Organisation (IBO) for 3 to 8 year old children in both English and French languages. EdB will continue to grow with children up to the age of 12 years.

EdB is a Bilingual private Nursery and Primary school, opened in 1994. We believe in the total development of the child on all levels, physical, social, emotional and intellectual. More importantly, children will learn to love learning.

We are committed to excellence in childcare and education offering the highest standards of professionalism in a happy and relaxed atmosphere for children. We invite your child to join us in an adventure that will last his/her lifetime.

Through structured play and activities we focus on:

- Language development (listening to stories, reading books together, sharing experiences from home, joining in with rhymes and songs)
- Social development (playing together, solving problems, developing self-confidence, self-management and organisation skills, understanding and following daily routines)
- Mathematical development (counting, sorting, comparing, data handling, number recognition, shape and space, pattern)
- Fine and Gross Motor development (music and movement, physical education)
- Artistic development (Arts, Craft, Music, Drama)

We nurture the children's natural curiosity. We at LdB believe that inquiry is a powerful tool to learn about their environment. In all our activities we acknowledge differences in developmental stage, as well as cultural and linguistic backgrounds. Learning in an international environment, with many different nationalities represented, offers a positive experience to all the children.

The IBO respects the professionalism of the teacher, offers freedom of choice and autonomy within a rigorous structure; students learn how to think. This is education at its best, free of political interference, creating independent thinkers ready to take on and transform the society of the 21st century and beyond.

The IB - it shapes individuals into a more rounded person. Helped with the discussions on knowledge and learning in Theory of Knowledge (TOK), and being more aware and active in the community and local environmental issues through Creativity, Action and Services (CAS).

Understanding the IBO Primary Years Programme

What is the Primary Years Programme?

It is the official curriculum framework and teaching methodology of the International Baccalaureate Organization (IBO) developed to meet the needs of children in the Primary Years of schooling (Pre-school - Grade 5). It emphasizes learning through active inquiry and aims to develop the whole child to meet certain competencies and attitudes outlined in a student profile.

At the heart of the Primary Years Programme Philosophy is a commitment to structured inquiry as main way of learning. Each year each student will be involved in 6 units of inquiry driven by a set of key conceptual questions matching the following six universal organizing themes:



- Who we are
- Where we are in place and time
- How we express ourselves
- How the world works
- How we organize ourselves sharing the planet

Student Profile

Our aim is to nurture globally-minded citizens who are:

<p style="text-align: center;">Communicators</p> <p>I am able to think and communicate in more than one language. I can also communicate using mathematical language and symbols.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Caring</p> <p>I am caring. I want people around me to be happy and I am sensitive to their needs.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Principled</p> <p>I have principles. I have a sense of fairness and am honest with myself and with others. I have an understanding of moral reasoning.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Reflective</p> <p>I know what I am good at and what I am not. I try to think about these things and make changes where I can.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Knowledgeable</p> <p>I have explored relevant and significant concepts at school and can remember what I have learned. I can draw on this knowledge and apply it in new situations.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Well-Balanced</p> <p>I am healthy and aware that eating properly and exercising is important in my lives. I understand that it is important to have a balance.</p>

Open- Minded

I know that people are different and may do different things. I listen to other points of view and consider many possibilities before making a decision. I celebrate the differences in the world.

Risk Takers

I have the daring to try new things. I try to solve problems in a lot of ways. I have the bravery to tell people what I think is right.

Thinkers

I can solve problems and make good decisions independently. I think creatively and critically.

Inquirers

I am curious about the world. I can conduct research independently. I love learning and discovering new things and will carry this love of learning with me throughout life.

Our aim is to promote the following attitudes:

Appreciation

Commitment

Confidence

Cooperation

Creativity

Curiosity

Empathy

Enthusiasm

Independence

Integrity

Respect

Tolerance

Will my child be taught traditional subjects in the PYP?

Your child will learn essential skills, competencies, knowledge and understanding both independent of and incorporated in the PYP programme. The PYP involves a scope and sequence curriculum of skills and understanding in the major curricular areas such as Language development, Mathematics, Social Studies and Science. Starting in Kindergarten, your child will have foreign language instruction and physical education five days a week, music twice weekly, art and guidance weekly.

How will my child be assessed?

Your child's teachers carry out all assessment of student work in the PYP. Your child will be assessed in many ways. There is a balance of school-based assessment including student/teacher/parent conferences, writing samples, structured observations and performance tasks, tests and formal assessments. Most importantly, your child will be involved in developing the criteria of assessment with the teacher and will understand how he/she will be assessed before many assessments take place. This will develop a much greater understanding of assessment, through this partnership, to develop better self-assessment and raise personal achievement expectations. This is part of the PYP goal to increase students' awareness of their own learning.

How can I, as parent, support my child's learning?

Learning is a partnership between the child, parent and school. You can help your child by:

- Maintaining regular contact with the school
- Sharing books with your child
- Assisting your child with research projects
- Providing an appropriate setting and structured routine for doing homework.
- Knowing the unit themes and central ideas your child is inquiring into.
- Making discussion of ideas, opinions and events a regular feature at home.
- Discussing and encouraging your child's ideas arising from inquiry topics.
- Working with your child using the Internet and/or books to find and make sense of information.
- Offering your expertise to the class in an inquiry unit.
- Taking an interest in the inquiry displays made by children around the school.
- Attending information opportunities provided by l'Ecole des Benjamins for parents.
- Being familiar with the l'Ecole des Benjamins student profile.

For more information about the IB Primary Years Programme, visit the IBO website at www.ibo.org or contact the PYP coordinator, Claudia DER CALOUSDIAN : eb@ecoledesbenjamins.com