

**Heritage Regional High School IB Admissions Policy**  
**IB Middle Years Programme**

**Philosophy-**

The focus of the IB programme at Heritage Regional High School (HRHS) is to encourage life-long learning, international mindedness, and service to each other and our community. Heritage Regional High School is a public high school and an authorized IB World School. HRHS strives to provide a welcoming and safe environment for all groups, regardless of gender, orientation, socio-economic status, ethnicity, or any other distinguishing characteristic. We believe in tolerance, openness, and the value of education. We strive to be an inclusive community, empowering all who attend. All stakeholders - students, teachers, and administrators, must abide by the values established by the HRHS community.

**School Context-**

Heritage Regional High School is the 2<sup>nd</sup> largest English high school in Quebec with a population of 1600+ students. Its geographical zone covers 77 different municipalities including both rural and suburban communities.

Our diverse programs are a source of pride which helps us better meet the students' needs. In addition to the General Studies pathway, these programs include the International Baccalaureate Middle Years Programme, Sports Excellence, Fine Arts Focus, iCan, Modified, 15+, Evolutions, and CFER.

The following IB programme standards and practices support the development of the Access and/or Admissions policy.

**Culture 1: The school secures access to an IB education for the broadest possible range of students. (0301-01)**

**Culture 1.1** The school implements and reviews an access policy and/or admissions policy that clearly describes the conditions for participation in the school's programmes(s). (0301-01-0100)

**Culture 1.2** The school provides relevant support materials, resources, and structures to promote access to the school's programme(s) for as many students as reasonable. (0301-01-0200)

**Culture 1.3** The school provides opportunities to access the programme(s) for the broadest possible range of students. (0301-01-0300)

### **IB mission statement-**

The International Baccalaureate aims to develop inquiring, knowledgeable, and caring young people who help to create a better and more peaceful world through intercultural understanding and respect.

To this end the organization works with schools, governments, and international organizations to develop challenging programmes of international education and rigorous assessment.

The programmes encourage students across the world to become active, compassionate, and life-long learners who understand that people, with their differences, can also be right.

### **Heritage Regional High School – Educational Project**

**Mission** – The mission of HRHS is to collaboratively ensure a learning environment for students to maximize their potential as life-long learners through academic success, participation in school life and preparation for global citizenship.

**Vision** – Our vision is to provide the highest quality education by focusing on developing varied programs in response to individual needs. Within a safe and healthy environment for all, we promote high academic standards and develop leaders for the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Staff and students work together to continuously improve and to develop collaborative teams.

**Values** - We promote respect for oneself, others, the environment, and the diversity of our school community. We value excellence in varied programs, academics, leadership by students and staff, the arts, community involvement and life skills. We have pride in our accomplishments and in our school.

### **Registration and Application Procedures-**

Parents who are interested in registering their child(ren) at Heritage Regional High School should contact us for information about eligibility and programs offered at HRHS. Registration to HRHS begins in February and is completed through the elementary feeder schools.

### **Eligibility for English instruction-**

A certificate of eligibility is required for all children attending an English school in Quebec. The government has specific criteria that must be met according to the Charter of the French Language. We invite parents to visit the Riverside School Board website for information on eligibility requirements and how to apply for the Certificate of Eligibility.

This policy is informed by the Riverside School Board (RSB) ***Policy on the Enrolment Criteria for Registration***. The purpose of this policy is to establish the enrolment criteria used to register students, including international students, in Riverside School Board schools. The criteria are further specified in the document produced annually by Riverside School Board entitled '*Planning for our Schools*' which determines each school's program(s), attendance zone, and transportation zone.

Acceptance to the IB MYP at Heritage is evaluated based on the application and grade 5 final report card. The online application procedure follows the school Open House event. The application process begins in mid-September to mid-October in the year prior to the start of the school year.

Heritage Regional High School hosts an Open House event where program information is delivered to prospective parents and students. The community is then invited to meet IB teachers and students from all levels to learn more about the MYP and what HRHS provides. Parents also have access to the IBMYP program information and in-house IB Newsletters on our school website. Parents are equally invited to contact the IB coordinator(s) and/or the administrator responsible, throughout the school year to obtain additional information about the MYP at Heritage.

Students who have an Individualized Education Plan (IEP) may register for any of the academic programs, provided they meet the eligibility requirements set out by the Quebec government.

Students who are accepted to the International Baccalaureate Middle Years Programme must also register as a student to HRHS. Students who live outside of the school zone are asked to communicate with the school by email.

Students currently in Secondary 1-4 who wish to join the IB programme are asked to contact the IB coordinator(s) to obtain a registration form and application requirements.

### **The IB Middle Years Programme curriculum framework-**

IB provides a common educational framework and common assessment. The framework comprises eight subject groups.

- **Language and Literature** – English and French Mother Tongue
- **Language Acquisition** – French Second Language
- **Individuals and Societies** – Geography, History, History and Citizenship, Contemporary World
- **Sciences**- General Science, Science and Technology, Biology, Environmental Science, Chemistry, Physics
- **Mathematics** – Cultural Math, Applied Science
- **Design** – integrated in Sciences and Language and Literature (English) in Secondary 1 and 2, stand alone course in Secondary 3.
- **Arts**-Visual and Performing Arts (Visual Arts, Dance, Drama)
- **Physical and Health Education** – Physical Education and Health

### **Heritage Regional High School program overview-**

There are three IB building blocks at Heritage Regional High School which focus on the development of **academics**, based on conceptual understanding, **learning skills**, and **character development**. We provide a stimulating academic environment based on traditional subjects taught in the Quebec curriculum and are able to meet the provincial requirements and IB subject objectives naturally.

## Overview-

- We currently have two IB groups per level and offer enriched French Second Language as well as Français langue d'enseignement or French Mother Tongue. We also provide a third language of instruction – Spanish in Secondary 1 and 2.
- Design is a course unique to IB and is a project inquiry course that teaches students how to apply design process and problem-solving skills.
- A comprehensive Arts overview engages students in Visual and Performing Arts in each year of the programme.
- We believe that *how* students learn is just as important as *what* they learn. We help students discover who they are as learners and support the development and application of specific skills needed in the 21<sup>st</sup> century such as creative and critical thinking skills, self management, research, social, and communication skills.
- Character development is supported by the **IB Learner Profile** and the **Service as Action** component. Students take opportunities to develop, act and reflect on MYP learning outcomes for service in each year of the programme.
- The Learner Profile is a set of ten attributes which is the IB statement in action. We provide students with opportunities to practice and reflect on their experiences as learners.

### IB learners strive to be-

- Inquirers
  - Knowledgeable
  - Thinkers
  - Communicators
  - Principled
  - Open minded
  - Caring
  - Risk-takers
  - Balanced
  - Reflective
- Through our yearly community service activities/engagement, subject lessons, units of study, and enrichment activities students strive to become more open minded, caring, and balanced individuals.
  - In the final year of the programme students undertake an independent **Personal Project** that reflects the skills, knowledge, and personal qualities developed over time. The personal project is externally validated.

*IB Learner Profile, 2017*

*MYP: From Principles into Practice 2014; updated August 2022*

### **Policy Review and Communication-**

In order to ensure that this policy continues to align with school practice and philosophy, all members of the IB community, on a regular basis, are invited to recommend amendments. The school IB pedagogical team is responsible for updating the policy based on this consultation process. The Governing Board will approve and adopt the policy annually.

The IB community has access to this policy on the school website.

### **Regulatory Principles and guiding sources-**

The contents of this policy are based on and refer to:

- IB programme standards and practices (2020)*
- IB Guide to Programme Evaluation (2020)*
- Heritage Regional High School Code of Conduct (2022)*
- Riverside School Board Policy on the Enrolment Criteria for Registration (2020)*
- MYP: From principles into practice (2022)*

*Revised October 2022*