

## ACADEMIC & PROGRAM OVERVIEW

- Native or near-native target language students (Spanish or French): Full immersion (30% instruction in the target language, 60% in English, & 10% in a third language) or customized language bridge program
- Students with little or no prior experience in the target language (Spanish or French): 20% instruction in the target language, 80% in English
- School day hours: 8:25am-3:45pm
- Dragons Athletics: Soccer, Basketball, & Track Club
- Afterschool Clubs: Student Council, Band, Yearbook, & Debate
- Library Study Room open until 6pm everyday
- Maximum of 20-22 students per class
- Dedicated Middle School Counselor and High School Placement Coordinator

## ISB'S MIDDLE SCHOOL

ISB's Middle School program is designed to provide students with:

- International mindedness, by expanding students' understanding of cultures and experiences around the world, as well as of their own
- A positive attitude toward learning, demonstrating high levels of engagement, creativity, resourcefulness, and active participation in their communities
- The ability to make connections between classroom subjects and real world issues
- Highly developed communication skills that encourage inquiry, understanding, and language acquisition, and which allow student reflection and expression
- A heightened awareness of their own intellectual, emotional, physical, and ethical development

## WHAT IS THE MIDDLE YEARS PROGRAMME AT ISB?

**Middle Years Programme (MYP)** is a curriculum framework designed by the International Baccalaureate Organization (IBO) and implemented at ISB for students in 6th through 8th Grade. Our MYP classrooms are student-centered and interdisciplinary, and learning is explicitly linked to the world around them. Participation in a target language is required, and a variety of formal and informal assessments are used to inform teaching and learning. MYP learning experiences use global points of view to promote awareness and understanding of other cultures, the human condition, and the shared human experience.

ISB's MYP curriculum framework comprises eight subject groups, providing a broad and balanced education for early adolescents. Students take the core courses of **Language and Literature, Individuals and Societies, Mathematics, Sciences, Physical Education and Health, Language Acquisition, Visual Arts, Performing Arts and Design**. Students also complete the **Community Project**, the 8th Grade culminating project that is related to a service they are providing in their community.

## WHAT ARE THE ADVANTAGES OF AN IB EDUCATION?

- IB teaching methods and curriculums are inquiry-based, interdisciplinary and include performance-based assessments that draw from the best educational practices from systems around the world
- IB World Schools are subject to a strict authorization process monitored by the IB, ensuring that schools provide a high-quality education
- IB programme is recognized internationally and eases the educational transition of mobile students so that their education is not adversely affected if their families relocate
- IB teachers are required to participate in professional development opportunities to continually promote their awareness of current educational practices and new thinking
- For more information, visit the IB website at [www.ibo.org](http://www.ibo.org)



## MIDDLE SCHOOL HIGHLIGHTS

ISB's Middle School learning environment is designed to develop the whole student — both inside and outside the classroom. ISB's rigorous inquiry-based curriculum motivates students to be resourceful and imaginative in approaching everyday challenges and finding creative solutions. Teachers use real world contexts within core subjects to encourage students to experiment and seek deeper answers.

### Middle School students at ISB are **ADVENTURERS**

*ISB's Middle School program is designed to help our students become more independent, confident, and compassionate young adults. From stretching themselves academically as they tackle new subjects, to pushing themselves to become involved in new activities, our students embrace adventure and seek out new opportunities to challenge themselves.*

**Field Trips** Field trips are an essential part of ISB's Middle School program and reflect our strong commitment to experiential learning. Students go on local and overnight field trips that allow them to develop greater independence, to learn by doing, and to experience the world beyond the classroom. These trips include:

**Team Building Trip** 6th Graders spend three days at Club Getaway experiencing the outdoors and participating in cooperative games and adventure activities while getting to know their classmates.

**Language Acquisition Trip** 7th Grade students visited Québec and Costa Rica with their Language Acquisition classes. The students have a chance to practice their language skills as they explored new places and experience different cultures!

**ISB Dragons Athletics** The Dragons Athletics Program aims to develop student athletes who demonstrate good sportsmanship by showing respect to teammates, officials, and opponents. ISB offers three athletic seasons for Middle School students, including two team sports and one individual sport. The ISB Dragons are part of a middle school athletic league called the MSAL. ISB organizes soccer and basketball games with a large community of independent schools, including schools from both Brooklyn and Manhattan.

### Middle School students at ISB are **ADVOCATES**

*At ISB, students go beyond simply learning about issues in their communities - they take action. From the work they do in class, studying issues from diverse perspectives, to the service-learning they engage in beyond ISB's walls, students learn to become advocates for themselves and others and take meaningful steps toward a lifetime of striving to make the world a better place.*

**Community Service** As part of the Middle School program, students are required to engage in community service every year. In 8th Grade, the culminating project is the Community Project, in which students each look at a global issue that affects people locally, then plan and carry out a community service project surrounding that issue. 8th Grade concludes with a presentation to the community about the experience.

**Diversity** ISB fosters intercultural and community awareness through the curriculum and encourages each student to explore his or her own identity.

### Middle School students at ISB are **LEADERS**

*As the oldest students at ISB, Middle Schoolers are important leaders and role models for our younger students. Leadership and mentorship experiences in class and through extracurricular activities give our students the confidence and independence to seek new challenges and opportunities in their communities and in their continuing educational experiences.*

**Student Council** Students have the opportunity to develop leadership skills and take action to help their local and global community. They help plan fun activities and provide volunteer opportunities throughout the year.

**Counselor in Training (Summer)** The Counselor-in-Training (CIT) program at ISB is designed to introduce rising 7th, 8th and 9th graders to the world of being a summer program counselor with the added element of language immersion. CITs will work with program groups, alongside the teaching teams, developing leadership and collaborative skills.

Please visit [isbrooklyn.org/admissions](https://isbrooklyn.org/admissions) for more information.

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### **ADMISSIONS AND ENROLLMENT TEAM:**

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