

A close-up photograph of a young child's face, looking slightly to the right. The child's eye is strikingly clear, with a small globe of the Earth visible inside. The background is a soft-focus bokeh of blue and white flowers.

IB BEGIN HERE

**Welcome to the
International Baccalaureate
Primary Years Programme**
(including Early Childhood)
3–11 Years



Southbank
International School

LONDON'S LEADING IB WORLD SCHOOL

LONDON'S LEADING IB WORLD SCHOOL

Established in 1979, Southbank International School is a friendly, vibrant school that's focused on academic excellence and developing students who make a positive difference to the world.

We do this by providing a dynamic and exciting International Baccalaureate education for a wide range of 3 to 19-year-olds, who currently come from over 70 countries.

We also place great importance on opening the eyes and minds of our students to the world and all it offers. This includes venturing outside the classroom as much as possible to enjoy and learn from London's unrivalled cultural and historic resources.

As a result, we produce unique young people who think independently, engage confidently with others, and want to give back to communities on a local, national and global level.

We believe this gives our students an excellent platform to go on to a world-leading university and succeed in all aspects of their adult life.

OUR LATEST OFSTED REPORT

Ofsted inspects and regulates education institutions for the UK government. Its latest inspection of Southbank International School (Westminster campus) took place on 3–5 May 2017.



CONTENTS

- 4 Introduction from our Executive Principal
- 6 Our campuses
- 10 London is our classroom
- 12 Teaching and learning
- 14 Exceptional pastoral care
- 16 The International Baccalaureate
- 18 Our Early Childhood Programme
- 20 Our Primary Years Programme
- 28 Inside a PYP classroom
- 31 Extra-curricular activities
- 33 After the Primary Years Programme
- 34 Further information

“Our special mix of nationalities, cultures and languages really does create a magical atmosphere and a wonderful sense of community.”



WELCOME TO SOUTHBANK

For more than 40 years, Southbank has stood at the forefront of providing a world-class education to children and young people from London’s international community and the UK itself.

At the heart of the school are the programmes of the International Baccalaureate. These are challenging curricula that have been carefully developed to encourage students across the world to become active, compassionate and lifelong learners who understand that other people, with their differences, can also be right.

We are immensely proud to have been the first school in London to offer all three main International Baccalaureate programmes: the Primary Years Programme, the Middle Years Programme, and the Diploma Programme. From one small school campus originally situated on the Southbank of the Thames, we have grown significantly, and now have three campuses located around central London. This means at the beginning of our 2020/21 school year, we will welcome over 800 students and families, from over 70 countries, to our school.

This special mix of nationalities, cultures and languages really does create a magical atmosphere and a wonderful sense of community. Existing students are always very welcoming and empathetic to new students, because they often understand what it’s like to start at a new school, or to come to a new city from a different country.

Enter one of our classrooms and I am sure you’ll be impressed by the enthusiasm, confidence and creativity of our students. Thanks to our exceptional teaching staff and the International Baccalaureate curriculum, we help children and young people to become inquisitive learners who love to broaden their minds, always think critically, and do not shy away from challenging assumptions.

Another significant benefit of studying at Southbank is our location in London, one of the greatest cities in the world. It offers an abundance of historic and cultural riches, so as much as possible, our teachers seek opportunities for students to engage in educational experiences outside the classroom.

Certainly, our school prides itself on its academic performance; and we are proud to say that we stand in the top division of schools in the UK, with nearly all our students going on to a first-class university. We also provide a superb programme of extra-curricular activities and sports. These activities give our students a fantastic opportunity to develop existing skills, enjoy new hobbies and carry out work which complements studies in class.

Now in my eighth year at Southbank, I realise the more time I spend with our students, staff and parents, the more I see what a unique and remarkable place our school is. I truly hope this is something you discover for yourself. We offer an education like no other. A perfect foundation for the increasingly complex and demanding world we live in.

Siobhan McGrath
Executive Principal

IBELONG

OUR CAMPUSES

We have three campuses across five sites. These are all situated in some of the most desirable and inspiring areas of London. Visit any of them during the week and we're positive you'll witness outstanding levels of creativity, individuality, collaboration and personal expression.



KENSINGTON

Primary Years Programme southbank.org/kensington

Our Kensington school is attended by approximately 210 children aged 3 to 11, who are from almost 40 countries. English is the language of instruction, with Spanish as the school's second language, which is taught from the age of five (Kindergarten) upwards. English as an Additional Language is also offered from Kindergarten upwards.

Our Kensington campus consists of two adjoining Victorian villas located in the stunning Notting Hill area of London. Facilities include an IT lab, a music room and two sound-proofed practice rooms, as well as a hall which is used for many purposes, including lunches, sport, school 'town meetings' and concerts.

The school also features a library, which is regularly attended by students from Early Childhood to Grade 5, to develop their literacy and research skills. We also encourage students to borrow books and other resources. And we

provide all students with individual access to digital devices to support their learning, as well as utilise Google Drive so students can collaborate on projects easily.

Children attending our Kensington campus also have the opportunity to use a dedicated sports centre, which is a 15-minute bus ride away. It features a large sports hall, climbing wall and dance studio. These are perfect for our wide programme of sports and activities for PYP students.



HAMPSTEAD
Primary Years Programme
southbank.org/hampstead

Our Hampstead campus is a purpose-built school located in one of London's leafiest suburbs and attended by approximately 210 students. English is the language of instruction at the school, with Spanish as its second language, which is taught from Kindergarten upwards. English as an Additional Language is also offered from Kindergarten upwards.

Similar to our Kensington campus, our Hampstead school features excellent facilities. This includes a vibrant library that houses an abundance of learning resources. As well as being visited regularly by all PYP students, the library often hosts visits from authors and storytellers.

The school also features a STEM lab providing space for hands on learning using science and technology to complement our innovative 1-1 device programme; a well-equipped music room that houses a range of percussion instruments as well as providing a performance space; and a

bespoke light and airy art room.

Our edible courtyard offers a quiet space for vegetable and flower growing, as well as birdhouses and bug hotels. Students also have easy access to our Charteris sports centre. Plus, Hampstead Heath, one of London's largest and most popular open spaces, is very close by for our weekly Early Years Forest School programme.



CONWAY STREET
Westminster – Middle Years Programme and Diploma Programme
southbank.org/westminster

Our Conway Street campus is a striking, modernised building located very close to Fitzroy Square where our students are able to relax and socialise in a beautiful park area. It is just a few minutes walk from Warren Street and Great Portland Street underground stations. It features a wide range of high-quality facilities including well-equipped science labs.

We're also particularly proud of our Library Resource Centre (LRC) at Conway street. It offers MYP and Diploma students access to over 3,800 books. Students can also access many leading online resources and databases.



PORTLAND PLACE
Westminster – Middle Years Programme
southbank.org/westminster

Our Portland Place campus is a splendid Grade II listed building which is attended by students studying our Middle Years Programme. It features a wealth of excellent facilities, including five science labs, a computer lab, art and music rooms, a small hall / theatre, and a library containing over 5,000 books which students can access, as well as online databases.

Because of Portland Place's close proximity to Regent's Park, we host a wide range of sports and outdoor activities in the royal park. Nearby, students also have the opportunity to visit famous London locations such as The Wallace Collection museum, The London Palladium theatre and Madame Tussauds.



CLEVELAND STREET
Westminster – Middle Years Programme and Diploma Programme
southbank.org/westminster-campus-expansion

Our Cleveland Street campus opened in September 2018 and allows an additional 200 students to benefit from the Southbank experience.

Spread over six floors, Cleveland Street is an inspiring, state-of-the-art learning environment which has been created with input from students and teachers. This process involved the holding of focus groups with students. In these, they provided clear ideas about what would help them learn and develop as individuals.

As a result, Cleveland Street features calming colour schemes and brings nature inside the building through living moss walls and artwork. The new campus also offers students the use of a wide range of different environments, including specialised classrooms, a large common space on the top floor, study and learning pods, and a design technology lab in the basement.

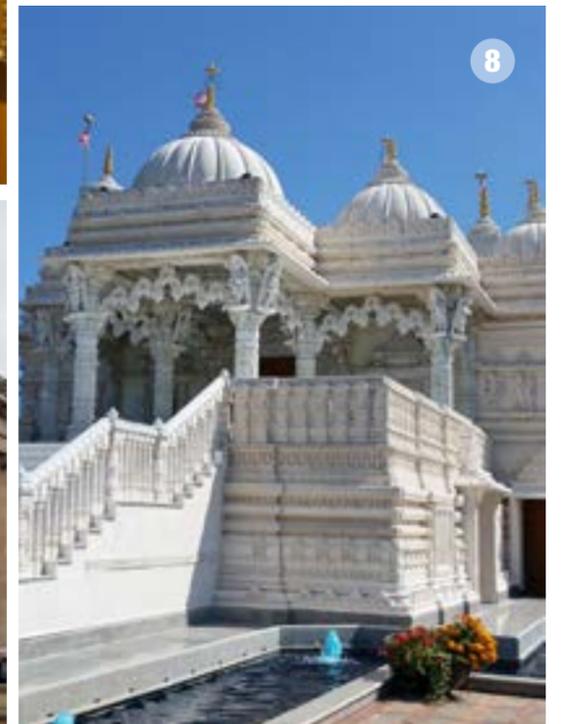
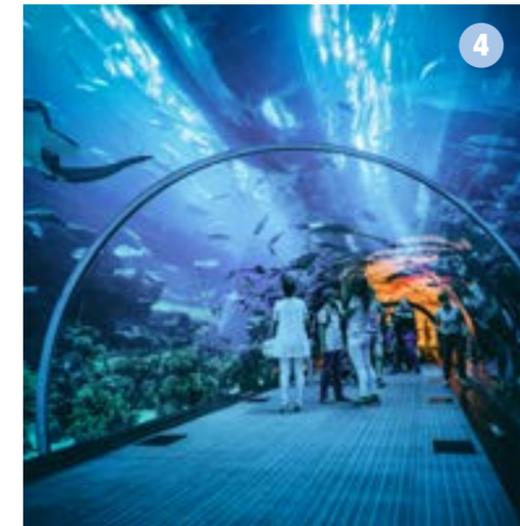
LONDON IS OUR CLASSROOM

Without doubt, London is one of the most amazing cities on earth. At every turn, it offers captivating history, dynamic diversity, world-leading culture and art, glorious green spaces, and much, much more.

As a school, we do all we can to help our students enjoy and learn from all the rich resources available to them in London. This includes organising visits to museums, art galleries, historic buildings, theatres, concerts, student conferences and even nature centres to study wildlife.

Our aim is to nurture individuals who are open to the outside world, love to inquire, challenge and create, and want to make a difference in their adult lives.

INSPIRING PLACES OUR STUDENTS REGULARLY VISIT IN LONDON



1 Natural History Museum

The home to around 80 million life and earth specimens, including dinosaur skeletons and meteorites.

2 Science Museum

Absorbing museum full of interactive exhibitions, iconic objects and stories about incredible scientific achievement.

3 Kew Gardens

Botanical garden that houses the largest and most diverse collection of plants and fungi in the world.

4 SEA LIFE London

World-class aquarium featuring up to 400 species, including sharks, stingrays, moray eels and clown fish.

5 Shakespeare's Globe

A reconstruction of the Elizabethan playhouse where William Shakespeare saw many of his plays performed.

6 Wellcome Collection

An enthralling museum and library which our students often visit to hear lectures on biochemistry.

7 British Museum

Dedicated to human history, art and culture, it is one of the largest and most comprehensive museums in the world.

8 Places of worship

These include historic and culturally significant churches, mosques, synagogues, and Hindu and Sikh temples.

TEACHING AND LEARNING

At Southbank, we have recruited outstanding teachers from around the world who encourage a global perspective and educational adventure

Our teachers place great importance on assessing the individual needs of every student they teach at our school. This helps them to adapt to the needs of each student, provide tailored personal and academic support, and challenge students appropriately so they continually progress during their education.

Another important element at Southbank which helps our students excel are our small class sizes. Typically, 12–18 students feature in each class, which is key to optimising the teaching and learning experience. Having a smaller class size also encourages students to speak more confidently and freely, and helps them collaborate more effectively with other students.

Our students' learning experience at Southbank is enriched by our excellent libraries and technology. Plus, our teachers also make sure that as many lessons as possible make use of the world-leading museums, galleries, theatres and historic buildings that London has to offer.



SHIRLEY HARWOOD
Principal PYP (Hampstead)

"Southbank is a friendly, happy school where children feel welcomed and supported to be their best selves. Vital to this nurturing environment are our extremely talented and creative teachers, who make learning enjoyable and exciting.

Our curriculum is broad and deep, which provides every child with a rich range of learning opportunities, including how to look after themselves and others. Our students also love our extra-curricular activities. These offer them a chance to meet children from other classes, grades and campuses, and simply have some great fun."



STEFANIE WATERMAN
Head of Upper Primary (Kensington)

"Our main goal is to ensure that our primary students are prepared for Southbank's Middle Years Programme and Diploma Programme, as well as the challenges that life brings. So from an early age, students study a wide range of subjects and time is invested in learning deeply about different perspectives and their connections to the world.

This way of learning also helps to create a strong international community that is engaged and wants to make a meaningful contribution to the world."



CHARLOTTE GREGSON
PYP Coordinator (Kensington)

"Visit either our Kensington or Hampstead campus and you'll see that Southbank has a relaxed atmosphere and friendly feel. I think this has a lot to do with our teachers and our unique, internationally-minded curriculum.

Our choice of over 35 extra-curricular activities also plays an important part in building personal connections among our international student body. They're also a great way for an individual to learn new skills or discover a new passion."

VANESSA SANCHEZ
Early Childhood teacher (Hampstead)

"The PYP curriculum is less knowledge based than England's national curriculum. There is more of an emphasis on guided inquiry and helping students make connections with the world around them.

There is also an emphasis on the attributes of a learner and how these attributes can be developed. Building skills and understanding is as important as acquiring knowledge.

As a class teacher, my goal is to develop children as learners who are willing to have a go and are resilient."



EXCEPTIONAL PASTORAL CARE

We believe that if a student is happy they are much more likely to be successful in everything they do. As a result, we make sure all our students receive tailored care and guidance throughout their time at Southbank so they can flourish both academically and socially.

This exceptional pastoral care starts as soon as a student joins us. We get to know them personally and do all we can to make sure they settle in well to life at Southbank. This typically involves the school hosting orientation days around a campus, back-to-school nights and parent / teacher conferences, as well as pairing up a new student with an existing student as part of our buddying system.

All our PYP students also take Personal, Social, Physical and Economic education (PSPEE) classes throughout the school year. These lessons cover a wide range of topics that give students the opportunity to talk openly about issues affecting their lives and the lives of people around the world.

Our tradition of community town meetings is another way we develop social awareness and an interest in the world that surrounds us. These provide the opportunity to gather as a community, share the best of our learning and celebrate the diversity of our students and their families.

Finally, Southbank places a strong emphasis on supporting its local communities and a selection of charities. Making students aware of this work, and getting them involved in it, helps them to gain a better understanding of the needs of others and make a difference in the world.

“Our small class sizes, approachable staff and family atmosphere ensure our students are given the utmost care and guidance throughout their time with us.”

David MacMorran, Deputy Principal (Kensington)



IB BROADEN MY MIND

THE INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE

The International Baccalaureate (IB) was founded as a progressive non-profit educational foundation in 1968. Initially, it developed a Diploma Programme to help children acquire the necessary skills and knowledge to live, learn and work in a rapidly globalising world.

By 1994, the IB had introduced its Middle Years Programme for students aged between 11 and 16. It then added the Primary Years Programme for children aged 3 to 11 in 1997; and in 2012, it launched its Career-related Programme for students between the ages of 16 to 19.

Today, the IB works with over 5,000 schools in 148 countries and offers its four programmes to over one million students. At Southbank, we're delighted to be one of these schools. Every year, we see how the IB programmes help to develop inquiring, knowledgeable and caring young people.

We also share the International Baccalaureate's overall aim to create a better and more peaceful world through the understanding and respect of different nationalities and cultures.

For further information about the International Baccalaureate, please visit southbank.org or ibo.org, the official website of the International Baccalaureate.

HOW IB PROGRAMMES DIFFER FROM OTHER CURRICULA



They encourage students of all ages to think critically and challenge assumptions.



They are developed independently of government and national systems, and incorporate quality practice from research and IB's global community of schools.



They encourage students of all ages to consider both local and global contexts.



They develop multilingual students.



OUR IB LEARNER PROFILE

Underpinning the whole International Baccalaureate Primary Years Programme at Southbank is our IB learner profile. It describes a broad range of human capacities and responsibilities. Our aim is to develop learners who embody these 10 attributes:

- 1 **Inquirers** – we nurture our curiosity, developing skills for inquiry and research. We know how to learn independently and with others. We learn with enthusiasm and sustain our love of learning throughout life.
- 2 **Knowledgeable** – we develop and use conceptual understanding, exploring knowledge across a range of disciplines. We engage with issues and ideas that have local and global significance.
- 3 **Thinkers** – we use critical and creative thinking skills to analyse and take responsible action on complex problems. We exercise initiative in making reasoned, ethical decisions.
- 4 **Communicators** – we express ourselves confidently and creatively in more than one language and in many ways. We collaborate effectively, listening carefully to the perspectives of other individuals and groups.
- 5 **Principled** – we act with integrity and honesty, with a strong sense of fairness and justice, and with respect for the dignity and rights of people everywhere. We take responsibility for our actions and their consequences.
- 6 **Open-minded** – we critically appreciate our own cultures and personal histories, as well as the values and traditions of others. We seek and evaluate a range of points of view, and we are willing to grow from the experience.
- 7 **Risk taker** – we approach uncertainty with forethought and determination; we work independently and cooperatively to explore new ideas and innovative strategies. We are resourceful and resilient in the face of challenges and change.
- 8 **Balanced** – we understand the importance of balancing different aspects of our lives – intellectual, physical, and emotional – to achieve wellbeing for ourselves and others. We recognise our interdependence with other people and with the world in which we live.
- 9 **Caring** – we show empathy, compassion and respect. We have a commitment to service, and we act to make a positive difference in the lives of others and in the world around us.
- 10 **Reflective** – we thoughtfully consider the world and our own ideas and experience. We work to understand our strengths and weaknesses in order to support our learning and personal development.

OUR EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAMME

Research shows that for children to reach their full potential, they need to be stimulated and exposed to appropriate learning experiences in their earliest years. We're totally confident our carefully designed Early Childhood Programme provides exactly this for children aged three to five years.

As part of the IB Primary Years Programme, the Early Childhood curriculum has a clear educational focus and prepares children for their academic path in a happy and stimulating environment. Its aim is to engage young students and nurture their development as individuals, both in the classroom and the world outside, through inquiry-based learning and play.

Specifically, the overall aim of our Early Childhood Programme is to encourage students to:

- make choices and decisions
- use materials in flexible and imaginative ways
- initiate inquiry and ask questions
- work collaboratively with others
- sustain their interests and extend their knowledge
- develop understanding of themselves and the world around them.

SUPPORTIVE, CARING TEACHERS

Absolutely key to the successful delivery of our Early Childhood Programme are our fully qualified and experienced Early Childhood teachers and assistants. Because of our small class sizes, they can focus on the academic and social development of each child and support them appropriately. Where possible, we also meet families in advance of a child starting Southbank to find out as much as possible about a student and make their transition into our school a happy and easy experience.

“Southbank is totally different from what I expected. The teachers are encouraging children all day long to be themselves, to have self-esteem, to speak out loud, to be nice to others, to take action. When children hear this outside the home, they think it's right; they believe it.”

Patricia, parent of Southbank students



AN ENGAGING, HAPPY AND STIMULATING ENVIRONMENT

We encourage our Early Childhood students to explore, investigate and play through activities chosen by them and activities initiated by an adult. To support this type of learning, our classroom environments are set up so students can move freely around clearly defined areas for reading, writing, art, construction, imaginative play, science and mathematics. These are situated both indoors and outdoors.

Within these areas, students have access to a carefully curated choice of resources. These include art materials from clay to woodwork, open ended games, toys and manipulatives to support maths and language development. Students have access to iPads to support the wider curriculum and further materials to support experiments and free play, and a home corner which changes regularly.

In addition, our Kensington and Hampstead campuses both feature gardens with climbing frames, sandpits and a wide range of toys and equipment for children to enjoy.

OUR SCHOOL DAY

Our school day starts with registration at 8.40 and finishes for some of our three-year-olds (EC3) at 12.00, while our more experienced, three, four and five year olds continue until 15.20. During the day, students have a morning break and time for a snack, as well as a break before or after lunch with plenty of time to play.

Although much of the learning in Early Childhood takes place in the classroom, we also use our outdoor areas as much as possible and regularly visit locations in London to enhance the learning experience. We also take advantage of the great facilities at our Kensington and Hampstead campuses to offer specialist music and physical education lessons.

OUR PRIMARY YEARS PROGRAMME

Our Primary Years Programme for children aged 5 to 11 generates a stimulating and challenging learning environment that nurtures a child's natural curiosity, creativity and ability to reflect, and helps to develop a lifelong love of learning.

At the heart of the Programme are six themes of global significance that are explored using skills and knowledge acquired from six subject areas, as well as skills that cover a range of disciplines, with a strong emphasis on inquiry.

Overall, we strongly believe that our PYP Programme:

- develops the academic, social and emotional wellbeing of students
- encourages students to become independent and take responsibility for their own learning
- supports students' efforts to gain understanding of the world and function comfortably within it
- helps to establish personal values that support international mindedness.



THE SIX TRANSDISCIPLINARY THEMES OF OUR PYP PROGRAMME

These themes incorporate local and global issues into the curriculum, helping students to see their relevance in the world and how they connect to it. Each engaging and challenging theme is studied for approximately six weeks within each school year.

Who we are

Students explore the nature of the self; beliefs and values; person, physical, mental, social and spiritual health; human relationships including families, friends, communities, and cultures; rights and responsibilities; what it means to be human.

Where we are in place and time

Students explore orientation in place and time; personal histories; homes and journeys; the discoveries, explorations and migrations of humankind; the relationship between and the interconnectedness of individuals and civilizations, from local and global perspectives.

How we express ourselves

Students explore the ways in which we discover and express ideas, feelings, nature, culture, beliefs and values; the ways in which we reflect on, extend and enjoy our creativity; our appreciation of the aesthetic.

How the world works

Students explore the natural world and its laws, the interaction between the natural world (physical and biological) and human societies; how humans use their understanding of scientific principles; the impact of scientific and technological advances on society and on the environment.

How we organise ourselves

Students explore the interconnectedness of human-made systems and communities; the structure and function of organisations; societal decision-making; economic activities and their impact on humankind and the environment

Sharing the planet

Students explore rights and responsibilities in the struggle to share finite resources with other people and other living things; communities and the relationship within and between them; access to equal opportunities; peace and conflict resolution.

THE SIX DISCIPLINE AREAS OF OUR PYP PROGRAMME

Our PYP Programme helps to develop skills in six key subject areas. Our students may study these subjects in separate classes or as part of their inquiries into the six themes of the Programme.

LANGUAGE

Language is integrated into all areas of our PYP curriculum and arranged into three main communication strands:

Oral communication

Listening and speaking – skills that are essential for language development, learning and relating to others.

Written communication

Reading and writing – for enjoyment, instruction and information, and learning to recognise, appreciate, apply and use a variety of literary style genres and structures.

Visual communication

Viewing and presenting – to understand the ways in which images and language interact to convey ideas, values and beliefs.

MATHEMATICS

We teach Mathematics as a separate subject every day, with some aspects covered within the six units of inquiry. Our study of maths is split into four interrelated strands:

Data handling

Recording, organisation and interpretation of statistics and probability.

Measurement & Geometry

Attributes of 2D and 3D shapes, angles tessellation and symmetry. Using a variety of standard and non-standard units to measure with accuracy.

Number and Function

Identifying patterns in the world as a foundation for algebra. Whole numbers, place value, part numbers and computation.

Problem solving, communication, reasoning

The application of mathematical knowledge and understanding to solve problems.

SCIENCE

Science is the exploration of the natural, physical and material worlds. Students use inquiry to investigate and understand the world around them. They will experience what it is to think and act like a scientist.

Science study is split into four main strands which overlap each other; science also connects and overlaps with disciplines including Mathematics, Social Studies and PSPE.

Living things

The study of humans, animals, plants and the environment, and the interactions between them.

Earth and space

The study of the planet Earth and its relationship with the universe.

Materials and matter

The study of the origins, properties and uses of natural and human-made solids, liquids and gases.

Forces and energy

The study of energy, its origins and transfer, and its effects.

SOCIAL STUDIES

In Social Studies, students think about human behaviour realistically, objectively and with sensitivity. They develop a deeper understanding of themselves and others, and their place in an increasingly global society. Social Studies also aims to promote a sense of responsibility towards caring for and protecting the environment.

Areas covered include:

- human systems and economic activity
- social organisation and culture
- continuity and change through time
- human and natural environments
- resources and the environment.

PERSONAL, SOCIAL PHYSICAL, ECONOMIC EDUCATION

PSPEE focuses on the development of knowledge, attitudes and skills in relation to personal, social, emotional and physical wellbeing. This is to help students make healthy relationships and lifestyle choices.

Through PSPEE, students develop their self-identity, use appropriate social skills when interacting with others, and learn to communicate and manage their feelings, emotions and opinions.



“It’s not like a school where they show you what to do. They encourage you to do things yourself; it’s a lot of independent learning. My teachers encourage me to persevere when I find something challenging.”

Quinlan,
Grade 5 student



ARTS

Through studying the Arts, students construct a sense of self by engaging in a creative cycle of experimentation, action and reflection. They also begin to think and articulate their thoughts in new ways and through a variety of media and technologies.

Visual Arts

Students are exposed to a broad range of experiences that illustrate the field of visual arts, including bookmaking, architecture, ceramics, collage, drawing, graphic design, film, illustrations, painting, photography, printmaking, sculpture, textiles and woodwork.

Students are also encouraged to experience the visual arts from all over the world by visiting art galleries, museums, theatres and the cinema. We also invite artists to Southbank to discuss their work.

“I’ve grown by meeting people from new countries. It has taught me that going to an international school can teach you new languages, and you can learn about everybody’s culture, not just your own.”

Nina, Grade 3 student

Music

Our music classes focus on composition, performance and reflection, and expose students to music from different times and places. Collaborative activities are encouraged between students in the same class and other classes; and we offer a range of exciting field trips to concerts and workshops which utilise the many world-class musical resources available in London.

In addition, all students from Kindergarten upwards participate in the Suzuki music programme..



Instrumental music programme

PYP students from the age of five (Kindergarten) learn to play either the violin, viola or the cello through the Suzuki music programme. When they reach Grades 4 and 5, they also have the opportunity to learn guitar or flute.

Once children have progressed to a level of proficiency, they may be invited to play in ensembles or Suzuki Strings. All children can take part in our solo concerts for parents and students, which take place once a term. We also organise a joint primary school summer concert every year, which sees over 350 children playing together in the historic setting of the Central Hall, Westminster.



ADDITIONAL SUBJECTS WE COVER

In addition to our six key subject areas, a PYP student may also develop skills and knowledge in the following specialist subjects. This may occur as part of an inquiry into one of our six key themes or in an independent class.

Spanish

We provide our PYP students with the opportunity to learn Spanish as an additional language; while students whose first language is Spanish may be taught in separate ‘mother tongue’ classes.

Wherever possible, we link the learning of Spanish to our six units of inquiry. Students listen and speak as much as possible, developing confidence as they learn through games, songs and activities designed to capitalise on their natural open mindedness. Over time, we steadily introduce the reading and writing of Spanish as the competency of students increases.

Home Languages

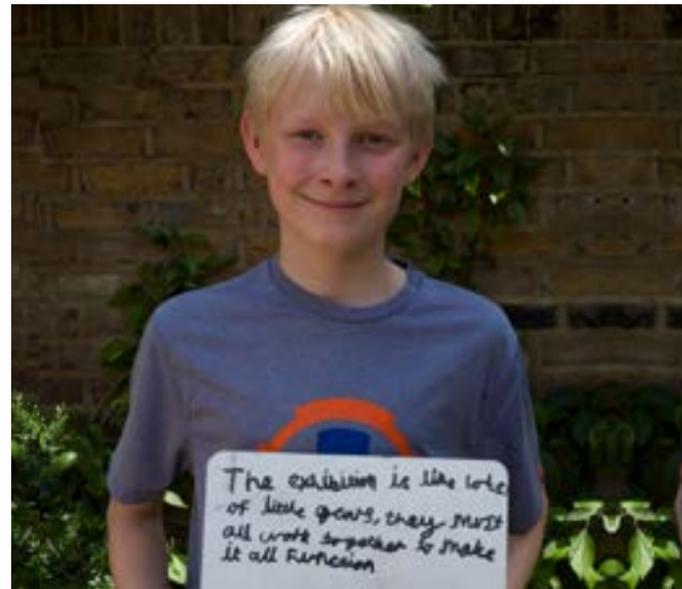
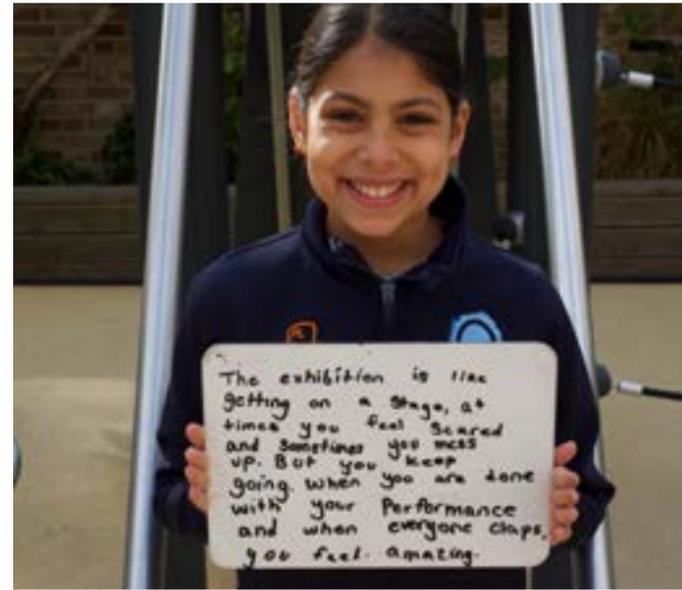
For students whose first language is not English or Spanish, we support the development of their home language, as we believe it’s crucial to a student maintaining cultural identity and emotional stability. This involves us working with their family to encourage the use of a home language in different contexts beyond the home environment, eg when a child visits a park, sporting events, shops, restaurants, etc. We also help students and families access books in their language to develop the vocabulary of younger children and provide older students with engaging fiction and non-fiction texts.

English as an Additional Language (EAL)

The EAL programme is designed to help PYP students to participate fully in the social and academic aspects of our school. The EAL teacher works closely with class teachers to support a student’s oral and written communication. Students in the EAL programme attend EAL lessons while their peers attend Spanish lessons. This ensures that EAL students do not miss out on other lessons. However, students who are new to English may receive extra support from the EAL teacher to assist their language development.

Information Communication Technology

We recognise that today’s students develop and grow as digital natives in an environment rich with technology. As a result, ICT at Southbank is not viewed as a standalone subject area. Instead, it is embedded and integrated in all areas of the curriculum and seen as a tool to enhance and extend our students’ learning. Both the Hampstead and Kensington campuses have a one-to-one device programme. Skills including coding and 3D design are embedded in classroom learning.



PYP Exhibition

In their final year, all PYP students participate in the PYP Exhibition. It's a unique and significant opportunity for them to showcase the attributes of the IB learner profile and celebrate their transition from primary to secondary school. The PYP Exhibition involves students working collaboratively

to conduct an in-depth inquiry into a real-life issue or problem that's pertinent to them. This typically involves the use of a variety of source materials: first-hand experience, interviews, surveys, field visits, etc. Students also use a range of media and forms of expression, including moving and still images, audio, animation,

work, oral presentations and performances.

During the process, which usually last eight to 10 weeks, students' work for the Exhibition is shared with members of the wider school community; and at the end of the process, it's shared with all students through a daytime

exhibition and with parents in an evening presentation.

Library and Media Centre

All our students from Early Childhood to Grade 5 have regularly scheduled time in the library at Hampstead or Kensington. Our librarians help to develop students' information literacy skills so they can make sense and best use the information available to them. They also recommend and highlight authors, genres and themes to help develop a love of reading, which is key to successful literacy. In addition, librarians work with class teachers and specialists to support and deliver our six units of inquiry.

Physical Education

PE offers students the opportunity to discover the capabilities of their bodies. This involves them looking at different ways they can use their bodies to solve problems, address physical challenges, function as part of a group, manipulate equipment or apparatus, and express themselves in a range of situations. Students take part in a number of activities that include individual pursuits, movement composition, games, adventure challenges and health-related fitness.

Our school day

Our school day for students aged 5 to 11 starts with registration at 8.40 and finishes at 15.20, with an hour for lunch. After school, we offer dozens of extra-curricular activities that students can get involved in.

Our PYP students have no school uniform, and no school bells are sounded during the day. This aligns with our liberal ethos and belief that students should be encouraged to be independent and express their individuality.



INSIDE A PYP CLASSROOM

Every one of our classrooms is a genuine melting pot of cultures and languages, which truly helps our students to broaden their minds and see themselves as a global citizen. Our classrooms are also vibrant, stimulating environments that nurture exploration and discovery. Without doubt, this creates independent individuals who are confident and curious learners, ready to fulfil their potential throughout their lives.



- 1 Even from a very early age, students develop skills through hands-on experience.
- 2 We help our students express their individuality throughout their IB education.
- 3 Our special mix of nationalities means our students constantly learn from each other.
- 4 PYP students have access to their own digital devices to support their learning.
- 5 Children thoughtfully consider the world and their own ideas and experiences.
- 6 Creative solutions are developed to overcome a wide range of problems, big and small.
- 7 Students work in groups to develop communication skills and appreciate the views of others.
- 8 A wide range of resources keep students engaged and stimulated at all times.

“You feel really free, like you can do anything, and everyone is really nice to you.”
Francesca, Grade 4 student

REMOTE LEARNING

In the Spring and Summer terms of 2020 and Spring term of 2021, when we had to physically close our doors during lockdown due to Covid-19, our technology-enabled teaching held no fears, even for those at Primary level.

Our school community are already used to an integrated technology approach, so the transition to remote learning was easy. We used a range of methods and tools to enable us to continue to deliver the excellent teaching our students know and love.

Throughout 2020 and the start of 2021, through our remote learning programme, we provided certainty, consistency and structure at a time when all were hard to come by.

“A massive thank you to the amazing team at Southbank. Everyone has been so very amazing. I am incredibly impressed with the amount of time and effort they are putting into making sure the kids continue to get the same excellent instruction. I know this is no easy thing. So many many thanks to you and the team ”

Primary school parent



REMOTE LEARNING AT OUR HAMPSTEAD AND KENSINGTON CAMPUSES

- We delivered daily 'live' teaching and pastoral meetings via Google Meet which allowed teachers to develop social interaction across a class and enabled teachers to understand what students could manage independently and when more support or instructions were required.
- We posted streamlined online tasks via Google Classroom and Seesaw.
- We posted short screen recordings through
- "Screensatisfy" which allowed students to revisit learning task instructions and offered those in different timezones the opportunity to log in and review their learning tasks for the day.
- The use of Century Tech as a new platform to support maths development, enabled students to practise core skills and continue to make great progress.
- Short videos and live 'meets' for our youngest students who are not yet able to complete and submit work independently.
- Our primary music department used Garageband for music and found ingenious ways to cut videos in applications
- such as Adobe Premiere Pro and iMovie so that students could play along virtually with ensemble pieces from their own homes.
- Students were able to travel virtually to broaden their horizons. One example being a conference call between our Grade 5 students and an expert on artificial intelligence in Mumbai.
- We successfully hosted whole school online events, including assemblies, online talent shows, concerts and project presentations.
- Our Grade 5s put on a live PYP Exhibition with over 150 live participants online simultaneously to enjoy their presentations and speeches.
- Our PE department found creative ways to put on sports events.
- Our G3 and G4 students were even able to 'go on a residential camp' they missed out on by doing a week of activities and sleeping in their gardens which they absolutely loved!

IBACK MYSELF

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

We believe extra-curricular activities are an excellent way to extend what our students learn in the classroom. They're also fantastic at stimulating intellectual curiosity and encouraging students to take care of their mind and body. All of which helps to develop independent, confident, curious and lifelong learners who go on to fulfil their potential and do great things in their adult life.

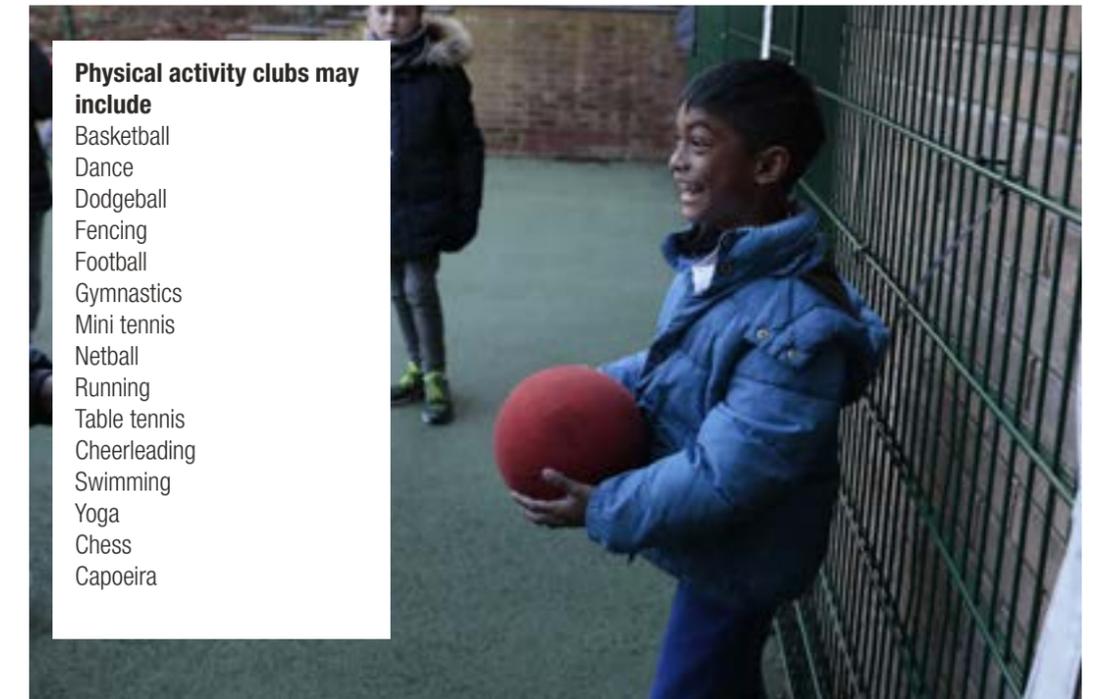
Throughout the year, PYP students have a wide range of extra-curricular activities to get involved in. After every one of our three school terms, students are given the opportunity to change their choices if they want to. This is so they can sample as many of our free clubs as possible and mix with a wider range of students. We also encourage students to play a role in leading activities, if this is something they are happy to do.

ACTIVITIES OUR PYP STUDENTS CAN GET INVOLVED IN

Extra-curricular activities are offered mainly after school, however, may also be offered at lunchtime and/or before school.

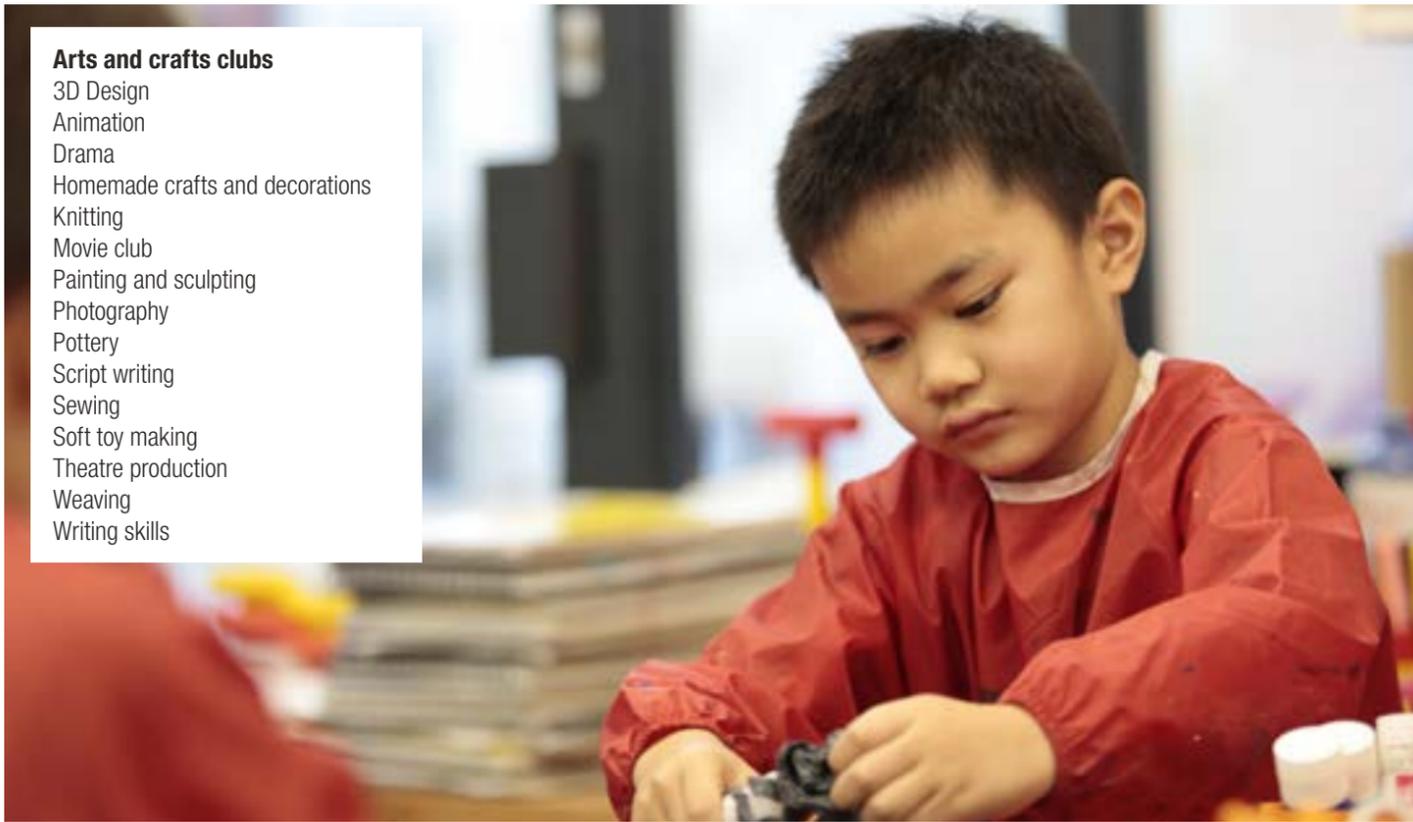
Physical activity clubs may include

- Basketball
- Dance
- Dodgeball
- Fencing
- Football
- Gymnastics
- Mini tennis
- Netball
- Running
- Table tennis
- Cheerleading
- Swimming
- Yoga
- Chess
- Capoeira



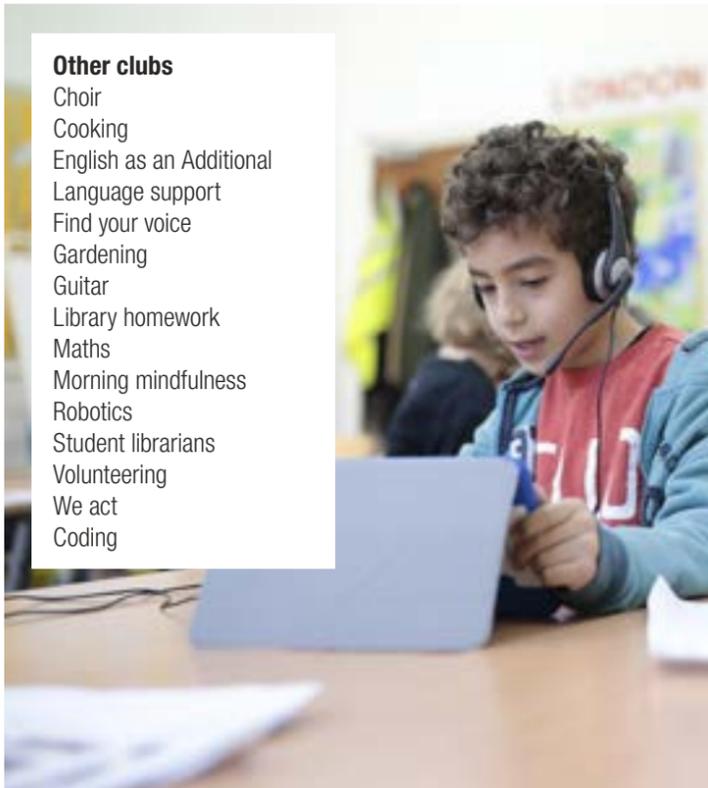
Arts and crafts clubs

- 3D Design
- Animation
- Drama
- Homemade crafts and decorations
- Knitting
- Movie club
- Painting and sculpting
- Photography
- Pottery
- Script writing
- Sewing
- Soft toy making
- Theatre production
- Weaving
- Writing skills



Other clubs

- Choir
- Cooking
- English as an Additional Language support
- Find your voice
- Gardening
- Guitar
- Library homework
- Maths
- Morning mindfulness
- Robotics
- Student librarians
- Volunteering
- We act
- Coding



Games clubs

- Lego
- Chess
- Scrabble
- Chequers
- Minecraft



AFTER THE PRIMARY YEARS PROGRAMME

Many of our PYP students progress to study our Middle Years Programme (Grades 6–10) and subsequently our Diploma Programme (Grades 11 and 12). These programmes are offered at our three sites in Westminster: Portland Place, Conway Street and Cleveland Street (see page 9 for more details).

Alternatively, if a student leaves Southbank, they can continue their Internal Baccalaureate education at more than 5,000 schools in over 140 countries around the world; or they can fit seamlessly into a different educational system, after or during their study at Southbank. This is something we can support by putting parents in touch with families who have already entered or re-entered other systems.

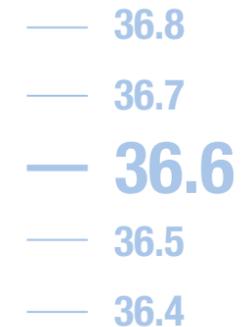


100% PASS RATE

All of Southbank's Diploma students passed the programme in 2020.

OUR DIPLOMA PROGRAMME

Many of our former PYP students have gone on to study our IB Diploma Programme when they reached the age of 16. It's a challenging two-year course that helps students grow even further as individuals and offers an excellent gateway into some of the world's top universities.



36.6 POINTS

In 2020, our Diploma students achieved an overall average score of 36.6.

Top UK universities usually make offers to students who score between 32 and 40.

The average Diploma score achieved by students around the world was 29.



1 PERFECT SCORE

One of our students scored the maximum 45 points.

This was only achieved by 3% of students who studied the Diploma Programme.

IBREAK THE MOULD

FURTHER INFORMATION

We hope this prospectus has given you a good insight into what life is like as a Southbank student and why our school offers so much more than an education. However, if you would like to find out more about us, please make use of the following options:

Visit our website

You can find further information about our school, campuses and curriculum at southbank.org

On our website, you will also find details about how to apply for a place at Southbank, as well as an online application portal.

Contact us

If you have a question about any aspect of Southbank, please email us at admissions@southbank.org, or call us on +44 (0)20 7243 3803. We're more than happy to help you with any query.

Get to know us more

A great way to find out more about life at Southbank is to take a look at our Facebook, Twitter and Instagram pages. Just click on the links below and start to follow us.

 [/southbankinternationalschool](https://www.facebook.com/southbankinternationalschool)

 [/southbankschool](https://twitter.com/southbankschool)

 [/southbankschool](https://www.instagram.com/southbankschool)