

**School “President” IB DP
Language Policy
(updated April, 2023)**

The following policy is designed in accordance with IB Language Policy guidelines. It is communicated to administrators, teachers, a librarian and other school staff requiring professional development in the fields of language learning and teaching, and is signed by all aforementioned staff.

Language is one of major means of communicating and, therefore, is fundamental to learning. It is a key element across the curriculum and plays an essential role in promoting national identity as well as international understanding. With the help of language our students develop the ability to think and learn, to improve social skills and to acquire knowledge.

Since language acquisition is at the core of learning, all teachers at School “President” are language teachers accepting the responsibility for facilitating interaction and fostering intercultural understanding through communicating in a variety of ways in more than one language.

Aims and Objectives

The aim of teaching at School “President” is to prepare students intellectually and culturally to reach their academic potential by providing them with the necessary skills and knowledge. Language is integrated in all subject areas and, thus, the level of students’ language acquisition benefits from this holistic approach.

The aims of language learning encompass both language and culture, the latter uniting Literature, History, Arts, Geography etc.

Languages on offer at School “President”

School “President” exists in a unique social context, which places a great impact not only on a home language (Russian) but on foreign language acquisition as well. Currently School “President” offers Russian National curriculum from kindergarten to high school and IB Diploma Programme in high school. This defines the languages of instruction: Russian and English, respectively. Meanwhile, all students from kindergarten to high school study English as a mandatory foreign language course which provides them with an opportunity to be prepared for enrollment in international educational programmes. Since the school recognizes multilingualism as a fact, a right and a resource for learning, all students, in addition to English, can choose from French, German, Spanish and Chinese languages. Multilingualism is also supported by various co-curricular activities and events such as European languages week, Chinese New Year celebration, Children’s Book Week, IB Picnic Saturday, Travellers’ Club, School “President” TED Talk, etc.

To facilitate language development, teachers use a variety of resources, including virtual ones. The School library provides the students with an access to a plenty of resources in different languages. Such resources are reviewed and updated on a regular basis. All students have a secure access to the Internet via the School LAN and has a dedicated IT support team. The students are provided with opportunities to visit museums and to attend educational trips to various destinations to broaden their cultural horizons.

IB DP Student Language Profile

- **Language A**

| | |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Standard level / Higher level | 10-11 grades, 4/6 periods per week |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|

- **Language B**

| | |
|---|------------------------------------|
| Standard level / Higher level (English and others) | 10-11 grades, 4/6 periods per week |
| Language ab initio SL (French, German, Spanish) | 10-11 grades, 4 periods per week |

*1 period is 40 minutes

In School “President”, students may master their native tongue through school-supported self-taught options to ensure the development of a balanced language profile. As for Language B options, School provides opportunities for learning ab initio and B languages for the students to reach their full potential in learning and assessment. Further guidance and support can be found in the Diploma Programme language A, language B, and language *ab initio* guides, and in the Diploma Programme assessment: Principles and Practice document.

Due to students’ different linguistic background, an Entry Test in English (Language of instruction) and Language A is offered within the enrollment procedures. The results of the Entry Test serve as the basis for the development of individual learning strategy and the identification of potential language challenges.

For the students with identified educational challenges including additional language learners (whose medium of instruction and assessment is not their first or best language), a special programme in language acquisition to meet student’s needs may be developed. It may include extra hours of instruction in both native and foreign languages, individual and customized tuition. In cases the identified educational challenge requires inclusive access arrangements from IBO, the procedures prescribed by IBO are employed.

Rights and responsibilities

The school guarantees linguistically friendly and supportive environment for all members of the school community. With this in mind the following rights and responsibilities are implemented.

The school’s responsibilities are:

- To ensure teaching of a Language A of student’s choice or organize self-taught alternative according to the principles outlined in the IB Guidance for schools, namely Language A: literature school-supported self-taught support material
- To guarantee a variety of Languages B on offer
- To guarantee teachers an access to linguistic professional development

Every IB DP student has a right to:

- Choose their home language as Language A
- Choose a Language B from a variety on offer
- Get an access to all school facilities and resources

- Participate in all school co-curricular activities and events
- Receive language support and/or inclusive access arrangements if required
- Express their cultural identity through their linguistic background

Every IB DP student has a responsibility to:

- Respect languages and cultures of others
- Study the culture related to the languages they learn

Parents' involvement

The school actively encourages parents' participation in the development of their children's language profile through a variety of curricular and co-curricular activities. Parents are invited to discuss the language choices along with their children as well as take part in any school-initiated language experiences.

Professional development

Caring for the professional development of pedagogical staff, School "President" offers its teachers a variety of language connected courses ranging from Literature to Foreign Language Proficiency.

School "President" recognizes the needs of not only students but also teachers in foreign language acquisition. To meet the demands of modern globalized world, foreign Language clubs and events are popularized and made available for all teachers.