

Fallbrook Union High School

International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme

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IB / FALLBROOK LANGUAGE POLICY

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is

- The framework for valuing language diversity in our schools.
- The supports for all language learners and their families, including those in which the primary language of instruction is not their mother tongue
- The structure for language learning at our schools

Definitions

Language A refers to language the student uses at home and/or outside of the classroom/school environment. This term encompasses other terms including: mother tongue, first language, home language, preferred language, native language, heritage language.. This term also includes sign language. This could also include multiple languages since many second-language students are using more than two languages outside of the classroom.

Language B describes the language(s) learned subsequently to the first language.

Language Acquisition refers to what happens in the class that provides instruction and support for the learning of the language B.

Common Practices in the CP and DP

- We promote International-Mindedness and encourage multilingualism.
- We provide pathways to language acquisition for students in addition to supporting mother tongue languages.
- We provide support for students to be successful in language acquisition.
- We encourage students to take action and extend their language learning in ways that help their community.
- We ensure that every discipline includes support mechanisms for language learning, both written and spoken.
- We promote awareness of one's own language and culture.
- We believe that language learning is vital for social, emotional and cognitive development.

Language Curriculum in the DP

- Group 1: Language and Literature: Higher Level: This option is for a fluent language user studying his/her most competent language (Language A). Students will study literary texts and are responsible for fostering communication skills.
- Group 2: Language Acquisition: Higher or Standard Level: Students will build acquisition of a Language B in this course. Students are encouraged to continue to build upon the proficiency of their Language B from previous course work. Students will learn to communicate effectively, analyze literary texts, and develop fluent language skills.
- Group 4: Sciences: Standard Level: Students pursuing the Bilingual Diploma will take a Group 4 in Language B while concurrently taking a Group 1 in their Language A.

Language Curriculum in the CP

- Since CP students are required to take 2 DP courses, they may or may not select the Group 1, Group 2, or Group 4 option. However, all CP students, regardless of their choice of Diploma Program courses, are required to improve their language proficiency in a target language other than their best/mother tongue language (Language A).

- IB recommends a minimum of 50 hours to be devoted to language development (built into the ATL class). If students take an IB World Language class (IB Spanish B) they will be required to do two extra lessons during the ATL class.
- CP Language Portfolio (LP): The language portfolio enables students to reflect on their learning and chart their progress in developing language skills and intercultural experiences. The language portfolio is a private document for the student to reflect on their learning. The LP is updated regularly over the two years of the CP program. The LP will contain activities, assessments, reflections on student learning experiences, notes on a student's understanding of other cultures, and any other samples of student work. The LP is not a formally assessed document, but IBO may request a copy.
- Group 1: Language and Literature: Higher Level: Students pursuing the Bilingual Career-related Certificate will take a Group 1 in his/her most competent language (Language A). Students will study literary texts and are responsible for fostering communication skills.
- Group 4: Sciences: Standard Level: Students pursuing the Bilingual Career-related Certificate will take a Group 4 in Language B while concurrently taking a Group 1 in their Language A.

Multilingual Communication

- Fallbrook High School enlists the help of many bilingual staff to translate and/or interpret for our Spanish speaking parents.
- Fallbrook High School has a translator/interpreter in the Parent Welcome Center and parents can contact them to request an interpreter or translator. Teachers may also use this service to interpret or translate messages home.
- The school libraries include materials to support continued use of Language A and Language B
- District documents and publications are available in Spanish.

Languages Offered

- Group 1: English
- Group 2: Spanish
- Group 4: English, Spanish

Special Populations

Parent Welcome Center: Fallbrook High School offers a center for students who are new to Fallbrook. Part of this service includes help for families new to the country or families with children who are in the early stages of English Language Development (ELD).

English Language Development Services: Incoming students will receive testing to assess appropriate supports including placement in an ELD course, if needed. All new English Language Learners (ELLs) take the CELDT test to initially determine a student's English Language Development level. The ELL team then makes a team decision about best placement based on CELDT scores, educational history from their home country, and credits received in their home country. ELL students are tested annually as mandated by Federal regulations. Fallbrook High School uses a multi-tiered system which includes annual testing to determine whether or not a student should be redesignated in their English Language Development. ELL students are placed into most mainstream courses and language development courses throughout their progression in learning the English language. Additionally, Fallbrook offers courses to assist ELL students in acquiring the English language. All ELL students have annual data collected and stored to track their language development.

English Language Development Courses

- ELD 1
- ELD 2
- ELD 3
- ELD 4
- ELD 5

Supports for all students

- Fallbrook High School offers various summer school programs for all students, including ELL programs
- Paraprofessionals and/or educational assistants teaming with content teachers to provide additional support for language learners in mainstream classes
- After school tutoring through our ASSETS program & Saturday school through our FELA program

- Additional Reading and Math support classes
- Many teachers offer additional supports as needed

Communication and Review of Policy

This policy is made available to all stakeholders. It is regularly revised and involves feedback from teachers, students, and parents on an annual basis.