

The IB Education System Recognized In A Case Study About Holistic Student Development

THE HAGUE, THE NETHERLANDS, March 13, 2023 /EINPresswire.com/ -- The International Baccalaureate (IB), a global leader in international education, has been recognized in a case study, published by the Center for Universal Education (CUE) at Brookings Institution, a non-profit public policy organization focused on universal quality education and skills development around the world. The IB education system is one of seven educational systems globally to be analysed and recognized in a [research report](#) as setting high expectations for both academic learning and holistic student development.



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The study indicates that by including a focus on all aspects of a student, not just the academic, the IB offers a transformational educational experience for students compared to traditional systems that focus primarily on academics.

"One chief way the IB system adapts to myriad national contexts is through its robust educational infrastructure, which balances providing guidance to teachers and schools that foster the system's desired outcomes while leaving space for local agency and adaptation," said Whitney Hegseth, visiting researcher at the Lynch School of Education and Human Development at Boston College and author of the case study.

The [IB case study](#), focused on [the Primary Years Programme \(PYP\)](#), is a companion to a summary report that explores the work of building and rebuilding education systems to support holistic student development in seven education systems—situated in high, middle, and low-middle income countries with democratic traditions – as they make the whole child the centre of their work.

As mentioned in the research report, "Schools undergo a cultural change when implementing the PYP, promoting international mindedness, a culture of ongoing assessment and reflection, and a series of holistic attitudes. Even as the IB system endeavors to impact nearly all facets of classroom life, there is room for adaptation at every level as students, teachers, and schools undergo the changes required by the IB system."

The Primary Years Programme (PYP) focuses on the development of the whole child as an inquirer, both in school and in the world beyond. The PYP offers a transformative experience for students, teachers and whole school communities and delivers excellent outcomes by providing an education that is engaging, relevant, challenging, and significant.

The PYP Exhibition, one of the final experiences of the Primary Years Programme (PYP), represents a part of their learning development and requires students to engage in a collaborative transdisciplinary inquiry process that involves them in identifying, investigating, and offering solutions to real-life issues or problems.

Whitney Hegseth noted, “what drew me to the IB system — as a researcher, but also as a former teacher and current parent — is the mutual respect that it accords to students. IB's approach to teaching and learning works to intervene in power asymmetries that are commonly found in schools, both between teachers and students, and among diverse groups of students. My hope is that my research on IB can offer some language and a frame for better understanding interactions between the broader political and sociocultural environment, the instructional supports of the IB system, and the teaching and learning that can be found in IB classrooms. Understanding such interactions is a first step toward supporting the robust implementation of IB worldwide.”

The International Baccalaureate uses a ‘whole child’ approach to develop students with confidence, creativity, and purpose. By building from their individual strengths, the IB equips students to direct their own learning and reach further to make a difference for themselves and others.

Learn more about the IB case study and the research report

Read more about the PYP.

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If you would like more information, please contact Anna Pantazi at media@ibo.org

About the International Baccalaureate

Founded in 1968, the International Baccalaureate (IB) pioneered a movement of international education and now offers four high-quality, challenging educational programmes to students aged 3-19. The IB gives students distinct advantages by providing strong foundations, critical thinking skills, and proficiency for solving complex problems while encouraging diversity, curiosity, and a healthy appetite for learning and excellence. In a world where asking the right questions is as important as discovering answers, the IB champions critical thinking and

flexibility in study by crossing disciplinary, cultural and national boundaries. Supported by world-class educators and coordinators, the IB currently engages with more than two million students in over 5,600 schools across 159 countries. To find out more, please visit www.ibo.org/.

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