



International School of Egypt Language Policy

1. Language Philosophy

The International School of Egypt acknowledges that language is crucial to learning. All teachers are responsible for the language development of their students and facilitate communication through the planning and instruction methods.

ISE aligns with the IB Language Acquisition Guide which states that language:

- is valued as central to developing critical thinking and is considered essential for the cultivation of intercultural awareness and the development of internationally minded and responsible members of local, national, and global communities.
- is integral to exploring and sustaining personal development and cultural identity and provides an intellectual framework to support conceptual development.
- greatly contributes to the holistic development of students and to the strengthening of lifelong learning skills.
- equips students with the necessary multiliteracy skills and attitudes, enabling them to communicate successfully in various global contexts and build intercultural understanding.

ISE highly supports maintenance of students' mother tongue and gaining proficiency in additional languages. Our primary goal is that our students will be able to communicate in more than one language through intercultural understanding and respect.

At ISE, we strongly believe that students best learn language through developing the student's communication skills, working in a range of authentic contexts and purposes, and developing multiliteracy skills.

ISE focuses on creating and sustaining a safe learning environment in which students are successfully acquiring second language proficiency.



2. School Language Profile

A. Diploma Programme Admission

External candidates (non-ISE middle school students) are admitted to the Diploma Programme based on:

- a. The results of entrance exams in English Language, Mathematics, and Science.
- b. An interview with both the student and the parent(s).
- c. The previous results and recommendations from the students' former schools.

A final decision is taken using a comprehensive analysis based on a, b and c above.

P.S. Check the Admission Policy for more details.

B. Language Groups in the School Community

The majority of ISE students speak native-level Arabic with most students spending their pre-IB education in international/language schools. Most students have native or near native level Arabic proficiency, although some students who have lived abroad come to the IB DP might express weaknesses in their academic Arabic. In this case, students can have extra classes with their Arabic teachers. All Arabic teachers are required to give support classes to students who are facing difficulties during their free time.

All Egyptian students are required to take the mandatory governmental exams. There are students who are exempted from taking these exams and non-Egyptian students. They are encouraged to learn Arabic and attend Arabic lessons with their classmates without having the same assessment as other students who are more proficient in Arabic.

The language of instruction is English. The IBDP staff shows high levels of English proficiency and communicate with students in English. The majority of ISE parents are bilingual speakers and official communication with stakeholders is conducted in English. In order to communicate with all stakeholders, the important documentation related to IBDP will be translated to Arabic.



C. Language of Instruction

The language of instruction of the Diploma Programme subjects is English, except for the Arabic language courses.

The language courses offered in Years 11 and 12 are:

Group A	Group B
English Literature A SL	Arabic Language B SL
English Literature A HL	Arabic Language B HL

3. Placement of students into Diploma Programme Language Classes

All IB Diploma candidates must study English A, whether SL or HL. At ISE, students' choice between SL and HL is based on their fluency and ability to communicate their ideas in English. All Egyptian students, including dual passport holders, must study Arabic. Non-Egyptian students who cannot study Arabic B, can take an online Language B course through Pomoja, an authorized IB online courses provider.

All Egyptian students are required to achieve a passing level in the mandatory government exams for Arabic and Religion. ISE provides the required instruction hours in Arabic Language in order that students are academically prepared for these requirements. IB Arabic B course includes all required concepts and prepares students for the mandatory government exams.

English Language and Arabic Departments at ISE will inform the DP Coordinator if there are any concerns over the suitability of a student for a particular Diploma Programme Language course. The DP Coordinator and IB Language teachers will communicate to students and parents regarding any concerns, taking into account their academic standing, their previous language courses and their future goals.

Students with the appropriate language and academic skills in English and other core subjects are encouraged to pursue a full Diploma Programme.



4. Supporting Language Development

a. Provision of Language Development Opportunities

Students are encouraged to use English at all times, both inside and outside the classroom. The primary goal of the language program at ISE is to help students develop their communication skills and achieve their personal growth through strong emphasis on language.

Academic Integrity Policy is communicated to all stakeholders and is consistently used in all research assignments. A proper citation practice lessons and workshops are held each semester in order to help students avoid plagiarism.

Students who need English support have an opportunity to take extra classes with their English teachers during their free time.

b. Resources

Paper dictionaries are available for students in the library.

The library and language online subscriptions (My Perspectives Savvas Realize and Egyptian Knowledge Bank) also provide students with access to a growing collection of books, electronic resources, and various sources of information in English and Arabic. This practice supports additional language development.

5. Spelling Protocols

ISE does not require students to follow any country-specific spelling system.

6. Preferred Bibliographic styles.

ISE requires students to follow MLA bibliography format.

7. Policy Review

This policy will be reviewed annually. The Leadership team and IB Teachers will review the implementation of the policy in classrooms and throughout the school on a regular basis.

8. References

International Baccalaureate Guidelines for Developing a School Language Policy

- *Common European Framework Reference*
- *Guidelines for Developing a School Language Policy*, International Baccalaureate
- *Language and learning in the IB Programmes*, International Baccalaureate
- *Middle Years Programme: Language A Guide*, International Baccalaureate
- *Middle Years Programme: Language B Guide*, International Baccalaureate
- *Diploma Programme: Principles into Practice*, International Baccalaureate
- *Language Policy*, Tamagawa Academy, Japan