



Homestead Middle School

International Baccalaureate Middle Years Programme

Admissions/Access Policy

Philosophy

Homestead Middle School (HMS) is committed to equitable access to the International Baccalaureate Middle Years Programme (IB MYP). In alignment with the IB mission, we believe that all students, regardless of background, culture, or ability, have the right to participate in challenging academic programs that prepare them to become inquirers, thinkers, communicators, and caring global citizens.

Conditions for Participation

HMS is a parent choice program, and families may request their child's participation in the IB MYP through the district's online application system. Once an application is submitted, the student's academic records are reviewed by the IB Coordinator and administrative team to determine appropriate placement.

A placement review includes consideration of the student's academic history, particularly in reading and mathematics. Because the IB MYP requires participation in all eight subject groups, HMS works carefully to design student schedules that balance state and district requirements with IB program expectations.

In cases where students require additional academic support, HMS remains committed to providing access to IB courses to the greatest extent possible, ensuring compliance with both the IB Organization and the State of Florida.

Commitment to Equity and Access

- HMS does not use standardized test scores *as the sole determinant* of admission to the IB MYP.
- English Language Learners (ELLs), students with disabilities, and students requiring academic or behavioral support are welcomed into the program with appropriate accommodations and services. No student is excluded solely based on disabilities, language or performance.
- Students receive the support they need (e.g., Intensive Reading, ESOL, or other interventions) while continuing to participate in the IB MYP curriculum.
- Our goal is to ensure that every student, regardless of background or circumstance, has the opportunity to benefit from the IB MYP.

Responsibilities of the School Community

- **Students:** Commit to engaging fully with IB courses and demonstrating the attributes of the IB Learner Profile.
- **Parents/Guardians:** Support their child's participation, attend meetings when necessary, and encourage academic and personal growth.
- **Teachers:** Provide rigorous, differentiated instruction aligned with IB standards and support the needs of diverse learners.
- **Administrators/IB Coordinator:** Ensure equitable access, manage scheduling, provide resources, and oversee program integrity.

This Admissions/Access Policy is reviewed every three years, or as needed. The review ensures alignment with IB standards, district policies, and the evolving needs of our community. *(Revised August 2025)*