

International Baccalaureate<sup>®</sup> Baccalauréat International Bachillerato Internacional

# The IB: an historical perspective

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### **The IB Mission**

The International Baccalaureate aims to develop inquiring, knowledgeable and caring young people who help to create a better and more peaceful world through intercultural understanding and respect.

To this end the organization works with schools, governments and international organizations to develop challenging programmes of international education and rigorous assessment.

These programmes encourage students across the world to become active, compassionate and lifelong learners who understand that other people, with their differences, can also be right.





### **Education trends (by the 1960s)**

### Traditional

MemorisationSame content for allHermetic subjectsIQ testsDidacticTeacher-centredAcademic intelligenceNorm-referencedMachine-scored testsTranslation (languages)Closed classroomsNational perspective

### Progressive

Critical analysis Student choice Transdisciplinarity Range of skills testing Constructivism Child-centred Education of the whole child Criterion-referenced AV and AL (languages) Open plan rooms Multiple perspectives

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### **Key influential educationalists**



John Dewey

#### 1859 - 1952

American philosopher, psychologist and educational reformer

<u>Key insight:</u> The importance of tapping into students' natural curiosity



**A.S Neill** 

Scottish progressive educator,

Personal freedom for children

- students developing in an

author and founder of

Summerhill School

environment free of

1883 - 1973

**Key insight:** 

constraints



**Jean Piaget** 

1896 - 1980

Swiss developmental psychologist and philosopher

Director, International Bureau of Education, 1929 – 1967

Key insight: Academic intelligence develops in children through a cognitive cycle



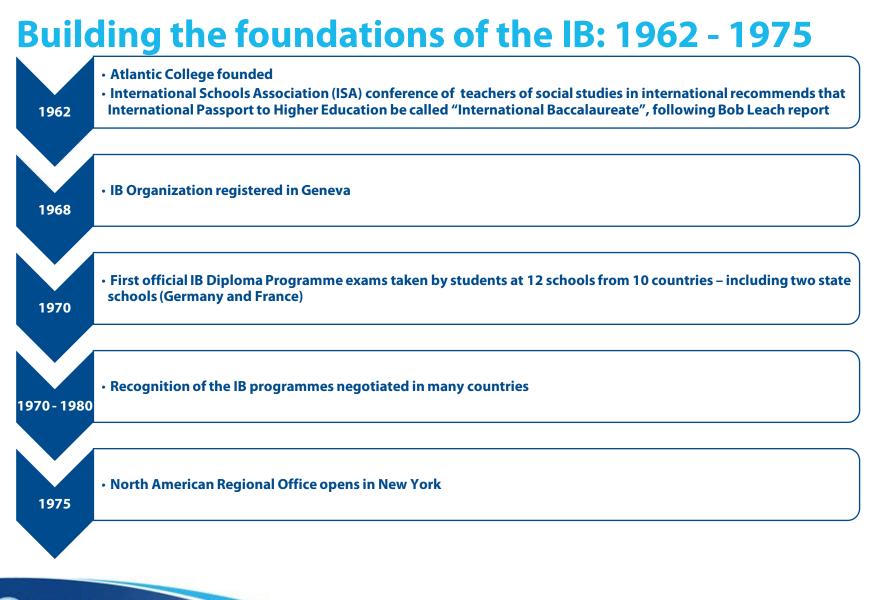
**Jerome Bruner** 

1915 – present

American psychologist and author of *The Process of Education* 

Key insight: Learning by doing and self-discovery of information makes students better problem solvers





### **Early IB influencers**



#### **Robert Leach**

#### The original promoter of the IB

Organised the Conference of Internationally-minded Schools (1962) where the term "International Baccalaureate" was first mentioned

Developed a contemporary history syllabus and exam, which promoted critical inquiry

This pedagogy was applied to all IB Diploma Programme subjects and later to the MYP and PYP



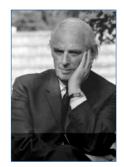
#### John Goormaghtigh

#### **Belgian lawyer**

Treasurer, International Schools Association (1957 – 1962) Chair, Board of the International School of Geneva (1960 – 1966)

President, International Schools Examination Syndicate (1965 – 1967)

President, IB Council of Foundation (1968 – 1980)



#### **Alex Peterson**

Instrumental in the formation of the International Baccalaureate Organization (1968)

Driving force behind IB curriculum design

First Director General (1968 – 1977)

First honorary member of the organisation's Council of Foundation (1983 – 1988)



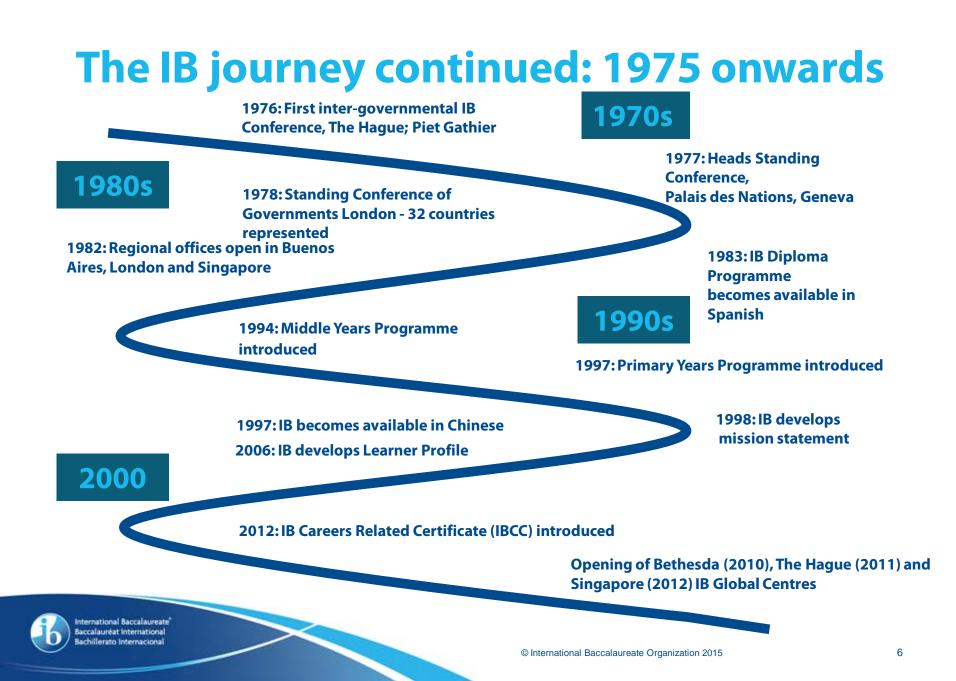
#### **Kurt Hahn**

Founder of Atlantic College in 1962 (Wales)

His theory of "Outward Bound" Four Pillars inspired the CAS element of the IB DP:

- 1. physical fitness
- 2. expedition of challenge and adventure
- 3. project to develop selfreliance and self-discipline
- 4. sense of compassion through service





## Diploma Programme curriculum development



Alec Peterson authors: Arts and Science in the Sixth Form (Oxford Department of Educational Studies, 1960)

Ideas incorporated into the IB curriculum:

- Broader education with some degree of specialisation
- Ethics in science
- Humanities specialists ought to know about "the beauty of mathematics"
- Critical analysis and learning to learn rather than to accumulate encyclopaedic knowledge and learning through memorisation
- Moving from three specialised subjects to four, spread over humanities and sciences

Philosophy, structure, content and Pedagogy of the IB Diploma Programme developed 1962

Theory of Knowledge (TOK) introduced 1967



Creative, Action, Service (CAS) introduced 1968

**Extended Essay introduced** 

1974





## **Middle Years Programme**

#### 1980

International Schools Association Conference (ISAC) at Moshi IS, Tanzania recommends the development of a pre-IB course to meet the needs of students aged 11-16 years with a focus on six 'needs':

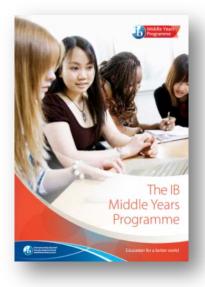
#### 1992

IB formally takes over responsibility for ISAC

#### **1994** IB introduces the Middle Years Programme (MYP)

- 1. GLOBAL
- 2. INTELLECTUAL
- 3. PERSONAL
- 4. PHYSICAL
- 5. CREATIVE
- 6. SOCIAL









## **Primary Years Programme**

#### 1990

Idea for a programme for students aged 3-12 is first discussed at the ECIS (European Council of International Schools) Conference in Rome

#### 1992

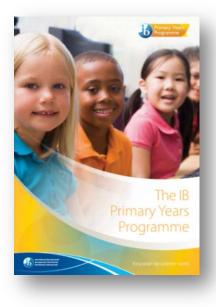
Frankfurt IS steering committee, led by Kevin Bartlett (Vienna IS), started the International Schools' Curriculum Project (ISCP) ages 3-12

#### **1997** IB introduces the Primary Years Programme (PYP)

### Curriculum based around six transdisciplinary themes:

- 1. WHO WE ARE
- 2. WHERE WE ARE IN PLACE AND TIME
- 3. HOW WE EXPRESS OURSELVES
- 4. HOW THE WORLD WORKS
- 5. HOW WE ORGANIZE OURSELVES
- 6. SHARING THE PLANET









## **Career-related Programme**

#### 2000s

IB identifies a need to develop a careerrelated approach to learning

Result of global trends and attempts to bring academic and career-related study closer together

Recognition that the development of an IB career related certificate to support local vocational/career-related studies would broaden access to an IB education

#### 2010

IB pilots CP in schools around the world

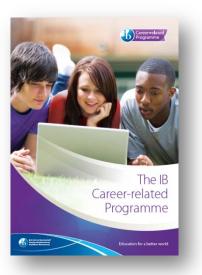
The CP incorporates the vision and educational principles of the IB into a unique programme specifically developed for students who wish to engage in career-related learning

Flexible educational framework allows schools to meet the needs, backgrounds and contexts of students

Each school creates its own distinctive version of the CP



#### **2012** IB introduces the CP

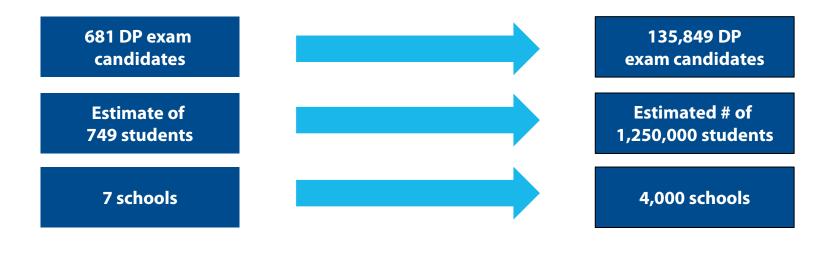




## Some IB statistics: then and now

1971

2014









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### **IB History timeline**

