



## International Baccalaureate – Primary Years Programme (PYP)

*‘Preparing students to be active participants in a lifelong journey of learning’*



Aspendale Primary School is an accredited **International Baccalaureate (IB) World School**. IB World Schools share a common philosophy—a commitment to improve the teaching and learning of a diverse and inclusive community of students by delivering challenging, high quality programs of international education that share a powerful vision.

### What is the IB Primary Years Programme?

The Primary Years Program (PYP) focuses on the development of the whole child as an inquirer, both in the classroom and in the world outside. It is a framework guided by six transdisciplinary themes of global significance, explored using the knowledge and skills derived from 6 subject areas (mathematics, language, arts, social studies, science and personal, social and physical education) as well as transdisciplinary skills, with a powerful emphasis on inquiry.

The PYP is flexible enough to accommodate the requirements of the **Victorian Curriculum**.

The IB Primary Years Programme

- addresses students’ academic, social and emotional wellbeing
- encourages students to develop independence and take responsibility for their own learning
- supports students’ efforts to gain understanding of the world and to function comfortably within it
- helps students establish personal values as a foundation upon which international-mindedness will develop and flourish.

The most significant and distinctive feature of the IB Primary Years Programme are the six transdisciplinary themes. These themes provide IB World Schools with the opportunity to incorporate local and global issues into the curriculum and effectively allow students to “step up” beyond the confines of learning within subject areas.

### PYP 6 transdisciplinary themes:

#### **Who we are**

*Inquiry into the nature of the self; beliefs and values; person, physical, mental, social and spiritual health; human relationships including families, friends, communities, and cultures; rights and responsibilities; what it means to be human*

#### **Where we are in place and time**

*Inquiry into orientation in place and time; personal histories; homes and journeys; the discoveries, explorations and migrations of humankind; the relationship between and the interconnectedness of individuals and civilizations, from local and global perspectives*

#### **How we express ourselves**

*Inquiry into the ways in which we discover and express ideas, feelings, nature, culture, beliefs and values; the ways in which we reflect on, extend and enjoy our creativity; our appreciation of the aesthetic*

#### **How the world works**

*Inquiry into the natural world and its laws, the interaction between the natural world (physical and biological) and human societies; how humans use their understanding of scientific principles; the impact of scientific and technological advances on society and on the environment.*

#### **How we organise ourselves**

*Inquiry into the interconnectedness of human-made systems and communities; the structure and function of organisations; societal decision-making; economic activities and their impact on humankind and the environment*

#### **Sharing the planet**

*Inquiry into the rights and responsibilities in the struggle to share finite resources with other people and living things; communities and the relationship with and between them; access to equal opportunities; peace and conflict resolution.*

These transdisciplinary themes help teachers develop a program of inquiry- investigations into important ideas, identified by the school and requiring high level of involvement on the part of the students.

Since these ideas relate to the world beyond the school, students see their relevance and connect with it in an engaging and challenging way. Students who learn in this way begin to reflect on their roles and responsibilities as learners and become actively involved in their education.

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The International Baccalaureate® (IB) learner profile describes a broad range of human capacities and responsibilities that go beyond academic success. The learner profile sits at the center of the PYP.

They imply a commitment to help all members of the school community learn to respect themselves, others and the world around them.

The profile aims to develop learners who are:

- Inquirers
- Knowledgeable
- Thinkers
- Communicators
- Principled
- Open-minded
- Caring
- Risk-takers
- Balanced
- Reflective



Each Year levels Program of Inquiry (PoI) can be viewed in the Year Level Curriculum Booklets.

#### 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 organisation works with schools, governments and international organisations to develop challenging programs of international education and rigorous assessment.

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

#### APS Mission and Vision

*Learning for Life* describes our **vision** to ensure that every student is equipped with the transferable knowledge, skills and understanding necessary to thrive in a rapidly changing and globally connected world.

Our **mission** is to provide a high quality, supportive and engaging learning program which builds the academic, social and emotional capacity of every student at our primary school.

We aim to develop lifelong learners who care for themselves, others and the community around them, and actively contribute to a more sustainable and peaceful world.

Our Core Values of Passion, Respect, Integrity, Commitment and Empathy guide how we teach, learn and interact at Aspendale Primary School.

For further information about the IB and its programs, please visit [www.ibo.org](http://www.ibo.org)

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