



**impington**  
international college



**A world class  
IB education from IIC –  
your ticket to a world of opportunity**

# Welcome to Impington International College



Top non-selective provider of  
the International Baccalaureate  
(Parent Power 2020)

At Impington International College we offer a unique educational experience for our students who choose to come to study with us from many schools in the local area, wider parts of the UK and all around the world. We are proud to provide an education which can be tailored to your passions in an environment where your aspirations can be accomplished.

## Education tailored to your passions

Our academically driven cohort achieve outstanding results and our alumni have gone on to attend renowned higher education institutions around the world, including: University of Cambridge, University of Oxford, London School of Economics and Political Science, University College London, King's College London, Loughborough University, Leiden University, UCLA, The Place, Italia Conti, International University of Japan, and many more.

## Be motivated to succeed

Every individual in our sixth form is known. Our small class sizes ensure high contact time with teachers so that your individual needs are met and our close-knit environment allows you to flourish, both academically and socially. Our students are motivated to succeed, and our sixth form allows you to realise your goals and progress confidently into the next stages of learning and life.

## 1:15; excellent tutor:student ratio

We are proud to have offered a world class education to our students for over 30 years through the International Baccalaureate (IB), in fact, we were one of the first state schools in the UK to do so. Through the IB's Diploma Programme (DP), you will develop academic independence and will be able to broaden your cultural horizons, becoming an internationally-minded individual in an increasingly globalised world. If you are interested in both an academic and vocational education alongside real-world approaches to learning, you can choose to study the IB's Career-related Programme (CP) which helps to develop knowledge and experience of a chosen industry.

## 1:10; average teacher:student ratio

The IB's mission statement and ethos underpins all that we do, and through our teaching we aim to develop "inquiring, knowledgeable and caring young people who help to create a better and more peaceful world". Not only will you gain a valuable breadth of skills through either the DP or CP curriculum but IB higher level subjects also provide the same depth of knowledge as A Levels, so you can go on to achieve excellence in whichever path you choose.

For those who wish to enter the professional world of theatre and performing arts you can choose to study at our performance school, or train alongside your studies through one of our professional sports scholarships. We also offer a number of Extended BTEC courses, allowing you to gain a practical approach to learning combined with the important theory. As well as academic study, all students are given the opportunity to undertake a number of community-based projects and are offered an extraordinary range of extra-curricular opportunities including: primary teaching, overseas initiatives, charity and volunteer work, sports fixtures, and many more.

We are a truly international sixth form and pride ourselves on welcoming students from all walks of life. If you are looking to study with us and are moving from overseas, we have an incredible network of host families in the local area who are able to guide and assist you with your studies and will welcome you into a friendly and sociable community.

We would love to show you around our sixth form and to discuss how our programmes can be personalised to your passions; please do come and visit us.

**Jo Sale**  
Vice Principal  
Impington International College



# A World Class Education

We are proud to offer our students stimulating study programmes that focus on the development of the whole student, alongside a wide range of extra-curricular activities and pastoral care. We offer the following programmes:

- IB Diploma Programme (DP)
- IB Career-related Programme (CP)
- Extended BTECs
- The Performance School
- Sports Scholarship Programmes

All our study options are underpinned by the IB learner profile, a broad range of human attributes that go beyond academic success. Through our teaching, we engage students to follow the IB's key principles, helping you to become the best learner that you can be, and preparing you for a world beyond the classroom. At Impington International College, we expect to help you develop to be:

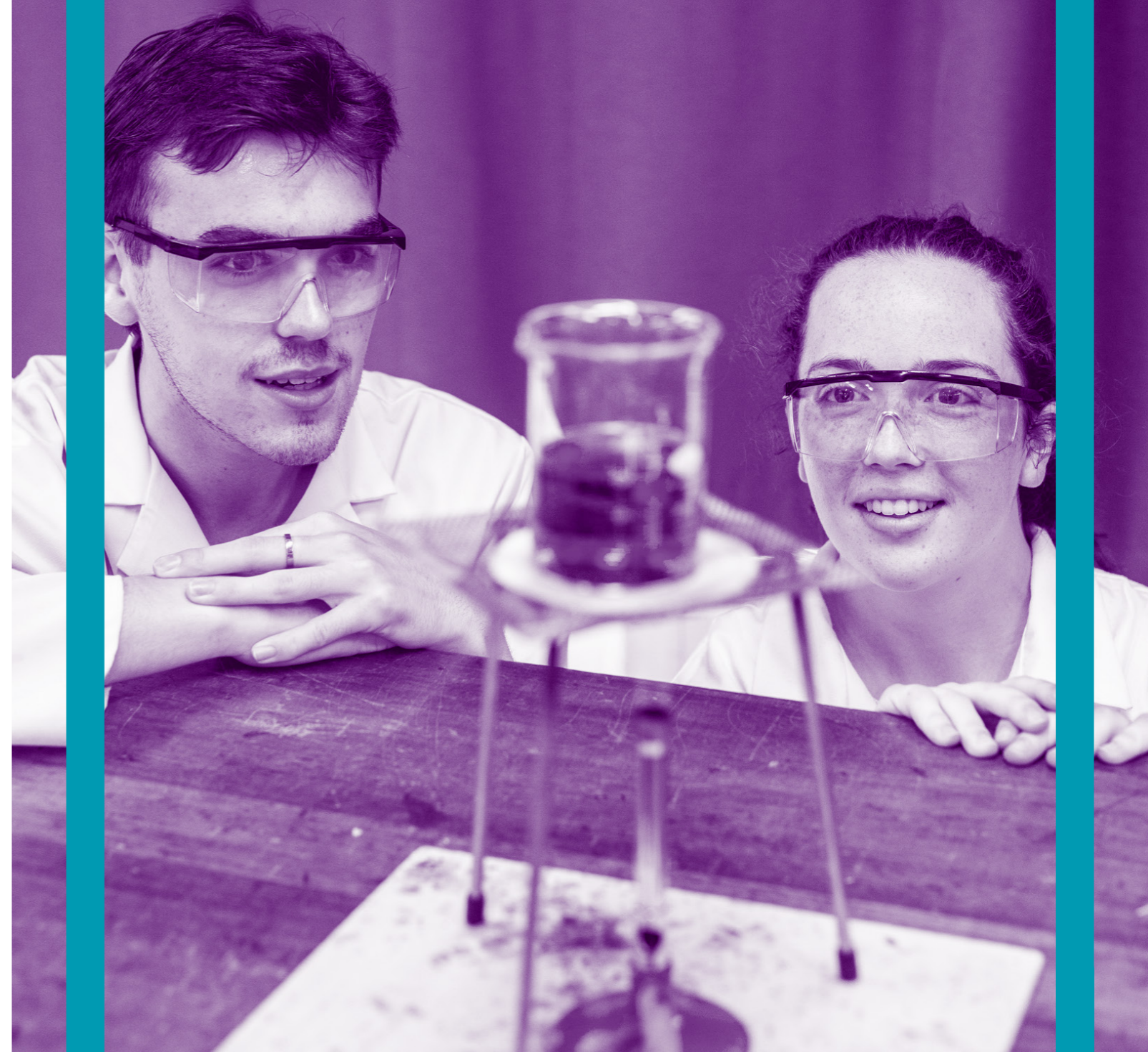
- Inquirers
- Knowledgeable
- Thinkers
- Communicators
- Principled
- Open-minded
- Caring
- Risk-takers
- Balanced
- Reflective

## Where can Impington International College take you?

In 2020, our IB cohort achieved a 100% pass rate for the DP and 100% pass rate for the CP, with an average DP score of 35 points (out of a possible 45), beating the international average of 29.90. 18% of these students scored 40 points and above, 7% higher than the international average.

Outcomes for our other pathways are just as impressive, with 100% of students passing and 50% achieving a distinction or distinction\*. Many of our students from the Performance School go on to join professional companies, with a number starring in the West End.

the best  
learner  
you can be



# Diploma Programme

The DP is our principal academic programme, and is a course that aims to develop excellent depth and breadth of knowledge in students. Highly regarded by leading universities around the world, the DP allows you to tailor your programme to your own strengths and interests, and offers great flexibility while ensuring you keep vital skills such as Languages and Mathematics.

**100% pass rate in the DP**  
 Students accepted to  
 Oxbridge and Russell Group  
 universities (May 2020)

## What will you study?

The DP is made up of six subject groups, and all students must pick one subject from each of the following groups:

### Group 1. First Language

English Spanish Italian German Polish

### Group 2. Language Acquisition

English French German Spanish Japanese Italian (ab initio) French (ab initio)

### Group 3. Individuals and Societies

History Geography Economics Psychology Philosophy  
 Environmental Studies Global Politics Business

### Group 4. Mathematics

Analysis and Approaches Applications and Interpretation

### Group 5. Sciences

Biology Chemistry Physics Sports Science Nature of Science Environmental Studies

### Group 6: The Arts or free choice

Dance Film Music Theatre Arts Visual Arts  
 (or you can select a second Individuals and Societies, Language or Science subject)

## The DP core

The DP core is designed to bring together the different elements of the programme, and will provide you with the opportunity to develop sought after skills such as independence, research and enquiry. Three additional points are awarded to students for studying the theory of knowledge course, completing the extended essay and participating in creativity, activity and service.

# Career-related Programme

The CP is a fantastic option if you have a strong interest in continuing academic study post-16 but have a desire to focus on developing essential skills for future employment.

**100% pass rate in the CP**  
 (May 2020)

## What will you study?

The CP offers academic study and practical, hands-on experience through an integrated package, consisting of a minimum of two DP academic subjects (see opposite page), studied alongside one career-related study option (a BTEC), and you will also complete the CP core.

You can choose from one of the following BTEC options:

Media

Performing Arts

Sport

Health and Social Care

Business

## The CP core

The CP's core is what defines the programme and makes it unique. Different to the DP core, the CP core consists of four components: personal and professional skills, the reflective project, service learning and language development. The CP core gives you the opportunity to gain experience of team work, decision making and problem solving, access to a second language and an independent in-depth piece of work.

# Your questions answered

## Why should I choose the IB over A Levels?

The IB is a globally recognised qualification and offers more choice, flexibility and breadth of study than A Levels, as well as the equivalent depth. Each subject at higher level is the equivalent of an A Level and by studying the IB core you have opportunities that provide key skills to help you stand out from a crowd of applicants.

Research has also shown that students who complete the IB over A Levels are:

- more likely to go to a top-20 ranked university;
- more likely to go on to postgraduate study;
- more likely to obtain a First-Class degree;
- and will earn more as a graduate.

The DP is one of the world's most highly regarded and academically rigorous educational programmes. It offers a stable, credible and internationally recognised path to academic success in an increasingly competitive and changeable world.

## What is the difference between the DP and A Levels?

The DP requires no specific introductory classwork so can be undertaken directly after GCSEs. Due to the breadth and flexibility, you are able to tailor the programme to suit your skills and interests, and will develop both depth and breadth of knowledge during the course.

A Levels are extremely linear and are a specific set of three subjects that are taught explicitly so that students can pass an exam at the end of their two years. In comparison, the DP centres around a set

of core competencies, skills and values which are important to the development of every student. The DP requires students to study a broader range of subjects and consider the links between them, within an international context.

The DP is a globally recognised qualification and puts students in a greater position for further study. Where the A Level benchmark has been adjusted and continues to undergo change, the IB has remained a tried and tested system.

## How do colleges and universities view the IB?

World leading universities recognise the IB as one of the highest standards in university preparatory education and research has shown that higher rates of DP students go on to higher education study than non-IB students.

## What is the difference between the DP and the CP?

There are a few notable differences between the core requirements for the DP and the CP. One of these is the CP reflective project which, unlike the DP's extended essay, can be presented in any format. By undertaking this project you will be required to explore an ethical dilemma and use the skills that you have cultivated through your career-related education to find answers. The approaches to learning course will help you develop intercultural understanding, communication and leadership skills. In contrast to the DP's theory of knowledge, approaches to learning aims to teach quantifiable and practical skills that students will need in the workplace and beyond.

# Student successes

## Federico Scolari

2016 – 2018, the DP

**Point score:** 41

**Destination:** University of Nottingham

### My Impington International College experience in three words:

International, unforgettable, motivational

I joined IIC in 2016, after moving to England from Italy. For me, the College acted as a bridge between my own small reality and the globalised world, granting a gradual yet effective access to a community of like-minded international people. I studied the DP as a bilingual diploma at Impington International College, taking Economics, Italian, Spanish and English at Higher Level, and Biology and Maths Studies at Standard Level.

A key highlight of my experience at the College was the great teaching. We had small classes meaning an outstanding teacher-student ratio, dedicated tutors and, most importantly, constant access to the teaching staff. For me, the empathy and professionalism of my teachers were most valuable, without a doubt. Our goals were their goals, and our achievements their achievements: a symmetrical interaction that motivated me each and every day. Alongside the amazing teachers, the small community and family feel of the College allowed me to make friends for life.

As most Year 13 students, I didn't really know what path would best fulfil my dreams and objectives, however the staff at IIC were always on hand to offer support and guidance on universities, including locations and courses, which proved incredibly useful. After leaving IIC in 2018, I went on to study Philosophy, Politics and Economics at the University of Nottingham. The IB provides you with the tools to be an independent learner, a skill highly appreciated at university, so I was not taken by surprise by the transition between different styles of learning. You are always prepared for any obstacles or inconveniences you might encounter, while simultaneously being organised and efficient in what you do. I'm still on a journey of discovering what I would like to do post-university, but I'm really excited about the future.

## Cara Rowland

2017 – 2019, the CP

**Point score:** 766, D\*D\*

**Destination:** University of Cambridge

### My Impington International College experience in three words:

Camaraderie, creativity, transformational

When I was filling out my choices on UCAS I couldn't have imagined then that I would be the first ever CP student in the world to be accepted to the University of Cambridge. I feel extremely proud and grateful to everyone who has helped to shape my educational experience and achieve this great honour. For me, education has always been about pursuing something that I feel truly passionate about. I decided to take the CP, with an initial focus on BTEC Performing Arts, IB Theatre Arts and IB English Literature. I then later picked up IB History to support my application to the University of Cambridge, because it was a subject I had always been interested in and I felt that it would help inform, and work in cohesion with, my other subjects. All of my IB subjects were studied at higher level.

When I first considered applying to Oxbridge all of the staff at IIC were incredibly supportive. They set up meetings with all of the Impington International College applicants, established mock interviews and provided me with lots of help and resources so that I could get the grades I needed to meet my conditions. I started at the University of Cambridge, studying Education, English, Drama and the Arts in October 2020.

Impington International College has so much to offer; not only is there a broad range of subjects to choose from, but the topics covered in each are extremely diverse and different to anything I would have expected to study or had studied before. Through the CP, a huge emphasis is placed on studying what you are personally interested in, and so there is a lot of variety in what you learn (I had the opportunity to study Korean dance, African literature, and Cambodian history). The CP was a great choice for me because it taught me how to critically analyse, think creatively and have more confidence in my own opinion and intellectual capacity.

# Extended BTECs

Extended BTECs are our vocational and work-related courses that are designed to accommodate the needs of employers and allow students to progress to higher education, higher level apprenticeships or the world of work. An Extended BTEC takes a practical approach to learning, without missing any of the important theory on the subject.

At Impington International College, you will be able to complete a BTEC either as part of the CP, or as a standalone extended BTEC. We offer the following BTEC options:

- Media
- Performing Arts
- Sports
- Health and Social Care
- Business

We work with a number of companies and institutions throughout all of our BTEC courses, including Cambridge TV, University of Bedfordshire, Trinity Laban, Norwich FC and Rob Roy Boat Club. Each BTEC has differing needs and the involvement with outside agencies looks at practical experience and developing professional relationships within each vocational area. These connections also allow you to foster an understanding of the different roles in each industry, and how career progression works within them. We then work with the companies to help you decide on progression routes after sixth form study.



## The Performance School

If you are looking to enter the professional world of theatre and performing arts, then our Performance School is for you. Students will take an Extended BTEC in Performing Arts and one or more other subjects chosen from the range offered at the College, either performance or non-performance based.

The performance related courses we offer within both of our IB programmes are:

- DP Dance
- DP Music
- DP Theatre Arts

We also offer a very popular Year 14 Diploma, which is run in collaboration with Trinity College, London. Students studying this course will undertake rigorous dance, singing and acting classes and there is also a strong emphasis on exploring and developing teaching skills, because so many performers nowadays lead professional workshops. Therefore, as part of the course, students will be taken into local secondary schools to work with GCSE students.

## Sports Scholarships

We offer four sports scholarship programmes that run alongside our academic curriculum. We currently offer Sports Scholarships in:

- Boys' and girls' football in association with Norwich City FC
- Girls' netball in association with a variety of super-league teams
- Boys' rugby in association with Rugby Union Football Club (RUFC)
- Boys' and girls' rowing in association with Rob Roy Boat Club

As part of our scholarship programmes, you will be offered:

- A chance to study the DP, CP or a BTEC Extended Diploma.
- Exceptional pastoral care, with 1:1 support from a dedicated Student Manager and form tutor.
- Small class sizes (average 1:10) and outstanding teaching.
- University application support, with 95% of our students obtaining their choice of university place.

Sports scholars can also benefit from:

- training for six hours a week (Monday, Tuesday and Friday);
- weekly matches;
- specialist coaching from elite coaches and players;
- free gym membership during the College day.

# Student life at IIC

There are various places around the College for you to work, including: the library, computers in the study room, the common room and the quiet study area of the sixth form building. You are welcome to work in the building until it closes each evening at 18.00.

## Extra-curricular opportunities

In addition to the academic study, we offer a range of extra-curricular opportunities for every student from visits abroad to the Duke of Edinburgh Award. These experiences are a crucial element to your post-16 programme.

Creativity, activity and service (CAS) and service learning are requirements for all IB students, and are integral and compulsory parts of being a student at Impington International College. Through CAS and service learning you will be involved in our iCAS programme on Tuesday afternoons, offering you an extraordinary range of extra-curricular experiences, including: primary teaching, yoga, debating workshops, fencing, baking, and many more.

You will be required to maintain a portfolio of your CAS and service learning experiences. You will have access to workshops, advisors, and a CAS and service learning coordinator to support your choices and ensure you are accessing a broad range of experiences, which can be used in the next stages of your life journey.

## Careers

Your education at Impington International College is your ticket to a world of opportunity. Throughout your two years with us you will be given in depth and ongoing advice on your academic and career opportunities; covering applications to UK and international universities, alongside apprenticeship and career pathways.

Tutors and our Progressions Coordinator are available to help and advise you about the next steps in your career, motivating you accordingly and offering professional guidance with applications and entry examinations. Due to our close proximity to Cambridge, you will be able to explore the workplace and further opportunities that will be on your doorstep. You will also have the opportunity to attend regular careers talks, events and a UCAS fair, which will guide you through higher education applications and job training schemes.

**your ticket to  
a world of  
opportunity**



# Key information

## Entry requirements

- **International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme:** at least seven GCSEs with an average of Grade 5, including English Language and Mathematics. For subjects you wish to take at higher level you will need ideally at least a Grade 6.
- **International Baccalaureate Career-related Programme:** at least five subjects at GCSE Grade 4 or higher, ideally including Mathematics and English Language and preferably with a Grade 5 in your area of specialism.
- **Extended BTEC:** an average of a Grade 4 across your GCSEs, ideally including Mathematics and English Language.

## Admissions

If you live in the Cambridge area, you can apply to Impington International College through your school using MyChoice@16.

If you are from outside of the Cambridge area, please complete the application form which can be found on our admissions page on our website.

## Host families for students

If you live too far away from IIC to stay at home, don't think you can't apply! We are lucky to have a network of host families in the local area who you will stay with and who will provide you with the support, care and guidance throughout your time spent at the sixth form. If you need a host family, you are encouraged to apply to us as soon as possible.

Impington International College will help you to find a host family, many of these are families that we have worked with for many years and are all DBS checked. Our dedicated Sixth Form Manager is available to answer any questions you have on the process, and for more accommodation options we recommend the host family agency Homestay Consultancy. Please note there are a lot of host agencies in Cambridge – Homestay is the only one we work with.

If you are applying for a host family you must submit your application as early as possible – admissions for September 2021 open on 17 October 2020.

## Location

Impington International College is a truly international sixth form and provides an inspiring educational home for students from over 30 countries. Located on the outskirts of Cambridge, there is no better place where families can integrate with both local and international communities, while avoiding the stress that a bigger city might impose upon students dealing with such a life-changing transformative process. Within this unique and beautiful city stands famous architecture old and new, together with an abundance of green open space, which students have the opportunity to explore in their free time. The location also allows students to tap into the diverse business community around them and gain valuable experience. The variety of students studying at the College allows everyone to widen their knowledge of all cultures, develop their international-mindedness and understand and appreciate their own personal history while being open to the perspectives, values and traditions of others.







## Get in touch

Tours of the College are encouraged, visit our website or get in touch to arrange your visit.

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**Celebrating 30 years of the IB in 2021**