



CHASE

GRAMMAR SCHOOL



IFD Information



CHASE GRAMMAR



SPORTS HALL

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What is the IFD?

The International Foundation Diploma (IFD) is a one-year course that is designed to allow students to progress directly onto a wide array of university courses, both in the UK and around the world. It is an alternative course to the traditional two-year A Level and BTEC programmes, and is a qualification that is growing in popularity.

The IFD is designed for speakers of English as a foreign language who are seeking to gain entry to higher education qualifications taught and assessed in English. It is a valuable university preparation qualification, which allows candidates to demonstrate their English language skills (both general and academic) together with key transferrable study skills, cultural knowledge and mathematical understanding, as well as an understanding of the essential concepts of business and economics.

The course allows students to flourish at university by concentrating on a number of areas alongside the academic subjects that focus on the skills students would require at their university, enabling a smooth transition from the school environment to that of a university.



Who can study the IFD?

Any student from outside the UK who is aged 16-19 is eligible to study the IFD.

The course is traditionally studied by students who may require additional English lessons, are too old to start a two-year programme and therefore wish for a quicker route to university, or for students who may struggle on the longer A Level and BTEC course routes.

Studying the programme was a great decision. It helped me understand more about education in the UK, and the expectations and academic environments of UK universities.



What subjects are taught?

A student on the IFD can expect to have a full, diverse and enjoyable timetable which focuses on eight key areas. Across each area, students can expect a variety of assessment methods including exams, coursework and presentations.

Each area is designed to stretch the students, while teaching them core skills and progressing their learning of English alongside the traditional subject sessions. these may include:

- Business Studies
- Maths
- Developing English
- Advanced English
- English for Academic Purposes
- Cultural Studies
- Study and Communication skills
- Science



Example Timetable

A structured timetable is tailored to the needs of IFD students as in the example below.

Timetable	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Mentor	Reg	Reg	Reg	Reg	Reg
Period 1	EAL 1	EAL 1	Mathematics	EAL 2	EAL 2
Period 2	Study	Mathematics	EAL 2	Cultural Studies	Business Studies
Break	Break	Break	Break	Break	Break
Period 3	Cultural Studies	Study and Communications	Study and Communications	EAL 1	Study and Communications
Period 4	Business Studies	Study	Study	Mathematics	English for Academic Purposes
Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
Period 5	EAL 2	Business Studies	Business Studies	English for Academic Purposes	EAL 1
Period 6	Mathematics	EAL 1	EAL 1	Games	Cultural Studies
Break	Break	Break	Break	Break	Break

Boarding students are also offered enrichment opportunities, including: sports, music and drama, clubs, visits to UK cities and historic sites.

Where can I go after I have completed the course?

The IFD is recognised and valued by many universities, both in the UK and in other countries. There are over 70 university progression routes to UK and overseas universities, and this number increases every year. The majority of students progress onto business, finance and economics courses, but there is a huge variety in what students can go on to study at universities. In the UK, students can progress to a number of universities including:

University of Greenwich
University of Liverpool
University of Nottingham
University of York

Past Chase Grammar School students have gone on to study courses such as English Literature, Computer Animation, Sport Science and more.

The full list of progression routes can be found by visiting: <https://www.nccedu.com/become-a-student/university-progression>



A Success Story

I would highly recommend the IFD course as it teaches important academic subjects and also many skills that we will need at university.

I heard about this course when I was in Year 12. I thought that, as an international student, it was a better alternative to ALevels. The IFD course also enabled me to apply to very good universities.

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The IFD has 8 subjects, I am learning about Business, Computer Science and Maths, while also improving my English with exams and assessments in general English, English for Academic Purposes and Culture Studies.



The teachers at Chase Grammar are excellent and have helped me a lot. I am a residential student, the room is very comfortable and the houseparents are also very friendly and helpful.

I have made a lot of friends at Chase Grammar. Our parents also connect with each other, and if we face any problems we will all help each other. I will go to university next year, and I have been offered places at Lancaster University and Liverpool University to study Business.







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