

NCBIS Diploma Standards

1. Introduction & Definitions

1.1. A key aim of NCBIS is to encourage each student's academic and social development, so that they embody all of the attributes considered important in our school's philosophy.

1.2 It is recognised that the full IB Diploma Programme may not be appropriate for all Sixth Form students, but that students for whom it is not may still have a great deal to gain from an NCBIS education. As such, they ought to have the chance to pursue a bespoke programme of IB Diploma Courses in order to achieve their academic potential, whilst still attaining a formal graduation from NCBIS.

1.3 In order to earn an NCBIS Diploma, students must satisfy the criteria outlined in section 4 of these standards. The NCBIS Diploma is separate from the Graduation Certificate, which is given to all NCBIS students at their Graduation ceremony upon completion of Year 13.

1.4 Also separate is the IB Diploma, which is granted by the International Baccalaureate Organisation (IBO) upon successful completion of the IB Diploma Programme.

1.5 Students are able to earn credits towards the NCBIS Diploma in Years 10–13.

1.6 For the purposes of attendance recording (see 4.4 below), a school day is defined as any contact day indicated in that year's calendar, as published on the 'Term Dates' page of the school website. Weekdays (Sunday–Thursday) consist of two sessions (am and pm), each of which are counted as a half-day.

1.7 Given the School's accreditation by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges, the NCBIS Diploma is recognised by universities.

1.8 Definition of passing grades for NCBIS Diploma:

1.8.1 For IGCSE examinations, a passing grade is defined as any between A* and D or a 9 and a 3 (inclusive).

1.8.2 For IBDP examinations, a passing level is defined as any between 7 and 3 (inclusive).

1.8.3 For AS/A2 examinations, a passing grade is defined as any between A* and D (inclusive).

New Cairo British International School is the sole operating activity of the Heliopolis Society for the Social and Cultural care of English-Speaking Foreigners, Ministry of Social Affairs Registration No. 2643, New Cairo.



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2. Eligibility for, and awarding of, the NCBIS Diploma

2.1 The NCBIS Diploma is awarded to students after their graduation from the school, subject to satisfying the eligibility criteria detailed in section 4 of this policy.

2.2 Students, who leave the school before the end of Year 13, are not eligible for an NCBIS Diploma.

2.3 Students who complete Year 13 and satisfy the eligibility criteria outlined in section 4 of this policy are awarded an NCBIS Diploma if requested.

2.4 With the exception of item 4.1.2 (IBDP results) below, final decisions regarding **eligibility** for the award of the NCBIS Diploma are made as soon as is practicable, and no later than two weeks before the end of the school year in which a student graduates.

2.5 All students who complete Year 13, regardless of award of the NCBIS Diploma, will be invited to take part in the Graduation ceremony and will receive a Graduation Certificate.

2.6 Items 4.1.2 and 4.5.1 below dictate that the NCBIS Diploma may not be awarded until the IBDP examination results for the graduating class are released (usually on or around 6 July), or later if the student has not satisfied the IBDP CAS requirements.

3. Examination & reporting sessions

3.1 External examinations Students usually sit IGCSE examinations in May/June of Year 11, AS/A2 examinations in October, January, May/June of Year 12 & Year 13, and IBDP examinations in April/May of Year 13.

3.2 Internal examinations Year 11 and 13 students sit 'mocks' for all of their examined subjects prior to the final examinations. Year 10 and 12 students sit end-of-year examinations in May/June.

3.3 Examinations and reports that will be taken into account as part of the eligibility criteria for an NCBIS Diploma are:

- IGCSE/AS/A2 and IBDP external examination results;
- Effort and progress grades in all reports of each of Years 10–13.



4. NCBIS Diploma eligibility criteria

4.1 External examination grades

4.1.1 Students joining before or during Year 10 must attain a minimum grade 4 in at least five subjects at IGCSE. Students not achieving this will not be eligible for an NCBIS Diploma.

4.1.2 All students must attain a minimum of a level 3 in at least three IBDP SL and/or HL courses. Students not achieving this will not be eligible for an NCBIS High School Diploma.

4.1.3 All students must attain a minimum of a D in at least three AS/A2 courses. Students not achieving this will not be eligible for an NCBIS Diploma (specific subjects are required as per the NCBIS Diploma Requirements table).

4.2 Academic honesty

4.2.1 Students who have received a penalty for academic misconduct from an external examining body (including, but not limited to, CIE, Edexcel, or the IBO) for any externally assessed or moderated examination or coursework task during Years 10–13 will not be eligible for an NCBIS Diploma.

4.2.2 Students found to have engaged in academic dishonesty in draft or interim submissions of externally assessed or moderated coursework (including, EPQ, IBDP EEs, TOK essays and Internal Assessments) on more than one occasion cannot automatically qualify for an NCBIS Diploma, and will have their case reviewed by the Principal.

4.3 Behaviour

4.3.1 Any student receiving a suspension sanction during Years 10–13 cannot automatically qualify for an NCBIS Diploma, and will have their case reviewed by the Principal.

4.4 Attendance

4.4.1 Students' attendance records must show a high level of attendance and commitment to being at school. Students with more than 18 days' unauthorised absence cannot automatically qualify for an NCBIS Diploma, and will have their case reviewed by the Principal.



4.5 Extracurricular expectation

4.5.1 Students must complete the IBDP CAS programme in Years 12–13. Students who fail to complete the CAS programme by the end of Year 13 will not be eligible for an NCBIS Diploma until they have done so, unless an exception is made by the Principal.

NCBIS Diploma Requirements		
Area/Subject	Credits	Additional comments
English	4 credits	2 must be at the Sixth Form level
Maths	4 credits	
Science	3 credits	Recommended to be 2 different Sciences
Humanities	3 credits	Recommended to be 2 different Humanities
Arts or MFL	2 credits	
PE	2 credits	
2 Electives	2 credits each	4 credits of any additional subject of a student's choice
CAS	0.5 credit per year	Recommended 2 years of participation
EE/EPQ/ Duke of Edinburgh	0.5 credit	Each requirement can only be applied once to the Diploma credits
Any HL IBDP or A2 course	0.5 credit	

*1 credit = 1 year of an academic course



Other graduation requirements:

- All credits are from Years 10-13.
- Minimum grade earned in IGCSE is a 4 and in IBDP is a 3 and A/AS level courses is a D.
- Students must earn a minimum of **22 credits**.
- Students must have completed **3 IBDP courses** or **3 AS level courses** at the minimum.
- NCBIS diploma students **MUST** complete Year 13 at NCBIS.
- Attendance is expected to be high.

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