PYP Drop-In Session #1

Q. Could we have a copy of the Keynote presentation used for the initial ‘PYP Drop-In’ on Tuesday 7 December and Thursday 9 December?
A. Yes, here it is!
http://sites.cdnis.edu.hk/school/ls/files/2010/12/PYP_DropIn_Session1.mov

Q. How can we promote the Learner Profile attributes at home?
A. Please click on the links below
Learner Profile Descriptors
Developing the Learner Profile at Home

Q. How many schools in Hong Kong are currently through train IB schools?
A. There are currently two IB through train schools in Hong Kong. When CDNIS is authorized for the MYP, we will be the third.

Q. How many schools in Hong Kong are authorized to implement the PYP?
A. There are 21 schools in Hong Kong (including CDNIS) authorized to implement the PYP. This number is expected to increase significantly over the next few years as there are many schools currently preparing for authorization. Authorized schools at present include Hong Kong Academy, Victoria Shanghai Academy, Renaissance College, Discovery College, PIPS Kindergarten and many of the ESF schools including Bradbury, Glenealy, Kowloon Junior, Quarry Bay.

Q. What quality control measures are in place?
A. Planning, implementation, development and evaluation of all three IB programmes are governed by a set of criteria called the Programme Standards and Practices (2010). The IB and the school organise a series of visits to the school by IB representatives at various stages, after which a full written report is submitted to the school by the IB. This report includes commendations and a list of ‘next steps’. During these visits the school is evaluated against the criteria listed in the Standards and Practices. After a school is first authorised there is an evaluation visit 3 years later and then every 5 years after that. Authorised schools have to submit a full self study as part of each evaluation visit.

Q. How does a child fit in if they have to move to a non-IB school?
A. With the increasing number of IB schools around the world, it is likely that, if relocation is necessary, another IB school will be located nearby the new destination. However, if moving to another IB school is not possible it is expected that students coming from an IB background will be equipped with skills that will lead them to adapt more readily to new learning environments. One of the underlying goals of the IB is to develop students who are life-long learners. The emphasis during teaching and learning is on ‘how we learn’ as opposed to ‘what we learn’. Therefore students with an IB background should be able to fit into any new school with ease.
Q. How can parents be aware of the assessment success criteria?
A. At CDNIS, teachers in the higher grades post their summative assessment task and success criteria on their class websites for each unit of inquiry. For the younger grades, refer to the teacher’s blog for the required information as well as the parent update posted under each unit of inquiry. It must be recognised though, that this information is not posted so that students can work with parents or tutors to complete these tasks. It is there as information for parents, and as a guide and checklist for students working towards a successful outcome.

Q. What is the history of the IB?
A. The International Baccalaureate® (IB) was founded in Geneva, Switzerland in 1968 as a non-profit educational foundation. A group of talented, forward-thinking teachers at the International School of Geneva, with assistance from several other international schools, created the IB Diploma Programme. What started life as a single programme for internationally mobile students preparing for university, has today grown into three programmes for students aged 3 to 19. To give younger students access to an IB education, in 1994 the IB added the Middle Years Programme (MYP), a curriculum for students aged 11 to 16, and in 1997 it adopted the Primary Years Programme (PYP) for students aged 3 to 11.
As of December, 2010, IB programmes have been adopted by 3,088 schools in 139 countries to develop and offers three challenging programmes to over 882,000 students aged 3 to 19 years.
For more information on the history of the IB, please click on the following link: http://ibo.org/history/