



## What *is* the MYP exactly?



The Middle Years Programme (MYP) is an excellent educational system for students ages 11—16 that fits perfectly with ISM's mission and philosophy. It is guided by three fundamental principles: **holistic learning, intercultural awareness, and communication.**

Why are these important? These principles uniquely prepare our students to be lifelong learners in today's world. With vast amounts of information easily accessible it is important that students learn skills to handle information, rather than just to memorize it. The MYP's focus, not *just* on knowledge, but on skills and attitudes, prepares the students for today's information filled, fast-paced world.

The first fundamental principle, holistic learning, reinforces the link between student's learning and the real world. Real

world challenges do not come neatly divided up into subjects—often real life challenges require knowledge and skills for various subject areas. By exploring themes, skills and content links between the various subject areas, and linking student's learning to real world challenges, students are engaged and prepared for life after school.



Intercultural awareness is a key component of the IB's mission, and is a cornerstone of our education here at ISM. By learning in an environment composed of students from many different backgrounds, students have a richer view of the world, and a greater empathy for others.

Communication skills are the third fundamental principle of MYP. Knowledge, without the ability to communicate it well, serves no purpose. Thus students are challenged, and graded, in all eight subject areas on their ability to communicate the ideas they have learned.

## MYP is a great fit for ISM and *your* child!

ISM is an IB World School—one of 2,390 offering at least one of the IB programmes. We are one of 652 offering the MYP, and join the elite group of 117 schools offering all three.

Why did ISM decide to adopt MYP?

- The MYP provides excellent preparation for the Diploma Program.
- The MYP makes transition to other

international schools easier, as well as to a growing number of national schools that are adopting MYP.

- The MYP determines a final grade not just by final examinations, but by combining final examinations with other extended piece of work and classwork to give a more accurate picture of each student's achievement.

Jeff Holcomb, the MYP Coordinator. Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns about the MYP curriculum and your child. My email is [jeffh@ismoshi.net](mailto:jeffh@ismoshi.net).

### Coming up in

#### The Moshi MYP Minute:

- *The eight subject groups: what your child will be studying*
- *The Areas of Interaction and how they work*
- *Assessment in the MYP explained*
- *What is MYP Technology?*