



**LEARNING COMPASS**  
Navigating your learning through  
Years 7-11







## DEAR STUDENTS,

Welcome to the Middle Years Programme (MYP) at Verbier International School. It is a pleasure to have you as part of this dynamic and engaging learning community. As you embark on this exciting educational journey, I encourage you to approach it with curiosity, determination, and an open mind.

The MYP is a unique program that is designed to foster intellectual growth, creativity, and critical thinking. Over the next few years, you will be challenged to explore a wide range of subjects, connect your learning to real-world issues, and develop the skills necessary for success in both academics and life. This program is not just about acquiring knowledge; it is about learning how to think independently, work collaboratively, and reflect on your experiences in meaningful ways.

At VIS, we are committed to providing you with a well-rounded education that will prepare you for the challenges of the future. You will have the opportunity to develop your personal interests, explore new ideas, and contribute to the school community. Please know that we are here to support you throughout this journey, and we look forward to seeing you thrive in the MYP.

Warm regards,

**Ladislav Burkolc**

Head of Academics





## OVERVIEW OF THE PROGRAMME

The Middle Years Programme (MYP) at Verblies International School is a five-year framework designed to support students aged 11 to 16. It emphasises intellectual, personal, emotional, and social growth through an engaging and challenging curriculum that connects learning to real-world contexts.

The MYP is structured to help students become independent, lifelong learners by encouraging them to take responsibility for their education. Through an inquiry-based approach, students are equipped with the tools needed to explore topics in depth, think critically, and communicate effectively. The program's interdisciplinary nature allows students to make meaningful connections between subjects and apply their knowledge to complex global issues.





## LEARNER PROFILE

At VIG, we aim to provide an environment where you develop the following characteristics:



### Inquirers

They develop their natural curiosity. They acquire the skills necessary to conduct inquiry and research and show independence in learning. They actively enjoy learning and this love of learning will be sustained throughout their lives.



### Knowledgeable

They explore concepts, ideas and issues that have local and global significance. They acquire in-depth knowledge and develop understanding across a broad and balanced range of disciplines.



### Thinkers

They exercise initiative in applying thinking skills critically and creatively to recognise and approach complex problems, and make reasoned, ethical decisions.



### Communicators

They understand and express ideas and information confidently and creatively in more than one language and in a variety of modes of communication. They work effectively and willingly in collaboration with others.



### Principled

They act with integrity and honesty, with a strong sense of fairness, justice and respect for the dignity of the individual, groups and communities. They take responsibility for their own actions and the consequences that accompany them.



## LEARNER PROFILE



### **Open-minded**

They understand and appreciate their own cultures and personal histories, and are open to the perspectives, values and traditions of other individuals and communities. They are accustomed to seeking and evaluating a range of points-of-view and are willing to grow from the experience.



### **Caring**

They show empathy, compassion and respect towards the needs and feelings of others. They have a personal commitment to service and act to make a positive difference to the lives of others and to the environment.



### **Risk-takers**

They approach unfamiliar situations and uncertainty with courage and foresight, and have the independence of spirit to explore new roles, ideas and strategies. They are brave and articulate in defending their beliefs.



### **Balanced**

They understand the importance of intellectual, physical and emotional balance to achieve personal well-being for themselves and others.



### **Reflective**

They give thoughtful consideration to their own learning and experience. They are able to assess and understand their strengths and limitations in order to support their learning and personal development.



## SUBJECT GROUPS

At İYİ, we offer a wide range of subjects that cover all eight subject groups within the MYP framework:

### Language and Literature

In this subject, you will develop your reading, writing and communication skills in your first language. The study of literature will enhance your understanding of other cultures, values and perspectives, while sharpening your ability to think critically and express yourself clearly.



### Language Acquisition

This subject focuses on learning a second language, which plays a vital role in fostering intercultural understanding and communication. You will have the opportunity to study languages such as French, Spanish, or German, which will help you engage with the world as a global citizen.



### Individuals and Societies

This subject group encourages you to explore human societies and the forces that shape them, including history, geography, economics, and political systems. Through critical thinking and inquiry, you will gain a deeper understanding of the social, cultural, and economic challenges facing our world today.



### Sciences

The sciences provide a foundation for understanding the natural world. You will engage in practical investigations and develop scientific reasoning, exploring concepts in biology, chemistry, and physics to understand how science influences society and addresses global challenges.





## SUBJECT GROUPS

### Mathematics

Mathematics helps you develop logical and analytical thinking skills. This subject provides understanding of mathematical principles and their application to real-world problems, ensuring you gain the confidence to use mathematics in both academic and everyday contexts.



### Arts

The arts encourage creativity and self-expression through various forms such as visual arts, music, and drama. This subject group fosters an appreciation for different artistic traditions and helps you develop critical thinking and communication skills through artistic production and reflection.



### Physical and Health Education

This subject is essential for maintaining a healthy lifestyle and understanding the importance of physical fitness. You will engage in sports and physical activities that promote teamwork, leadership, and overall well-being, while also learning about the principles of health education.



### Design

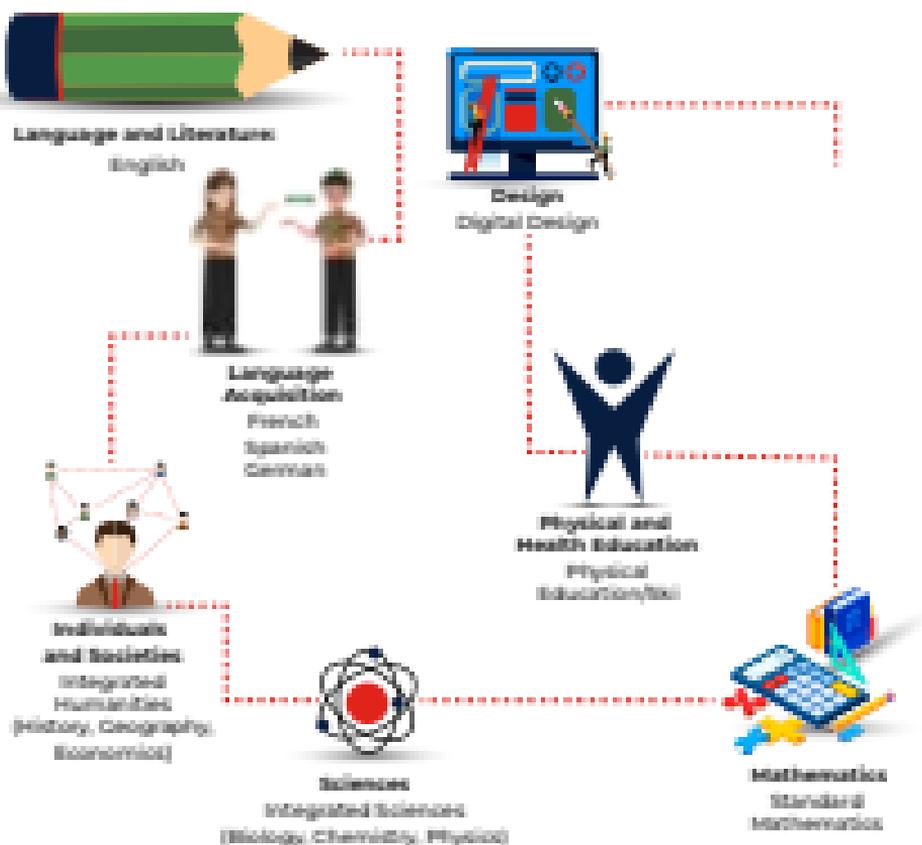
In Design, you will learn to think creatively and solve practical problems. This subject develops your ability to innovate and apply design thinking in areas such as product design and digital technology. You will explore the design cycle, which encourages you to create, evaluate, and refine solutions to real-world challenges.





## SUBJECTS OFFERED

At VPS, we offer a wide range of subjects across all HYP year levels to support your individual interests and academic goals. Below is an outline of the subjects available:





## PERSONAL PROJECT

The Personal Project is a chance for you to explore an area of personal interest through independent learning. It's a student-centered journey that encourages you to develop a unique product or outcome while focusing on a goal you set for yourself.

This project is all about you: your passions, curiosities, and the skills you want to enhance. It's not just about the final product but also about the process of learning, reflecting, and growing.

### What Will You Learn?

By completing the Personal Project, you'll develop essential skills that are valuable both inside and outside of school, including:





## PERSONAL PROJECT

Throughout your project, keep track of your journey in your process journal. This can include:

- Your ideas and brainstorming sessions.
- Notes from research and meetings.
- Drafts, sketches, or prototypes of your product.
- Challenges you faced and how you overcame them.
- Reflections on what you learned and how you grew.

### Tips for Success



Choose a topic that you're genuinely interested in.



Be organized: use timelines and checklists to stay on track.



Seek help and feedback when you need it—your supervisor and school community are here to support you.



Stay curious and open-minded throughout the process.

The Personal Project is an opportunity to shine, explore your passions, and create something that truly represents you. Make the most of it!



## PERSONAL PROJECT

- It allows you to work on something meaningful and exciting for you.
- It gives you the chance to demonstrate independence and responsibility.
- It helps you prepare for future projects in academics, careers, or personal life.
- It showcases your ability to apply what you've learned in creative and practical ways.

### Key Steps in the Personal Project



**Set a Goal:** Decide what you want to learn or create and why it matters to you.



**Plan Your Process:** Break your project into manageable steps with a timeline.



**Research and Act:** Gather information and resources to achieve your goal.



**Create Your Product:** Turn your ideas into a tangible outcome.



**Reflect and Evaluate:** Think about what you learned, how you grew, and how successful your project was.



## ESSENTIAL COMPONENTS OF THE MYP

In addition to the core subject groups, the MYP includes other essential components that enrich students' learning experience and foster personal development:



### **Service as Action**

Service as Action aims to foster a sense of social responsibility and global citizenship. You will be encouraged to take part in community service projects, applying your learning to real-world situations. Whether through environmental initiatives or helping those in need, these activities will allow you to reflect on the impact of your actions and develop empathy, compassion, and leadership skills.



### **Interdisciplinary Learning**

Interdisciplinary learning allows you to explore concepts that transcend individual subjects by integrating knowledge from different subject groups. You will engage in units of inquiry that challenge you to apply diverse perspectives and solve complex problems, deepening your understanding of the connections between academic disciplines and real-world issues.



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