

## Approaches to Learning (ATL) Skills

Through ATL in IB programmes, students develop skills that have relevance across the curriculum that help them learn how to learn. The focus of ATL is on helping students develop the self-knowledge and skills they need to enjoy a lifetime of learning. Every MYP unit identifies ATL skills that students will develop through their inquiry and demonstrate in the unit's summative assessments. Many ATL skills directly support the attainment of subject-group objectives. The MYP extends the five ATL skill categories into 10 developmentally appropriate clusters:

Category	Cluster
Communication	Communication
Research	-Information Literacy
	-Media Literacy
	-Media Literacy
Self-Management	-Organization
	-Affective
	-Reflection
Social	Collaboration
Thinking	-Critical thinking
	-Creative thinking
	-Transfer skills

## Service as Action

IB learners strive to be caring members of the community who demonstrate a commitment to service—making a positive difference to the lives of others and to the environment.

Students in all grades complete service hours outside of NMMS class time and document hours using the Service as Action Reflection form. In eighth-grade, students complete a Capstone Community Project, which encourages students to explore their right and responsibility to implement service as action in the community.

*At NMMS, all content classes are considered MYP classes. MYP encompasses eight subject groups:*



## Middle Years Programme Parent Brochure



**NEWPORT MILL MIDDLE SCHOOL**  
**AN IB WORLD SCHOOL**

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## The IB MYP at NMMS

The MYP is designed for students ages 11 to 16. It provides a framework of learning that encourages students to become creative, critical, and reflective thinkers. The MYP emphasizes intellectual challenge, encouraging students to make connections between their studies in traditional subjects and the real world. It fosters the development of skills for communication, intercultural understanding, and global engagement—essential qualities for young people who are becoming global leaders.

The IB MYP is a student-centered program that emphasizes holistic learning, intercultural awareness, and strong communication skills. Thus, through its school philosophy, mission, and curriculum, NMMS aims to expose students to as many different subjects, skills, and experiences so that students will learn to see knowledge as an interrelated whole. A focus on higher-order thinking skills gives students opportunities to explore their expanding concerns and their growing awareness of themselves and the world in ways that develop sound judgment. NMMS has been authorized to offer the IB MYP since 2007.

## The MYP Philosophy

The Middle Years Programme (MYP) is one of three programs developed by the International Baccalaureate Organization. The overall goal of the MYP is to encourage students to become lifelong learners, critical thinkers, and responsible global citizens.

The MYP:

- addresses holistically students' intellectual, social, emotional, and physical well-being
- provides students opportunities to develop the knowledge, attitudes, and skills they need in order to manage complexity and take responsible action for the future
- ensures breadth and depth of understanding through study in eight subject groups
- empowers students to participate in service within the community
- helps to prepare students for further education, the workplace, and a lifetime of learning

### Using the *IB Learner Profile*

Inquirers  
Knowledgeable  
Thinkers  
Communicators  
Principled  
Open-minded  
Caring  
Risk-takers  
Balanced  
Reflective



## MYP Teaching and Learning

Teachers present their curricula through the MYP philosophy and framework, which include:

- An awareness of international and cultural influences related to the topic of study
- An emphasis on interdisciplinary instruction
- An emphasis on the process of learning
- An emphasis on the development of critical thinking skills
- An emphasis on student inquiry
- An emphasis on independent work habits and research skills
- An emphasis on student reflection



*The six MYP global contexts inspire explorations of our common humanity and shared guardianship of the planet.*