

INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE

For almost 25 years, Oakham School has been one of the UK's largest and most successful providers of the International Baccalaureate Diploma. Each year, between 55 and 60 students join the programme, placing Oakham consistently among the top five independent IB schools in England. The school's long-standing experience, combined with a commitment to innovation, ensures that students benefit from both academic rigour and exceptional pastoral support.

The programme's results reflect this strength. In 2025, every student passed the Diploma, achieving an average score of 34.1 points. One pupil gained the maximum 45 points, placing them in the top one percent of candidates worldwide. Oakham students have also achieved positive value-added scores for five consecutive years, demonstrating that learners of all abilities are helped and supported to enable them to exceed expectations.

A STRUCTURED, SUPPORTIVE ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

Oakham's IB timetable is designed to balance academic challenge with strong support. Students receive 24 subject lessons each week, alongside dedicated Theory of Knowledge (ToK) sessions, pastoral time, and regular tutorials. This structure ensures that academic progress, wellbeing, and personal development are all prioritised.

Coursework accounts for 20–30% of assessment, helping students develop independence, research skills, and academic maturity. The Extended Essay is guided through one-to-one supervision, with support in academic writing, referencing, and the responsible use of AI. The Creativity, Activity, Service (CAS) element is fully embedded in school life, encouraging students to build confidence, leadership, and a sense of purpose.

BREADTH AND FLEXIBILITY OF SUBJECTS

One of Oakham's greatest strengths is the breadth of its subject offering. Students can choose from 26 subjects, with 19 available at both Higher and Standard Level. This allows each student to build a personalised programme that reflects their strengths, interests, and university ambitions.

Subjects on offer:

- Biology (SL/HL)
- Business Management (HL)
- Chemistry (HL)
- Computer Science (SL/HL)
- Dance (SL)
- Design Technology (SL/HL)
- Economics (SL/HL)
- English (SL/HL)
- Environmental Systems & Societies (SL/HL)
- French ab initio (SL)
- French B (SL/HL)
- Geography (SL/HL)
- German A – Language and Literature (HL)
- German B (SL/HL)
- Global Politics (SL/HL)
- Greek (SL/HL)
- History (SL/HL)
- Mathematics (SL/HL)
- Physics (HL)
- Psychology (SL/HL)
- Spanish ab initio (SL)
- Spanish B (SL/HL)
- Sports, Exercise & Health Science (HL)
- SSST Language A (SL)
- Theatre Arts (SL/HL)
- Visual Arts (SL/HL)

This variety ensures that every student can create a balanced and ambitious programme, whether they are aiming for STEM degrees, humanities courses, creative pathways, or international university destinations.

NEW DEVELOPMENTS FOR 2026

Oakham is expanding its IB offering to further support international pupils and broaden creative opportunities.

School-Supported Self-Taught (SSST) Language A (SL)

Students whose first language is not taught at Oakham will be able to study their mother tongue as a Language A subject. Delivered in partnership with Pamoja Education, this option strengthens linguistic identity and ensures that multilingual pupils can access the IB in the most appropriate way. German A (HL) continues unchanged.

As the mother tongue Language A option is taught via an external partnership with Pamoja Education, an annual fee of £1,000 will be chargeable.

English B (HL and SL)

This Language Acquisition course is designed for pupils who are not native English speakers. Those who have completed GCSE or IGCSE English typically take English B at Higher Level, although English A: Literature remains an option for advanced speakers. This addition ensures a clearer and more supportive English-language pathway.

IB Dance (SL)

Oakham is one of a small number of high-achieving UK IB schools to offer Dance. This academic course combines performance, choreography, and the study of global dance traditions. It can be taken as part of the full IB Diploma or alongside three A-levels, making it an exciting option for creatively minded pupils. These developments reflect Oakham's commitment to a broad, global, and inclusive IB education.



OUTSTANDING UNIVERSITY PREPARATION

Oakham's IB students benefit from early July exam results, giving them a significant advantage in the university admissions cycle. Graduates regularly secure places at leading institutions, with offers for competitive subjects such as Law sometimes set as low as 32 points—and occasionally reduced further in recognition of a strong Extended Essay performance.

Research shows that IB students are 7% more likely to achieve a first-class degree, three times more likely to attend a top-20 university, and 21% more likely to complete their course. With recognition from more than 4,500 universities in 110 countries, the IB opens doors worldwide.

Lena's IB experience at Oakham empowered her to think globally, act locally and pursue her passions with purpose.



- Scored the maximum 45/45 in the IB Diploma; now studying Geography at Cambridge.
- Chose a broad subject mix blending Geography, Philosophy, and Classics; praised the IB's interdisciplinary nature.
- Explored Confucianism and environmental ethics, reflecting her passion for sustainability and global thinking.
- Head of RAF CCF Section; completed Gold DofE with expeditions to Norway and Bali.
- Volunteered on a reef restoration project in Bali after earning her diving qualification at Oakham.

The IB at Oakham empowered Ruth to thrive academically, grow personally, and pursue her passion for global healthcare.



- Scored 43/45 in the IB Diploma, showcasing academic rigour and ambition.
- Inspired to study Medicine through IB experiences and global service.
- Volunteered in Kenya, building classrooms and leading school activities - a life-changing highlight.
- Now on a Gap Year gaining clinical experience across Germany, Austria, and Africa.