



# International Foundation Diploma

ofqual



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# What is the International Foundation Diploma?

University pathways  
course

Can be taken  
online or blended

Course developed using  
LearnDirect's  
LMS tool



**International**  
Foundation Diploma

# About the International Foundation Diploma

*Blending classroom learning with dynamic digital activities and content that enables anytime/anyplace study*



The IFD is an accredited university pathway qualification, designed for international students who will need a foundation year prior to university.



The IFD is a regulated qualification awarded by the UK exam body, NCC Education.



NCC Education is an awarding organisation (exam body) recognised by the qualification regulators for England – Ofqual.



Learndirect is the UK's leading provider of online qualifications and a force for positive change by using technology to future-proof education with online learning solutions.

## Features of the International Foundation Diploma

***Offering an engaging mix of live classes, interactive content, and the latest 'gamification' tools to help keep the students focussed and participating***



- A high value curriculum for students – offering international study opportunities.
- IFD can be studied as part of the school syllabus, or as an after-school activity
- IFD can be taught almost immediately:
  - Support to school faculty - free online teacher training and certification
  - Teaching pack available
- Cheaper than many residential foundation courses.

# Benefits of Blended Learning to Students

Face-to-face teaching is great for developing interpersonal skills and thinking on your feet but ...



learning technology help students develop the transferable skills necessary for university and that employers value:

- Planning
- time management
- collaboration
- individual learning
- decision making
- development of critical thinking skills
- digital skills which are now essential in the workplace.



## Benefits to Students

Students can apply to as many as 40 universities with the International Foundation Diploma.



- Some students prefer to learn online and independently.
- Enriched digital learning platform with an engaging mix of:
  - live classes
  - incorporated video
  - interactive content
  - latest 'gamification' tools
- Fully mobile & flexible - students can access the school when and how they want, be it via desktop, laptop, tablet or mobile.
- Students can access their classrooms and speak to a teacher live 24 hours a day
- Students can go directly to university after high school

# Benefits to Students

Universities who offer direct admission to IFD students



## Benefits to Schools Offering the International Foundation Diploma

Blended learning will safeguard the prospects of students during these challenging times, allowing for their smooth progression to university and employment



- No up-front centre approval fees
- Income generation by leveraging the provision of international study opportunities when speaking to parents and attracting new students.
- By taking 50% of coursework online, theoretically schools can double campus size and decrease cost per student.
- Greater business resilience; In the event of the unexpected students can make the transition to online provision so their studies are uninterrupted.



# Academic structure of the International Foundation Diploma

## Core Units

- Core modules are mandatory for all students.
- approximately 23 weeks (10 hours per week).
- A minimum IELTS score of 5.0 is required to join the Core units.

Unit	Est time <sup>†</sup>	Live Sessions (2 hours)	Interactive Lessons (2 hours)	Assign. and Practice
Advanced English Language Skills	Week 1-5	10 x 2h	15 x 2h	10
English for Academic Purposes	Week 6-10	5 x 2h	14 x 2h	10
Study and Communication Skills	Week 6-10	5 x 2h	15 x 2h	10
Culture Studies	Week 11-15	5 x 2h	13 x 2h	10
Foundation Mathematics	Week 11-23	15 x 2h	24 x 2h	20
Advanced IELTS Preparation	Week 16-23	5 x 2h	9 x 2h	15
		45 x 2h	90 x 2h	70


<sup>†</sup> Based on 2 sessions (4 academic hours) per week


- Total tutor provision – 90 hours
- Total core sessions – 45 (23 weeks)
- Total self-study – 5 -7 hours p/w (approx)
- Academic support per student – 2 hours


# Academic structure of the International Foundation Diploma


## Elective Units

- Approximately 10 weeks (10 hours per week).
- Total tutor provision – 40 hours
- Total core sessions – 20 (10 weeks)
- Total self-study – 5 -7 hours p/w (approx)

Option 1: Business Units	Est time 	Live Sessions (2 hours)	Interactive Lessons (2 hours)	Assign. and Practice
Introduction to Business	Week 24-29	10x2h	15x2h	10
Introduction to Accounting and Economics	Week 30-34	10x2h	15x2h	10
		20 x 2h	30 x 2h	20

Option 2: Engineering Units	Est time 	Live Sessions (2 hours)	Interactive Lessons (2 hours)	Assign. and Practice
Further Mathematics	Week 24-29	10x2h	15x2h	10
Physics	Week 30-34	10x2h	15x2h	10
		20 x 2h	30 x 2h	20

Option 3: Health Sciences Units	Est time 	Live Sessions (2 hours)	Interactive Lessons (2 hours)	Assign. and Practice
Chemistry	Week 24-29	10x2h	15x2h	10
Biology	Week 30-34	10x2h	15x2h	10
		20 x 2h	30 x 2h	20

Option 3: Computing Units	Est time 	Live Sessions (2 hours)	Interactive Lessons (2 hours)	Assign. and Practice
Introduction to Computer Science	Week 24-29	10x2h	15x2h	10
Introduction to Programming	Week 30-34	10x2h	15x2h	10
		20 x 2h	30 x 2h	20

# Academic structure of the International Foundation Diploma

## Pre-Sessional Units

- For students with a low to medium English level (IELTS 4.0 minimum)
- Students are free to seek preparation to attain the minimum IELTS level to start the Core Units

Pre-Sessional Units	Est time	Live Sessions (2 hours)	Interactive Lessons (2 hours)	Assign. and Practice
Developing English Language Skills	7 weeks	15 x 2h	20 x 2h	20
Basic IELTS Preparation	3 weeks	5 x 2h	9 x 2h	5

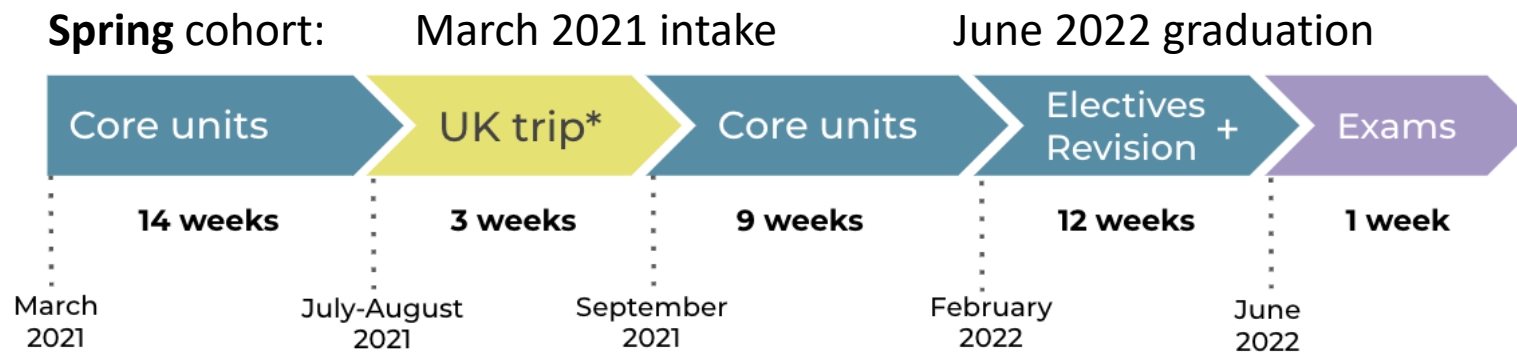
# Academic structure of the International Foundation Diploma

## Time-Tabling



35 weeks – approx. 10 academic hours per week, including:

- 4 hours per week in the classroom support
- 6 hours per week of online self-study and assignments using learndirect's interactive technology



Core units:	23 weeks
Elective units:	10 weeks
Exam revision:	2 weeks
Exams:	1 week

\*UK trip is optional and will focus on university visits and exam revision.

# Academic structure of the International Foundation Diploma

## Teaching costs

### Assumptions:

Teacher cost per hour £20

Group lesson class – 130 hours x 20 £2,600

Individual support – 8 hours x 20 £160

Group Size	Teaching Cost	Individual coaching hours	Individual cost	Total cost	Cost variance
1	2600	0	0	<b>2600</b>	
2	1300	3	60	<b>1360</b>	-48%
3	867	6	120	<b>987</b>	-27%
4	650	8	160	<b>810</b>	-18%
5	520	8	160	<b>680</b>	-16%
6	433	8	160	<b>593</b>	-13%
7	371	9	180	<b>551</b>	-7%
8	325	10	200	<b>525</b>	-5%
9	289	11	220	<b>509</b>	-3%
10	260	12	240	<b>500</b>	-2%
11	236	13	260	<b>496</b>	-1%
12	217	14	280	<b>497</b>	0%
13	200	15	300	<b>500</b>	
14	186	16	320	<b>506</b>	
15	173	16	320	<b>493</b>	



# Thank You

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