IB Diploma Programme and IB Career-related Programme

May 2027 examination schedule
FINAL VERSION
All exam zones (A, B, C)

An examination cannot be rescheduled without authorization from the Assessment Division, IB Global Centre, Cardiff.

Legend of Subject Groups:

	Interdisciplinary subjects		Sciences
	Studies in language and literature and Language acquisition		Mathematics
	Individuals and societies		The arts

Please note that for Studies in language and literature and Language acquisition, English, French and Spanish are scheduled individually from all other languages.

Examination Schedule

Friday 23 April					
Morning session			**Afternoon session**		
	--- No exams ---		SBS	School-based syllabus SL paper 1	
				Language & culture SL paper 1	1h 30m

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Week 1

Monday 26 April

Morning session			Afternoon session		
SBS	School-based syllabus SL paper 2			Language A Literature HL paper 1	2h 15m
				Language A Literature SL paper 1	1h 15m
	Language & culture SL paper 2	1h 30m		Language A Language & Literature HL paper 1	2h 15m
				Language A Language & Literature SL paper 1	1h 15m
				* Except: English, French & Spanish	

Tuesday 27 April

Morning session			Afternoon session		
	Language A Literature HL/SL paper 2	1h 45m		Business management HL/SL paper 1	1h 30m
	Language A Language & Literature HL/SL paper 2	1h 45m		Business management HL paper 3	1h 15m
	* Except: English, French & Spanish				

Wednesday 28 April

Morning session			Afternoon session		
	Business management HL paper 2	1h 45m		Physics HL paper 1 (1a and 1b)	2h
	Business management SL paper 2	1h 30m		Physics SL paper 1 (1a and 1b)	1h 30m
				Sports, exercise & health science HL paper 1 (1a and 1b)	1h 45m
				Sports, exercise & health science SL paper 1 (1a and 1b)	1h 30m

Thursday 29 April

Morning session			Afternoon session		
	Physics HL paper 2	2h 30m		Psychology HL/SL paper 1	1h 30m
	Physics SL paper 2	1h 30m		Psychology HL/SL paper 2	1h 30m
	Sports, exercise & health science HL paper 2	2h 30m			
	Sports, exercise & health science SL paper 2	1h 30m			

Friday 30 April

Morning session			Afternoon session		
	Psychology HL paper 3	1h 45m		Computer science HL paper 1	2h
				Computer science SL paper 1	1h 15m
				Environmental systems & societies HL paper 1	2h
				Environmental systems & societies SL paper 1	1h

Week 2

Monday 3 May

Morning session			Afternoon session		
	Computer science HL paper 2	2h		History HL/SL paper 1	1h
	Computer science SL paper 2	1h 15m		History HL/SL paper 2	1h 30m
	Environmental systems & societies HL paper 2	2h 30m			
	Environmental systems & societies SL paper 2	2h			

Tuesday 4 May

Morning session		Afternoon session	
History HL paper 3	2h 30m	Language B HL paper 1	1h 30m
		Language B HL paper 2	
		- Reading comprehension	1h
		Language B SL paper 1	1h 15m
		Language B SL paper 2	
		- Reading comprehension	1h
		Language ab initio SL paper 1	1h
		Language ab initio SL paper 2	
		- Reading comprehension	1h
		*** Except: English, French & Spanish**	
		Latin HL paper 1	2h
		Latin SL paper 1	1h 30m

Wednesday 5 May

Morning session		Afternoon session	
Language B HL paper 2		Chemistry HL paper 1 (1a and 1b)	2h
- Listening comprehension	1h	Chemistry SL paper 1 (1a and 1b)	1h 30m
Language B SL paper 2			
- Listening comprehension	45m	Design technology HL paper 1	1h 30m
Language ab initio SL paper 2		Design technology SL paper 1	1h
- Listening comprehension	45m		
*** Except: English, French & Spanish**			
Latin HL paper 2	1h 30m		
Latin SL paper 2	1h 30m		

Thursday 6 May

Morning session		Afternoon session	
Chemistry HL paper 2	2h 30m	English A Literature HL paper 1	2h 15m
Chemistry SL paper 2	1h 30m	English A Literature SL paper 1	1h 15m
		English A Language & Literature HL paper 1	2h 15m
Design technology HL paper 2	2h 30m	English A Language & Literature SL paper 1	1h 15m
Design technology SL paper 2	1h 30m		
		English B HL paper 1	1h 30m
		English B HL paper 2	
		- Reading comprehension	1h
		English B SL paper 1	1h 15m
		English B SL paper 2	
		- Reading comprehension	1h
		English ab initio SL paper 1	1h
		English ab initio SL paper 2	
		- Reading comprehension	1h

Friday 7 May

Morning session		Afternoon session	
English A Literature HL/SL paper 2	1h 45m	Geography HL paper 1	2h 15m
English A Language & Literature HL/SL paper 2	1h 45m	Geography SL paper 1	1h 30m
		Philosophy HL paper 1	2h 30m
English B HL paper 2		Philosophy SL paper 1	1h 45m
- Listening comprehension	1h		
English B SL paper 2		Social & cultural anthropology HL paper 1	2h
- Listening comprehension	45m	Social & cultural anthropology SL paper 1	1h 30m
English ab initio SL paper 2			
- Listening comprehension	45m		
Literature & performance SL paper 1	1h 45m		

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Week 3

Monday 10 May

Morning session		Afternoon session	
Geography HL/SL paper 2	1h 15m	Biology HL paper 1 (1a and 1b)	2h
Geography HL paper 3	1h	Biology SL paper 1 (1a and 1b)	1h 30m
Philosophy HL/SL paper 2	1h		
Philosophy HL paper 3	1h 15m		
Social & cultural anthropology HL paper 2	2h 30m		
Social & cultural anthropology SL paper 2	1h 30m		

Tuesday 11 May

Morning session		Afternoon session	
Biology HL paper 2	2h 30m	Economics HL/SL paper 2	1h 45m
Biology SL paper 2	1h 30m	World religions SL paper 1	1h 15m

Wednesday 12 May

Morning session		Afternoon session	
Economics HL paper 1	1h 15m	Classical Greek HL paper 1	2h
Economics HL paper 3	1h 45m	Classical Greek SL paper 1	1h 30m
Economics SL paper 1	1h 15m	Spanish A Literature HL paper 1	2h 15m
World religions SL paper 2	1h 30m	Spanish A Literature SL paper 1	1h 15m
		Spanish A Language & Literature HL paper 1	2h 15m
		Spanish A Language & Literature SL paper 1	1h 15m
		Spanish B HL paper 1	1h 30m
		Spanish B HL paper 2 - Reading comprehension	1h
		Spanish B SL paper 1	1h 15m
		Spanish B SL paper 2 - Reading comprehension	1h
		Spanish ab initio SL paper 1	1h
		Spanish ab initio SL paper 2 - Reading comprehension	1h

Thursday 13 May

Morning session		Afternoon session	
Classical Greek HL paper 2	1h 30m	Mathematics: analysis and approaches HL paper 1	2h
Classical Greek SL paper 2	1h 30m	analysis and approaches SL paper 1	1h 30m
Spanish A Literature HL/SL paper 2	1h 45m	Mathematics: applications and interpretation HL paper 1	2h
Spanish A Language & Literature HL/SL paper 2	1h 45m	applications and interpretation SL paper 1	1h 30m
Spanish B HL paper 2 - Listening comprehension	1h		
Spanish B SL paper 2 - Listening comprehension	45m		
Spanish ab initio SL paper 2 - Listening comprehension	45m		

Friday 14 May					
Morning session			**Afternoon session**		
	Mathematics: analysis and approaches HL paper 2 analysis and approaches SL paper 2 Mathematics: applications and interpretation HL paper 2 applications and interpretation SL paper 2	 2h 1h 30m 2h 1h 30m		Digital Society HL paper 1 Digital Society SL paper 1 Global politics HL/SL paper 1 Global politics HL/SL paper 2	2h 15m 1h 30m 1h 15m 1h 45m

Week 4

Monday 17 May					
Morning session			**Afternoon session**		
	Digital Society HL/SL paper 2 Digital Society HL paper 3 Global politics HL paper 3	1h 15m 1h 15m 1h 30m		French A Literature HL paper 1 French A Literature SL paper 1 French A Language & Literature HL paper 1 French A Language & Literature SL paper 1 French B HL paper 1 French B HL paper 2 - Reading comprehension French B SL paper 1 French B SL paper 2 - Reading comprehension French ab initio SL paper 1 French ab initio SL paper 2 - Reading comprehension	2h 15m 1h 15m 2h 15m 1h 15m 1h 30m 1h 1h 15m 1h 1h 1h

Tuesday 18 May					
Morning session			**Afternoon session**		
	French A Literature HL/SL paper 2 French A Language & Literature HL/SL paper 2 French B HL paper 2 - Listening comprehension French B SL paper 2 - Listening comprehension French ab initio SL paper 2 - Listening comprehension	1h 45m 1h 45m 1h 45m 45m		Mathematics: analysis and approaches HL paper 3 Mathematics: applications and interpretation HL paper 3	 1h 15m 1h 15m

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Local start times for the examination session

- Schools must ensure that they are aware of their allocated exam zone, which does not change between examination sessions.
- The local start times for all zones are detailed in the table below. There is no variance in start times within morning or afternoon sessions.
- The local start times indicated are based on the local time and do not need to be adjusted for daylight saving.

Exam zone		Morning session start time	Afternoon session start time
A	12	10.00	14.00
A	11	10.00	14.00
A	10	10.00	14.00
A	9	10.00	14.00
A	8	09.30	13.30
A	7	09.00	13.00
A	6	09.00	13.00
A	5	09.00	13.00
A	4	09.00	13.00
A	3	09.00	13.00
B	3	10.00	14.00
B	2	09.30	13.30
B	1	09.00	13.00
B	0	09.00	13.00
C	-3	10.00	14.00
C	-4	09.30	13.30
C	-5	08.30	12.30
C	-6	08.30	12.30
C	-7	08.30	12.30
C	-8	08.30	12.30
C	-9	08.30	12.30
C	-10	08.30	12.30

Principles used in creating the IB Examination Schedule:

- It is not possible to take into account public, national or school holidays (apart from 01 May) because of the number of countries in which the IB Diploma Programme is offered.
- Registration data has been used to ensure that the minimum number of students globally are impacted by subject timetable clashes.
- Where there are subjects with particular regional or cultural links the IB will endeavour to take these into account, for example Arabic literature/language examinations will not be scheduled on a Friday.
- Almost all subjects are scheduled on consecutive days. This is to minimise the impact of absence on any given day, whilst maintaining continuity for students.
- Subjects with the highest candidature are not scheduled consecutively and are spread as evenly as possible over 4 weeks to try and distribute the workload for students. Language examinations and science examinations are scheduled on each of the 4 weeks for the same reason.
- The examination schedule is as short as possible to maintain an acceptable balance between the number of conflicts in the schedule.

Rescheduling Policy

- Rescheduling of an exam for a student requires approval from IB.
- The criteria and the process for applying for a reschedule can be found in the Diploma Programme/Career-related Programme *Assessment procedures*.

2028 examination Schedule

- The examination schedule in 2028 will start on Tuesday 25 April 2028, and end on Friday 19 May 2028 (with no exams on 1 May), subject to confirmation in 2026.