



west sound academy

IB WORLD SCHOOL

CEEB Code: 480922

2022-2023 School Profile

Our Mission: to support students along an engaging educational journey where they can ignite their unique spark and learn to use it to make a positive impact in the world.



WSA is a private, independent school that strives to foster the unique abilities of every student who walks through our doors. We know that learning is a journey, not a formula to be followed. Rather than teaching students how to recite facts and adhere to formulaic standards of academic achievement, we strive to teach students to think critically and leverage their knowledge to excel in college and anywhere else life takes them next.

Our IB-based curriculum is designed to empower students to think critically, engage globally, and actively pursue their unique passions. The school offers a hands-on and creative curriculum, including Theatre, Music and the Arts.

Admissions

Students apply and are accepted based on a range of factors. We strive to admit students who are internationally minded and demonstrate intellectual curiosity. While we do not require an admissions test, the application process requires a student to visit and interview and submit letters of recommendation.

Calendar and Schedule

We have two semesters and a three-week term in June (June Term). During the semesters, students take seven classes – six academic and one elective. The schedule operates on a rotating block, with 90-minute class sessions. During June Term, students select one full-day or two half-day (180 minutes each) experiential learning courses.

International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme

We are an *International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme* school. All students in grades 11 and 12 are enrolled in IB classes. Students choose to submit materials to IB for consideration as an IB Diploma Candidate or Course Student. Theory of Knowledge is required for all 11th graders and also for 12th grade Diploma Candidates.

- In the class of 2023, 100% are submitting materials to IB with 90% submitting for the full IB diploma.

Grading

Due to the rigorous nature, small class size, and philosophy supporting the whole person, we do not rank students numerically. We report individual grade point averages.

- GPA calculation is **unweighted** on a 4.0 scale.
- Transcripts reflect IB courses by title.

COVID 19 – Online Learning

WSA provided synchronous online courses and operated on a Mod Schedule with the AY20-21 year divided into six 6-week terms and one 3-week June Term. Each Mod class is 0.333 credits. All academic courses met in three alternating Mods for a total of 1.0 credits. Mod course grades were averaged for a final year grade.

Community Demographics

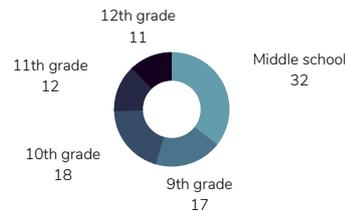
Located in Poulsbo, WA on the Kitsap Peninsula, across the Puget Sound from Seattle, our students come from Kitsap and Jefferson Counties,

- Setting is suburban, rural adjacent
- North Kitsap census data from 2020 shows ethnic backgrounds are: 81% white, 2% native, 3% Asian, 6% multiple, 7% Hispanic.
- Educational attainment in the area is: 95.7% high school grad or higher, 40.7% bachelor's degree or higher
- Major employers in North Kitsap include Naval Base Kitsap, St. Michael Medical Center/Franciscan Medical Group

Mindful tuition

We serve a wide range of economically diverse families and our tuition rates typically fall below the average cost for independent schools in Washington State. We do not offer traditional scholarships or financial aid, nor do we conform to a "one-size fits all" tuition model. Instead, we have chosen to mindfully consider the realistic financial circumstances of each individual family. Sliding scale information [here](#).

Enrollment



Total enrollment: 90 students

Fifteen faculty instruct students in average class sizes of fifteen.

Our school community is more diverse than the North Kitsap region. We serve students who represent a range of backgrounds including, ethnic, international, linguistic, neurodiverse, gender non-conforming, and more. This spirit of inclusivity creates a caring and welcoming environment.

Since the first IB class in 2013, 75% of our candidates have earned the IB Diploma. The average score for those awarded the diploma is 31.

In May 2022 the highest IB diploma score awarded was 35.

Upper School Course Offerings

IB Diploma Programme

(All courses are two years)

- Language & Literature - HL
- School Supported Self-Taught Literature (Spanish)
- Spanish - SL and HL
- 20th C. History of Europe HL
- Biology - SL
- Maths: Applications and Interpretations SL and HL
- Theatre SL and HL
- Psychology - SL (only offered 2022-23)
- Computer Science SL (only offered 2020-2022)
- Theory of Knowledge*

9th-10th grade courses

- English Literature
 - Spanish and French - all levels
 - US History 1865-1940
 - US History post 1940
 - Integrated Maths
 - Trigonometry
 - Probability & Statistics
 - Physics
 - Chemistry
 - Holistic Health*
- Acting Up: Theatre for Social Change*
 - Costume * Make-up design for Theatre*
 - Advanced Music*
 - Visual Art*
 - Art History*
 - Art and Wellness
 - Physical Outdoor Education*
 - Java for Robotics*
 - Rocketry*
 - Music

*Indicates one semester

Various June Term options

CAS Experiences

The IB Diploma Programme requires candidates to engage in Creative, Active, and Service experiences. These extracurricular opportunities are explored in our Advisory program.

Clubs

WSA has a variety of student-run clubs, teams, and organizations. See the [full list](#).

Music Program

Upper school students can participate in elective and grade-level music classes. We have a "school of rock" style program, which highlights each student's interests and builds skills based on their inspiration, working towards a collaborative performance. June Term is an all-day workshop that prepares a live performance. In June 2022, students also visited the Seattle recording studio, London Bridge. [This video](#) provides an example of the kind of music students write and perform.

Accreditation



West Sound Academy is an IB World School accredited by the IBO, Cognia, and is a Northwest Association of Independent Schools Subscriber School.

