Telopea Park School has been an International Baccalaureate world school since February 2006, and remains the only ACT secondary school to offer the Middle Years Programme.

WHAT IS THE IBO?
The IBO is a highly regarded non-profit educational association of government, private and international schools that share a vision of providing challenging global education, rigorous assessment and pedagogical leadership. With a philosophy based around UNESCO principles of holistic education, intercultural awareness and communication, the IBO seeks to empower students through active citizenship. There are more than 706,000 IB students at 2,598 schools in 134 countries.

IBO offers three programmes:
• Primary Years Programme (PYP) for students aged 3-12 years,
• Middle Years Programme (MYP) for students aged 11-16 and
• Diploma Programme (DP) for students aged 16-19.

The three programmes are independent, but share philosophical elements that foster academic and personal skills, skills for learning and skills for living. Further information is available at www.ibo.org.

THE IBO IN THE ACT
The PYP and the MYP are holistic programmes that require whole school participation. The PYP is offered in four ACT primary schools, including our cluster school Red Hill. The DP is a highly academic program giving students access to leading universities throughout the world. The DP is offered in three ACT colleges, including Narrabundah College and Canberra College.

THE MIDDLE YEARS PROGRAM (MYP) MODEL
The MYP curriculum model below represents the 8 subjects, 5 contexts (called Areas of Interaction), and the central Learner Profile, which is common to all three IB programmes.

The Learner Profile
The Learner Profile is at the core of the MYP hexagon. It outlines the attributes that the MYP aims to foster within each student, and is central to the programme.

Learner Profile Attributes
Inquirers
Knowledgeable
Thinkers
Communicators
Principled
Open-Minded
Caring
Risk-Takers
Balanced
Reflective

Areas of Interaction (AOI)
The Areas of Interaction provide contexts for learning. They emphasise the interrelatedness of students’ learning, and provide common perspectives across subjects, hence their position within the hexagon, and their connection to all subjects. The Areas of Interaction are not directly assessed nor awarded individual grades within disciplines, since they are themes rather than subjects.

An easy way to remember the five perspectives is to think of the acronym EACHH based on the initial letters:

• Environments
  Involves understanding and managing the effects of interactions with the natural, built and virtual environments.

• Approaches to Learning (ATL)
  Is about developing the skills of study, thinking, problem solving, decision-making, research, organisation, technology usage, reasoned argument, collaboration and presentation through different media.

• Community and Service
  Is about developing values that support a fair and equitable world, and taking an active role in the school and local, national and global communities.

• Health and Social Education
  Is about making responsible choices and respecting one's body and mind

• Human Ingenuity
  Involves recognising causes and effects of change, and celebrating the human ability to invent, create, change and improve.
The LEARNING AREAS
Students need to study at least 1 semester of each of these 8 disciplines between Semester 2, year 9 and Semester 1 Year 10, to have the balance of subjects required by the MYP.

- **Language A**
  The student's best language, i.e. French and/or English at Telopea Park School

- **Language B**
  A modern foreign language studied at school

- **Humanities**
  History, Geography, Economics and Civics

- **Sciences**
  Biology, chemistry, physics

- **Mathematics**
  Number, algebra, geometry and trigonometry, probability and statistics, and discrete mathematics

- **Arts**
  Visual arts and performing arts

- **Physical education**
  Health and fitness, individual and team sports

- **Technology**
  Design technology.

The Personal Project
All three IB programmes culminate in an activity that celebrates the independence of its graduates as learners. All Middle Years Programme students complete a Personal Project, a sustained independent piece of work that demonstrates the skills and knowledge they have gained from different disciplines. Students plan, organise, investigate, complete and reflect on a project of their choice.

The Personal Project requires students to focus on a specific Area of Interaction, as well as Approaches to Learning. An understanding of the Areas of Interaction forms part of the assessment.

Students begin their Personal Project in Semester 2 Year 9 and complete it in Year 10.

WHY THE IB MYP AT TEOPEA PARK SCHOOL?
The IBO offers an accredited internationally recognized program which sits comfortably with Telopea Park School's bi-national status, values and student backgrounds. MYP emphasises intercultural awareness and TPS is a bi-national school catering for 70 different nationalities.

It emphasises students learning how to learn and being aware of their learning styles. It requires students to be exposed to all KLAS and hence the learning of a foreign language is compulsory (as it is at Telopea).

It promotes inquiry based learning, which is integral to the ACT Curriculum Framework Every Chance to Learn.

It provides and externally established set of criteria for assessment, and thoroughly prepares students for the pathways beyond Year 10.

As we move into the 21st century we need to prepare our students for lifelong learning in a global society where change is the only constant.