



February 12th, 2014

Aoba-Japan International School

Aoba-Japan International School awarded candidacy status for the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme (IBDP)

Aoba-Japan International School (Location: Nerima ward, Tokyo “A-JIS”) would like to announce that their high school will be recognized as an International Baccalaureate candidate school for the Diploma Programme (DP) as of March 1st, 2014. A-JIS will now be a candidate school for both the International Baccalaureate Primary Years Programme (IBPYP) and the Diploma Programme (IBDP).

The International Baccalaureate, widely recognized internationally as a qualification for University applications, is an education programme initiated by the International Baccalaureate Organization (IBO) (headquartered in Switzerland). It provides students graduating from international schools an internationally recognized qualification that allows them to apply to Universities around the world. The programme is for students aged 3 to 19, and consists of 3 parts: the Primary Years Programme, the Middle Years Programme, and the Diploma Programme (Grades 11 and 12). The programs are founded on the premise of student-centered investigative learning intended to promote the critical thinking and collaborative learning skills that are core to success in our rapidly globalizing society.

A-JIS aims to introduce all three of the International Baccalaureate programs and is currently and actively revising its curriculum to accommodate each in succession. By introducing the International Baccalaureate Programme in full, graduates of A-JIS will not only be able to obtain internationally recognized qualification for University applications, but will also acquire the skills to understand issues from broader perspectives. They will gain greater ability to think independently in a variety of situations. By fostering global perspectives, students' abilities to present and communicate their ideas will be enhanced.

By becoming an International Baccalaureate World School, it is the goal of A-JIS and its parent company Business Breakthrough, Inc. (“BBT”) to create a learning environment that fosters global leaders (BBT operates a university and graduate school. Its mission is to train globally-minded individuals). By providing an internationally recognized programme, A-JIS wishes to support students in their pursuit to enter universities, not only in Japan but around the world. The goal is to allow students access to places that maximize their potential and individuality. By providing a coherent programme from the age of 18 months through high school graduation¹, A-JIS is determined to further its objective in fostering independent and talented people who realize rich and fulfilling lives in the global society of the 21st century.

【What is the International Baccalaureate】 * excerpts from MEXT HP (unofficial translation)
The International Baccalaureate Organization was founded in 1968 under the objective to grant students graduating from international schools, a diploma that meets college application requirements, as well as fosters flexible minds and promotes education through international understanding.

¹ A-JIS is made up of two campuses: Hikarigaoka campus (3 years to 18 years) which has a kindergarten to high school programme and Meguro Campus (1.5 to 5 years of age) which runs a kindergarten programme. Only Hikarigaoka campus is recognized as a candidate school for PYP.

The International Baccalaureate Organization is headquartered in Geneva, Switzerland. It develops common curricula for accredited schools, conducts IB examinations, and awards International Baccalaureate certificates and diplomas. There are 3 programs in the International Baccalaureate:

- (1) the PYP (Primary Years Programme) 3~12 yrs old,
- (2) the MYP (Middle Years Programme) 11~16 yrs old,
- (3) the DP (Diploma Programme) 16~19 yrs old.

Those students who complete the DP coursework and pass the comprehensive final exams can obtain Diplomas from the International Baccalaureate organization. The International Baccalaureate is an internationally recognized diploma that meets the requirements of college applications around the world. In 1979, Japan also recognized that, “students who have reached the age of 18 and who have obtained an IB Diploma awarded by the International Baccalaureate Foundation Office, an organization established under the Swiss Civil Code,” can be regarded as having reached the academic level equivalent to those who would have graduated senior high school in Japan and thus meeting the prerequisite for college application. Also, the Japanese government’s Education Revitalization Practice Committee made a recommendation this year to increase the number of IB accredited schools from 16 to 200 institutions within 5 years in order to set the environment to foster global mindedness.

【About Aoba-Japan International School (A-JIS)】



A-JIS is an international school operated by Aoba International Educational Systems (Aoba) (Head Office: Tokyo, Nerima-ku), which became a subsidiary of Business Breakthrough Inc. (BBT) (Location: Tokyo, Chiyoda-ku, President: Kenichi Ohmae) in October 2013. Founded in 1976 in Aobadai, Meguro-ku, Aoba-Japan International School is a pre-Kindergarten to Grade 12, co-ed, secular school open to all nationalities and religions. Except for Japanese language classes, all classes are conducted in English and use native language resources. For students who have difficulty communicating in

English, A-JIS has a strong and effective English language support programme that prepares students for the mainstream programme. From pre-Kindergarten to Grade 12, the school provides a curriculum that follows international standards, and graduates can obtain the credentials they require to apply to universities worldwide. A-JIS is accredited through the Council of International Schools (CIS) and the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC). The elementary school division of A-JIS is presently a candidate school for the PYP .

<http://www.aobajapan.jp/about-us/school/japanese>

Aoba-Japan International School is a candidate school* for the Primary Years Programme and the Diploma Program. This school is pursuing authorization as an IB World School. These are schools that share a common philosophy—a commitment to high quality, challenging, international education that Aoba-Japan International School believes is important for our students.

*Only schools authorized by the IB Organization can offer any of its three academic programs: the Primary Years Programme (PYP), the Middle Years Programme (MYP), or the Diploma Programme (and in addition the IB Career-related Certificate). Candidate status gives no guarantee that authorization will be granted.

For further information about the IB and its programs, visit <http://www.ibo.org>

【About BBT】



BBT was incorporated in 1998, with the aim of becoming “an intellectual fuelling station for business people” where business people can get access to the frontier of business knowledge through “an intellectual platform on business issues” and contribute to fostering business people who will flourish in the international arena. BBT sets management education as its main pillar, and provides, on demand, cutting edge content pertaining to business issues stemming from experiences and

knowledge of the internationally renowned management consultant Kenichi Ohmae. Approximately 50,000 people have been sent out to the business world from our courses. <http://www.bbt757.com/>

In October 2013, Aoba became a subsidiary of BBT. With this, BBT is now involved in pre-Kindergarten to Grade 12 education in addition to the university, graduate school and business education courses. We are evolving into an educational institution that provides lifelong education.

【Contact Information】

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