



## Korah Collegiate & Vocational School



### Admission Policy Enhanced Learning and IB Diploma Programme

**Last updated:** August 2025

#### Overview

Students at Korah Collegiate who are interested in studying the IB Diploma Programme (DP) in grade 11 generally begin their academic journey in the Enhanced Learning (EL) classes in grades 9 and 10.

#### Timeline for application to Enhanced Learning in grades 9 and 10

Interested grade 8 students complete an Enhanced Learning application package. The deadline is decided each fall by ADSB board personnel and Superintendents, in consultation with the Principal and Head of Student Services; it is usually before the holiday break in December.

#### Required documentation for EL applications

- grade 7 final reports and progress grade 8 reports
- short essay in which the applicant describes their strengths as a student
- brief list that details their extra-curricular, community activities, awards/achievements, and an explanation of why they want to be a part of the Enhanced Learning at Korah
- teacher or community mentor provides a reference form that comments upon the student's learning skills (responsibility, independent work, organization, initiative, collaboration) and willingness to learn new things. They may also include an anecdotal comment including reason(s) for recommending the student.

#### EL applicant selection process

Each application is reviewed and scored (combination of grades, student involvement, and essay) by a selection committee and accepted or placed on a waitlist. For those students placed on a waitlist, a letter is emailed to the parent/guardian to outline the areas we would like the student to continue to improve on: attendance, particular subject area, learning skills, or involvement. The student is given the opportunity to resubmit the application for reconsideration in June. A committee of IB coordinator and guidance counsellor(s) meet to discuss any 'borderline' students; should a student be rejected at this point, they are enrolled in our regular academic program for grade 9. Should they show improvement in grade 9 classes (learning skills, achievement, attendance, etc.), they may gain admittance into the enhanced learning classes in second semester of ninth grade.

### **Admittance to IB Diploma Programme from Korah's EL**

Between grades 10 and year one of the DP, generally in February, students review their academic progress in myBlueprint and select their pathway for grade 11 (university or IB classes). The IB coordinator and/or student services counsellors conduct individual interviews with each grade 10 enhanced learning student wishing to pursue the Diploma Programme pathway to determine if they have any concerns or questions and ensure they are on track for post-secondary planning. Pathway planning and course counselling is also provided to students throughout the EL years at Korah. This also ensures pre-requisites are met to proceed into the Diploma Programme and to post-secondary.

In the spring of that year (after mid-term reports for second semester classes), a cross-disciplinary committee made of grade 10 Enhanced Learning teachers, guidance counsellor and coordinator meet to discuss the students who have opted into IB DP for the following year. Each student is considered based upon work habits, attitude, and achievement. We also focus on student personality and learning style – if a student tends towards perfectionism or is marks driven, these attributes are discussed. The SERT (Special Education Resource Teacher) is also consulted for students who have an IEP (Individual Education Plan). See also the Special Education (Inclusion) Policy.

The coordinator meets with all students who have been flagged as having teacher concerns; the student is given an opportunity to improve (work habits, homework completion, attendance). In general, students achieving below 80% average in their academic courses are identified as students who will likely struggle. Individual action plans are established to either help support the student in areas of identified need, or to counsel the student to opt for a non-DP course of study. Where prudent, parent and student meet with coordinator to discuss whether other academic streams are more appropriate. Student success and well-being are areas of focus at this meeting.

At this point, students who have not opted into program but who have been identified by the cross-disciplinary team as great DP candidates are counseled to ascertain whether they will reconsider the programme.

### **Admittance to Diploma Programme from outside Korah Collegiate**

On occasion, we have students who were not enrolled at Korah in the Enhanced Learning Program who want to attend Korah for the DP. In this case, the coordinator meets with student and parent; academic achievement at previous schools, teacher comments, and learning skills are discussed. Students will submit a resume of activities and a written response, similar to the application submitted for entrance into the EL. To be considered for the DP at Korah, and in addition to all other equivalent compulsory courses for Ontario secondary school students

(English, science, history, mathematics, civics and citizenship), the student must have taken MCR3U (grade 11 functions) and FSF2D (grade 10 French) or be interested in an *ab initio* pathway. Regarding students' previous language background, see the Language Policy. If interested in Computer Science SL, the equivalent of TEJ2O is strongly recommended. To study Visual Arts SL, a course credit in grade 9 or 10 Visual Arts is required.

### **Review Process**

To be reviewed annually by the Coordinator, Principal (Head of School), and Head of Student Services and updated upon any changes to Provincial curriculum or school board policies.