

When I first came to Kelvin High School for IB, I was excited and nervous. By the end of the first week I knew that it was the right decision. The program taught me important skills I do not think I would have learned otherwise. While the program is intensely rigorous, it gave me more than I ever thought it would. I learned problem solving and time management skills that are proving very useful to me as I start university. The teachers are super friendly and are always there to help, but take a step back to give us independence as learners as well. They expect a lot from each of their students, and want to see us succeed. One of the most important aspects of IB, I think, is the tight knit peer group it provides. You go through the ebbs and flows of every week and every assignment together. You become very close with most of the people in IB regardless of your interests, or if you are in full or partial IB, and you build stronger relationships because of the time and experiences you have together. I claimed 18 university credit hours, and it has helped me to take a lighter course load and focus better on the courses most important to the faculty I am in. Overall, I have great memories of IB, and the skills that I learned along the way to continue to help me.

*Kyra K.*

The IB programme at Kelvin High School was undeniably the highlight of my high school experience. The programme inspired me to become passionate about being a lifelong learner and to routinely think outside the box. As a university engineering student, the programme's content, especially TOK and CAS, helped me prepare for my program. TOK encouraged me to think about the different ways I could apply what I learned into different settings, which is an indispensable skill for me, as my program will require me to translate what I learned in classrooms into practice. CAS was also important for my growth as a person because it helped me identify which extracurriculars I was passionate about, which was instrumental to me because without CAS, I may not have realized my love for engineering.

In fact, I would consider the IB's most valuable asset, aside from instilling values to become a disciplined learner, is how it allowed me to transfer many university credits. Words can't express how thankful I am to save money for university, especially when degrees are becoming more expensive.

The teachers I had were also knowledgeable and supportive throughout the years I was an IB student. They wanted nothing more than for you to succeed in their class and will often ensure that was the case. Being an IB student also allowed me to meet people I would have never otherwise met, and I am really glad that I became friends with them, considering they're the closest people I have to a second family. Three years of learning in the same classroom with the same people sounded daunting (and even boring) to me at first, but I am glad those feelings were dispelled.

All in all, the IB programme was a most positive experience. For prospective students that want to feel the pride of persisting through one of the most rigorous high school programmes in the world, then the IB is the right choice for you.

If I were to revert back to my Grade 9 self who was torn between joining or not, I know that I would make the right choice again.

*Russel I.*