



Katedralskolan
Skara August 25th, 2013



Language Policy for Katedralskolan school 3301, Skara, Sweden

Language Philosophy:

Since language is the major medium of social communication and is tightly linked to cognitive growth it is the main tool for building our knowledge and is closely related to success in school. A major part of Katedralskolan's IB-students is to acquire knowledge in a language that is not their native language. Therefore it is vital that we support every IB-student in his/her learning process and help develop these skills as far as possible.

It is also important to nurture the valuable diversity of a multilingual and multicultural environment in developing internationally minded world citizens. The development of an IB-student's mother tongue can never be underestimated. Since knowledge encoded in their mother tongue can be activated as a base for further learning and since the mother tongue is crucial in the process of affirming a person's identity we must give every IB-student possibilities to continue developing his/her mother tongue.

As recommended by the IBO representative in the authorization process it is necessary that the staff members are confident in English and that we have native speakers among the staff who can guarantee excellent standards of the language. This is vital in all communication with the IBO, with parents, authorities and also in the national and the international marketing process. All documents concerning the IB program in Skara have to be checked by a native speaker to give credibility and authenticity to the program we are offering.

IB1

"Student Scanning":

All students fill out a language profile form together with their tutor at their first development talk. (Attachment 1)

Based on all students' language background we must ensure that it is possible for them to strengthen their capacity in English as well as in their mother tongue. For students with another mother tongue than Swedish it is also important to offer different ways for them to achieve better knowledge of Swedish, based on their previous level. This is vital when they live and study in a Swedish-speaking environment.

Possible solutions:

- Hemspråk?
- Språkintröduktion IM?

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- SVA

In IB1 most national courses are studied in English to prepare for IB2 and 3.

However, Swedish can always be used to explain complicated concepts. It is vital that the students' achievement of English is a gradual and ongoing process.

To strengthen their intellectual capacity it is important to present the different learning concepts in Swedish as well as English.

In the learning process of Swedish, German, French, Spanish and Latin however, English is not used.

According to the IBO all approved reference systems can be used. Different systems should be presented to the students so they can feel confident about the one they choose. This is a good way to prepare them for university studies, since they will most probably meet a range of different reference possibilities there.

IB2 and 3

Since we teach the English version of the IB Programme, English should be used in all contexts with the exception of some courses in group 1 and 2.

Everyday communication between staff and students is also held in English. If the student so wishes, deeply personal matters can be discussed in Swedish.

Group 1

All students should be encouraged to study a group 1 course in their mother tongue. For most of our students that will be Swedish A. For those students who have another mother tongue than Swedish we offer self-taught language A.

Depending on their knowledge of Swedish and/or English they should follow the regular course Swedish A or English A to learn and practise literature analysis. They will also have meetings with their supervisor to learn the procedures of the self-taught course. The school's language coordinator together with IB Head and IB DPC will look into every individual case to find the best solution. The student together with tutor, parents and language coordinator agree on this solution and sign a document. (Attachment 2)

Group 2

We offer English B as a regular course. For students who choose to study German, French, Spanish or Swedish B they study part of their course together with national programmes to strengthen their language proficiency. They also have additional, IB- specific lessons together with their IB teacher to learn the procedures of the IB course.

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Underlag för språkprofil

Elevens namn: _____ Datum _____

Modersmål: _____

Ev. andraspråk _____

Vilka språk har eleven läst i skolan:

_____ antal år _____

_____ antal år _____

_____ antal år _____

Om annat modersmål än svenska eller engelska. Vilket av nämnda språk anser sig eleven vara mest förtrogen med?

Svenska

Engelska

Mentors/ tutors kommentar: _____

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Language Coordinators kommentar:

Registration Form for Self-Taught Language.

Language A1 SL school supported self-taught candidates

Language A1 SL may be studied as a school supported self-taught subject in the following circumstances:

- where no teacher of the language is available
- where an external teacher is unable to see the candidate(s) on a frequent and regular basis and is therefore unable to meet the internal assessment requirements of the language A1 course.

The school supported self-taught option is not considered appropriate for entries of more than five candidates in any language A SL. All self-taught candidates for the same language A should follow the same programme of study.

Responsibilities of a school with language A1 school supported self-taught candidates

A full-time teacher of a language A in the school must be appointed to supervise and advise the self-taught candidate. The teacher must, in collaboration with the coordinator:

- advise the candidate on choosing a course of study that conforms to IB regulations
- ensure that the candidate has access to the works chosen before starting the course of study
- provide guidance on the techniques required for such tasks as essay writing and the commentary
- give the candidate a clear idea of the course of study, the papers to be taken, their format and link to the course studied
- provide the candidate with the published genre questions for the formal oral commentary specific to the examination session.
- ensure that the candidate is studying the works approved by the examiner
- supervise the work required for the world literature component
- ensure that the candidate has regular access to and is familiar with the assessment criteria for all assessed components.

Wherever possible, the candidate should be taught with candidates taking other languages A in the school.

Taken from *Handbook of Procedures* 2012.

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Name of student: _____

Language: _____

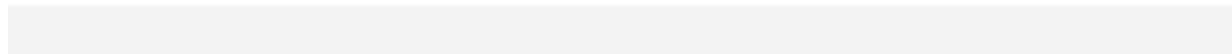
I am aware of the IBO regulations concerning self-taught languages:

Student's signature

Parent's signature

Comment and signature: _____

Language Coordinator



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