

## Enquiry Based Learning for the Diploma Programme

Enquiry Based Learning is an exciting new workshop which covers the principles and practice of EBL, with strategies for implementation for both individual and institutions.

### **EBL. What is it?**

An understanding of EBL is core to student centred learning, particularly in relation to IBDP learning processes and the IB Learner Profile, which is central to the core philosophy of an internationally-minded continuum of education.

EBL describes an environment in which learning is driven by a process of enquiry owned by the student. Starting with a 'scenario' and with the guidance of a facilitator, students identify their own issues and questions. They then examine the resources they need to research the topic, thereby acquiring the requisite knowledge.

Knowledge so gained is more readily retained because it has been acquired by experience and in relation to a real problem.

### **EBL. Why do your students need it?**

Fundamentally, students are more engaged with learning, which is perceived as being more relevant to their own needs. They are therefore more enthusiastic and ready to learn.

Students can expand on what they have learned by following their own research interests. EBL allows students to develop a more flexible approach to their studies, giving them the freedom and the responsibility to organize their own pattern of work within the time constraints of the task.

Working within and communicating to a group are vital for a student's later employability. Self-directed learning not only develops key skills for study, but also leads to original thought that contributes to larger projects in later life.

For teaching staff, developing EBL in a school helps them to understand the learning process and the changing needs of students.

### **EBL. What will be covered?**

All aspects of EBL will be covered, including principles and practice, real-life situations and scenarios. Ideas on how to facilitate problem-based learning, small scale investigations, and projects and research - all linked in to teaching the IBDP, will be included.

Links to the Extended Essay and TOK will also be examined.

In accordance with commonly accepted understanding of how adults learn, all sessions will include group activities and tasks, with time for personal reflection