



Leading Organizations in International Education to Simplify School Accreditation and Evaluation

IB and CIE to streamline onsite school visits worldwide

18 May, 2015, The Hague, The Netherlands

The NEASC Commission on International Education (CIE) is very pleased to announce the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding with the International Baccalaureate Organization. The MOU, which is effective immediately, establishes a framework of cooperation between NEASC and the IB for conducting synchronized accreditation/evaluation visits.

NEASC and the IB will create joint working groups with the purpose of identifying, analyzing, and resolving potential issues that may arise in conjunction with synchronized visits to member schools. Although the IB has had an informal relationship with NEASC/CIE for many years, the MOU paves the way for more frequent, direct consultations, professional exchanges, and discussions between the two organizations about matters related to accreditation and evaluation.

“This agreement represents an extension of our efforts to better serve schools by providing the opportunity to synchronize accreditation and programme evaluation visits,” says Andrew Macdonald, IB Chief Schools Officer. “For several years we have been actively streamlining processes so that educators can focus on delivering our high-quality educational programmes.”

For NEASC/CIE the agreement is a significant development in its commitment to international education. “The MOU underscores NEASC/CIE’s intention to participate actively in discourse about the future of education by cultivating professional relationships with like-minded, world-wide organizations,” says Peter C. Mott, Director of NEASC/CIE.

By coordinating the visits, the IB and CIE will maintain each organization’s objectives and requirements while verifying that schools are continuously improving and evolving both as IB World Schools and as CIE accredited schools.

About NEASC/CIE:

Founded in 1885, the New England Association of Schools and Colleges, Inc. (NEASC) is the United States' oldest accreditation agency. The Association is a voluntary non-profit membership organization committed to establishing and maintaining high standards for all levels of education, from pre-kindergarten to the doctoral level.

NEASC serves more than 2,000 public and independent schools, colleges and universities in the states of Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont, plus American/international schools in more than sixty-five nations worldwide. It is comprised of four commissions, which decide matters of accreditation in the context of research-driven standards reviewed by their membership.

About the IB:

Founded in 1968 the International Baccalaureate (IB) is a non-profit foundation, which offers four high quality and challenging educational programmes for a worldwide community of schools. For more than 45 years, IB programmes have gained a reputation for their rigour and high academic standards, for preparing students for life in a globalised 21st century, and for helping to develop citizens who will create a better, more peaceful world. Currently there are over 1, 250, 000 IB students taking over 5,000 programmes at over 4,000 schools in 147 countries.