

International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme

**Gymnasium “Jovan Jovanović Zmaj”**



# Language Policy



## **IB Mission statement**

The international Baccalaureate aims to develop inquiring, knowledgeable and caring young people who help to create a better and more peaceful world through intercultural understanding and respect. To this end the organization works with schools, governments and international organizations to develop challenging programmes of international education and rigorous assessment. These programmes encourage students across the world to become active, compassionate and lifelong learners who understand that other people, with their differences, can also be right.

## **JJZMAJ Mission statement**

Our school's mission is to educate the academically strong students, to provide the necessary competencies for life, to shape its students into well-rounded, open-minded, independent young people, to develop their critical thinking, inspire life-long curiosity and learning, and lead them towards becoming active global citizens, while ingraining them with high values and compassion.

## **Philosophy**

At Gymnasium „Jovan Jovanović Zmaj“, we view the on-going language development for our students as the shared responsibility of all teachers, parents, and students, understanding that all students progress at different rates. We all are responsible for supporting language acquisition and ensuring that all students use the English language responsibly. We teach language through context and relate new information to existing knowledge. We recognize that language acquisition and development play a crucial role in each student's personal development. In addition to promoting cognitive growth, language is an important factor in sustaining a student's cultural identity and intercultural understanding. Therefore, GJJZ promotes mother tongue learning in addition to English.

English is the language of instruction at Gymnasium „Jovan Jovanović Zmaj“, and admissions requirements and assessments are conducted to ensure that the student can access the curriculum delivered in English. To that end all students in the IB Diploma Programme are required to take Serbian: Literature at HL as well as English: Language and Literature at HL.

All students enrolling as candidates for the IB course are required to be able to speak English at – at least – B2 level, as well as develop Serbian as their mother tongue, even though all the classes – apart from Serbian A: Literature – are taught in English.

For further information, it is advised to see the GJJZ IBDP Admission policy, available on the Gymnasium's website.