

Sussman Middle School

Admissions Policy

2025-2026

Sussman Middle School Vision:

At Sussman Middle School, 21st-century learners thrive as they prepare for their high school journey to become college and career ready, globally competitive, and citizens of strong character.

Sussman Middle School Mission Statement:

At Sussman Middle School, we provide a safe, engaging, and rigorous learning experience that empowers all students to reach their full potential. We develop learners of strong character who demonstrate integrity, resilience, and compassion. Through a curriculum that fosters critical thinking, creativity, and collaboration, we nurture future leaders who contribute meaningfully as responsible and reflective citizens in our local community and the wider global context.

“Sussman Middle School is a Candidate School* for the Middle Years Programme. This school is pursuing authorization as an IB World School. These are schools that share a common philosophy—a commitment to high quality, challenging, international education that Sussman Middle School believes is important for our students.”

Purpose of the IB MYP Admissions Policy

This policy establishes admissions requirements for students seeking entry into the IB Middle Years Programme at Sussman Middle School. The policy applies to all students, including neighborhood students and those applying for inter- or intra-district permits. It aligns with the IB’s mission and philosophy to promote inclusive, rigorous, and internationally minded education.

Sussman Middle School MYP Programme Overview

The MYP at Sussman is designed to develop the whole child. Students engage in academic challenges, self-management, collaboration, and leadership development. The programme fosters community contribution, reflection, and global mindedness.

Students will complete eight MYP subject areas each year:

Language and Literature	Mathematics
Sciences	Individuals and Societies
Language Acquisition: Spanish	Arts
Design	Physical and Health Education

Access and Equity

Sussman Middle School promotes open access to the IB MYP for all students. The school does not select students solely based on academic performance. All students who demonstrate a commitment to learning and the desire to engage with the IB Learner Profile are welcome to apply. Support systems are in place to ensure that multilingual learners, students with special needs, and other diverse learners are provided equitable opportunities to succeed.

IB MYP Admissions Requirements

Students interested in joining the IB MYP at Sussman Middle School, including transfer students, must submit the following:

- Historical grades, behavior, and attendance records
- At least one teacher letter of recommendation
- Permit documentation if applying from outside the neighborhood area

The admissions team evaluates students holistically, seeking individuals who show curiosity, perseverance, and an enthusiasm for learning. Admissions decisions are based on alignment with IB values, readiness for rigorous learning, and capacity to benefit from the IB framework.

Downey Unified Permit Policy Alignment

Downey Unified School District's Inter- and Intra-District Permit Policy outlines eligibility and expectations. Sussman Middle School's IB MYP admissions mirror district requirements, while also incorporating IB-specific criteria.

Permits are subject to cancellation in alignment with Downey Unified School District policy. Families are encouraged to review the DUSD website for the most current details regarding permit requirements and conditions.

Support for New and Mid-Programme Students

Students entering the MYP mid-year or mid-programme (Grades 7–8) will receive orientation support to ensure understanding of the IB Learner Profile, Approaches to Learning (ATL), global contexts, and assessment expectations. Teachers and staff will scaffold learning as needed to ensure student success.

Communication and Application Process

Students and families interested in the IB MYP Programme can visit the Sussman Middle School website and access the IB MYP Enrollment Application. The admissions team aims to provide timely decisions and maintain consistent communication with families throughout the process.

Policy Review and Stakeholder Involvement

This policy is reviewed and updated annually by the MYP Coordinator and the IB Leadership Team, with input from teachers, administration, and district representatives.
Next scheduled review: August 2025.

Reviewed and Approved by the Sussman Middle School MYP Admissions Policy Committee

Date of Review: August 2025