# IBCP NEWSLETTER

UWC Maastricht's Newsletter on the International Baccalaureate Career-Related Programme



### **IBCP OFFICIALLY STARTED!**

In June UWC Maastricht was officially authorised by the IB to offer the IB Career-related Programme (IBCP) and we welcomed our first cohort of 20 talented and pioneering students in September. Congratulations to all of them on their selection!

This cohort is a mix of day and residential students, with graduates from our own Middle Years Programme and new students from all corners of the world selected by the UWC national committees.

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The group have a great diversity of experiences and skills, but all share a common commitment to developing these qualities to build a more sustainable future.

# PIONEERING COHORT

The SUMAS Career-related study in Business & Sustainability® forms the central focus of our students' IBCP programme.



This is taught by our own Head of Individuals and Societies Department and experienced Economics teacher Annemarie Oomes. Students have six lessons a week devoted to the course and have started the term developing both a theoretical and contextual understanding of Sustainability and Leadership as well as practising group presentations which form a key part of the course assessment. The quality of these first attempts was extremely promising and we expect with the feedback and further development of the skills and knowledge, our students will soon be delivering presentations that rival the TED talks from the experts they are studying.





Developing Permaculture skills back at the school's gardens



### SUSTAINABILITY LEADERSHIP CAMP

Among the many highlights of the first eight weeks however, the Sustainability Leadership Camp has probably been the most beneficial for our students in building a real team cohesion as well as immersing them in a genuine example of sustainable entrepreneurship. The two day event was based at the Klein Schoor Nature Campsite here in the Netherlands. Our students were introduced to Permaculture principles and how these could be used to regenerate ecosystems while developing a sustainable business in low-impact tourism. With discussions and insights from targeted marketing to green certification, alongside practical instruction on composting and landscape management for biodiversity and food production, the camp proved a superb introduction to some of the key themes of the course. Our young hosts were great role models of 'disruptive' entrepreneurs trying to offer a new path in environmentally restorative and economically viable tourism, even in the middle of some of the most intensively farmed landscapes in the world. They are also great cooks and gardeners and the homegrown food and campfire meals made for a hugely enjoyable as well as educational experience. We really hope to develop more of these key local partnerships for our IBCP students like this.



An introduction to Permaculture principles at the Sustainability Leadership Camp

Our next newsletter will give more insights into our students' experience in the Business & Sustainability course as well as the Core Elements of the IBCP such as their Personal and Professional Skills course and Service Learning. We are also exploring the possibility to offer more career-related studies in areas such as IT Network Engineering and Performing Arts, so watch this space for developments.



CP Students taking part in a simulation exercise to understand the sustainable management of fish stocks

In the meantime we would like to thank our National Committees, parents and partner organisation Rise for supporting our students in becoming our pioneering IBCP cohort. We appreciate your trust in our innovative pathway and are sure that you will be impressed with their growth over the two years.

# **MORE INFO**



<u>uwcmaastricht.nl/career-related-programme</u>



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