



THE BRITISH SCHOOL
OF TASHKENT

A NORD ANGLIA EDUCATION SCHOOL

IGCSE OPTIONS 2024/2025



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Welcome from Head of Secondary



Dear Year 9 students and parents,

Welcome to the British School of Tashkent IGCSE Handbook. The transition from Year 9 into Year 10 is one that is especially important and influential for your academic future. We will be here to support you through the entire process, to ensure that you feel well informed and can make educated decisions about the subjects you wish to pursue in Year 10 and Year 11.

At BST, we ensure that each student is given the best possible information and support with which to help make the best choices for now, and for the future. The fact that we know our students so well means that we are well-positioned to counsel each student effectively through this process. The BST Year 9 Options process is designed to promote positive choices and confidence-building decision-making for our students in line with our school values.

During any transition period, students require support and guidance to ensure they make good choices for their future and for their wellbeing. It is essential that the life they plan for themselves has balance, in terms of academic pursuits as well as other extracurricular activities.

This handbook contains a wealth of information about IGCSEs, and an outline of the support available in our school for all Year 9 students as they take this important next step in their education, but this should be just the starting point, and we encourage conversations with our Teachers, Heads of Department and Ms. Clodagh and other Heads of Year, as well as Ms. Kari and myself - we would be delighted to meet with you to discuss the process and answer any questions that you may have about this very important stage of your child's education.

We are confident that our IGCSE students will thrive and succeed at BST, in our happy, supportive, friendly community.

Chris Parfitt
Head of Secondary

Welcome from Head of Year 11



Dear Year 9 students and parents,

We are thrilled to extend our warmest greetings and sincere congratulations as you embark on this exciting journey with us. As you step into Year 10, you are entering a pivotal stage in your academic life, and we are committed to supporting you every step of the way.

The International General Certificate of Secondary Education (IGCSE) is an internationally recognised qualification that offers a broad and balanced curriculum. It is designed to develop essential skills, critical thinking abilities, and a deep understanding of various subjects. Our dedicated team of educators are here to guide you through this rigorous yet rewarding program, ensuring that you have the tools and resources needed to excel academically. Throughout the IGCSE course, you will have the opportunity to explore a wide range of subjects, allowing you to discover your passions and interests while laying a strong foundation for your future academic endeavours. Whether you aspire to pursue higher education or enter the workforce, the skills and knowledge you gain during your time here will undoubtedly serve you well.

In addition to academic excellence, we place great emphasis on holistic development. We encourage you to participate in extracurricular activities, engage in community service initiatives, and foster meaningful connections with your peers. These experiences will not only enrich your time at BST but also help you develop valuable life skills such as teamwork, leadership, and resilience.

As you begin this new chapter in your educational journey, remember that you are not alone. Our staff, teachers, and support services are here to provide guidance, encouragement, and assistance whenever you need it. We believe in your potential to achieve great things, and we are committed to helping you reach your goals.

Once again, welcome to the IGCSE course at BST. We are excited to see all that you will accomplish and the incredible growth you will experience over the coming years. Together, let us make this journey one filled with learning, discovery, and success.

Mr. Frederik de Lange
Head of Year 11

Introduction

This booklet explains the principles to bear in mind when discussing options. It is important that time is allocated to carefully consider the subjects available to study at Key Stage 4. Key advice for our students at this stage is 'to keep all doors open.' A broad, balanced curriculum is vital. It is important at this stage to look forward and not back, so choices should be made based on future university and career aspirations.

The core curriculum studied by all students consists of English, Mathematics, and Co-ordinated Science, so these IGCSE subjects are compulsory. PE is also a part of our core curriculum to promote a healthy lifestyle but is a non-examinable subject.

Support and career guidance will be offered throughout this process and students will also have several PSHE sessions with tutors to discuss their options. At BST we believe that students should have a wide choice of options for their future study, however, in some instances we will recommend that some students also undertake additional **Core Subject support** as a part of their studies to ensure that they have the best chance of success in all areas.

When the time comes to select options, we cannot guarantee that all students will be allocated their first choice of subjects, so we will also ask for a reserve choice. Where this is the case, we will contact parents to discuss and advise for this choice.

What are IGCSEs/GCSEs?

The General Certificate of Secondary Education (GCSE) is a British Academic Qualification awarded in a specified subject; the International GCSE qualification is available for international students. These are the formal qualifications at the end of Year 11. Both GCSE and IGCSE are qualifications recognised by universities and employers throughout the world. All IGCSEs are linear courses. This means that students are assessed via controlled assessment coursework tasks and/or an examination at the end of the course.

The way that controlled assessments are carried out will vary from subject to subject. In most cases students will have the opportunity to carry out preparation, independent study and research. The writing-up of the assessments will all be completed during lessons under supervised conditions. In some cases, this will be a practical assessment. Some subjects are solely examination based.

In recent years the grade system of the IGCSEs has changed. Most IGCSE subjects are now assessed using grades 9-1, where previously they were assessed A*-G. Some IGCSEs have not yet changed and still use the A*-G grades.

THE IGCSE CURRICULUM AT BST

The majority of our students will take 8 IGCSEs. We believe that this number provides the right balance between academic breadth and being able to take advantage of the other opportunities available at BST. Most subject departments are offering the IGCSE (International General Certificate of Secondary Education): this qualification is the equivalent of a GCSE (and recognised around the world as such) but syllabuses generally have a more global perspective. These courses are offered by Cambridge and Pearson Edexcel examination boards. However, we are keen that we select the syllabuses that best suit our students, and some departments have opted to choose GCSE syllabuses (those more commonly used in the UK). The GCSE and IGCSE qualifications are recognised as being synonymous.

The three core IGCSE subjects are English, Mathematics and Science. Science is offered as Co-ordinated Science (two IGCSEs, although all three sciences are studied), and there is the option for more able scientists to take separate IGCSE Science subjects in Biology, Chemistry and Physics.

CAREERS

It is never too early to start thinking about what you might do when you leave school. The combination of subjects that you choose to study at IGCSE has more influence on admissions tutors at colleges and prospective employers than is often given credit. In general, at this level, it is advisable to retain a broad range of arts and science subjects, but it is important to be aware of some key aspects:

- English and Mathematics IGCSE are required for most higher and further education courses, as well as by most employers.
- An IGCSE in a foreign language is becoming increasingly valuable as business operations take on a more international flavour within the Global Community.
- If you intend to pursue a course in architecture or design, then GCSE Art is particularly useful.
- Geography is accepted by universities as bridging the arts and sciences.
- The minimum number of IGCSEs required to enter most degree courses is 5 (including English and Maths).
- The quality of grades at IGCSE is more important than the number taken.

There are many other key requirements for certain University courses and career paths. If you need support or have any questions, please ask us for help.



CORE SUBJECTS

ENGLISH FIRST LANGUAGE – CAMBRIDGE 0500

Course Outline

English as a first language develops reading, writing, speaking and listening skills in order to improve understanding, expression and communication. The English language is the most widely spoken language in the world and students who complete this course will have increased global opportunities. This course challenges students to write for different audiences and to use appropriate register whilst also teaching detailed analysis of a range of texts. Students are required to apply the following skills: knowledge of language and structure, analysis, writing in different forms and register, listening with understanding and awareness of purpose, audience and form as well as essay writing techniques. Final assessments are externally marked by Cambridge International. Students will also do a listening and speaking exam which is an additional endorsement.

Students who are placed in the first language set need to have advanced skills in order to cope with the challenging demands of the course. Students who take English as a First Language, will also be doing Literature in English. This will count as an additional qualification.

Students are required to apply the following skills

Knowledge of language and structure, analysis, writing in different forms and register, listening with understanding and awareness of purpose, audience and form as well as essay writing technique.

Method of Assessment

Paper 1

Reading:
2 hours - 50%

Structured and extended writing questions.
Questions will be based on three reading texts.

Paper 2

Directed Writing and Composition:
2 hours - 50%

Extended writing question and a composition task.

Progression and Careers

Studying English can lead to many professional careers and this subject accompanies other subjects perfectly. Specific roles that English can lead you into include social media manager, technical writer, public relations specialist, lawyer, grant writer, librarian, editor and content manager, human resources specialist, journalist, sales executive, advertising, professional writer.



ENGLISH LITERATURE - CAMBRIDGE 0475

Course Outline

The English Literature course allows pupils to read and analyse a range of texts, including poems, plays and prose, both modern and from previous eras. Pupils learn to analyse character, plot, structural features and the writers' use of language. They will also focus closely on historical context, authorial intention and its impact on the reader. The English language is the most widely spoken language in the world and students who complete this course will have increased global opportunities. This course challenges students to explore the human condition through literature and to develop their own opinions and voice. Students are required to apply their knowledge of literary terminology, structural features, and specific use of language. Students will learn to structure powerful essays to express their viewpoints regarding the texts they have read.

Only students studying English as a First Language will take this course.

Students are required to apply the following skills

Knowledge of literary terminology, structural features, and the authors; use of language. Students will learn to structure powerful essays to express their viewpoints regarding the texts they have read.

Method of Assessment

Paper 1

Poetry and prose:
1 hour 30 minutes - 50%

Paper 3

Drama:
45 minutes - 25%

Paper 4

Unseen critical
commentary:
1 hour 15 minutes - 25%

Progression and Careers

Studying English Literature can lead to many professional careers and this subject accompanies other subjects perfectly. Specific roles include Social Media Manager, Technical Writer, Public Relations Specialist, Lawyer, Grant Writer, Librarian, Editor and Content Manager, Human Resources Specialist, Journalist, Sales Executive, Advertising and Professional Writer.



ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE - CAMBRIDGE 0511

Course Outline

Cambridge IGCSE English as a Second Language develops skills for understanding and communicating in a range of situations in English. These skills include the ability to understand written and spoken texts and selecting relevant information from them. This information may be stated or implied. Learners develop the linguistic skills required for progression to further studies or employment through being able to communicate clearly in writing and speaking, on both familiar and less familiar topics.

Method of Assessment

Paper 1

Reading and Writing:
2 hours - 50%

Paper 2

Listening:
50 minutes - 25%

Paper 3

Speaking:
10–15 minutes - 25%

Progression and Careers

Studying English can lead to many professional careers and this subject accompanies other subjects perfectly. Specific roles that English can lead you into include social media manager, technical writer, public relations specialist, lawyer, grant writer, librarian, editor and content manager, human resources specialist, journalist, sales executive, advertising, professional writer.

Please note: Only students with English First Language will be able to opt for English at AS Level. Students who pass English as a Second Language will progress to the AS English General Paper.

ENGLISH AS AN ADDITIONAL LANGUAGE - CAMBRIDGE 0472

Course Outline

Cambridge have developed an IGCSE qualification for students who are new to the English language. This course follows the same outline as the Second Language course and has similar exams. However, the course aims to provide students, who are at beginner levels, an opportunity to further develop their skills in the basic core components of language learning; speaking, reading, writing and listening.

Students are assessed at the end of Year 9 and placed in the appropriate course of study.



MATHEMATICS – CAMBRIDGE 0580

Course Outline

The aims of this course are for students to develop a positive attitude towards mathematics in a way that encourages enjoyment, establishes confidence and promotes enquiry and further learning, to apply their mathematical knowledge and skills to their own lives and the world around them, to use creativity and resilience to analyse and solve problems, to develop the ability to reason logically, make inferences and draw conclusions, and to develop fluency so that they can appreciate the interdependence of, and connections between, different areas of mathematics.

Students study the following topics

Number, Algebra and Graphs, Coordinate Geometry, Mensuration, Trigonometry, Transformations and Vectors, Probability, and Statistics.

The course is tiered to enable effective differentiation for learners. All Students are eligible to complete the Core aspects, and those with strong Mathematical knowledge and skills will have the opportunity to add the Extended topics. The Core subject content is intended for learners targeting grades C–G, and the Extended subject content is intended for learners targeting grades A*–C. The Extended subject content contains the Core subject content as well as additional content.

Method of Assessment

All candidates will be assessed from two written examination papers, written at either Core or Extended level.

Core

Assessment	Focus	Length	When?	Percentage
Exam (Paper 1)	Non-calculator paper Structured and unstructured questions	1 hour 30 minutes	May/June 2024	50%
Exam (Paper 2)	Calculator paper Structured and unstructured questions	1 hour 30 minutes	May/June 2024	50%

Extended

Assessment	Focus	Length	When?	Percentage
Exam (Paper 3)	Non-calculator paper Structured and unstructured questions	2 hours	May/June 2024	50%
Exam (Paper 4)	Calculator paper Structured and unstructured questions	2 hours	May/June 2024	50%

Progression and Careers

Possible progression routes: IGCSE Mathematics is well regarded and is the first step for any career in Engineering, Medicine, Arts, Economics, Business or Science. Grade C is necessary to gain entry to many sixth form and university courses. Grade C is also required to gain employment in many various fields. It is vital, therefore, that students aim to achieve at least Grade C to enable you to access a range of career opportunities. To progress to the A-level Mathematics course in year 12, students are required to achieve a B grade or above at IGCSE.

SCIENCES (CO-ORDINATED) – CAMBRIDGE 0654

Course Outline

Cambridge IGCSE Sciences (Co-ordinated) gives learners the opportunity to study Biology, Chemistry and Physics within a cross-referenced, scientifically coherent syllabus. It is a double award qualification, earning two IGCSE grades. Learners gain an understanding of the basic principles of each subject through a mix of theoretical and practical studies, while also developing an understanding of the scientific skills essential for further study.

Students will study the following topics



Biology

Characteristics of living organisms, Cells, Biological molecules, Enzymes, Plant nutrition, Animal nutrition, Transport, Gas exchange and respiration, Coordination and response, Reproduction, Inheritance, Organisms and their environment, Human influences on ecosystems



Physics

Forces, Motion, Energy, Pressure, Thermal Effects, Waves, Light, Sound, Electricity, Magnetism, Atomic and Nuclear Physics



Chemistry

The particulate nature of matter, Experimental techniques, Atoms, elements and compounds, Stoichiometry, Electricity and chemistry, Energy changes in chemical reactions, Chemical reactions, Acids, bases and salts, The Periodic Table, Metals, Air and water, Sulfur, Carbonates, Organic chemistry

Method of Assessment

All candidates will be assessed from three written examination papers, written at either Core or Extended level. Candidates will be awarded with 2 IGCSE Grades.

CORE: (grades C-G)

Paper 1
Multiple choice:
45 minutes - 30%

Paper 3
Theory paper:
2 hours - 50%

Paper 6
Alternative to practical paper:
1 hour 30 minutes - 20%

EXTENDED: (grades A*-E)

Paper 2
Multiple choice:
45 minutes - 30%

Paper 4
Theory paper:
2 hours - 50%

Paper 6
Alternative to practical paper:
1 hour 30 minutes - 20%

Progression and Careers



Biology

Centered careers include Healthcare, Microbiologist, Research Scientist, Biological Technician, Forensic Scientists, Environmental Scientist, Biology Teacher or Professor.



Chemistry

Centered careers include Chemical Engineering, Pharmaceutical Research, Agricultural Analysis, and Scientific Communication.



Physics

Centered careers include Astrophysics, Engineering, Physical Sciences, Architecture, Medicine, Astronomy, Robotics, Teacher and Lecturer.

OPTIONS

ART AND DESIGN – PEARSON EDEXCEL 4FA1

Course Outline

Art and Design will help you to learn about the visual world, acquire the ability to investigate, observe, analyse, experiment and problem-solve. The course will also enable you to develop the practical skills learnt at KS3 and to express ideas visually and help develop imaginative powers.

Students study the following topics:

The endorsed Fine Art syllabus requires a variety of fine art media to be explored throughout the course, such as:

- Painting and drawing (using a variety of Medium and technique)
- Printmaking (mono printing, lino cutting and etching)
- Sculpture, mixed media
- Photography (composition, lighting, viewpoint, effects and manipulation using ICT)
- Students study a wide variety of work by recognised artists in order to develop a diverse portfolio. There will be problems to solve and opportunities to express creative ideas and experiment with a wide range of materials and techniques. Students will keep a visual record of progress in a sketchbook.

Method of Assessment

● Component 1- Portfolio/coursework

The coursework element includes the use of sketchbooks where students will be required to show research, investigations, and the development of ideas from a given starting point to produce a variety of outcomes. Component 1 accounts for 60% of the GCSE qualification.

● Component 2- Externally Set Assignments

One 10-hour examination that is held over several sessions in controlled conditions and completed in April of Year 11. A broad theme (set by the examination board) is personally interpreted and prepared prior to the exam in a timed preparatory period. Component 2 is worth 40% of the GCSE qualification.

Progression and Careers

There are many careers in the field of Art and Design such as Advertising, Marketing, Textile and Interior Design, Product Design, Architecture, Animation/Film, Fashion, Photography, Illustration, Publishing and Media.

BUSINESS STUDIES – CAMBRIDGE 0450

Course Outline

This course will help students to understand the different forms of business organisations, the external environment within which a business operates and the role of the different departments within a business such as marketing, production and finance. Students will learn about how to recruit, train, pay and motivate staff alongside workers legal rights. This will be helpful to students in their working life whatever career path they choose to follow. This course will show students how to calculate and interpret business data, how to write well-structured arguments, and how to analyse business situations and reach decisions or judgments.

Students study the following topics

Understanding Business Activity, People in Business, Marketing, Operations Management, Financial Information and Decisions and External Influences on Business Activity.

Method of Assessment

All students will be assessed in 2 written examination papers.

Paper 1

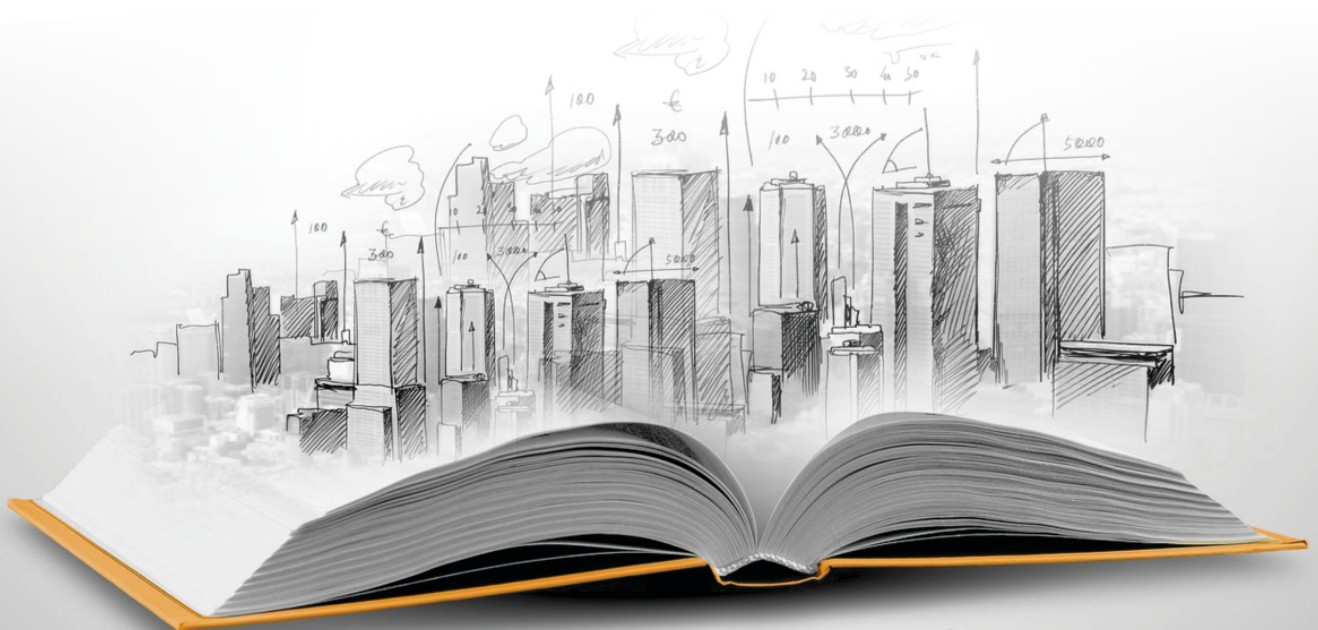
Short Answer and
Data Response:
1 hours and
30 minutes - 50%

Paper 2

Case Study:
1 hour and
30 minutes - 50%

Progression and Careers

Business-centered careers include: Business Owner, Business Adviser, Business Analyst, Forensic Accountant, Project Manager, Supply Chain Manager, Management Consultant, Human Resource Manager.



COMPUTER SCIENCE – CAMBRIDGE 0478

Course Outline

Cambridge IGCSE Computer Science helps students develop an interest in computational thinking and an understanding of the principles of problem-solving using computers. They apply this understanding to create computer-based solutions to problems using algorithms and a high-level programming language. Students also develop a range of technical skills, and the ability to effectively test and evaluate computing solutions.

Students study the following topics

Data Representation, Communication and Internet Technologies, Hardware and Software, Security, Ethics, Algorithm Design and Problem-Solving, Programming, Database & Boolean Logic.

Method of Assessment

All candidates will be assessed through 2 written examinations.

Paper 1

Computer Systems:
1 hour 45 minutes - 50%

Paper 2

Algorithms,
Programming and Logic:
1 hour 45 minutes - 50%

Progression and Careers

Studying Cambridge IGCSE Computer Science helps students appreciate current and emerging computing technologies, the benefits of their use and recognise their potential risks. It provides an ideal foundation for progression to Cambridge International AS & A Level and is valuable for other areas of study and everyday life and can lead to a wide variety of careers in the field of technology.



DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY – CAMBRIDGE 0445

Course Outline

Students will be expected to recall, select, and communicate knowledge and demonstrate understanding in design & technology, including its wider effects. They will apply knowledge, understanding and skills in a variety of contexts and in designing and making products. All students will learn to analyse and evaluate products, including their design and production.

Students study the following topics

Common content

Health and safety; initiation and development of ideas and recording data: communication of design ideas; use of technology in design and making; design and technology in society; practical design application; environment and sustainability, and control.

Specialist option content

Types of material, preparation of materials, setting, measuring, marking out, testing, shaping, joining, assembly and finishing.

Method of Assessment

All candidates will be assessed from two written examination papers, and a project that is school based assessed and externally moderated.

Compulsory components

Paper 1
Product design:
1 hour 15 minutes - 25%

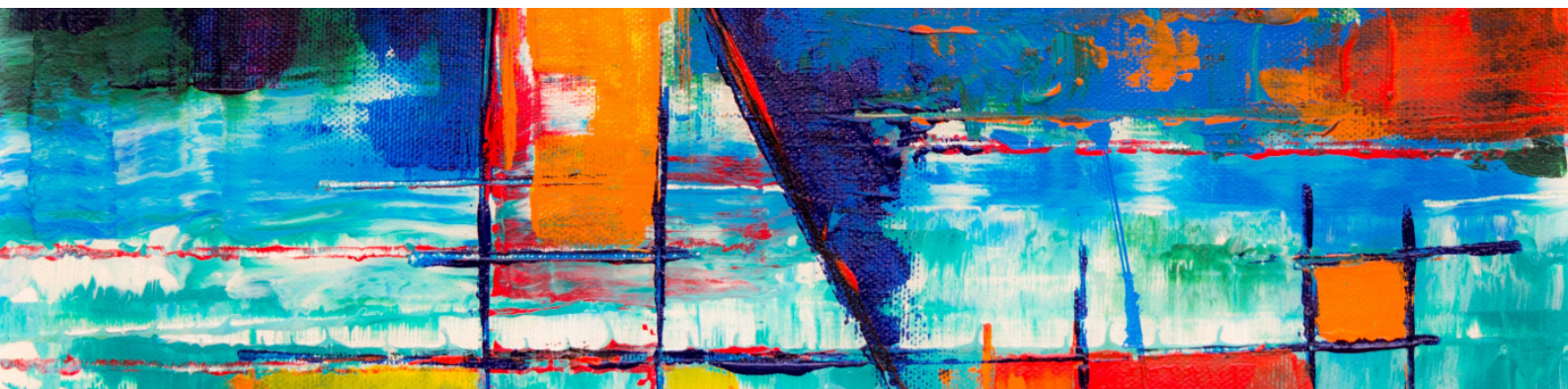
Component 2
Project - 50%

EXTENDED: (grades A*-E)

Paper 3
Graph products:
1 hour - 25%

Progression and Careers

Design centered careers include: Engineering, Civil Engineering, Architecture, Graphic Design, Product Design, Interior Design and other design related careers.



DRAMA - CAMBRIDGE 0411

Course Outline

IGCSE drama studies will engage students through encouraging their use of creativity and imagination. Lessons will focus on exploring practical work which reflects the need for 21st Century skills in the real world, such as - business presentations, self-confidence, collaboration and audience awareness. IGCSE Drama helps students to develop expressive life-skills that will support progression to further study of a wide range of other subjects and drama at AS and A level.

Students study the following topics

- The elements of practical drama
- How to work with extracts from published plays as an actor, director and designer
- How to devise, develop and structure their own original dramatic material from stimuli such as short titles, poems, pictures, songs, historical events and stories
- How to evaluate their contribution to the devising process and the success of the final piece
- How to use staging and design as part of a dramatic performance
- Individual and group performance skills and how they are applied to create character and communicate meaning to an audience.

Method of Assessment

All candidates take two components. Candidates will be eligible for grades A* to G.

Component 1

2 hours 30 minutes

Written examination 40%

80 marks

Candidates answer:

-all questions in Section A

-two questions in Section B (one compulsory question and one question from a choice of two)

-both questions in Section C.

Externally assessed

Component 2

Coursework 60%

120 marks

Candidates submit three pieces of practical work:

-individual performance based on an extract from a play

-group performance based on an extract from a play

-group performance based on an original devised piece.

Internally assessed and externally moderated

Progression and Careers

Actor, Arts Administrator, Barrister, Broadcast Journalist, Business Leader, CEO, Choreographer, Cinematographer, Circus Performer, Copywriter, Costume Designer, Dancer, DJ, Film Producer, Motivational Speaker, Play Writer, Proofreader, School Teacher, Set Designer, Stage Manager, Television Presenter, Theatrical Director, Wedding Planner, Writer, Youth Worker.

GEOGRAPHY – CAMBRIDGE 0460

Course Outline

This course will help students to gain an understanding of the processes which affect physical and human environments. Students will understand how to interpret geographical data and information. In addition, students will understand how communities around the world are affected and constrained by different environments. This course will make students aware of the duty that present and future generations have in creating sustainable solutions to global issues.

Students study the following topics

Population and Settlement, The Natural Environment (Earthquakes & Volcanoes, Rivers & Coasts, Weather & Climate), Economic Development (Food Production & Industry, Tourism, Energy & Water).

Method of Assessment

All candidates will be assessed from three written examination papers.

Paper 1

Geographical Themes:
1 hour 45 minutes - 45%

Paper 2

Geographical Skills:
1 hour 30 minutes - 27.5%

Paper 4

Alternative
to coursework:
1 hour 30 minutes - 27.5%

Progression and Careers

Geography-centered careers include: Environmental Consultant, Planning and Development Surveyor, Town Planner, Cartographer, Hydrologist, Secondary School Teacher, Travel Writer.



HISTORY – CAMBRIDGE 0470

Course Outline

This course will allow students to study world history across the breadth of the twentieth century from the end of World War 1, through World War 2 until the end of the Cold War. It encourages students to raise questions and to develop and use historical skills, knowledge and understanding to provide historical explanations. Students will explore history from a variety of perspectives, including social, economic, cultural and political. It will help students to gain a greater understanding of international issues and inter-relationships.

Students study the following topics

The 20th Century: International Relations since 1919. Students will also complete a depth study exploring and analysing historical significance in a period of history. The topics for the source-based paper are updated by the examination board each year. Coursework is based upon the chosen depth study.

Method of Assessment

All candidates will be assessed in 2 written examination papers and 1 coursework component.

Paper 1

Core and Depth Study:
2 hours Paper 1 - 40%

Paper 2

Source Analysis
and Evaluation:
2 hours Paper 2 – 30%

Component 3

Coursework:
2000 words
Component 3 – 30%

Progression and Careers

History-centered careers include: Academic Researcher, Archivist, Heritage Manager, Museum Education Officer, Museum Curator, Conservation Officer, Secondary School Teacher.



ICT (INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY) – PEARSON EDEXCEL 4IT1

Course Outline

This course will enable you to: explore how digital technology impacts on the lives of individuals, organisations and society, learn about current and emerging digital technologies and the issues raised by their use, in a range of contexts, by individuals and organisations. Develop awareness of the risks that are inherent in using ICT and the features of safe, secure and responsible practice, broaden and enhance your ICT skills and capability, work with a range of digital tools and techniques to produce effective ICT solutions in a range of contexts. Learn how to reflect critically on your own and others' use of ICT and how to adopt safe, secure and responsible practice.

Students study the following topics

Up-to-date content, with topics that prepare students for the digital world, the workplace and provide a pathway to Level 3 qualifications and beyond. Comprehensive and detailed description of subject content. Written and theory examinations that test a student's knowledge, understanding and application of ICT.

Method of Assessment

All students will be assessed in 2 written examinations

Paper 1

Theory paper:
1 hour 30 minutes - 50%

Paper 2

Practical paper:
3 hours - 50%

Progression and Careers

After successful completion, students can progress onto further study of ICT and Computer Science or Computing at AS and A Levels, and then onto higher education. A wide variety of professional careers with the field of technology is open to students with ICT qualifications.



MFL (FRENCH) – CAMBRIDGE 0520

Course Outline

The IGCSE French course has the following objectives:

- To develop transferable skills for understanding and communicating in everyday situations in French.
- To develop cultural awareness of countries and communities where French is spoken.
- To acquire the essential linguistic skills required for progression to further studies or employment.
- To produce confident, responsible, reflective, innovative and engaged learners.

Students study the following topics

- **Area A: Everyday activities**
Home life and school, food, health, and fitness
- **Area B: Personal and social life**
Self, family, personal relationships, holiday, and special occasions
- **Area C: The world around us**
Hometown and local area, natural and man-made environment, people, places and customs
- **Area D: The world of work**
Continuing education, careers and employment, language, and communication in the workplace
- **Area E: The international world**
Tourism at home and abroad, life in other countries and communities, world events and issues

Method of Assessment

Students will be assessed on four skill areas, each worth 25% of the total mark:

LISTENING

Listen to recordings and answer multiple-choice and matching questions - 45 minutes

READING

Read texts and answer multiple-choice and matching questions as well as questions requiring short answers in French - 1 hour

SPEAKING

Complete one role play and answer questions about two topics - 10 minutes

WRITING

Complete one form-filling task, one directed writing task and one task in the format of an email/letter or article/blog - 1 hour

Progression and Careers

Learning languages develops transferrable skills as confidence, the ability to communicate, to solve problems and to multi-task, as well as to understand different cultures and customs. These skills are required not only in careers that directly involve language, such as interpreting and translation, but also in business, in education and in many other areas.

MFL (SPANISH) – CAMBRIDGE 0530

Course Outline

The IGCSE Spanish course has the following objectives:

- To develop transferable skills for understanding and communicating in everyday situations in Spanish.
- To develop cultural awareness of countries and communities where Spanish is spoken.
- To acquire the essential linguistic skills required for progression to further studies or employment.
- To produce confident, responsible, reflective, innovative, and engaged learners.

Students study the following topics

- **Area A: Everyday activities**
Home life and school, food, health, and fitness
- **Area B: Personal and social life**
Self, family, personal relationships, holiday, and special occasions
- **Area C: The world around us**
Hometown and local area, natural and man-made environment, people, places and customs
- **Area D: The world of work**
Continuing education, careers and employment, language, and communication in the workplace
- **Area E: The international world**
Tourism at home and abroad, life in other countries and communities, world events and issues

Method of Assessment

Students will be assessed on four skill areas, each worth 25% of the total mark:

LISTENING

Listen to recordings and answer multiple-choice and matching questions - 45 minutes

READING

Read texts and answer multiple-choice and matching questions as well as questions requiring short answers in Spanish - 1 hour

SPEAKING

Complete one role play and answer questions about two topics - 10 minutes

WRITING

Complete one form-filling task, one directed writing task and one task in the format of an email/letter or article/blog - 1 hour

Progression and Careers

Learning languages develops transferrable skills as confidence, the ability to communicate, to solve problems and to multi-task, as well as to understand different cultures and customs. These skills are required not only in careers that directly involve language, such as interpreting and translation, but also in business, in education and in many other areas.

MFL (RUSSIAN 2ND LANGUAGE) - PEARSON EDEXCEL TRUO

Course Outline

The IGCSE Russian course has the following objectives:

- To develop transferable skills for understanding and communicating in everyday situations in Russian.
- To develop cultural awareness of countries and communities where Russian is spoken.
- To acquire the essential linguistic skills required for progression to further studies and employment.
- To produce confident, responsible, reflective, innovative, and engaged learners.

Students study the following topics

Identity and culture; local area, holiday, and travel; school; future aspirations, study and work; international and global dimension.

All themes and topics must be studied in the context of both the student's home country and that of countries and communities where Russian is spoken.

Method of Assessment

Students will be assessed on four skill areas, each worth 25% of the total mark.

LISTENING

Students will respond to multiple-response and short answer open-response questions based on a recording featuring Russian speakers - 35min Foundation /45min Higher

SPEAKING

Task 1- Role play.
Task 2- questions based on a picture stimulus.
Task 3- conversation based on two themes. The first theme is based on the topic chosen by the student in advance of the assessment. The second theme is allocated by the examination board - 7-9 min Foundation/ 10-12 min Higher + 12 min preparation

READING

Students are assessed on their understanding of written Russian across a range of different types of texts, including advertisements, emails, letters, articles, and literary texts and are required to respond to multiple-response and short-answer questions - 50 min Foundation/ 1 Hour 5min Higher

WRITING

Students are assessed on their ability to communicate effectively through writing in Russian for different purposes and audiences. Students are required to produce responses of varying lengths and types to express ideas and opinions in Russian. Foundation tier- three open-response questions and one translation into Russian. Higher tier- two open-response questions and one translation into Russian - 1-hour 15min foundation/1-hour 25min Higher

Progression and Careers

Learning languages develops transferrable skills as confidence, the ability to communicate, to solve problems and to multi-task, as well as to understand different cultures and customs. These skills are required not only in careers that directly involve language, such as interpreting and translation, but also in business, in education and in many other areas.

MUSIC – CAMBRIDGE 0410

Course Outline

When studying the Cambridge IGCSE Music syllabus, learners listen to, perform and compose music, encouraging aesthetic and emotional development, self-discipline, confidence and, importantly, creativity. As a result, learners enhance their appreciation and enjoyment of music, an achievement that forms an ideal foundation for future study and enhances life-long musical enjoyment.

Studying music benefits the development of all parts of the brain, both left and right. This is because the subject uses a combination of physical, creative and knowledge-based skills.

Students study the following topics

Music theory, compositional techniques, music history, performance practice, music analysis, listening skills, music terminology.

Method of Assessment

All students will be assessed from three components:

Component 1

Listening: 40%
Students will sit a listening exam which covers music theory, history and world music.

Component 2

Performing: 30%
Students will prepare 2 performances on their chosen instrument(s). A solo piece and an ensemble piece.

Component 3

Composing - 30%
Students will complete 2 compositions in styles of their choosing.

Progression and Careers

Music based careers: Musician, Arts Director, Composer, Music or Film Producer, Audio Engineer, Music Teacher, Music Therapist, Music Manager.

Creative careers: Entrepreneur, Architect, Business Development, Editor, Designer, Web Developer, Author.



PSYCHOLOGY – PEARSON EDEXCEL IPSO

Course Outline

Psychology explores human behaviour, enabling students to gain an understanding of the internal and external factors that influence who we are and what makes us unique. The course will cover several key areas in psychology; biological, cognitive, social, developmental and individual experiences, whilst also focusing on how psychological research is conducted, looking at the role of scientific methods and data analysis. Psychology also contributes to our understanding connection to personal, moral, social, cultural and our understanding of ethical issues in the subject.

Students study the following topics

Knowing and understanding of psychological concepts, terminology, and vocabulary. Comprehend specific psychological case studies and approach them in a critical manner, comparing and contrasting the results. Good mathematical skills are required for handling data in investigations.

Method of Assessment

All candidates will be assessed on two written exams papers:

Paper 1
1 hour and
45 minutes - 60%

Paper 2
1 hour and
20 minutes - 40%

Progression and Careers

Studying psychology opens many different pathways for further study and careers. The subject is related to our everyday life and the world, which is constantly changing and evolving. Specific careers in which psychology can lead to are: Educational Psychologist, Occupational Psychologist, Forensic Psychologist, and Counselling Psychologist.



PHYSICAL EDUCATION – CAMBRIDGE 0413

Course Outline

The syllabus provides candidates with an opportunity to study both the practical and theoretical aspects of Physical Education. It is also designed to foster enjoyment in physical activity. The knowledge gained should enable candidates to develop an understanding of effective and safe physical performance.

Students will study all of the following topics

- Anatomy and physiology
- Health, fitness and training
- Skill acquisition and psychology
- Social, cultural and ethical influences

Students will also undertake four different physical activities chosen from at least two out of seven categories. Physical activities make a significant contribution to syllabus aims and objectives, serving as a source of material to facilitate learning.

Method of Assessment

Paper 1

Short and structured questions.
Candidates answer all questions:
1 hour 45 minutes Theory - 50%

Component 2

Candidates undertake four
physical activities from at least
two different categories:
Coursework - 50%

Progression and Careers

Students who successfully complete IGCSE can move on to an A-Level qualification in the following subjects: Sports Science & PE.

Careers/Further Study: Specific Sports Coaching, Teaching, Sports Data Analysis, Fitness/Health Professional, Nutrition, Dietician, Sports Psychology, Physiotherapy, Medicine (emergency response).



SEPARATE SCIENCES (BIOLOGY, CHEMISTRY AND PHYSICS) – 1 OPTION CHOICE

BIOLOGY – CAMBRIDGE 0610

The IGCSE Separate Sciences option is tailored for students passionate about the STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics) field, providing a focused curriculum that cultivates in-depth knowledge in biology, chemistry, and physics. This option is ideal for aspiring students seeking to establish a strong foundation for a rewarding career within the STEAM disciplines like engineering, medicine and natural sciences.

Course Outline

The Biology syllabus helps students to understand the technological world in which they live and take an informed interest in science and scientific developments. Students gain an understanding of the basic principles of biology through a mix of theoretical and practical studies. They also develop an understanding of the scientific skills essential for further study, which are useful in everyday life.

Students study the following topics

Characteristics and classification of living organisms, Organisation of the organism, Movement in and out of cells, Biological Molecules, Enzymes, Plant Nutrition, Human Nutrition, Transport in plants, Transport in animals, Diseases and Immunity, Gas Exchange in humans, Respiration, Excretion in humans, Coordination and Response, Drugs, Reproduction, Inheritance, Variation and Selection, Organisms and their Environment, Biotechnology and Genetic Engineering and Human Influences on Ecosystems.

Method of Assessment

All candidates will be assessed from three written examination papers, written at either Core or Extended level.

CORE: (grades C-G)

Paper 1
Multiple choice:
45 minutes - 30%

Paper 3
Theory:
1 hour
15 minutes - 50%

Paper 6
Alternative
to Practical:
1 hour - 20%

EXTENDED: (grades A*-G)

Paper 2
Multiple choice:
45 minutes - 30%

Paper 4
Theory:
1 hour
15 minutes - 50%

Paper 6
Alternative
to Practical:
1 hour - 20%

Progression and Careers

Biology-centered careers include Healthcare, Microbiologist, Research Scientist, Biological Technician, Forensic Scientists, Environmental Scientist, Biology Teacher and Lecturer.

CHEMISTRY – CAMBRIDGE 0620

Course Outline

Chemistry plays a significant role in the evolution of knowledge. It empowers us to use creative and independent approaches to problem solving. It arouses our natural curiosity and enables us to meet diverse and ever-expanding challenges. This subject offers a combination of theoretical and practical elements leading to an understanding of the basic principles of chemistry. This course will enhance student's ability to inquire, seek answers, research, and interpret data.

Students study the following topics:

The Particulate Nature of Matter, Experimental Techniques, Atoms, Elements and Compounds, Stoichiometry, Electricity and Chemistry, Chemical Energetics, Chemical Reactions and Acids, Bases and Salts, The Periodic Table, Metals, Air and Water, Sulfur, Carbonates, Organic Chemistry.

Method of Assessment

All students will be assessed from three written examination papers, written at either core or extended level.

CORE: (grades C-G)

Paper 1

Multiple choice:
45 minutes - 30%

Paper 3

Theory:
1 hour
15 minutes - 50%

Paper 6

Alternative
to Practical:
1 hour - 20%

EXTENDED: (grades A*-E)

Paper 2

Multiple choice:
45 minutes - 30%

Paper 4

Theory:
1 hour
15 minutes - 50%

Paper 6

Alternative
to Practical:
1 hour - 20%

Progression and Careers

Chemistry-centered careers include Chemical Engineering, Pharmaceutical Research, Agricultural Analysis, Scientific Communication, Biochemistry, Teaching and Lecturing.



PHYSICS – CAMBRIDGE 0625

Course Outline

Physics is the natural science that studies matter, its motion and behavior through space and time, and the related entities of energy and force. Physics is one of the most fundamental scientific disciplines, and its main goal is to understand how the universe behaves. From the smallest things ever discovered to the Universe itself, physicists study it. Physics will enhance student's ability to inquire, think critically, seek answers, research, and interpret data.

Students study the following topics

Forces, Motion, Energy, Pressure, Thermal Effects, Waves, Light, Sound, Electricity, Magnetism, Electronics, Atomic Physics, Space Physics.

Method of Assessment

All candidates will be assessed from three written examination papers, written at either Core or Extended level.

CORE: (grades C-G)

Paper 1
Multiple choice:
45 minutes - 30%

Paper 3
Theory:
1 hour
15 minutes - 50%

Paper 6
Alternative
to Practical:
1 hour - 20%

EXTENDED: (grades A*-E)

Paper 2
Multiple choice:
45 minutes - 30%

Paper 4
Theory:
1 hour
15 minutes - 50%

Paper 6
Alternative
to Practical:
1 hour - 20%

Progression and Careers

Physics-centered careers include Astrophysics, Engineering, Physical Sciences, Architecture, Medicine, Astronomy, Robotics, Teaching and Lecturing.



TRAVEL AND TOURISM – CAMBRIDGE 0471

Course Outline

The course develops a clear understanding of the relationship between the theory and practice of working in travel and tourism. Students are encouraged to develop an understanding of tourist industry operations and problems, and competence in identifying procedures and solutions, by using best practice from industry, established business techniques and information systems. Through investigation, candidates apply their knowledge and skills in a detailed study of a particular aspect of the travel and tourism industry.

Students study the following topics

Introduction to the main Travel and Tourism definitions and concepts, Global Tourism, Travel and Tourism Organisations, Customer Service and Destination Marketing.

Method of Assessment

All students will be assessed in 2 written examination papers.

Paper 1

Short answer question
paper:
1 hour 30 minutes - 50%

Paper 2

Short answer question
paper:
2 hours - 50%

Progression and Careers

The course helps to develop strong business management and communication skills, broadening career prospects in a range of fields including:

Holiday Representative, Tour Manager, Tourism Officer, Tourist Information Centre Manager, Travel Agency Manager, Customer Service Manager, Event Management, Hotel Management, Marketing Executive, Outdoor Activities/Education management.



GLOBAL PERSPECTIVES - CAMBRIDGE 0457

Course Outline

Global Perspectives is an excellent choice for students wishing to develop skills in research, collaborative team-work and decision making. A 65% coursework-based syllabus, with an external examination comprising the other 35%, the Cambridge iGCSE Global Perspectives allows you to research many issues in the modern world, present viewpoints and perspectives in a professional and structured way, whilst making decisions about how to raise awareness in a broader context. Global Perspectives is a practical, pragmatic, thought-provoking course for students wishing to demonstrate and practice excellent research, presentation and writing skills alongside their peers about modern-day topics and issues in the world.

There are three main aspects to the course; the Team Project, the Individual Report and the Examination paper. The exam is sat externally at the end of Year 11.

Students study the following topics

The 'topics' in Global Perspectives largely come from the prescribed list of research topics, which the students then use to investigate a local issue pertaining to that topic. The topics are:

Arts in society; Change in culture and communities; Climate change, energy and resources; Conflict and peace; Development, trade and aid; Digital world; Education for all; Employment; Environment, pollution and conservation; Globalisation; Health and wellbeing; Law and criminality; Media and communication; Migration and urbanization; Political power and action; Poverty and inequality; Social identity and inclusion; Sport and recreation; Technology, industry and innovation; Transport, travel and tourism; Values and beliefs; Water, food and agriculture.

Method of Assessment

For the **Team Project** (TP) (Year 10), students choose one of the above topics and decide on a local relevant issue pertaining to that topic. They present their findings through (1) an Evidence of Action which could be a website, a poster or even a song; (2) an Explanation of Research and Planning (300 – 400 words) written by the team; and (3) a personal Reflective Paper (750 – 1000 words) each on their own experience within the team, reflecting on the skills they learnt and how their opinion on the topic developed throughout the research. The Team Project comprises 35% of the whole award and is out of a total of 70 marks.

The **Individual Report** (IR) (Year 11) is a larger piece of work (1500 – 2000 words) which gives the student the chance to delve deeply into an issue from the topic list that they wish to investigate, producing a final piece of researched and professionally-written work. The IR comprises 30% of the whole award and is marked externally out of 60 marks.

There is a final external **Examination** (1 hour 25 mins), testing source-work skills and decision-making. There are 4 questions, and the examination is out of 70 marks. The examination comprises 35% of the final award.

Progression and Careers

Global Perspectives (GP) students gain a valuable understanding of research, collaboration and presentation skills whilst learning to write academically and professionally, using citations, correct referencing and structure. This helps enormously with A-Level writing and sets students up to foster correct and ethical writing skills prior to University. Global Perspective students become efficient global citizens, considering views from around the world and earn a strong set of life-skills such as empathy, evaluation and being culturally aware. They also develop excellent teamwork skills, learning to coach, enthuse and drive teams to success. Journalism, Law and many people-based service industries require this strong skill-set from their future employees, and GP offers a multitude of these attributes.

HOW DO I START? WORKSHEET

Listed below are a series of questions that will help guide your decision-making process.

1. How do I know where I am? Look at your levels, reports and think about comments from your teachers. These all contribute to knowing where your strengths are.

Subjects I Like	Subjects I am Good At
Subjects I Dislike	Subjects I Am Not Good At

2. Have you thought about what career you are looking for? If the answer is yes, which subjects do you need to help you move in this direction? If the answer is no, what range of subjects would be best for you in the longer term?

Possible Career Choice	Subjects Combination

3. There are lots of resources that can help you make your decision. Have you used the following:

Resources	Resources Used
Teachers Family On-line information Reports	

Notes

[illegible]

Notes

[illegible]

Notes

[illegible]



**THE BRITISH
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