



THE BRITISH SCHOOL  
OF BEIJING, SHUNYI  
A NORD ANGLIA EDUCATION SCHOOL

*I/GCSE Options Evening November 2018*

# **I/GCSE Options Evening November 2018**

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Head of Secondary*

# Aims for this evening

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1. To understand what the next two years of your child's education entails, including the UK grading systems
2. To be aware of important factors in making GCSE subject choices
3. To understand the steps in the process of selecting your options

# Phase of Education

<b>Key Stage</b>	<b>Year Groups</b>	<b>Curriculum</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>Yr 1-2</b>	<b>Common</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>Yr 3 - 6</b>	<b>Common</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>Yr 7 - 9</b>	<b>Common + choice of Languages</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>Yr 10 – 11</b>	<b>Choice of 6 Subjects</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>Yr 12 and 13</b>	<b>Choice + Core</b>
<b>University</b>		

# Understanding the Technical Terms

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- What is the difference between a GCSE and an IGCSE?
- What is meant by (Key Stage 4) KS4?
- Who are Cambridge and Edexcel.

# UK Grading System

NEW GCSE GRADING STRUCTURE									
9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	U
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ Broadly the same proportion of students will achieve a grade 4 and above as currently achieve a grade C and above.</li><li>■ Broadly the same proportion of students will achieve a grade 7 and above as achieve an A and above.</li><li>■ The bottom of grade 1 will be aligned with the bottom of grade G.</li></ul>									
A*		A	B	C	D	E	F	G	U

# Grading proportions

NEW GCSE GRADING STRUCTURE	CURRENT GCSE GRADING STRUCTURE
9	A*
8	A
7	A
6	B
5	B
4	C
3	D
2	E
1	F
	G
U	U

**3 : 2 Grades**

**GOOD PASS (DfE)**  
5 and above = top of C and above

**AWARDING**  
4 and above = bottom of C and above

Grade 9 – Top 3%

Grade 8 and above – Top 7%

Grade 7 and above – Top 21%

Grade 5 and above – Top 40%

# Examination Boards at BSB

<b>Subjects</b>		<b>Exam Board</b>	<b>Code</b>	<b>Grading</b>
<b>Fine Art</b>	<b>IGCSE</b>	<b>Edexcel</b>	<b>4FA0</b>	<b>9 to 1</b>
<b>Music GCSE</b>	<b>GCSE</b>	<b>Edexcel</b>	<b>1MU0</b>	<b>9 to 1</b>
<b>Spanish IGCSE</b>	<b>IGCSE</b>	<b>Edexcel</b>	<b>4SPO</b>	<b>9 to 1</b>
<b>German IGCSE</b>	<b>IGCSE</b>	<b>Edexcel</b>	<b>4GN0</b>	<b>9 to 1</b>
<b>French IGCSE</b>	<b>IGCSE</b>	<b>Edexcel</b>	<b>4FR0A</b>	<b>9 to 1</b>
<b>Psychology GCSE</b>	<b>GCSE</b>	<b>Edexcel</b>	<b>2PS01</b>	<b>9 to 1</b>
<b>All other Exams – Cambridge IGCSE</b>				<b>A* - G</b>

# Structure of (I)GCSE Courses

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- 2 year course
- Coursework / controlled assessment in some subjects
- Coursework varies from 0 - 60% of final grade
- Final examinations in May and June 2021
- Teacher/student/parent partnership
- Importance of meeting deadlines and excellent attendance



# What will my child's GCSE timetable look like?

Everyone will study:

- SIX option subjects of their choice (3 periods per week per subject) 18 periods
- English Language and English Literature (5 periods per week) or EAL
- Mathematics (4 periods per week)
- PSHE (1 period per week) – not examined
- PE (2 periods per week) – not examined

# Choosing your I/GCSE Options

- Choose subjects that you enjoy
- Choose subjects that you are good at
- Consider university/employment plans
- Don't take a subject because of your friends' choices
- Don't pick a subject because you get on well with a particular teacher
- Leading into IB? Pick a broad selection of subjects
- **Not Sure, then go for Broad and balanced:** Sciences (1-2), humanities(1-2) languages (1) arts/creative/physical(1)

**CHOICES**

# Universities

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- (I)GCSE: Require C/4 and above
- Consider Country pre-requisites
- Consider faculty pre-requisites
- Recommended that you contact universities directly

# How it works

Please select one language- Table1	Tick
Chinese	
German First Language	
Korean First Language	1
Spanish 2 <sup>nd</sup> Language	
French 2 <sup>nd</sup> Language	

Please select one Science- Table 2	Tick
Biology	2
Chemistry	
Physics	

Please select 4 courses and rank in order of preference (1-4) - Table 3			
Subject	Rank	Subject	Rank
Art		Geography	6
Biology		German First Language	
Chemistry	3	History	
Chinese		Korean 1 <sup>st</sup> Language	
Computer Science		Physics	4
Design and Technology		Psychology	
Drama		Spanish	
Economics		PE (IGCSE)	5
English additional Language (EAL)		Music	
French			

# Key dates

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- 4<sup>th</sup> December      Subject choices form returned
- December          Staffing requirements reviewed
- January            Options blocks created
- Mid March          Final choices made by students who did not get all their first choices
- April/May          Timetabling

# Who can help you and your child?

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- Tutor
- Subject teachers or Head of Department
- Friends and family
- Head of Yr 9 – Mr Jim Hartland
- IB Coordinator – Mrs Jennifer Upsall

# What do I do now?

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- Read the options information carefully with your son/daughter
- Speak to subject teachers or Heads of Department
- Talk to your child about their choices and possible future career plans
- Consider / research potential universities and course requirements
- Complete the options form and return it to school by 4th December



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*MDR Room  
Thank you*