

A Guide to Your Exam Options in

Year 10 & 11



We believe that no-one has a limit to their potential or ability.

Every child can achieve the high levels of performance that were previously thought only possible for the few. Potential

Welcome from the Principal

Welcome to the start of your International General Certificate of Secondary Education (IGCSE) journey. To help you understand the process, how the course works and to give you more information about the choices available, we have put together this booklet. Apart from the information and options sessions, this booklet is a reference guide to the subjects, courses and requirements of the IGCSE.

We use the courses and examinations provided by Cambridge International Education (CIE), which is a not-for-profit organisation and a department of the University of Cambridge in the UK. It is highly regarded for high standards and professionalism, being used by over 10,000 schools in over 160 countries.

The courses aim to prepare students for life – helping you to develop an informed curiosity and a lasting passion for learning. They help students to become confident, responsible, reflective, innovative and engaged. Students also develop higher order thinking skills so they can apply what they have learned. These are all skills which reflect the school's philosophy of being ambitious academically, socially and personally.

We hope you will find this booklet useful when making your choices. Remember, that you can always talk to your subject teachers if you experience difficulty in choosing your subjects. They will be happy to answer any questions you may have along the way, and to provide guidance.

In the exciting times ahead, I wish you all the best in your two-year IGCSE journey and success in the exams.

Principal

Brian D. Cooklin

Brian Cooklin

Introduction

Starting IGCSE courses marks an important and exciting stage for students. As there are choices to be made, it is important that both parents and students are well-informed. In addition to the information provided by the school, you should also research the requirements of particular careers and universities for your future. If you are unsure about what you want to do in the future, then keep your options as broad as possible. Think about what you enjoy and what subjects you are best at and choose those first. Ask your subject teachers, House Tutor or Key Stage Coordinator for advice: this applies to parents too. Please do not hesitate to contact the school for any queries you might have.

Make sure you understand about the assessment and exam requirements of each subject too. When you read the subject overviews, you will see that different forms of assessment are used : written, oral, coursework and practical assessments.

Special arrangements are available for assessments for students with learning difficulties. These include extra time, a reader and /or a scribe or an enlarged exam paper. Such arrangements will be made by the school well in advance and this practice will apply to internal assessments in school too.

What are IGCSEs?

The General Certificate of Secondary Education (GCSE) is an examination which originates from England and Wales and is the standard qualification that children aged 14 to 16 will study there. IGCSE– short for International General Certificate of Secondary Education – is the international version of the GCSE. The IGCSE gives students an International perspective by having less Anglo-centric content and a clearer way of approaching topics, bearing in mind the language skills of the students for whom English may not be their first language. More than that, the IGCSE has gained such a reputation of its own, that many of the best known UK independent schools are choosing to let their students sit it instead of the ordinary GCSE because it gives an even better preparation for future study.

Students will sit their IGCSEs in a range of subjects at the end of Year 11. We use Cambridge International Examinations (CIE), who are part of the University of Cambridge and also the world's largest provider of international qualifications to school age students. Cambridge examinations are very well known and regarded in Britain and internationally, so students can be sure that the qualifications they receive are highly regarded wherever their destination in the world. At the end of the two year course and after successfully passing the exams, students will be awarded world-recognised certificates in each of the chosen subjects, ready for the next stage in their education.

IGCSEs are graded from G, which is the lowest grade, up to A and then A^{*}, which is the highest grade achievable. Although getting any of these grades means that students have passed the exam, many universities and employers regard getting a C or better in a subject as being important. All of our students are capable of getting C grades or better in their exams. Many students will gain much higher grades than this, with a number gaining A and A^{*} grades across a wide range of subjects.

The IGCSE courses will begin in August 2017 and run for a two year duration, seeing the students complete their courses and sit their exams in the summer term of 2019. The exam papers will then be sent off to England for marking with results published and sent to schools in August 2019.

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Making my choice

In Year 10 you will begin a two-year course leading to the IGCSEs, which takes place in the Summer Term of Year 11. These examinations are very important to you and you will need to begin thinking about them now. You will need to decide what courses you wish to study over these two-years.

Some subjects are called **'core'** subjects and you will have to take them. They are **'core'** because they are widely considered to be vital to your future prospects. Other subjects are called **'options'** and you will be able to choose up to 5 of them to study at IGCSE levels.

This booklet aims to give you the information you need to make an informed choice about what to study during Key Stage 4 (Years 10 and 11).

Core Subjects are:

- Maths
- English
- Double Award Science
- A language (either Mandarin or Spanish)

Optional Subjects include:

- Creative Music, Drama, Art and Design, Physical Education
- Languages Mandarin or Spanish
- Humanities History,
 Geography, Global Perspectives
- Vocational Business Studies, Economics, Computing

During Year 10 and 11 you will also take some core subjects that are not part of the IGCSE examinations. These include:

- PSHCE
- Physical Education
- Global Campus

You will have lots of help to make your decisions. Your teachers, House Tutors and Family will all discuss your choices with you. After you read through this booklet carefully, make sure you ask lots of questions. However, the final decision will be yours.

At the time of writing, this information is accurate but Cambridge reserve the right to change assessment methods and syllabi, as well as administrative guidelines, so some information may be subject to change.

The programmes aim to develop Cambridge students who are :

- Confident in working with information and ideas their own and those of others
- Responsible for themselves, responsible to and respectful of others
- Reflective as learners developing their ability to learn
- Innovative and equipped for new and future challenges
- Engaged intellectually and socially, ready to make a difference

For more information go the www.cie.org.uk

What options will students have?

	Subject	Lessons Per Week
Core Subjects	English/ Literature	5
	Maths	5
	Science (Double Award)	6
Languages	Mandarin or Spanish	4
	Any other (up to) five subjects form	
Art	Business Studies	
Computer Studies	Drama	
Economics	Geography	3
Global Perspectives	History] 3
Mandarin	Music	
Spanish	Physical Education	
Other	Physical Education (Non IGCSE)	2
	PSHCE and Careers Advice	1
	Assembly	1
	Global Campus	1

PSHCE

Personal, Social, Health, Citizenship and Economic education (PSHCE) provides particular opportunities to foster your personal development. These lessons will help you to create and maintain supportive relationships and become an active and responsible citizen in society. During these lessons, you will be supported in careers advice as well as given the tools to help you with your academic and personal development in Key Stage 4 and beyond.

Core Physical Education

We believe that an active and healthy lifestyle is an essential element to your education. During these lessons you will continue to learn the skills and abilities to access a variety of sports, as well as build your interest in enjoyment towards physical education.

Global Campus

These lessons will provide countless opportunities for you to involve yourself with the wider world of Nord Anglia schools. Here you will strengthen your links with schools around the world and involve your-self in exciting cross-curricular activities such as the UN Global Goals, charity work, debates, creative writing competitions and many more.

English

"The limits of my language mean the limits of my world." Ludwig Wittgenstein

Why choose this course?

Language and communication are at the heart of what it means to be a human being. If students can use language accurately with confidence and creativity then a world of opportunity is opened up to them. IGCSE First Language English compels students to improve their understanding, interpretation and communication skills in a wide variety of contexts. These are vital skills for virtually all paths of higher education with many institutions recognising the qualification as evidence of English language competency for university study. In addition, these are important abilities to master for most careers and among the most important life skills for thriving as a global citizen in the twenty first century.

What will I learn on this course?

The course allows learners to:

- Develop the ability to communicate clearly, accurately and effectively when speaking and writing
- Learn how to use a wide range of vocabulary, and the correct grammar, spelling and punctuation
- Develop a personal style and an awareness of the audience being addressed
- More general analysis and communication skills such as synthesis, inference, and the ability to order facts and present opinions effectively

What skills will I need for this course?

- First language competence or equivalent
- A commitment to regular reading for both academic purpose and pleasure
- A willingness to act upon feedback given to improve your own reading and writing skills and actively seek assistance or clarification on any issues you are not clear about

Assessment Information

Paper 1 Reading Passages (Core) 50%	Or	Paper 2 Reading Passages (Extended) 50%	
And either*			
Paper 3 Directed Writing and Composition 50%	Or	Component 4 Coursework Portfolio 50%	
In Addition			
Component 5 Speaking and Listening Test which is given an additional grade of 1-5	Or	Component 6: Speaking and Listening Coursework which is given an additional grade of 1- 5	

Note: Students may only sit one of the Paper 1: Core or Paper 2: Extended reading assessments. Candidates sitting the Paper 1 component are only eligible for grades C - G. Candidates sitting the Paper 2 component are only eligible for grades A - E. Papers 3 and 4 are open to all students and assessed from grades A - G. Students will also be entered for either the Speaking and Listening Test or for the Speaking and Listening Coursework. Marks for these optional components do not contribute to the overall grade candidates receive for the written components. Instead, where candidates perform up to an appropriate standard, certificates record achievement of grades 1 (high) to 5 (low). Decisions regarding which options to follow will decided by the class teacher, in consultation with students, during the course.

English Literature

"Studying literature...means pursuing the most important subject of all — being a human being." Mark Edmundsen, University of Virginia

Why choose this course?

Language and communication are at the heart of what it means to be a human being. If students can use language accurately with confidence and creativity, then a world of opportunity is opened up to them. Cambridge IGCSE Literature presents students with the challenge to read, interpret, evaluate and respond to a range of stimulating texts including drama, prose and poetry from the works of Shakespeare to the best of twenty first century world literature. This course enables students to deepen their understanding and appreciation of the ways in which language expresses complex ideas and achieves dramatic effects. The course will stimulate learners to explore a range of sophisticated, important texts in depth and detail thus promoting a better understanding of themselves and the world. Common career paths include public relations, journalism, marketing, advertising, design, education and work in arts and media. Notable graduates with English Literature degrees include film director Steven Spielberg, actress Emma Watson, Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, presidential candidate Mitt Romney and astronaut Sally Ride.

Assessment Information

What will I learn on this course?

Generally you will learn to experience literature's contribution to aesthetic, imaginative and intellectual growth and to explore the contribution of literature to an understanding of areas of human concern. Specifically, this involves a close study of either an anthology of English poetry or an in depth study of a contemporary poet, close studies of prose works by such writers as Jane Austen, George Elliot, Kate Grenville or Chinua Achebe and a close study of drama texts by playwrights such as Arthur Miller, JB Priestley or William Shakespeare.

What skills will I need for this course?

To be dedicated, willing and open minded about reading, researching and discussing a range of exciting, challenging and complex literature from different periods and cultures and to utilise and develop your skills in reading, writing and discussion to support these aims.

Component One:	All students will sit this exam.	50%
Poetry and Prose written exam		
And	d either*	
Component 2: Drama written exam (closed text)		50%
	Or	
Component 3 Drama exam (open text)		25%
and Component 4 Unseen Prose & Poetry		+ 25%
	Or	
Component 3 Drama exam (open text)		25%
and Component 5 Coursework		+ 25%

Note: All students will sit the Component One assessment. In addition, students must also sit one of the three other assessment options. This decision will be made by the class teacher, in consultation with students, at the start of the course.

English as a Second Language

"One language sets you in a corridor for life. Two languages open every door along the way." Frank Smith

Why choose this course?

Cambridge IGCSE English as a Second Language is designed for learners who already have a working knowledge of the language and who want to consolidate their understanding in order to progress in their academic or professional career. The qualification reflects the widespread use of English in education, commerce, and media communications, entertainment.

What will I learn on this course?

The aims of Cambridge IGCSE English as a Second Language are to:

- Develop learners' ability to use English effectively for the purpose of practical communication
- Form a solid foundation for the skills required for further study or employment using English as the medium
- Develop learners' awareness of the nature of language and language-learning skills
- Promote learners' personal development

What skills will I need for this course?

Cambridge IGCSE English as a Second Language is designed for learners whose first language is not English but who use it as a lingua franca or language of study.

Assessment Information

Candidates take three components:

- Reading and writing,
- Listening and
- A speaking component.

Speaking endorsement

In syllabus 0510, marks for the speaking component do not contribute to the overall grade candidates receive for the written components. Instead, where candidates perform to an appropriate standard, certificates record separately the achievements of grades 1 (high) to 5 (low) for speaking.

Component	Weighting
Reading and writing (Extended) Written paper (2 hours)	70%
Listening (Extended) Written paper (Approximately 50 minutes)	30%

"Without mathematics, there's nothing you can do. Everything around you is mathematics. Everything around you is numbers." _{Shakuntala Devi}



Mathematics

Why choose this course?

The importance of Mathematics as a subject can never be underestimated, it is a creative and highly inter-connected discipline that has been developed over centuries and provides the answers to many intriguing problems. Our teachers aim to make Mathematics an exciting and vibrant subject. As well as leading directly to many higher level qualifications and careers, skills such as problemsolving, creative thinking and organised working are relevant to almost every walk of life. We will encourage you to build and develop these skills whilst gaining a breadth and depth of knowledge to prepare you for the future. The study of Mathematics is an essential subject for all learners and forms a core part of the curriculum at NAIS.

What will I learn on this course?

Our IGCSE Mathematics course will encourage the development of mathematical knowledge as a key life skill, and as a basis for more advanced study. The syllabus aims to build your confidence by helping you develop a feel for numbers, patterns and relationships, and places a strong emphasis on solving problems and presenting and interpreting results. You will also gain an understanding of how to communicate and reason using mathematical concepts.

What skills will I need for this course?

The key to success in Mathematics is small amounts of regular practice of challenging topics. The students who make the most progress are those who make the most of their valuable lesson time, make full use of the opportunies for independent study outside school, and seek out their teacher for extra help with any problems.

Assessment Information

You will follow the core pathway or extended pathway, your teacher will work with you to decide which is the best path for you to take. All pupils will be assessed at the end of the course using two components:

Component*		Weighting
Paper 1 (Core) Short answer questions based or 56 marks	1 hour n the Core curriculum.	35%
Paper 2 (Extended) Short-answer questions based of 70 marks.	1 hour 30 minutes n the Extended curriculum	35%
Paper 3 (Core) Structured questions based on th 104 marks	2 hours he Core curriculum	65%
Paper 4 (Extended) Structured questions based on the 130 marks.	2 hours 30 minutes he Extended curriculum	65%

*All papers are marked externally.

Co-ordinated Sciences (Double Award)

"Science is fun. Science is curiosity. We all have natural curiosity. Science is a process of investigating. It's posing questions and coming up with a method. It's delving in." sally Ride

Why choose this course?

Cambridge IGCSE Co-ordinated Sciences 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 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.

You will learn how science is studied and practised, and become aware that the results of scientific research can have both good and bad effects on individuals, communities and the environment. As well as focusing on the individual sciences, the syllabus helps learners to understand the technological world in which we live, and take an informed interest in Science and Scientific developments.

What will I learn on this course?

Students will learn to:

- Better understand the technological work, with an informed interest in scientific matters
- Recognise the usefulness of scientific method, and how to apply this to other disciplines and in everyday life
- Develop relevant attitudes,
 such as a concern for accuracy
 and precision, objectivity,
 integrity, enquiry, initiative and
 inventiveness
- Develop an interest in, and care for, the environment
- Better understand the influence and limitations placed on Scientific study by society, economy, technology, ethics, the community and the environment
- Develop an understanding of the scientific skill essential for both further study and everyday life

What skills will I need for this course?

- Prior scientific knowledge and skills obtained from Key Stage 3
- Adequate mathematical skills and content obtained from Key Stage 3

Assessment Information

Candidates can either follow the Core syllabus only, or they can follow the Extended syllabus, which includes both the Core and Extended work.

All candidates must enter for three papers. The details of the three papers that you will undertake will be confirmed via teacher, student and parent liaison.

As a guide, candidates aiming for grades A*A* to CC should follow the Extended Route.

Details of the papers are as follows.

Core Candidates take:	Extended candidates take:
Paper 145 minutesA multiple – choice paper consisting of 40 items of the four-choice type.This paper will test assessment objectives AO1 and AO2. Questions will be based on the Core syllabus content.This paper will be weighted at 30% of the final total mark.	Paper 245 minutesA multiple-choice consisting of 40 items of the four- choice type.This paper will test assessment objectives AO1 and AO2. Questions will be based on the Extended syllabus content (Core and Supplement).This paper will be weighted at 30% of the final total work
and:	and:
Paper 3 2 hours A written paper consisting of short-answer and struc- tured questions. This paper will test assessment objectives AO1 and AO2. Questions will be based on the Core syllabus content. 120 marks This paper will be weighted at 50% of the final total mark .	Paper 4 2 hours A written paper consisting of short-answer questions. This paper will test assessment objectives AO1 and AO2. Questions will be based on the Extended syllabus content (Core and Supplement) 120 marks This paper will be weighted at 50% of the final total mark.

All candidates take:	
either:	or:
Paper 5 2 hours	Paper 6 1 hour
Practical Test	Alternative to practical
This paper will test assessment objective AO3.	This paper will test assessment objective AO3.
Questions will be based on the experimental skill	s in Questions will be based on the experimental skills in
Section 7.	Section 7.
The paper is structured to assess grade ranges A*	A*-GG. The paper is structured to assess grade ranges A*A*-GG.
45 marks	60 marks
This paper will be weighted at 20% of the final tot	tal This paper will be weighted at 20% of the final total
mark	mark.



Spanish "To have another language is to possess a second soul." _{Charlemagne}

Why choose this course?

IGCSE Spanish is aimed is to develop an ability to use the language effectively for practical communication. It also aims to offer insights into the culture and civilisation of countries where the language is spoken, thus encouraging positive attitudes towards language learning and towards speakers of foreign languages. Students will develop essential lifelong skills, including creative thinking and problem–solving.

The course is based on the linked language skills of listening, reading, speaking and writing, which have been previously practised during Year 7, 8 and 9. These skills will be built on as learner's progress through the course studies.

What will I learn on this course?

- To use Spanish as a means of practical communication
- You will also learn about the culture and civilisation of countries where the language is spoken
- You will be studying five broad topic areas: Everyday activities; Personal and social life; The World around us; The World of work, the international world

What skills will I need for this course?

To be:

- Confidence in working with information and ideas – your own and those of others
- Respectful of others
- Reflective as a learner
- Innovative and equipped for new and future challenges
- Engaged intellectually and socially and ready to make a difference

It is recommended that learners who are beginning this course should have previously studied Spanish in Key Stage 3. Your teacher will help advise you on this.

Assessment Information

Candidates will be assessed on the four skills of the language studied and they will take four papers:

All candidates take:	and:
Paper 1: Approximately 45 minutes	Paper 2: 1 hour
Listening (25%)	Reading (25%)
45 marks	45 marks
Candidates listen to a number of recordings	Candidates read a number of texts and answer questions
and answer questions testing comprehension.	testing comprehension.
Externally assessed.	Externally assessed.
and:	and:
Paper 3: Approximately 15 minutes	Paper 4: 1 hour
Speaking* (25%)	Writing (25%)
100 marks	Candidates respond in the target language to three tasks
Candidates complete two role plays, a topic	Externally assessed.
presentation/ conversation and a general con-	
versation.	
Internally assessed/ externally moderated.	





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Mandarin Chinese

"They who know the truth are not equal to those who love it, and they who love it are not equal to those who delight in it." _{Confucius}

Why choose this course?

The ability to speak Mandarin is widely sought after in the business world due to it being the most spoken language world-wide. Taking an IGCSE in Mandarin will give you a valuable qualification that is highly regarded by future Universities and employers.

What will I learn on this course?

- The ability to use a foreign language as a means of practical communication
- Insight into the culture and civilisation of countries where the language is spoken
- A positive attitude towards language learning, towards the speakers of other languages, and towards other cultures and civilisations
- Techniques which can be applied to other areas of learning, such as analysis and memory skills
- A sound foundation for progression to employment or further study

What skills will I need for this course?

 We recommend that learners who are beginning this course should have previously achieved a level corresponding to the requirements of the Key Stage 3 programme of study for Modern Foreign Languages within the National Curriculum for England.

Assessment	Information

Grades available: A*, A, B, C, D, E, F, G	Weighting
Paper 1: Listening (approximately 35 minutes) Candidates listen to a number of recordings and answer questions testing comprehension. 30 marks Externally assessed.	25%
Paper 2: Reading (1 hour 15 minutes) Candidates read a number of texts and answer questions testing comprehension. 36 marks Externally assessed.	25%
Paper 3: Speaking (approximately 15 minutes) Candidates complete two role plays, a topic presentation/conversation and a general conversation. 100 marks Internally assessed/externally moderated.	25%
Paper 4: Writing (1 hour 15 minutes) Candidates respond in the target language to three tasks. 45 marks Externally assessed.	25%

First Language Chinese

"The conquest of learning is achieved through the knowledge of languages."

Roger Bacon

Why choose this course?

The ability to speak Mandarin is widely sought after in the business world due to it being the most spoken language world-wide. Taking an IGCSE in Mandarin will give you a valuable qualification that is highly regarded by future Universities and employers.

What will I learn on this course?

- The ability to communicate clearly, accurately and effectively in writing
- The ability to use a wide range of vocabulary, and correct grammar, spelling and punctuation
- A personal style and an awareness of the audience being addressed

What skills will I need for this course?

• We recommend that candidates who are beginning this course should have a level in Chinese equivalent to first language competence.

Assessment Information

Cambridge IGCSE First Language Chinese comprises two papers. All candidates take Papers 1 and 2 and are eligible for the award of grades A* to G.

Components	Weighting
Paper 1: Reading (2 hours)	60%
Candidates answer two questions:	
Questions 1 – 25 marks	
Candidates answer a series of comprehension questions based on Passage 1.	
Question 2 – 25 marks	
Candidates write a summary based on Passages 1 and 2.	
Paper 2: Writing (1 hour 15 minutes)	40%
Candidates write one composition of 400-600 characters.	



"Lack of activity destroys the good condition of every human being, while movement and methodical physical exercise save it and preserve it." Plato



Physical Education

Why choose this course?

Universities and employers accept Cambridge IGCSE Physical Education as proof that candidates have knowledge, skills and an understanding of a range of relevant physical activities. Candidates' knowledge, skills and understanding come from studying both practical and theoretical aspects of Physical Education. Successful Cambridge IGCSE Physical Education students gain lifelong skills, including:

- an ability to plan, perform, analyse and improve, and evaluate physical activities
- knowledge, skills and understanding of a range of relevant physical activities
- an understanding of effective and safe performance
- an understanding of the role of sport and physical activity in society and in the wider world
- an excellent foundation for advanced study
- an enjoyment of physical activity

What will I learn on this course?

Pupils will learn practical skills and gain theoretical knowledge and understanding in the following three areas:

- Improving physical performance, including an ability to interrelate planning, performing and evaluating whilst undertaking different activities
- Analysing and improving their own and others' performance

- A knowledge and understanding of:
- The factors affecting
 performance
- The health and safety aspects of physical activity, including the advantages and risks associated with a range of training strategies and techniques
- The reasons for participating in physical activity.

What skills will I need for this course?

Pupils will be required to have a positive outlook towards sport and personal improvement. Pupils will need to be able to work independently to assess their own performance as well as work as a pair or team to evaluate others. Information & Communication Technology skills are necessary for recording their performance and in the use of apps to identify areas for improvement in performance.

Components		Weighting
Paper 1 - 1 hour 45 min	Section A: Candidates answer short answer questions on each of the three units: Factors affecting performance; Health, safety and training; Reasons and opportunities for participation in physical activity. Section B: Candidates answer three structured questions, one from each of the three units they have studied.	40%
Coursework Centre-based assessment	Candidates choose to undertake four practical activities. (50% of total marks). Candidates must show the ability to analyse and improve practical performance in one of their four chosen practical activities. (10% of total marks).	60%

Geography

"What, where, why there and why care?" Günther

Why choose this course?

Geography is intricately woven into the fabric of our daily lives. Meaning literally 'to draw or describe the earth', Geography is our past, present, future and is at the centre of many of the issues facing the world today. The study of Geography allows students to make sense of a world witnessing increasingly complex connections between the physical and the human environments. Importantly, Geography seeks to explain why the interactions between these environments continue to shape and change our lives. As well as nurturing a deep understanding of global issues, Geography develops a range of transferable skills that are essential in the modern workplace; from evaluating the validity of views and opinions to analysing data and reaching evidence based conclusions, Geography really is all encompassing.

What will I learn on this course?

- Theme 1: Population and Settlement. This involves the study of population dynamics, structure, distribution and density. We study how and why people migrate, urban settlement structure, service provision and the impact of processes such as urbanisation and gentrification.
- Theme 2: The Natural Environment. This involves the study of the dynamic and powerful physical processes that shape the environment we live in. We look at tectonic processes such as earthquakes and volcanoes as well as coastal and river systems in addition to factors that influence our weather and climate.
- Theme 3: Economic Development. This involves the study of economic development across the globe, the reasons inequality exists

and the influence of technology and globalisation in our dayto-day lives. We look at food production, the division of modern industry, tourism and access to energy and clean water. We also seek to discover what damage economic development does to our environment.

What skills will I need for this course?

Students will need a range of geographical and nongeographical skills including the application, interpretation and analysis of geographical information. Students should be able to use maps, diagrams, graphs, tables of data, written material, photographs and pictures to make deductions about places.

Components	Details	Weighting	
Exam	Paper 1: Geographical Themes (1 hour 45 minutes) 45%		
Exam	Paper 2: Geographical Skills (1 hour 30 minutes)	27.5%	
and a choice of either:			
Fieldwork/coursework	Paper 3: Assignment and report (2000 words)	27.5%	
or:			
Exam	Paper 4 (1 hour 30mins)	27.5%	





History

"History is a conversation between the past and the present" EH Carr

Why choose this course?

The study of History provides a unique opportunity to understand how ideas, events and individuals created the complex world in which we live. History graduates can find employment and careers in a wide variety of professions. For example, politics, business and finance, law, research and resources, architecture, the civil service, journalism, economics, education, the military and the print and electronic media. Well known graduates with history degrees include former US President George W Bush, former British Prime Minister Gordon Brown, former Governor of Hong Kong Sir Chris Patten, President and CEO of the Sony Corporation Sir Howard Stringer and co-founder of Facebook Chris Hughes.

What will I learn on this course?

All candidates study the Core Content in either:

Option A: The 19th Century:

The Development of Modern Nation States, 1848 – 1914

or

Option B: The 20th Century: International Relations since 1919 In addition, all candidates must also study at least one of the following Depth Studies:

- The First World War, 1914–18
- Germany, 1918–45
- Russia, 1905–41
- The USA, 1919–41
- China, c.1930-c.1990
- South Africa, c.1940–c.1994
- or Israelis and Palestinians since 1945

What skills will I need for this course?

History requires and helps to develop a wide range of transferable skills:

- The ability to understand and analyse issues and events
- Clear expression, both oral and written
- Putting forward ideas and arguments in a concise manner;
- Gathering, investigating and assessing material

Component	Information	Weighting
Exam	Written paper-essay questions based on Core Content and Depth Studies.	40%
Exam	Written paper source questions linked to Core Content.	33%
Coursework	Essay or written paper based on Depth Study.	27%

Art and Design

"I am seeking. I am striving. I am in it with all my heart." Vincent van Gogh

Why choose this course?

Cambridge IGCSE Art and Design is accepted by universities, art colleges and employers as evidence of experience and skills in developing and producing a range of artefacts and designs showing visual knowledge and understanding along with critical and cultural awareness. It encourages the development of a range of skills, stimulates aesthetic awareness, knowledge and a critical understanding of art. Crucially, a personal and independent perspective is encouraged at all times. It is suitable for all abilities.

What will I learn on this course?

This syllabus aims to encourage a personal response by stimulating imagination, sensitivity, conceptual thinking, powers of observation and analytical ability. Learners develop technical skills in two and three dimensional form and composition, and are able to identify and solve problems in visual and tactile forms. They also learn how to develop ideas from initial attempts to final solutions. It also develops a greater awareness of the role played by the visual arts in society and in history, broadening cultural horizons and individual experience.

Possible areas of study include:

- painting and related media
- printmaking
- three-dimensional studies
- photography
- graphic communication
- textile design

What skills will I need for this course?

This course will suit you if you:

- Like to use different materials and processes to develop your visual skills
- Are creative, enthusiastic and imaginative
- Are willing to experiment and to take risks when you are trying out your ideas
- Are able to work independently and like to visit art galleries and museums to make your work more informed and interesting
- Like communicating your ideas, opinions and addressing issues

Components	Information	Weighting
Project 1	There is an unlimited preparatory period during which time candidates produce their supporting studies (two sheets (four sides) maximum size A2).	50% Candidates take an eight-hour exam to complete the project.
Project 2	Candidates produce a portfolio of up to four sheets (eight sides) of maximum size A2. The final outcome is produced in class by candidates in a chosen medium.	50%



Music

"Music produces a kind of pleasure which human nature cannot do without." confucius

Why choose this course?

IGCSE Music is a challenging and interesting course for students who share a passion for music of all styles. It offers opportunities for students to build on the knowledge, and skills they have already learned in school, whilst helping them to develop a more sophisticated musical understanding. There is a wealth of evidence, which suggests that ongoing music education helps children across a wide range of criteria - including overall academic performance.

IGCSE Music is an academic course designed to develop skills in performance, composition and music analysis through the exploration of classical and world musical cultures. In addition to this, students will be taught the rudiments of music including standard notation, harmony, melody and rhythm, making them confident, well rounded musicians.

What will I learn on this course?

Component 1: Unprepared Listening and Prepared Listening

Students will examine a range of traditional musical styles. They will also study the music of non-Western cultures such as the music of India, Latin America, and China.

Learners study music of all styles; each style is placed in its historical and cultural context, and they are encouraged to be perceptive, sensitive and critical when listening. Students will develop the listening and interpreting skills required to analyse musical scores and identify key features in the music.

In addition, students will make an in-depth study of one orchestral piece over the 2 year study period. They will examine in detail the score and will develop an understanding of the composer's intentions and musical style. Component 2: Performing

For many students, performance is the most enjoyable part of music. Students will be encouraged to perform a range of musical pieces both as solo and ensemble performances, and it is a requirement that students will be active members of the school Music ECAs school concerts. Component 3: Composing

- Composition is an exciting area of study for many students and the opportunity to create a piece of music from scratch is extremely rewarding and satisfying.
- Students will be challenged throughout the 2 year course to build a portfolio of musical compositions for a variety of musical instruments and styles.
- Students will be taught how to use sophisticated computer software which is used widely by universities and professional composers around the world to create complex and sophisticated compositions.

What skills will I need for this course?

Performance constitutes a large percentage of the IGCSE Music course and therefore it is desirable that students have **at least 3 years of instrumental (or vocal) experience** and some understanding of reading notation and basic music theory to ensure they are able to make secure progress throughout the course.

- It is a requirement of this course that students take additional weekly one-to-one instrumental lessons on their chosen main instrument
- A willingness to be involved in the musical life of the school
- Focus, discipline and determination

Component	Details	Weighting
Unprepared Listening and Prepared Listening Exam	The listening section of the course is examined through a 1hr 15 minute exam at the end of the course	40%
Performing - coursework	The performance element of the course is examined through a recorded examination which is sent for moderation in April of the final year of study. Students must perform and record one solo and one ensemble performance piece on their instrument (or voice). The duration of the total performance is from 4 – 10 minutes.	30%
Coursework	The composition element of the course is examined through written coursework which is recorded and sent for moderation in April of the final year of study.	30%

Drama

Why choose this course?

This course aims to develop you as an outstanding collaborator who creates innovative theatre and helps you to become an independent thinker who can creatively respond to written and practical tasks. It is also a fantastic way of improving English skills.

Although the course provides an emphasis on performance, you will also learn how to think like a Director in preparation for your group devising project and analyse the Drama you have studied in order to complete your written examination.

Studying Drama will provide you with a unique understanding of an artistic discipline, as well as valuable transferable skills which are highly appreciated by universities and employers all over the world.

What will I learn on this course?

Through practical and theoretical study, you will gain a greater understanding and enjoyment of drama, develop your group and individual skills and study ways to communicate ideas and feelings to an audience. You will learn how to discover the performance possibilities of a text and other stimuli, and devise dramatic material of your own. You will also develop your performance skills and demonstrate these in your assessed performance at the end of the course.

What skills will I need for this course?

In order to succeed on this course, an interest in theatre, seeing live performance and being readily available to attend rehearsals is a must. You must be ready to work collaboratively with others and enjoy exploring plays and creating original drama. It also helps if you are a confident performer.

Although Drama is a mostly practical subject, you must also be able to write fluently about your work as there is a large written component to this course.

Component		Weighting
Paper 1 – Written Examination A written examination consisting of short and based on a text that you have studied and on p throughout your IGCSE course. *Externally assessed	•	40%
Paper 2 – Coursework: Practical Performances One Individual Piece (3-5 mins) A solo perform Two Group Pieces (Max 15 mins each.) One per and one original piece, devised and developed *Internally assessed and externally moderated	ance of an extract from a play. rformance of an extract from a play d with your group.	60%

"Like theatre, drama in schools can unlock the use of imagination, intellect, empathy and courage. Through it, ideas, responses and feelings can be expressed and communicated. It carries the potential to challenge, to question and to bring about change." Jude Kelly



Computer Science

"If you're not failing every now and again, it's a sign you're not doing anything very innovative." w. Allen

Why choose this course?

Computer Science - not computer literacy - underlies most innovation today, from biotechnology to cinematography to national security. Yet the majority of schools require only that pupils use computers. Seldom do schools prepare pupils to innovate and create the new technologies that drive national economies. This ability to innovate with technology is also important for pupils' future success and ability to make a difference in a global society. By taking Computer Science, pupils will be equipped with the tools they need to succeed no matter what career path they eventually choose.

What will I learn on this course?

The aims of this course are to develop:

- Computational thinking, that is thinking about what can be computed and how, and includes consideration of the data required
- Understanding of the main principles of solving problems by using computers
- Understanding that every computer system is made up of sub-systems, which in turn consist of further sub-systems
- Understanding of the component parts of computer systems and how they interrelate, including software, data, hardware, communications and people
- Skills necessary to apply understanding to solve computer-based problems using a high-level programming language

What skills will I need for this course?

Computer Science is a demanding course and as such pupils should have a solid grasp of Maths, the ability to work well in a team, strong analytical and problem solving skills and, most importantly, a passion for computers.

Component	Weighting
Paper 1 Theory This written paper contains short-answer and structured questions. All questions are compulsory.	60%
Paper 2 Problem-solving and Programming This written paper contains short-answer and structured questions. 20 of the marks for this paper are from questions set on the pre-release material.	40%



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Business Studies

"Fortune befriends the bold." Emily Dickinson

Why choose this course?

If you have an interest in business, an enquiring mind and an interest in the world around you then this course will help you to understand all this and more. Business Studies helps develop learners' understanding of business activity in the public and private sectors, and the importance of innovation and change. Students will find out how different types of business organisations are established, financed and run, as well as how they are regulated.

What will I learn on this course?

Pupils will learn:

- An understanding of the world of business activity
- About the importance of people in business
- Marketing
- Operations management
- Financial information and decisions
- External influences on business
 activity

What skills will I need for this course?

- An enquiring mind
- A desire to enhance your numeracy skills
- An interest in business
- You do not need to have previously studied business

Components		Weighting
Exam Paper 1	Written examination consisting of four questions requiring a mixture of short answered and structured data responses. 80 marks	50%
1 hour 30 minutes		
Exam Paper 2	Written examination consisting of four questions requiring a mixture of short answered and structured data responses. 80 marks	50%
1 hour 30 minutes		

Economics

Why choose this course?

This course develops an understanding of economic terminology and principles and of basic economic theory. A foundation for further study in economics, the syllabus also encourages a better understanding of the world in which learners live, and helps them play an active part in the decision-making process, whether as consumers, producers or citizens of the local, national and international community. You will be able to discuss how governments around the world have attempted to steer their countries through the recent global recession, and why they have been successful, whilst others have failed miserably. In particular, after taking the course, students will better understand "how the world works" around them.

What will I learn on this course?

Pupils will learn to:

- Undertake economic analysis
- Evaluate information and discriminate between facts and value judgements
- Study the economics of developed and developing nations and how these interrelate
- Understand how markets around the world create the prices that we see in our highstreet shops

What skills will I need for this course?

- an interest in how the world works
- mathematical skills
- an ability and interest in making connections and understanding problems

Component		Weighting
Exam	Paper 1 Short, multiple choice questions.	30%
Exam	Paper 2, students are required to interpret and analyse a set of data relevant to a real economic situation.	70%

"When the wind of change blows, some build walls while others build windmills" chinese Proverb



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Global Perspectives

"There are no facts, only interpretations" Nietzsche

Why choose this course?

Global Perspectives provides opportunities for enquiry into, and reflection on, key global issues from different perspectives: personal, local/national and global. Global Perspectives encourages awareness of global problems and offers a range of opportunities to explore solutions through cooperation and collaboration. The course is not about getting everybody to think identically; rather it is a matter of opening minds to the complexity of the world and of human thought, and encouraging empathy for the diversity of human experience and feeling.

What will I learn on this course?

The key focus of this course is to develop students' skills in research, analysis and evaluation. In addition to this, emphasis is placed on developing the ability to communicate, collaborate and reflect on both personal and other perspectives.

What skills will I need for this course?

Students will need the ability to work well as part of a team. Students will also need to be comfortable sharing their own views and opinions and attempting to justify them. It will also be a requirement to write at length in continuous prose.

Component	Details	Weighting
Written Examination	Exam paper consists of four compulsory questions on global issues. (1 hour 15 minutes)	35%
Individual Report	Candidates research one topic area from a choice of eight and submit a report of 1500-2000 words.	30%
Team Project	Working in a group of 2-5 students, candidates develop a collaborative project based on one of eight topics. Students work together to deliver this project.	35%

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Be Ambitious