



DOVER COURT INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL
SINGAPORE
A NORD ANGLIA EDUCATION SCHOOL

Celebrating 45 Years



iGCSE
*Options
Booklet*



2018-2020



Welcome

Dear DCIS Students and Parents,



Welcome to the Options Booklet for the 2018 – 2020 iGCSE courses. This is an exciting time for you as you begin to choose subjects that you find interesting and start to prepare for the next stage of your journey through school. The choices in this brochure give you an idea of the

subjects that we may offer at iGCSE level. We would like to be able to offer a broad and balanced selection of subjects to form a sound base for your post-16 studies.

With 4 options blocks with 2 to 3 subjects in each block, you will need to choose one subject in each block. There is a chance that not all subjects will be offered as they will depend on demand.

This brochure, together with your subject teachers and parents, will help you make informed decisions about the right courses to study in Years 10 and 11.

Heather Rinaldi

Deputy Head of Secondary School



Making the right decisions

Things to remember when making your choices:

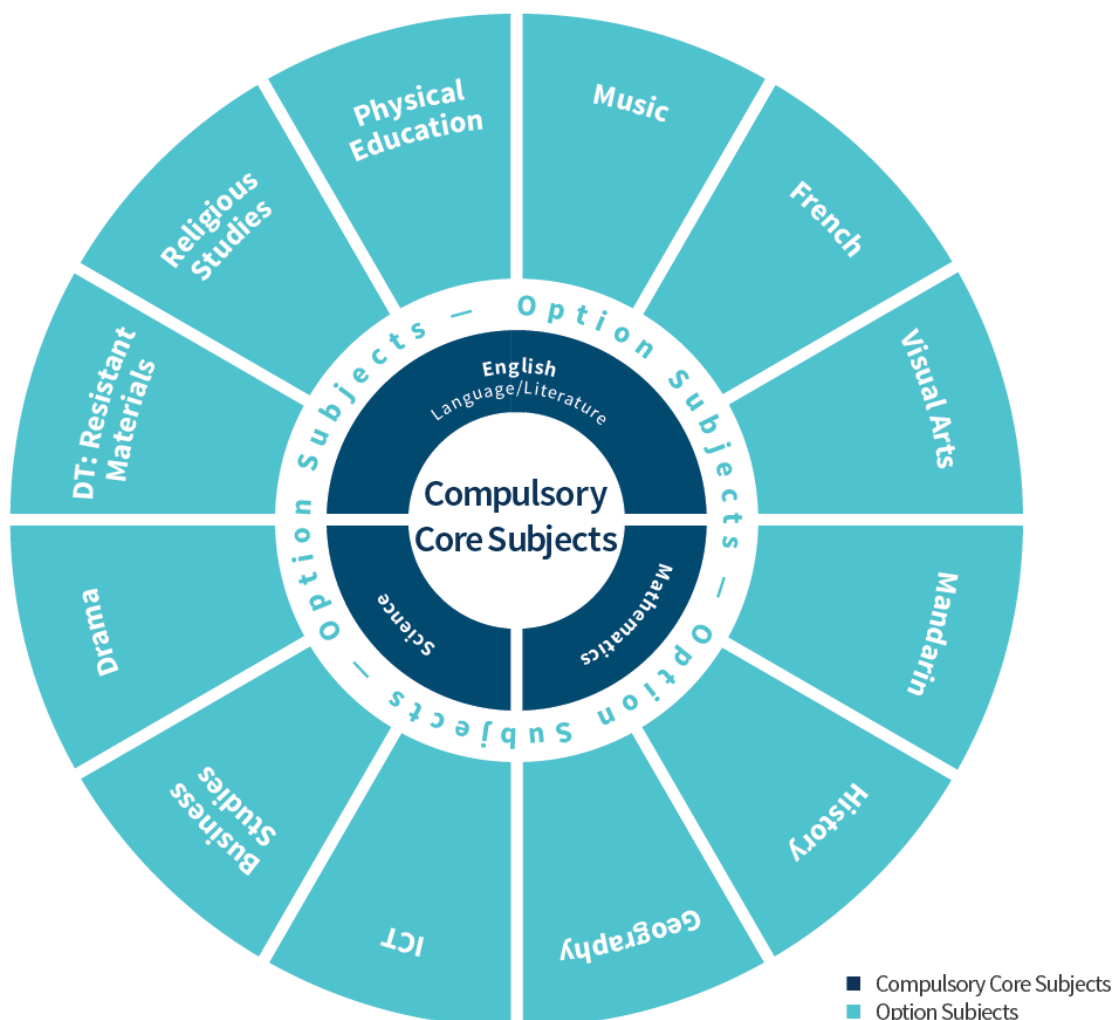
- It is your decision.
- Do not make decisions based on your friends' choices just because you want to stay in the same classes.
- Speak to someone who has finished the iGCSE for advice.

Who should I speak to?

- Older brothers and sisters
- Parents
- Subject teachers
- Form Tutors
- Older pupils

You must choose 4 subjects from a range of options. Do not rush your decision but at the same time hand your form in on time as there are maximum class size limits.

Your choices in Year 10 may affect your future career. If you already know what you would like to do when you leave school, ask about suitable subject choices.



French

Course code: 4FR0

The Edexcel iGCSE in French gives students the opportunity to:

- Understand French in a range of contexts and styles
- Comprehend different types of written language
- Communicate in writing
- Apply a range of vocabulary and structures
- Develop effective communication skills
- Communicate in speech for different purposes

To take iGCSE French, students should have at least 2 years of previous French study.

By learning French, students open up a world of travel and of career opportunities in translation, journalism and international law as well as in fields such as aerospace, telecommunications and pharmaceuticals.

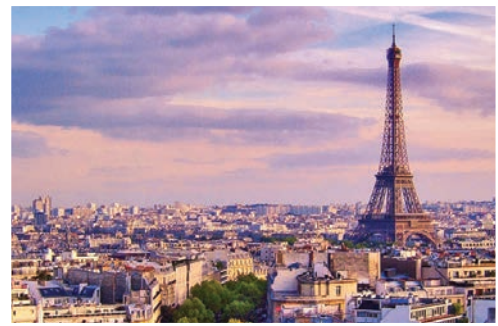
Assessment

The skills are equally weighted and are assessed over three papers:

Paper 1 – Listening (25%)

Paper 2 – Reading and writing (50%)

Paper 3 – Speaking (25%)



History

Course code: 4HI0

Students who enjoy debating and have an interest in world politics will find this course rewarding. People who have studied History at university often go on to become lawyers, accountants, journalists, teachers, civil servants, academics, bankers and librarians.

iGCSE History gives students opportunities to:

- Acquire knowledge and understanding of selected periods and aspects of history, explore significance of historical events, people, changes and issues
- Use historical sources critically, in their context, recording significant information and reaching conclusions
- Organise and communicate their knowledge and understanding of history
- Draw conclusions and make historical judgments

Assessment

The final marks are assessed over two papers:

Paper 1: Two topics of study (50%)

- Development of dictatorship: Germany, 1918-1945
- A divided union: Civil rights in the USA, 1945-74

Paper 2: Two topics of study (50%)

- Origins and course of the First World War, 1905-18
- Conflict, crisis and change: China, c1911-c1989



Music

Course code: 1MU0

iGCSE Music develops skills including critical and creative thinking, cultural understanding, and self-motivation. It also focuses on musical skills, including the ability to make music individually and in groups.

Areas of Study

The areas of study allow the use of music technology in performance and as a compositional tool, providing a foundation for Music at IB level. Furthermore, the course encourages independent learners and reflective thinkers.

Areas of study include:

- Western Classical music
- 20th Century Music
- Popular Music in Context
- World Music

Geography

Course code 4GE1

Geography gives you an opportunity to develop an understanding of the world around you and the interconnections between people and the environments we inhabit.

The course develops skills useful for the IB Diploma programmes for Geography and other natural sciences and enables students to:

- Explore a range of viewpoints of global problems
- Develop data collection techniques.
- Increase awareness of the causes and impacts of global events and issues.

How will it help me?

Geography will develop a wide range of transferrable skills needed in higher education courses and in many careers. You will develop your literacy through data analysis, essay and report writing and make practical use of your numeracy skills while constructing graphs.

Pre-Requisites

Students will be expected to play a musical instrument or sing at ABRSM Grade 3 level upon acceptance into the course. All students will be required to have individual music lessons on their chosen instrument.

Assessment

The course is divided into three components:

- **Performance (30%)**
- **Composition (30%)**
- **Listening and Appraising (40%)**



What will we study?

Paper 1:

- River Environments*
- Hazardous Environments*
- (*And associated fieldwork)

Paper 2:

- Economic Activity and energy*
- Urban Environments*
- (* And associated fieldwork)
- Development and Human Welfare.

Assessment

The final mark will be based from 100% exam style via two written papers.

Business Studies

Course Code: 4BS1

Outline

Building understanding and awareness of current business concepts and applying them to real life scenarios. Developing students' ability to participate effectively in global society as citizens, producers and consumers.

Key Subject Aims

Business Studies requires students to:

- Develop an interest in and enthusiasm for the study of business
- Develop an understanding of business concepts, business terminology, business objectives and the integrated nature of business activity
- Understand how the main types of business are organised, financed and operated
- Develop and apply knowledge, understanding and skills to contemporary business issues in a wide range of businesses from small enterprises to large multinationals and businesses operating in local, national and global context

Mandarin

Course Code: 4CN1

Outline

This syllabus is designed for students who are learning Mandarin (Chinese) as a foreign language. The aim is to develop an ability to use the language effectively for purposes of practical communication. The course is based on the linked language skills of listening, reading, speaking and writing, and these are built on as learners' progress through their studies. The syllabus also aims to offer insights into the culture and civilisation of countries where Mandarin Chinese is spoken, encouraging positive attitudes towards language learning and towards speakers of foreign languages.

- Develop critical-thinking and enquiry skills to distinguish between facts and opinion, calculating, interpreting and evaluating business data, to help build arguments and make informed judgements
- Develop an understanding of the dynamics of business activity and the related considerations of ethics and sustainability for global businesses

Units of Study

1. Business activity and influences on business
2. People in business
3. Business finance
4. Marketing
5. Business Operations

Assessment

- Two examinations with questions designed to support students of all abilities. Both papers will draw on topics taken from the whole of the subject content.
- Exam questions are based on real life business scenario case studies. Paper 1 scenarios are based on a small business. Paper 2 scenarios are based on a large business. Students are tested on knowledge, understanding, analytical and evaluation skills.

Requirement:

To take iGCSE Mandarin, students should have at least 2 years of previous Mandarin study.

Subject content themes:

- A. Home and abroad
- B. Education and employment
- C. Personal life and relationships
- D. The world around us
- E. Social activities, fitness and health

Assessment

The skills are assessed over three papers:

- Paper 1 – Listening (25%)
- Paper 2 – Reading and writing (50%)
- Paper 3 – Speaking (25%)

Visual Arts

Course Code: 1FA0

Outline

Visual Arts may be defined as work developed primarily to communicate aesthetic, intellectual or purely conceptual ideas and meaning, rather than to serve a practical or commercial function. For example, work could be the outcome of personal experiences, thoughts and feelings, or simply to observe and record people, places and things in new and unique ways. Visual Arts work will demonstrate an understanding and application of formal elements and creative skills, including mark-making. Students will use visual communication sensitively and thoughtfully to document their artistic journey and fully support their intentions. Students will also understand that Visual Arts practitioners may work to client commissions or undertake self-directed projects. They will need good communication skills in order to liaise with clients, and promote and exhibit their own work.

Assessment

Component 1:

Internally set coursework worth 60% of total grade.

GCSE Drama

Course Code: 1DR0

Practical exploration is central to the GCSE Drama course, with opportunities to be a deviser, a performer, a designer and an active audience member.

This programme will help students to develop a plethora of transferrable skills such as communication, presentation and public speaking, group and leadership skills, problem solving, time management, initiative and the ability to work to a deadline. Students will be able to utilise these valuable skills in all areas of study across the curriculum and in their future careers. The course is broken into three components.

Assessment Details Examination

Component 1: *Devising (40% of the qualification)*

- Working in a group as a performer to create and develop an original piece of drama in response to a stimulus.
- The performance of the devised work is worth 15 marks.
- The analysis and evaluation of both development and performance will be recorded in a portfolio worth 45 marks.

This component allows students opportunities to:

- develop and explore ideas
- research primary and contextual sources
- experiment with media, materials, techniques and processes
- present personal response(s) to theme(s)

Component 2:

Externally set exam worth 40%

This component allows students opportunities to:

- develop and explore ideas
- research primary and contextual sources
- experiment with media, materials, techniques and processes
- present personal response(s) to the externally-set theme.

The exam title is released in January and students will receive a set amount of preparatory time to prepare for the exam. The exam consists of 10 hours spread across 2 days during which students will create a final piece based on the work completed during their preparatory time.

Component 2:

Performance from Text (20% of the qualification)

- Exploration as a performer of two key extracts from a performance text. Creation of a performance of the two key extracts and presentation to a visiting examiner.

Component 3:

Theatre Makers in Practice (40% of the qualification) *Written examination 1hour 30 minutes.*

- Section A (Bringing Texts to life) 45 marks - Demonstration of knowledge & understanding of how a performance text can be developed and performed.
- Section B (Live theatre evaluation) - Evaluation and analysis of a live theatre performance seen during the course.

Students must participate in group performances and activities (both in and out of class) and attend a professional production. Drama demands a high degree of motivation, self-discipline and active involvement. Anyone considering an occupation that directly involves communicating with other people should seriously consider Drama as a GCSE option. There is an expectation that students studying GCSE Drama will take part in school productions.

Physical Education

Course Code: 1PE0

iGCSE Physical Education provides students with the knowledge of how to live a healthy and active lifestyle, enabling them to make informed choices, mixing practical activities with theoretical understanding.

The course is divided into 3 sections:

1. **Practical (30%)**
2. **Theory (60%)**
3. **Personal Exercise Programme (PEP) (10%)**

Practical

Worth 30%, pupils will be assessed in three sports:

- One team sport
- One individual sport
- Either a team or individual sport

ICT

Course Code: 4IT1

This two-year includes 3 objectives and 6 modules.

ICT enables students to:

- Acquire and apply ICT skills and knowledge
- Develop ICT-based solutions to address challenges
- Understand current and emerging technologies

Practical lessons

Students will use a range of software including Microsoft Office, iMovie and GIMP Graphics software. Students will also learn about building computers, some basic programming and creating websites.

Careers linked to Subject

Information and Communication Technology skills are required for further education and an increasing number of careers. Specific ICT/Computing areas

Theory

Worth 60% and based on two written papers.

Component 1 is worth 36 %, Component 2 is worth 24%. Both papers include multiple choice, short and long answer questions.

Personal Exercise Programme (PEP)

Worth 10%, this is a school based project. Pupils must study training programmes through participation in sports and understand how to design a 6 week training programme in a sport of their choice.



include Systems Analysis, Computer Games design, App development, Programming, Database management and Management Information System.

Assessment – Written Examination

50% of the total iGCSE marks

Overview of content: ICT systems, Impact of ICT, Use of ICT Systems, Find and Select information, Develop, Present and Communicate Information.

Assessment – Practical Paper

50% is based on a practical set of tasks

Students complete a set of tasks based on database, spreadsheet, presentation, graphics and word-processing software. The duration of the practical examination is 3 hours including printing time.

Design Technology: Resistant Materials

Course Code: 2RM01

This course teaches design and production, using wood, metal, plastics and modern smart materials. The final product will be fully-functional.

This two year course requires candidates to solve real design problems through developed knowledge, understanding and production skills.

Criteria

Pupils must be organised with coursework, note taking



and completing tasks to meet regular deadlines. Independence is also required to undertake projects and resolve various production problems.

Future Career Paths

Engineering, Product Design, Built Environment, Sustainable Design, Computer-Aided Design and Manufacturing, Carpentry and Mechanics.

Assessment

The written examination will test knowledge and understanding of resistant materials technology theory.

- ***Pupils will be tested at the end of Year 11, counting 50% of their final grade.***
- ***The remaining 50% is a combination of folder work and production in the final year project.***

Religious Studies

Course Code: 4RS1

Why Study Religious Studies

The study of religion helps you to learn how to think critically, listen empathetically, speak thoughtfully, and write clearly. Students of religion go on to careers in a wide variety of fields including; teaching, medicine, social service, law, journalism, international business and diplomacy.

The aims and objectives of this qualification are to;

- Develop knowledge and understanding of religious beliefs, values and traditions.
- Develop ability to construct well-informed, balanced and structured written arguments.
- Provide opportunities to engage with questions of belief, value, meaning, purpose, truth, and their influence on human life.
- Understand the influence of religion on individuals, communities and societies.

What topics will be studied?

Paper 1: Beliefs and values:

- Section 1: The Universe, Creation and the Place of Human Beings.
- Section 2: Life and Death.
- Section 3: Peace and Conflict.
- Section 4: Rights, Equality and Social Justice.

Paper 2: The Religious Community:

- Section 1: Origins and their Impact on the Community.
- Section 2: Celebration and Pilgrimage.
- Section 3: Worship and Practice.

How will it be assessed?

Paper 1: 1 hour 45 minute external examination.
Paper 2: 1 hour 30 minute external examination.

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	Subject 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

Background

iGCSEs are the world's most popular international qualifications for 14 to 16 year olds and are the gateway to higher education or professional studies. They can help you:

- Get a place at college or university
- Find better career opportunities
- Develop life-long professional skills

Edexcel is a multinational education and examination body and is a portmanteau term combining the words Education & Excellence. It regulates school examinations under the British Curriculum and offers qualifications for schools on an international scale. Edexcel is the UK's largest awarding organisation offering academic and vocational qualifications in schools, colleges and work places in the UK and abroad. The British curriculum offered by the Edexcel International board is among the most taught at International Schools worldwide.

Important Links

Edexcel:

<http://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-international-gcses-and-edexcel-certificates.html>

iGCSE :

<http://www.iGCSEcentre.com>



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