



GEMS

مدرسة جيمس فاوندرز (المزهر)

Founders School

AL MIZHAR



NEW KEY STAGE 5

Opening September 2022

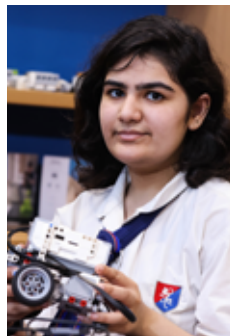




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BTEC



GEMS Founders School Al Mizhar teaches the UK curriculum and follows the National Curriculum for England. The education system in the UK has produced some of the world's greatest thinkers, scientists, mathematicians, writers and artists, both in the past and present. It will continue to do so into the future. The qualifications that can be achieved through this system are highly respected and are internationally recognized by universities and other higher education institutions.

There are a range of options and pathways available to students. These pathways are based on Advanced Level (A level) academic qualifications and supplemented by BTEC Level 3 vocational qualifications.

Dear Parents and Students

A very warm welcome to you all from the staff and community of GEMS Founders School Al Mizhar. Over the last few years, our school has continued to grow from strength to strength. From small beginnings, we are now a successful and popular choice for many parents and students, and we are continuing to develop on our journey towards becoming a world-class school. As a result, we are very proud to announce that we are continuing this expansion and will be launching our inaugural KS5 provision in the academic year 2022-2023!

Our vision is to empower students to have the heart to celebrate uniqueness and the mind to be innovative, creative problem solvers, bringing a positive change to the world in which we live. We have a passionate and dedicated leadership team, as well as a team of inspirational and highly training teaching staff, to enable the very best provision to be available for students within an affordable fees structure.

The purpose of this booklet is to present our KS5 offer at GFM, as well as helping students and parents make informed choices about the next stages of education. We very much hope you will see that at GFM we are passionate about student academic outcomes, but also about preparing students for the next stages of their lives. We would be privileged and honoured for you to join us on your journey.



Mr Amin
Head of
Secondary



Mr Rob
Assistant
Headteacher



Ms Mitzi
Director of
Aspirations

WHAT ARE A LEVELS?

Advanced level qualifications (known as A Levels) are subject-based qualifications that demonstrate students have a more in depth knowledge and understanding of their subject area than that required at GCSE level. They are often described as the 'gold standard' of KS5 examinations. Successful completion of A Levels within Years 12 and 13 will open up a number of future life pathways – including university, other further education/study, training schemes and the world of work.

Here at GFM we offer a range of A Level options. This is to ensure a broad and balanced curriculum for all, but also to make sure that our KS5 students will have every opportunity to continue onto any future academic pathway of their choice in the future.

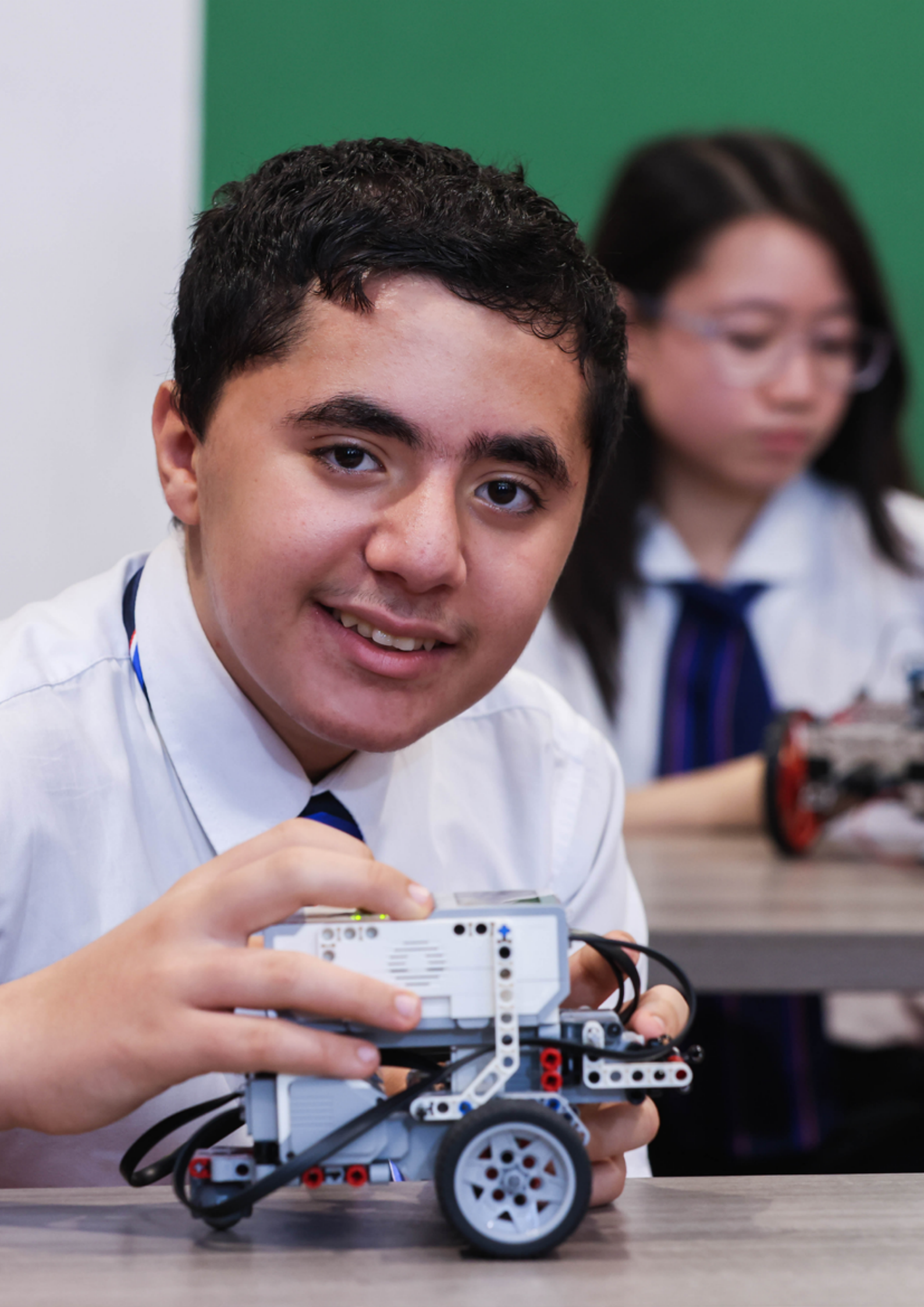
The International A Levels that we offer allow a modular approach to the assessment spread over the two year course. Completing the compulsory modules in Year 12 sees the award of the International Advanced Subsidiary qualification (IAS). These modules will then be used to contribute to the full International A Level (IAL) in Year 13. It is strongly recommended that all A Level students complete the full IAL over the course of two years.

Note – A Levels completed through the UK system are highly respected globally. However, potential students are advised to ensure that the exit qualifications achieved will satisfy the higher education requirements for their desired destination. Advice on this can be sought from the school if you are unsure.

WHAT ARE BTECS?

BTECs are skill based career focused qualifications for those students who are suited to this pathway. Every year over a million students across fifty countries complete BTEC qualifications and they are increasingly being recognized internationally. There will also be vocational courses in L3 BTEC available in both Sport and Information Technology. Details of these BTEC courses, and the entry requirements, can be found within this prospectus.





WHAT DO WE OFFER AT GFM?

At GFM we offer a range of A Level options that will enable students to choose a range of pathways following their completion.

All A Levels are two-year courses with formal exams sat at the end of Year 13. Students will be able to choose from a combination of the subjects below. Most students will complete three A Levels from these four option blocks:

Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Option 4
Economics	Business	Computer Science	Mathematics
Biology	Chemistry	Physics	Geography
English Literature	Biology	Business	English Language
History	Psychology	English Literature	Psychology
French	Mathematics	Sociology	Art and Design
Psychology	Physics	ICT	Chemistry

Note – As is the case with all schools, the offering of these subjects is dependent on viable student numbers. The school will always do whatever it can to ensure that students receive their first choice courses – but this cannot be guaranteed.

COMPULSORY SUBJECTS

At GFM, all students will take the following compulsory subjects:

- » Arabic MOE – for those students with an Arabic passport
- » Islamic Studies – for Muslim students
- » Moral Education, Social and Cultural Studies

This is in line with other schools and is a requirement from the KHDA.

Students will also have timetabled sessions of Physical Wellbeing Education (PWE). PWE is incredibly important in supporting our students with their health, state of mind and effective study. Studies have proven that physical exercise, good health and mental wellbeing contribute to improved academic performance. This will be increasingly important in KS5 where academic demands on students will be even higher than they were lower down in the school.

ENRICHMENT

In addition to academic study, students will be provided with a range of enrichment activities and programmes to further prepare them for University applications and the world of work.

This will include:

- » A wide range of enrichment activities run through the school timetable, after school and online.
- » Skills, character and competencies training through form time and assemblies.
- » The dedicated support of our Director of Aspirations to support, guide through university applications, and advise on future pathways.
- » Links, talks and opportunities for visits to and from universities.
- » Timetabled independent study sessions to enable private study and support for university applications.
- » Additional opportunities to complete EPQs (Extended Project Qualifications) to support University entry.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Application to KS5 at GFM will be open to all students who qualify by success at GCSE level. Those who are admitted will have a record of examination success at GCSE and have demonstrated that they are capable of moving on to more advanced study. Students who have a record of poor attendance or attitude towards their studies are unlikely to benefit from an A Level course.

Entry is conditional on students meeting the following prerequisites:

At least 5 IGCSE/GCSEs achieved at Grades 4 or above, including English and Mathematics.

Students must attain a Grade 6 or higher in the subjects intended to study at A Level. In some subjects where there are more students wishing to take a course than places available, we may demand higher level GCSE entry qualification.

Successful interview with members of our KS5 team.

External candidates from UK curriculum schools should provide reports from the last two academic years from their previous school.

All applications are reviewed and conditional offers are made subject to attainment at GCSE. Students who do not meet the minimum requirements will be dealt with on an individual basis.

Students applying from curriculums other than the National Curriculum for England are welcome to apply and will be dealt with on a case-by-case basis.

As with all schools GFM reserves the right to not offer a place to any student who fails to meet the entry requirements above, as well as for any student with a low attendance record or a record that demonstrates a poor attitude to learning. This decision will be made by the school only.

Courses will only be run with viable student numbers and our course choice structure may be subject to change. We will always share full information about this.

REQUIREMENTS FOR BTEC COURSES

Applications for BTEC courses will be dealt with on a case-by-case basis. Depending on the course applied for there will be expected standards to have been achieved at GCSE level.



ENGLISH LITERATURE

COURSE TITLE: International Advanced Level English Literature/Advanced Subsidiary English Literature

EXAM BOARD: OxfordAQA - [Link to specification](#)

WHAT IS INVOLVED: Content of the course covers a range of advanced literature comprising of a Shakespeare play, a novel, a collection of poems and a dramatic tragedy. In addition, students will complete a Non-Exam Assessment (NEA). For the full IAL qualification students must complete all 4 units.

IAS	UNIT 1: ASPECTS OF DRAMATIC TRAGEDY <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Involves the study of two drama texts » Closed book written exam 2 hours (50 marks) QUESTIONS: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Section A - One passage-based question on Elizabethan and Jacobean tragedy. (25 marks) » Section B - One essay question based on later dramatic tragedies. (25 marks) » 50% of International AS/20% of International AL 	UNIT 2: PLACE IN LITERARY TEXTS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Involves the study of one prose text and one poetry text » Open book written exam 2 hours (50 marks) QUESTIONS: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Section A - One essay question on prose set text (25 marks) » Section B - One essay question on poetry set text (25 marks) » 50% of International AS/20% of International AL
	UNIT 3: ELEMENTS OF CRIME AND MYSTERY <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Involves the study of two texts of choice » Closed book written exam 2 hours (50 marks) QUESTIONS: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Students answer two essay questions (25 marks each) » 30% of International AL 	UNIT 4B: LITERARY REPRESENTATIONS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Involves the study of two texts: one poetry text and one prose text. » Students will produce two essays of 1,250-1,500 words, each responding to a different text. (50 marks) » This is a non-exam assessment and is assessed by teachers and moderated by the exam board. » 30% of International AL

PRIOR STUDY REQUIREMENTS:

There are no prior study requirements for this course, although it is expected that you have achieved the required grade at GCSE level as set out by our entry requirements.

FUTURE PATHWAYS

The skills you develop through the study of English Literature (effective written and verbal communication, deep analysis of written text, time-management, organisational skills, team-work, independent study and research, developing persuasive arguments) are applicable to a wide variety of professional areas. Some areas which have traditionally attracted English Literature students include advertising, marketing and PR work, arts administration, library and information management, the legal profession, editing and publishing, journalism and other areas of the media. Teaching and academic careers are also popular choices for Literature students.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

COURSE TITLE: International Advanced Level English Language/Advanced Subsidiary English Language

EXAM BOARD: Oxford AQA [Link to specification](#)

WHAT IS INVOLVED: For the full International A Level qualification students complete 4 units. The content of the course covers a range of advanced language study and exploration, including units that cover international language usage, child language acquisition, the history of language and the use of language within groups. Additionally, students will complete a Non-Exam Assessment (NEA) of their choice.

IAS	UNIT 1: LANGUAGE AND CONTEXT <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Written exam - 2 hours (50 marks) QUESTIONS: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Section A - Understanding texts - Students carry out one compulsory analysis of two texts linked by a common theme. (25 marks) » Section B - Directed writing - Students carry out one writing task, from a choice of two questions. (25 marks) » 50% of International AS/20% of International AL 	UNIT 2: LANGUAGE AND SOCIETY <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Written exam - 2 hours (50 marks) QUESTIONS: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Section A - Language and social groups: Texts - Students carry out one compulsory text analysis task (25 marks) » Section B - Language and social groups: Writing - Students carry out one compulsory writing task (25 marks) » 50% of International AS/20% of International AL
	UNIT 3: LANGUAGE VARIATION <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Written exam - 2 hours (50 marks) QUESTIONS: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Section A - Learning language - Students answer one question from a choice of two (25 marks) » Section B - International English - Students answer one question from a choice of two (25 marks) » 30% of International AL 	UNIT 4B: LANGUAGE EXPLORATION <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Students will carry out a language investigation of 2,500-3,000 words by collecting their own data and analysing it. (50 marks) » This is a non-exam assessment and is assessed by teachers and moderated by the exam board. » 30% of International AL

PRIOR STUDY REQUIREMENTS:

There are no prior study requirements for this course, although it is expected that you have achieved the required grade at GCSE level as set out by our entry requirements.

FUTURE PATHWAYS

The skills you develop through the study of A level English Language (effective written and verbal communication, time-management, organisational skills, team-work, independent study and research, developing persuasive arguments) are applicable to a wide variety of professional areas. All careers and future academic success require clear communication skills, and so an advanced level qualification in English Language can help open many future pathways.

MATHEMATICS

COURSE TITLE: International Advanced Level Mathematics/Advanced Subsidiary Mathematics

EXAM BOARD: Pearson Edexcel [Link to specification](#)

WHAT IS INVOLVED: For the full International A Level qualification students must complete 6 units. This includes four modules in Pure Mathematics (P1, P2, P3 and P4) plus modules in Mechanics and Statistics (M1, S1)

Each unit is externally assessed by a written examination of 1 hour and 30 minutes. Each of these unit exams is worth 75 marks.

Unit	IAS weighting	IAL weighting	Content overview
P1	33%	16%	Algebra and functions; coordinate geometry in the (x, y); trigonometry; differentiation; integration.
P2	33%	16%	Proof; algebra and functions; coordinate geometry in the (x, y) plane; sequences and series; exponentials and logarithms; trigonometry; differentiation; integration.
P3	N/A	16%	Algebra and functions; trigonometry; exponentials and logarithms; differentiation; integration; numerical methods.
P4	N/A	16%	Proof; algebra and functions; coordinate geometry in the (x, y) plane; binominal expansion; differentiation; integration; vectors.
M1	33%	16%	Mathematical models in mechanics; vectors in mechanics; kinematics of a particle moving in a straight line; dynamics of a particle moving in a straight line or plane; statics of a particle; moments.
S1	33%	16%	Mathematical models in probability and statistics; representation and summary of data; probability; correlation and regression; discrete random variables; discrete distributions; the Normal distribution

PRIOR STUDY REQUIREMENTS:

There are no prior study requirements for this course, although it is expected that you have achieved the required grade at GCSE level as set out by our entry requirements.

FUTURE PATHWAYS

Typical careers in this field include, but are not limited to, Engineer, Scientist, Statistician, Architect, Financial Consultant, Insurance Broker, Teacher, Programmer and Accountant, Aeronautics, Medicine, Engineering, Computer Science, Business, Analysts, Actuary

An A level Maths qualification can assist with accessing university courses and lends itself well to subjects such as Physics, Psychology, Economics, Computing and Business Studies. The skills that the subject develops include problem solving, logic and analysis. These are all life-long critical thinking skills which employers desire in today’s society.





FRENCH

COURSE TITLE: International Advanced Level French/Advanced Subsidiary French

EXAM BOARD: Pearson Edexcel [Link to specification](#)

WHAT IS INVOLVED: The course is designed to inspire students, enabling them to use French Language independently and encouraging a deeper understanding of French language and culture. It caters for a range of student interests, with support for those who see languages as a skill to enhance career or travel prospects. For the full International A Level students complete four units.

IAS	<p>UNIT 1: SPOKEN EXPRESSION AND RESPONSE</p> <p>» Externally assessed spoken examination: 8-10 minutes (40 marks)</p> <p>CONTENT OVERVIEW: Youth matters; Lifestyle, health and fitness; Environment and travel; Education and employment</p> <p>» Section A – Spoken response » Section B – Discussion » 30% of International AS/15% of International AL</p>	<p>UNIT 2: UNDERSTANDING AND WRITTEN RESPONSE</p> <p>» Written exam 2 hours 30 minutes (90 marks)</p> <p>CONTENT OVERVIEW: Youth matters; Lifestyle, health and fitness; Environment and travel; Education and employment</p> <p>» Section A – Listening » Section B – Recording and Grammar » Section C – Writing » 70% of International AS/35% of International AL</p>
	<p>UNIT 3: UNDERSTANDING AND SPOKEN RESPONSE</p> <p>» Externally assessed spoken examination 11-13 minutes (40 marks)</p> <p>CONTENT OVERVIEW: Debate on any issue chosen by the student followed by a discussion of two further issues selected by the teacher.</p> <p>» Section A – Presentation and debate » Section B – Discussion » 15% of International AL</p>	<p>UNIT 4: RESEARCH, UNDERSTANDING AND WRITTEN RESPONSE</p> <p>» Written exam 2 hours 30 minutes (90 marks)</p> <p>CONTENT OVERVIEW: Youth matters; Lifestyle, health and fitness; Environment and travel; Education and employment; Technology; Society; Ethics. This will involve use of set topics, literary texts and films.</p> <p>» Section A – Listening » Section B – Recording and Grammar » Section C – Writing » 35% of International AL</p>

PRIOR STUDY REQUIREMENT:

GCSE French qualification to the standard as set out in the entry requirements. This course is not suitable for students without this qualification.

FUTURE PATHWAYS: Employment opportunities and knowledge of one or more foreign languages can be useful in a wide range of careers. For some jobs, such as translating, interpreting and language teaching, language skills are one of the main requirements. For other jobs, a combination of languages and other qualifications, knowledge or skills may be needed. For example, people with languages plus IT, law, finance, or sales skills are much sought-after.

ECONOMICS

COURSE TITLE: International Advanced Level Economics/Advanced Subsidiary Economics

EXAM BOARD: Oxford AQA [Link to specification](#)

WHAT IS INVOLVED: The course is designed support students in their advanced study of economics and its application in a range of areas, including markets, business behaviour, and economic development in the global economy. For the full International A Level students need to complete four units.

IAS	UNIT 1: THE OPERATION OF MARKETS, MARKET FAILURE AND THE ROLE OF GOVERNMENT <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Written exam 1 hour 45 minutes (80 marks) » Section A – Multiple choice questions (15 marks) » Section B – Includes one data response context with short answer, calculations/diagrammatical and extended response questions. (65 marks) » 50% of International AS/20% of International AL 	UNIT 2: THE NATIONAL ECONOMY IN A GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Written exam 1 hour 45 minutes (80 marks) » Section A – Multiple choice questions (15 marks) » Section B – Includes one data response context with short answer, calculations/diagrammatical and extended response questions. (65 marks) » 50% of International AS/20% of International AL
	UNIT 3: THE ECONOMICS OF BUSINESS BEHAVIOUR AND THE DISTRIBUTION OF INCOME <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Written exam – 2 hours (90 marks) » Students will be expected to use the knowledge and skills from Unit 1 to support their studies of Unit 3. » Section A – Multiple choice questions (10 marks) » Section B – Short answer questions (10 marks) » Section C – Data response context with short answer and extended response questions (45 marks) » Section D – Students answer one question from a choice of two (25 marks) » 30% of International AL 	UNIT 4: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND THE GLOBAL ECONOMY <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Written exam – 2 hours (90 marks) » Students will be expected to use the knowledge and skills from Units 1 and 2 to support their studies of Unit 4. » Section A – Multiple choice questions (10 marks) » Section B – Short answer questions (10 marks) » Section C – Data response context with short answer and extended response questions (45 marks) » Section D – Students answer one question from a choice of two (25 marks) » 30% of International AL

PRIOR STUDY REQUIREMENT

There are no prior study requirements other than those set out in our entry requirements. Successful completion of Mathematics and Business GCSEs will also be advantageous.

FUTURE PATHWAYS

An Economics degree develops a very useful contribution of attributes linked to mathematical ability and literacy. The course will promote the important skills of decision-making and problem solving. Career paths may include a professional economist, a banker, an entrepreneur, a financial journalist, and many more.

BUSINESS

COURSE TITLE: International Advanced Level Business/Advanced Subsidiary Business

EXAM BOARD: Oxford AQA [Link to specification](#)

WHAT IS INVOLVED: The course is designed support students in their advanced study of business, including strategy, decision making, operations, human resources, finance and markets. For the full International A Level students need to complete four units.

IAS	UNIT 1: BUSINESS AND MARKETS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Written exam 1 hour 30 minutes (80 marks) » Section A – Short answer and data response questions (17 marks) » Section B – Extended response questions (27 marks) » Section C – Extended response questions (36 marks) » 50% of International AS/20% of International AL 	UNIT 2: MANAGING OPERATIONS, HUMAN RESOURCES AND FINANCE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Written exam 1 hour 30 minutes (80 marks) » Section A – Short answer and data response questions (17 marks) » Section B – Extended response questions (27 marks) » Section C – Extended response questions (36 marks) » 50% of International AS/20% of International AL
	UNIT 3: BUSINESS STRATEGY <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Written exam 1 hour 45 minutes (80 marks) QUESTIONS: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Two compulsory case studies followed by 4 or 5 short answer and extended answer response questions worth around 40 marks each » 30% of International AL 	UNIT 4: BUSINESS DECISION MAKING <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Written exam 1 hour 45 minutes (80 marks) QUESTIONS: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Section A – Short answer and extended response questions (36 marks) » Section B – Business report (44 marks) » 30% of International AL

PRIOR STUDY REQUIREMENT

There are no prior study requirements other than those set out in our entry requirements. Successful completion of Mathematics and Economics GCSEs will also be advantageous.

FUTURE PATHWAYS

Students with A Level Business Studies have access to a wide range of possible pathways and higher education opportunities. You learn and use a variety of transferable skills throughout the course. These include the important business skills of decision making and planning. You can start a career in business armed with an excellent knowledge of how businesses operate. You may choose a range of professional and business careers including management, financial service, retailing, marketing, and HR management. The course would also be of interest to those that have ambitions to start their own business at some stage in their life.

ART AND DESIGN

COURSE TITLE: International Advanced Level Art and Design/Advanced Subsidiary Art and Design

EXAM BOARD: Cambridge [Link to specification](#)

WHAT IS INVOLVED: The course is designed to support students in achieve an advanced level qualification in Art and Design with a focus on observation, communication, creative expression, critical reflection, and development of wider artistic skills. For the full International A Level students need to complete three units over two years.

Unit	Weighting	Assessment	Content overview
1	50% of the IAS 25% of the IAL 100 marks	» Externally assessed	COURSEWORK <ul style="list-style-type: none">» The student will research, develop and realise a project from one area of study in the syllabus content.» There are two parts to the coursework: A portfolio and a final outcome» The portfolio can be up to five sheets of A2.
2	50% of the IAS 25% of the IAL 100 marks	» Externally assessed » Controlled assessment (15 hours)	EXTERNALLY SET ASSIGNMENT <ul style="list-style-type: none">» Students choose one starting point to develop into a personal response.» There are two parts to the assignment: supporting studies, created during the preparation period and a final outcome, produced during a supervised test of 15 hours' total duration.» The supporting studies can be up to three sheets of A2.
3	50% of the IAL 100 marks	» Externally assessed	PERSONAL INVESTIGATION <ul style="list-style-type: none">» The student will investigate a theme, idea, concept or process that is personal to them.» There are two parts to the investigation: practical work and written analysis (1000–1500 words).» The practical work and written analysis must form an integrated submission.» The Personal Investigation must be submitted on A2.

PRIOR STUDY REQUIREMENT

GCSE Art & design qualification to the standard as set out in the entry requirements. This course is not recommended for students who have not studied Art at GCSE.

FUTURE PATHWAYS

There are many careers related to art, craft and design. Those that are directly art related will require further study at university. Studying art gives students the opportunity to learn how to think critically. Since most questions regarding a piece of art do not have a specific answer, pupils are encouraged to come up with their own solutions. The problem solving and research skills that students acquire over the A Level course will prove useful no matter what specialism they may eventually choose to follow.

A qualification in Art & Design A Level can be used in many career paths, some of which you may not have considered; Architect, art historian, publisher, writer/ critic, designer, illustrator, photographer, sculptor, teacher and many more besides.



INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (IT)

COURSE TITLE: Cambridge International Advanced Level Information Technology/Advanced Subsidiary Information Technology (9626)

EXAM BOARD: Cambridge [Link to specification](#)

What is involved: In a world where IT is constantly changing, individuals increasingly need technological and information literacy skills. The use of IT within businesses and households means that the need for individuals with IT qualifications continues to grow. This course focuses on key areas of IT development and the application of skills. The two assessment objectives focus on knowledge and understanding, and problem-solving skills.

IAS	PAPER 1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Written theory exam 1 hour 45 minutes (70 marks) » This written paper covers sections 1-11 of the syllabus content. » All questions are compulsory. » 50% of IAS » 25% of IAL 	PAPER 2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Practical exam 2 hours 30 minutes (90 marks) » This practical exam covers sections 8-11 of the syllabus content, however students will also need to use their previous knowledge from sections 1-7. » All tasks are compulsory. » Candidates must use the most appropriate software and most appropriate methods. » 50% of IAS » 25% of IAL
	PAPER 3 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Written theory exam 1 hour 45 minutes (70 marks) » This written exam covers sections 12-20 of the syllabus content, however students will also need to use knowledge from sections 1-11. » All tasks are compulsory. » 25% of IAL 	PAPER 4 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Practical exam 2 hours 30 minutes (90 marks) » This practical exam covers sections 17-20 of the syllabus content. The paper includes tasks from sections 8-10 within a problem-solving context. Students will need to apply their knowledge and understanding of all subject content. » All tasks are compulsory. » Candidates must use the most appropriate software and most appropriate methods. » 25% of the IAL

PRIOR STUDY REQUIREMENT

There are no prior study requirements for this course, however, it is recommended that students have completed a GCSE in either IT or Computer Science. GCSEs in Science and Maths are also advantageous. Please note that this course cannot be combined with the International A Level in Computer Science.

FUTURE PATHWAYS

A level IT will give you access to a wide range of career pathways. Roles directly relevant to your course include: IT support, IT networking, data analytics, cybersecurity, software and web development.

COMPUTER SCIENCE

COURSE TITLE: Cambridge International Advanced Level Computer Science/Advanced Subsidiary Computer Science (9618)

EXAM BOARD: Cambridge [Link to specification](#)

WHAT IS INVOLVED: The aim of the syllabus is to encourage learners to develop an understanding of the fundamental principles of computer science and how computer programs work in a range of contexts.

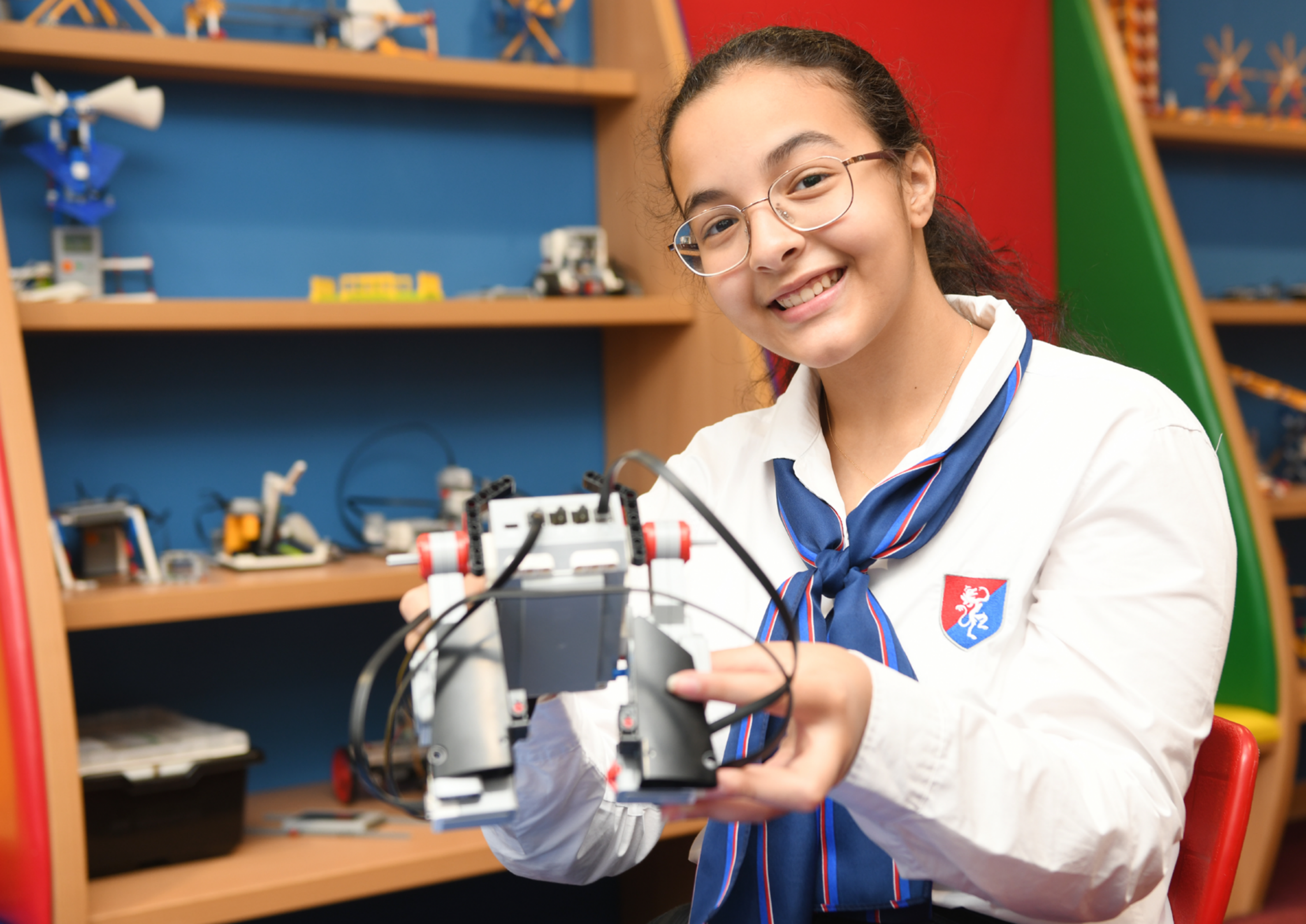
IAS	PAPER 1 - THEORY FUNDAMENTALS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Written theory exam 1 hour 30 minutes (75 marks) » This written paper covers sections 1-8 of the syllabus content. » All questions are compulsory. » 50% of IAS » 25% of IAL 	PAPER 2 - FUNDAMENTAL PROBLEM-SOLVING AND PROGRAMMING SKILLS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Written exam 2 hours (75 marks) » This exam covers sections 9-12 of the syllabus content. » All tasks are compulsory. » 50% of IAS » 25% of IAL
	PAPER 3 - ADVANCED THEORY <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Written theory exam 1 hour 30 minutes (75 marks) » This written exam covers sections 13-20 of the syllabus content. » All tasks are compulsory. » 25% of IAL 	PAPER 4 - PRACTICAL <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Practical exam 2 hours 30 minutes (75 marks) » This practical exam covers sections 19-20 of the syllabus content, except for low-level and declarative programming. » All tasks are compulsory. » 25% of the IAL

PRIOR STUDY REQUIREMENT

Students beginning this course should have previously completed a qualification in Computer Science at GCSE level. They must meet the criteria as set out in our entry requirements. GCSEs in Science and Maths are also advantageous. Please note that this course cannot be combined with the International A Level in IT.

FUTURE PATHWAYS

A level Computer Science, will give you access to a wide range of career pathways. Roles directly relevant to your course include: data analyst, cyber security analyst, game designer, IT consultant, and software engineer, software development, and many other specialized areas like database architect or performance engineer.



CHEMISTRY

COURSE TITLE: International Advanced Level Chemistry/Advanced Subsidiary Chemistry

EXAM BOARD: OxfordAQA [Link to specification](#)

WHAT IS INVOLVED: This course is designed to provide students with an in-depth understanding of physical, inorganic and organic chemistry, and allow students to apply their knowledge within practical work. There are five units that must be completed for the full International A Level qualification.

IAS	UNIT 1 – INORGANIC 1 AND PHYSICAL 1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Written exam 1 hour 30 minutes (70 marks) CONTENT COVERS MATERIAL FROM: 3.1.1–3.1.5 Physical chemistry and 3.2.1–3.2.3 Inorganic chemistry. » 50% of IAS » 25% of IAL 		UNIT 2 – ORGANIC 1 AND PHYSICAL 1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Written exam 1 hour 30 minutes (70 marks) CONTENT COVERS MATERIAL FROM: 3.1.6–3.1.7 Physical chemistry and 3.3.1–3.3.6 Organic chemistry. » Understanding of concepts from Unit 1 will be required to answer questions in Unit 2. » 50% of IAS » 25% of IAL 	
	UNIT 3 – INORGANIC 2 AND PHYSICAL 2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Written exam – 1 hour 30 minutes (80 marks) CONTENT COVERS MATERIAL FROM: 3.1.8–3.1.10 Physical chemistry and 3.2.4–3.2.6 Inorganic chemistry. » Knowledge of chemistry from Units 1 and 2 is assumed. » 21% of IAL 	UNIT 4 – ORGANIC 2 AND PHYSICAL 2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Written exam – 1 hour 30 minutes (80 marks) CONTENT COVERS MATERIAL FROM: 3.1.11–3.1.12 Physical chemistry and 3.3.7–3.3.16 Organic chemistry. » Knowledge of chemistry from Units 1 and 2 is assumed. » 21% of IAL 	UNIT 5 – PRACTICAL AND SYNOPTIC <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Practical exam – 1 hour 25 minutes (60 marks) » A practical assessment based on knowledge from all Units (30 marks), followed by multiple choice questions (30 marks) » All tasks are compulsory. » 18% of the IAL 	

PRIOR STUDY REQUIREMENT

Students beginning this course should have previously completed a qualification in Chemistry at GCSE level. Completion of Mathematics GCSE at grade 6 or above is recommended. They must meet the criteria as set out in our entry requirements.

FUTURE PATHWAYS

Chemistry is a central area in science and, as such, it overlaps with many other areas. This results in Chemistry being an essential or preferred requirement for admission to university to study a range of subjects. Some degree courses for which Chemistry is either compulsory or advantageous. An A level in chemistry can open many doors to a range of career path such as agriculture, biochemistry, chemical engineering, dentistry, geology, pharmacy, medicine and polymer technology, materials science, physiotherapy, chemical research or veterinary medicine.

PHYSICS

COURSE TITLE: International Advanced Level Physics/Advanced Subsidiary Physics

EXAM BOARD: OxfordAQA [Link to specification](#)

WHAT IS INVOLVED: This course is designed to provide students with an in depth understanding of physics, and aims to ensure that students are prepared for further university study in physics or engineering. This specification covers all topics that universities expect students to have a grounding in, with the inclusion of practical skills in the main exam papers. Completion of all five units is required for the full International A Level qualification.

IAS	UNIT 1 – MECHANICS, MATERIALS AND ATOMS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Written exam 2 hours (80 marks) CONTENT: 3.1 Measurements and their errors; 3.2 Mechanics and materials; 3.3 Particles, radiation and radioactivity » 50% of IAS » 25% of IAL 		UNIT 2 – ELECTRICITY, WAVES AND PARTICLES <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Written exam 2 hours (80 marks) CONTENT: 3.4 Electricity; 3.5 Oscillations and waves. » Questions may draw on the physics principles from » 50% of IAS » 25% of IAL 	
	UNIT 3 – FIELDS AND THEIR CONSEQUENCES <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Written exam 2 hours (80 marks) CONTENT: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » 3.6 Circular and periodic motion; 3.7 Gravitational fields and satellites; 3.8 Electric fields and capacitance 3.9 Exponential change; 3.10 Magnetic fields » Questions may draw on the physics principles from Unit 1 and 2 » 20% of IAL 	UNIT 4 – ENERGY AND ENERGY RESOURCES <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Written exam 2 hours (80 marks) CONTENT: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » 3.11 Thermal physics; 3.12 Nuclear energy; 3.13 Energy sources » Questions may draw on the physics principles from Units 1–3 » 20% of IAL 	UNIT 5 – PHYSICS IN PRACTICE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Written exam 2 hours (80 marks) CONTENT: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » 3.14 Practical and analytical skills; » Any content from topics 3.1–3.13 » 20% of the IAL 	

PRIOR STUDY REQUIREMENT

Students beginning this course should have previously completed a qualification in Physics at GCSE level. Completion of Mathematics GCSE at grade 6 or above is recommended. They must meet the criteria as set out in our entry requirements.

FUTURE PATHWAYS

As a pathway A level Physics covers many specialized fields – from acoustics, astronomy and astrophysics to medical physics and geophysics. After the completion of a full A Level qualification, candidates can then continue their university education for majoring into various fields in science and technology like engineer biophysicist, nuclear scientist, space scientist and many more.





BIOLOGY

COURSE TITLE: International Advanced Level Biology/Advanced Subsidiary Biology
EXAM BOARD: OxfordAQA [Link to specification](#)
WHAT IS INVOLVED: This qualification is designed to harness students’ interest in the world of living things. Through a mixture of knowledge, understanding and the application of practical science it will leave students well prepared for future study in this field and more.

IAS	UNIT 1 – THE DIVERSITY OF LIVING ORGANISMS <ul style="list-style-type: none">» Written exam 1 hour 30 minutes (75 marks) CONTENT: Any content listed within Unit 1. <ul style="list-style-type: none">» There are three required practical activities within this unit.» 50% of IAS» 25% of IAL	UNIT 2 – BIOLOGICAL SYSTEMS AND DISEASE <ul style="list-style-type: none">» Written exam 1 hour 30 minutes (75 marks) CONTENT: Any content listed within Unit 2 <ul style="list-style-type: none">» Questions may draw on the biological principles specified in Unit 1» There are three required practical activities within this unit.» 50% of IAS» 25% of IAL	
	UNIT 3 – POPULATIONS AND GENES <ul style="list-style-type: none">» Written exam – 1 hour 30 minutes (75 marks)» Content: Any content listed within Unit 3.» There are three required practical activities within this unit.» Questions may draw on the biological principles specified in Units 1 and 2» 20% of IAL	UNIT 4 – CONTROL <ul style="list-style-type: none">» Written exam – 1 hour 30 minutes (75 marks)» Content: Any content listed within Unit 4.» There are three required practical activities within this unit.» Questions may draw on the biological principles specified in Units 1-3.» 20% of IAL	UNIT 5 – SYNOPTIC PAPER <ul style="list-style-type: none">» Written exam – 1 hour 30 minutes (75 marks)» Content: This Unit will draw on topics covered from Units 1-4.» 20% of IAL
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PRIOR STUDY REQUIREMENT
Students beginning this course should have previously completed a qualification in Biology at GCSE level. They must meet the criteria as set out in our entry requirements.

FUTURE PATHWAYS
Many students use their Biology A Level to go on to higher education to study Science related courses. Studying Biology teaches us to ask questions, make observations, evaluate evidence and solve problems. Biologists learn how they interact with one another and how they evolve. This could lead to a career in medicine, biochemistry, genetic engineering, nutritionist, ecologist, marine biologist, microbiologist, and many more.

HISTORY

COURSE TITLE: International Advanced Level History/Advanced Subsidiary History

EXAM BOARD: Cambridge <https://www.cambridgeinternational.org/Images/502955-2021-2023-syllabus.pdf>

WHAT IS INVOLVED: Cambridge International A Level in History is a flexible and wide ranging syllabus covering modern history in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. The syllabus builds on previous skills taught at GCSE and develops lifelong skills – including understanding issues and themes in context, the handling of historical material and the nature of historical interpretation.

IAS	PAPER 1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Written exam 1 hour 15 minutes (40 marks) » Candidates study one of the following options: » European option: Modern Europe, 1750-1921 » American option: The history of the USA, 1820-1941 » International option: International history, 1870-1945 » Questions in this exam will focus on the use of historical documents and sources. » 40% of IAS » 20% of IAL 	PAPER 2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Written exam 1 hour 45 minutes (60 marks) » Candidates study one of the following options: » European option: Modern Europe, 1750-1921 » American option: The history of the USA, 1820-1941 » International option: International history, 1870-1945 » Questions in this exam will focus on the concepts of causation and significance. » 60% of IAS » 30% of IAL
	PAPER 3 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Written exam 1 hour 15 minutes (40 marks) » Candidates study one of the following options: » Topic 1: The origins of the First World War » Topic 2: The Holocaust » Topic 3: The origins and development of the Cold War » Questions in this exam will focus on the study of historical interpretations. » 20% of IAL 	PAPER 4 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Written exam 1 hour 45 minutes (60 marks) » Candidates study one of the following options: » European option: European history in the interwar years, 1919-1941 » American option: The USA, 1944-1992 » International option: International history, 1945-1992 » Questions in this exam will focus on the study of these time periods as a depth study. » 30% of the IAL

PRIOR STUDY REQUIREMENT

There are no prior study requirements other than those specified within our entry requirements.

FUTURE PATHWAYS: Studying History gives you so much more than just understanding of the past: that's just the fascinating content that we use to develop the skills that are valued by universities and employers. The skills you will obtain through studying History will be useful in a number of careers and higher education options, either directly related to History (e.g. working in museums, galleries, heritage sites, archives and teaching), or in areas such as journalism, performance, law, government and business management.

GEOGRAPHY

COURSE TITLE: International Advanced Level Geography/Advanced Subsidiary Geography

EXAM BOARD: OxfordAQA [Link to specification](#)

WHAT IS INVOLVED: This qualification is designed to cover a range of physical, human and environmental aspects of advanced level study of Geography. It builds on geographical skills taught at GCSE and encourages students to think in an analytical way and take account of a wide range of points of view.

IAS	UNIT 1 – PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY <ul style="list-style-type: none">» Written exam 1 hour 30 minutes (80 marks) CONTENT: <ul style="list-style-type: none">» Unit 1a Living with hazards and Hot desert systems and landscapesOr» Unit 1b Living with hazards and Coastal systems» and landscapes» 50% of IAS» 20% of IAL	UNIT 2 – HUMAN GEOGRAPHY 1 <ul style="list-style-type: none">» Written exam 1 hour 30 minutes (80 marks) CONTENT: <ul style="list-style-type: none">» Global systems and governance; Resource security» 50% of IAS» 20% of IAL
	UNIT 3 – PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY 2 <ul style="list-style-type: none">» Written exam – 1 hour 30 minutes (80 marks) CONTENT: Water, carbon and life on Earth; Ecosystems under stress <ul style="list-style-type: none">» 20% of IAL	UNIT 4 – HUMAN GEOGRAPHY 2 <ul style="list-style-type: none">» Written exam 1 hour 30 minutes (80 marks) CONTENT: Changing places; People and contemporary urban environments <ul style="list-style-type: none">» 20% of IAL
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PRIOR STUDY REQUIREMENT

There are no prior study requirements other than those set out in our entry requirements.

FUTURE PATHWAYS

Geography is an excellent subject for encouraging research skills in a social studies context and for the development of written, graphical and mathematical skills. As such, it is highly regarded by universities and employers alike. It provides you with a wealth of transferable skills that enables you to flourish in a wide range of professions.



PSYCHOLOGY

COURSE TITLE: International Advanced Level Psychology/Advanced Subsidiary Geography

Exam board: OxfordAQA [Link to specification](#)

WHAT IS INVOLVED: Students will have the opportunity to explore interesting psychology topics, considering both psychological theory and practical application. During their course they will develop skills valued and expected by universities and employers, including critical analysis, independent thinking and scientific research.

IAS	UNIT 1 - INTRODUCTORY TOPICS IN PSYCHOLOGY <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Written exam 1 hour 30 minutes (90 marks) CONTENT: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Section A: Memory » Section B: Social psychology » Section: Psychopathology » 50% of IAS » 20% of IAL 	UNIT 1 - BIOPSYCHOLOGY, DEVELOPMENT AND RESEARCH METHODS 1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Written exam 1 hour 30 minutes (90 marks) CONTENT: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Section A: Biopsychology » Section B: Cognitive development » Section: Research methods » 50% of IAS » 20% of IAL
	UNIT 3 - ADVANCED TOPICS AND RESEARCH METHODS 2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Written exam 1 hour 30 minutes (90 marks) CONTENT: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Section A: Psychology of sleep » Section B: Schizophrenia » Section C: Research methods » 30% of IAL 	UNIT 4 - APPROACHES AND APPLICATION <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Written exam 1 hour 30 minutes (90 marks) CONTENT: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » This is a synoptic unit focusing on the content below: » Section A: Approaches in psychology » Section B: Issues and debates in psychology » Section: Applied psychology: work and the individual » 30% of IAL

PRIOR STUDY REQUIREMENT

There are no prior study requirements other than those set out in our entry requirements.

FUTURE PATHWAYS

Psychology is an excellent general complement to other sciences at A Level; it is an opportunity to include a "human" science for those of a more English / Humanities nature who don't feel completely comfortable with conventional sciences but wish to show CV range; it is a rapidly expanding subject with strong career potential – the science of the 21st Century. Students can choose to specialise in an array of psychological 25 fields including clinical, health, forensic, neuro, sport and exercise, occupational, counselling, and educational as well as research and academia. The field and study of Psychology also lends to other, less obvious career opportunities; for example, Psychology graduates have gone on to design cockpits for NASA and computer software interfaces.

SOCIOLOGY

COURSE TITLE: International Advanced Level Sociology/Advanced Subsidiary Sociology

Exam board: Cambridge [Link to specification](#)

WHAT IS INVOLVED: In a rapidly changing world an A Level in Sociology offers learners the opportunity not only to explore the processes that are shaping current trends, but also to develop an understanding of the complexity and diversity of human societies. The study of sociology stimulates awareness of contemporary social, cultural and political issues, and examines them in a rigorous, reasoned and analytical way.

IAS	UNIT 1 - SOCIALISATION, IDENTITY AND METHODS OF RESEARCH <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Written exam 1 hour 30 minutes (60 marks) CONTENT: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » The process of learning and socialization; Social control, conformity and resistance; Social identity and change; Approaches to sociological research » 50% of IAS » 25% of IAL 	UNIT 2 - THE FAMILY <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Written exam 1 hour 30 minutes (60 marks) CONTENT: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Theories of the family and social change; Family roles and changing relationships » 50% of IAS » 25% of IAL
	UNIT 3 - EDUCATION <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Written exam 1 hour 15 minutes (50 marks) CONTENT: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Education and society; The role of education; Education and inequality » 20% of IAL 	UNIT 4 - GLOBALISATION, MEDIA AND RELIGION <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Written exam 1 hour 45 minutes (70 marks) CONTENT: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Key debates on globalization; Ownership and control of the media; Media representation and effects; Religion and social order; The influence of religion » 30% of IAL

PRIOR STUDY REQUIREMENT

There are no prior study requirements.

FUTURE PATHWAYS

A Level Sociology gives you a strong foundation for further study of a range of academic subjects at degree level. It is a good foundation subject as the knowledge you learn can be applied to all aspects of society and it provides a variety of academic skills especially thinking critically about the world. Sociology can lead to a job in a variety of careers such as teaching, social work and social policy making, law, journalism and the civil service



INTERNATIONAL BTEC IN PE

EXAM BOARD: Pearson Edexcel [Link to specification](#)

WHAT IS INVOLVED: The Level 3 International BTEC in Sport is a qualification designed to support learners who are interested in learning about the sports industry alongside other fields of study, and can support progression to higher education courses. This course can be taken alongside other International BTECs or A Levels, and awards a Level 3 subsidiary diploma in sport.

To complete this qualification students will complete at least five units from the list below, including the mandatory content based on Health, Wellbeing and Sport. All assessment is internal, uses a range of different forms of evidence, and completed within the centre.

Mandatory content	Health, Wellbeing and Sport		
	Careers in the Sport and Active Leisure Industry	Ethics, Behaviours and Values	Self-employment in Sport and Physical Activity
	Business in Sport	Sports Tourism	Nutrition for Physical Performance
	Liverpool Football Club as a Business	Talent Identification and Development in Sports	Applied Sports Anatomy and Physiology
	Sports Performance Analysis	Sports Psychology	Functional Sports Massage

PRIOR STUDY REQUIREMENT

There are no prior study requirements for this course.

FUTURE PATHWAYS

Successful completion of this course can lead to a range of careers related to sport such as sports coaching, personal training, nutritionist, or sports leadership programmes. It can also be combined with other courses to support further academic study in related fields.

INTERNATIONAL BTEC IN INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

EXAM BOARD: Edexcel [Link to specification](#)

WHAT IS INVOLVED: The Level 3 International BTEC in Information Technology is a qualification designed for learners who are interested in an introduction to the study of creating information technology systems to manage and share information. This links to many other areas of study and can lead to further vocational or more academic qualifications. This course can be taken alongside other International BTECs or A Levels, and awards a Level 3 subsidiary diploma in Information Technology.

Mandatory content	Information Technology Systems – Strategy, Management and Infrastructure		
	Website Development		
Selected optional units This list is not exhaustive and other units are available	Using Social Media in Business	Creating System to Manage Information	Mobile Apps Development
	IT Project Management	Computer Games Development	Big Data and Business Analytics
	IT Technical Support and Management	Cloud Storage and Collaboration Tools	Digital 2D and 3D Graphics
	Digital Animation and Effects	Enterprise in IT	Business Process Modelling Tools

PRIOR STUDY REQUIREMENT

There are no prior study requirements, although GCSE qualifications in Maths and Science are recommended.

FUTURE PATHWAYS

Successful completion of this course can lead to a range of careers related to the use and management of IT such IT support, IT networking, data analytics, cybersecurity, software and web development. It can also be combined with other courses to support further academic study in related fields.



GEMS

EDUCATION

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