



IGCSE OPTIONS INFORMATION



Cambridge International School

Welcome to the XXI Century International School and Innovation Centre IGCSE guide. You have completed nearly nine years of education, and the school has chosen your subjects for you. Now, finally, you have the chance to choose your own path forward.




Entering Year 9 is a significant step in your academic life. The IGCSE curriculum has been designed to provide you with a broad and balanced range of subjects. IGCSEs are accepted and valued by leading universities and employers around the world as evidence of academic achievement. It will equip you with a powerful set of knowledge and skills to enable you to continue your learning journey in the 6th Form and beyond. In addition to the compulsory subjects, you will be able to take some of your current favourite subjects to a deeper level of study.

We are committed to excellence in academic subjects and extracurricular activities. We offer a range of exciting, high-quality activities for students to engage in.

At XXI Century International School and Innovation Centre you will have all the

Yours sincerely,



Mr. M Pearson

encouragement and support you need from teachers who, if they do not already, will get to know you well: our small class sizes mean that we can personalize your learning to a degree that is simply not possible in other schools.

IGCSE will involve working diligently throughout your course to produce work that may be assessed as part of your final assessment. Examination advice and guidance will be given to all IGCSE students to ensure that they are fully prepared to achieve their best.

Please enjoy reading this guide and discuss your option subjects with your family, teachers, and Homeroom teacher. We are here to help guide you through your IGCSE decisions.

Introduction:

This handbook is designed to guide you through the next important stage of your learning journey at XXI Century International Education and Innovation Centre. It will provide you with information on the subjects that you will be studying over the next two years as you embark on your IGCSEs. It will also help you to make decisions about which subjects you may like to study further or for the first time.

Choosing your options:

What should students bear in mind when making their choices?

1. Let the choices be yours

You may have already found that many people will have opinions about your choices. You'll receive advice from parents and teachers - do listen but in the end go for what you'd like to do. You may also have friends suggesting you do the same subjects as them - choose for yourself. Ultimately, we suggest you choose subjects that you will enjoy. Further down the line, when the workload is heavy, you'll appreciate enjoying a subject and looking forward to it rather than dreading lessons. It's very easy to then talk yourself out of taking a subject you love.

2. Think about your future

This is a simple one but very important. It's almost certain that subjects you take at A Level will have to be part of your subject choices now. If you want to go on that far, what subjects do you see yourself taking? This long-term thinking also applies to universities and careers. It can

be scary to think that far ahead but spend a little time dreaming. What would you like to do with your life?

3. Strike a balance

Good subject choices will look balanced. If you love the Arts, find a subject like History or a language alongside it. The reason for this is it keeps your options open. As your school career progresses, you may find you have gifts you never dreamed of. Try to not shut too many doors too soon.

4. Choose the subject, not the teacher

We all know sometimes a relationship with a teacher can be hard. You may be tempted to avoid a topic because the teacher is one you find difficult. Try hard not to let that put you off. Similarly, you may choose a subject because of a great teacher - but think hard. In the long term, teachers will change but it is the subject that will carry you through.

Welcome to XXI Century International Education and Innovation Centre

At XXI Century International Education and Innovation Centre, we are committed to shaping well-rounded individuals who are prepared for a global future. Our school combines academic

excellence with a nurturing environment, ensuring every student reaches their potential while enjoying the learning process.



Our Vision

To be a school that provides opportunities for students to grow into happy, successful individuals equipped with essential lifelong skills and values. Our graduates take pride in their association with the school throughout their lives.



Our Mission

Our mission is to nurture happy individuals. We believe human happiness is the ultimate goal, enabling individuals to be more successful, creative, and proactive contributors to society. By fostering a love for learning, helping students fully utilize their potential, and developing lifelong learner-leaders, we strive to make a lasting impact on their lives. To achieve this, we create a safe, inclusive, and inspiring environment tailored to each student's unique needs while maintaining high standards and encouraging their participation.



Our Values

We uphold the following core values that guide our actions and enrich our students' experiences:

- **Responsibility and Integrity:** We lead with honesty, fostering a culture of accountability.
- **Collaboration:** We believe in the power of teamwork, supporting and learning from one another to create greater value.
- **Respect and Care:** We cultivate respect for people, differences, and the environment, promoting empathy and kindness.
- **Openness to Innovation:** We encourage curiosity, adaptability, and the drive to learn and improve continually.
- **Excellence:** We aim for the best in every endeavor, striving for personal and collective growth.
- **Connection to National and Cultural Values:** We instill pride in national and cultural heritage, inspiring students to remain connected to their roots.



Our Educational Model

Our educational model focuses on developing happy, successful individuals, integrating modern pedagogical methods, a student-centric approach, and global best practices.

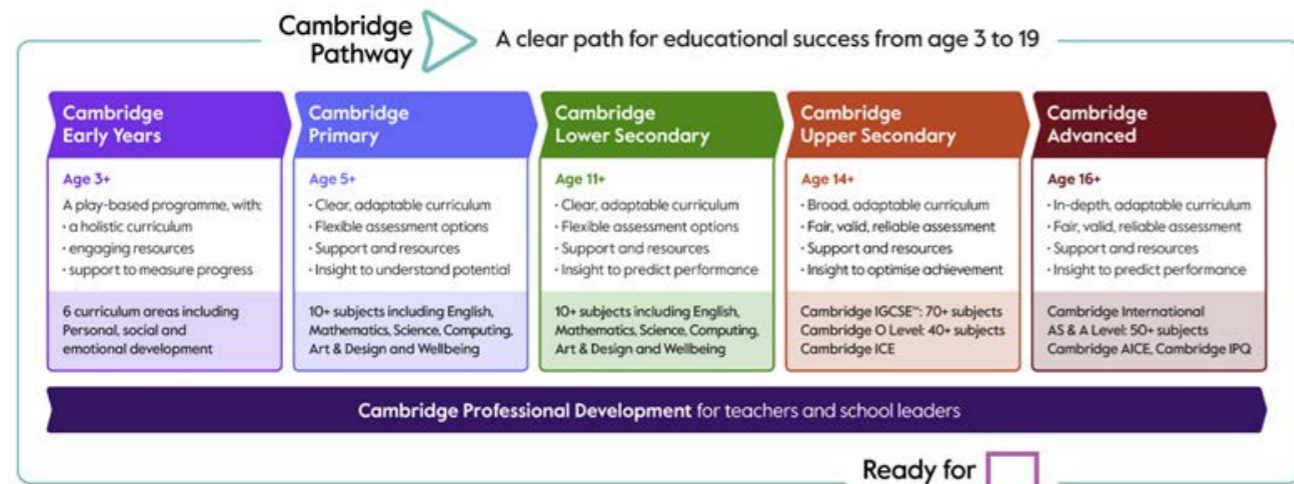
- 1. Student Profile:** Centered on 21st-century skills and enriched curricula tailored to our students' learning needs.
- 2. Comprehensive Development Opportunities:** Beyond academics, we offer a range of extracurricular activities to nurture talents and interests.
- 3. Multilingual Education:** Recognizing the importance of languages, we prioritize multilingual proficiency.
- 4. Pedagogical Approach:** Grounded in science and international standards, our teaching methods ensure effectiveness at every educational level.
- 5. Continuous Improvement:** A dynamic cycle of evaluation, prioritization, and development keeps us at the forefront of education.

Cambridge IGCSE™ Inspiring your child to love learning

Our school is an approved Cambridge International School, registered to offer education programmes and qualifications from the Cambridge Pathway.

We offer the Cambridge Pathway for students aged 3 to 19 years. Each stage builds on the previous leading seamlessly from early years to

pre-university. Cambridge programmes provide an education that shapes learners' knowledge, understanding, and skills, giving them the confidence they need to thrive in and outside the classroom, so that they are ready for the world. We are proud to be part of the world's largest global community of schools.



This is the world's most popular international qualification, the programme inspires students to love learning and develops deep subject knowledge and skills for the future. Taught in over 160 countries, more than 2220 universities in 90 different countries value the Cambridge qualification.

Many universities worldwide require a combination of Cambridge IGCSEs and Cambridge A Level to meet their entry requirements. Leading UK, US, and Canadian universities require Cambridge International AS and A Levels, but some will accept students with five IGCSEs at Grade C or above. This opens doors to a world of opportunities.

We recognize that meaningful education is more than just building subject knowledge and conceptual understanding. To thrive in life, learners must also develop a broad range

of skills, values, attitudes, and behaviours. When we developed our IGCSE programme, we built plenty of opportunities to help our students become reflective and innovative learners, with the confidence to embrace new information, ideas, and challenges. Responsible and respectful of others, they are engaged intellectually and socially – ready to make a positive impact, ready for the world!



What does the curriculum look like after Year 8?

In September 2025, all students entering Year 9 will study English, Mathematics and Science. Some students will progress to separate IGCSEs in Biology, Chemistry, and Physics while others will progress to Combined Science (worth 2 IGCSEs). We also strongly believe that the knowledge students gain from their lessons must be supported with important moral values and respect for others. This will be delivered through one period a week of Leader in Me. These subjects and lessons form what we call the Core Curriculum.

Away from the Core Curriculum, students have a number of subjects they can pick from to make up the rest of their Year 9 timetable. We refer to Year 9 as a "gateway" year and aim to offer

as much individual choice as we can, so that students can experience a range of courses for interest and their future career paths. There are, however, certain constraints and requirements that govern some students' choices and the majority will need to study at least one subject from a combination of History, Geography, Business, Economics, and ICT.

Details regarding all of the courses available to students can be found in this booklet. Whilst all courses have equal status, they do stress different skills and ways of learning. When making choices students must balance their skills and learning styles in order to keep options open for later life, such as choosing AS, A Level courses, and universities.

Availability of course choice

At this stage, we are offering a wide range of courses in order to establish which patterns of choices emerge. Eventually, we will have to balance possible choices against resources available and timetable constraints. Students should be aware that as a consequence they

may have to make some adjustments to their choices. In these cases, we will continue to give opportunities for further consultation. In addition, for a subject to run it must have at least four students.

The importance of independent study

It has been proven time and again that the quality and quantity of independent work completed outside of lessons is the major determining factor in final IGCSE results. While students in Years 9 and 10 will have homework, in order to fulfill their potential, there will be additional work required outside of this, too. This might be wider reading in English, research, or

additional time completing practical projects. It is important that you know now how much more responsible you need to be for your learning at IGCSE. As such we hope to include at least one Guided Study lesson per week. These will help you manage your workload and independent study, ensuring that you are fully prepared for your lessons.

How is the Cambridge International qualifications assessed and graded?

IGCSEs are graded on a A* - G scale, with A* the highest possible grade. All IGCSEs include external formal exams, sat at the end of Year 10, and some subjects also have a 'coursework' element (see below).

This table illustrates how the grading systems correspond to each other and the previous grading system, A*-G, with which you may be familiar with:

Level	Cambridge International Curriculum
Level 2	A*
	A
	B
	C
	D
Level 1	E
	F
	G
	U

Courses offered:

Core Curriculum (compulsory subjects)	Option Subjects
English language	Business Studies
Maths	English Literature
English language	Economics
Science (Separate or Combined)	German
	Geography
	History
	Information Technology
	Russian

Students will also be studying Russian, Azerbaijani, and Mathematics as part of their DIM (Local Diploma) qualification. It is strongly advised that due to the rigours

of GCSE subjects that students should not undertake other qualifications including The SAT or IELTS.

IGCSE English as a Second Language

English as a Second Language (0511) offers students the opportunity to enhance their communication skills in English, enabling them to access a world of opportunities in academics, business, and global communication. This

course focuses on building proficiency in speaking, listening, reading, and writing, tailored to meet the needs of students for whom English is not their first language.

Course Content:

- The aims and objectives of this qualification are to enable students to:
- Develop the ability to use English effectively for practical communication.
- Understand and use English in a range of familiar and unfamiliar situations.
- Gain insights into a wide range of topics, themes, and global issues through the English language.

- Improve their language skills in contexts that are useful for educational, professional, and social purposes.
- Achieve a solid foundation for further study or employment where English is the medium of communication.

Key areas of study include:

1. Reading:

- Skimming and scanning for information.
- Understanding gist, context, and main ideas.
- Analysing a variety of text types including articles, reports, and narratives.

2. Writing:

- Producing clear and coherent texts for different purposes.
- Writing emails, reports, narratives, and descriptions.
- Developing grammar, vocabulary, and sentence structure.

3. Listening:

- Understanding spoken information in a variety of contexts.
- Interpreting meaning, tone, and attitude.

4. Speaking:

- Engaging in conversation and discussions on a variety of topics.



- Expressing ideas fluently and clearly.
- Demonstrating confidence and accuracy in pronunciation and language use.

Assessment Methods:

1. Reading and Writing (50%):

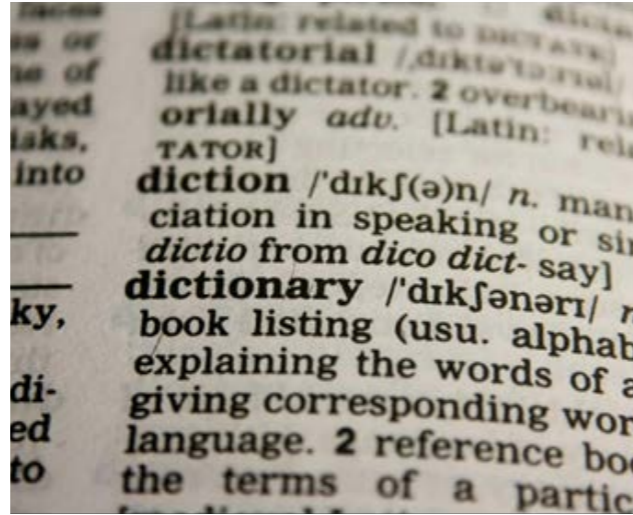
Paper includes tasks like comprehending and summarizing information, responding to structured questions, and writing compositions.

2. Listening (25%):

Assessment through tasks that evaluate the understanding of spoken English.

3. Speaking (25%):

Conducted as an oral exam where students respond to prompts and engage in interactive speaking tasks. (Conducted by a Certified Cambridge Examiner in the Country)



Progression:

Studying Cambridge 0511 English as a Second Language prepares students for further academic and professional pathways by ensuring they have a strong command of the English language. This qualification is widely recognized by universities and employers worldwide.

Key progression opportunities include:

- Transitioning to Cambridge AS and A-Level

A prestigious course:

It is recognized globally as a high-standard English qualification by colleges, universities, and businesses around the world. The course focuses on practical and real-world application of English skills, whilst offering a balanced approach to language skills and holistic

qualifications or equivalent.

- Pursuing higher education courses taught in English.
- Enhancing career prospects in global industries including business, tourism, media, and technology.

development. It provides students with cultural and global awareness, enhancing their abilities to communicate effectively in a range of settings. Historically students have performed really well in IGCSE English Language, meaning that IELTS is not required for University entrance.

Useful Links:

<https://www.cambridgeinternational.org/programmes-and-qualifications/cambridge-igcse-english-second-language-count-in-oral-0511/>

IGCSE Literature in English (0475)

Literature in English encourages students to appreciate the depth and power of the English literary heritage. This course develops students' skills in reading, analysis, and interpretation of texts while fostering a love for literature. The

Cambridge IGCSE Literature in English syllabus is designed to engage learners in exploring a diverse range of texts, including prose, poetry, and drama, from different cultures and time periods.

Course Content:

The aims of this qualification is to enable students to:

- enjoy the experience of reading literature
- understand and respond to literary texts in different forms and from different periods and cultures
- communicate an informed personal response appropriately and effectively
- appreciate different ways in which writers achieve their effects

- experience literature's contribution to aesthetic, imaginative, and intellectual growth
- explore the contribution of literature to an understanding of areas of human concern.

Students will study the following Example genres:

1. Prose:
2. Poetry
3. Drama

Assessment Methods

The IGCSE Literature in English course is assessed by the following components:

Paper 1: Poetry and Prose (50%)

A written examination where students analyze and interpret set texts, responding to essay and passage-based questions.

Paper 2: Drama (50%)

A written examination focusing on plays and other dramatic works (Including Shakespeare). Students respond to both essay and passage-based questions.

Each paper assesses students' ability to:

Demonstrate an understanding of texts, characters, themes, and contexts.
Analyse language, structure, and form effectively.
Offer personal and critical responses to the texts studied.



Progression

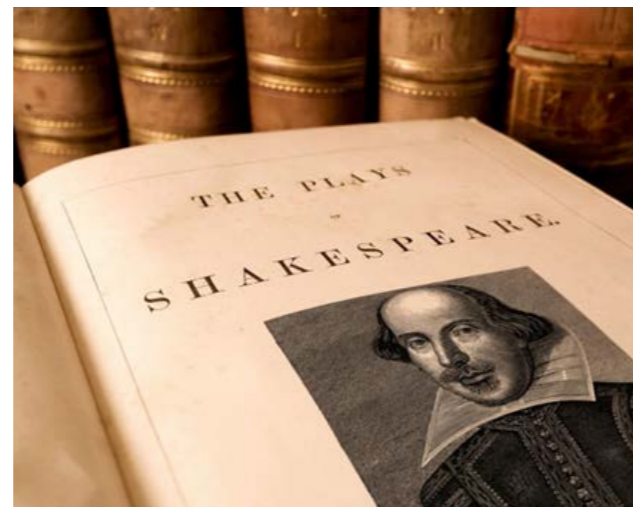
Studying Literature in English at IGCSE level provides a strong foundation for further academic pursuits in AS and A-Level Literature in English, which build upon the critical and analytical skills developed at IGCSE.

English Literature also supports future University Studies. The course helps prepare students for a range of different degrees - in English Literature, Creative Writing, Journalism, Business, Economics, Politics, Political Science, History, and Geography for example.

Why Study Literature in English?

- **Cultural Enrichment:** Gain insights into different cultures and historical contexts through a variety of texts.
- **Critical Thinking:** Develop analytical skills by interpreting complex ideas and themes.
- **Expressive Skills:** Enhance your ability to articulate ideas clearly in both written and spoken forms.

This course equips students with important transferable skills such as critical thinking, effective communication, and cultural awareness, which are highly valued in careers like publishing, teaching, law, business, and media.



Useful Links:

Cambridge IGCSE Literature in English (0475)

IGCSE Mathematics

Mathematics is a fundamental subject that develops problem-solving, analytical, and reasoning skills. It underpins the world around us and a sound understanding of maths is essential. The Cambridge IGCSE Mathematics syllabus provides a comprehensive framework to enhance students' understanding of mathematical concepts and their application in real-world situations. This syllabus lays a strong foundation for advanced diverse career paths.

IGCSE Mathematics (0580) prepares students for higher level education and equips them with the essential skills for a variety of careers, such as engineering, technology, finance, medicine, computing/ IT, and data science. It also teaches students to recognize the beauty and relevance of mathematics in all areas of life. The syllabus challenges students intellectually and practically, promoting logical thinking and quantitative reasoning which are invaluable in everyday life and professional environments.



Course Content:

1. Strong Foundation:

This course offers comprehensive exposure to mathematical principles, laying the groundwork for advanced studies including AS and A Level as well as university.

2. Skill Development:

Students develop critical skills such as problem-solving, logical reasoning, and analytical thinking, which are transferable to other subjects and various fields.

3. Real World Applications:

The syllabus emphasizes practical applications of mathematics, ensuring students can apply their knowledge in everyday scenarios and future careers.

4. Global Recognition:

Cambridge IGCSE is a worldwide recognized qualification and is valued highly by universities, opening up international opportunities in education and employment.

5. Flexible Learning Path:

The syllabus provides two tiers – Core and Extended – catering to students with different abilities and aspirations. It is a personalised curriculum.

Core and Extended Curriculum

Core Curriculum:

- Suitable for students aiming for grades C to G
- Focuses on fundamental mathematical concepts and problem solving techniques.

Assessment

- **Paper 1:** Non-calculator (1 hour 30 minutes, 50% of qualification)
- **Paper 3:** Calculator (1 hour 30 minutes, 50% of qualification)



Extended Curriculum

- Designed for students targeting grades A* to E
- Covers all Core topics with additional advanced concepts such as surds, trigonometric identities, quadratic equations, and functions.

Assessment

- **Paper 2:** Non-calculator (2 hours, 50% of qualification)
- **Paper 4:** Calculator (2 hours, 50% of qualification)

Extended students are better prepared for higher education and competitive career paths. All students are expected to undertake the Extended Curriculum, however, in some circumstances, it may be appropriate for students to follow the Core Curriculum.

Progression

This course prepares students for further studies in mathematics and related fields, including A Level Mathematics, Engineering, Physics, Economics, Computer Science, and Chemistry. It equips learners with essential skills applicable in various professions. Careers in

accountancy, actuary, and investment banking or to more scientific routes such as computing, engineering, science, and scientific research. It is also essential for many design, building, and architectural courses.

Useful Links:

cambridgeinternational.org/Images/662466-2025-2027-syllabus.pdf
IGCSE Math Syllabus & Structure 2025, 2026, 2027 #igcsemath

IGCSE Biology

Biology is a fascinating and vital subject that explores the complexity of life, from the smallest cells to the largest ecosystems. Understanding biological principles not only helps us comprehend the living world but also equips students with knowledge applicable to a wide range of careers and global challenges, such as sustainability, health, and biotechnology.

Through this course, students will develop their experimental and analytical skills, understand

the interdependence of organisms, and appreciate the relevance of Biology to their everyday lives. They will also have opportunities to engage with contemporary issues like genetic modification and human influences on ecosystems.

Course Content:

- Acquire scientific knowledge and understanding of scientific theories and practices.
- Develop a range of experimental skills, including handling variables and working safely in a laboratory.
- Use scientific data and evidence to solve problems and discuss the limitations of scientific methods.

Students will study a range of topics, including but not limited to:

- Characteristics and classification of living organisms
- Organization of the organism
- Movement into and out of cells
- Biological molecules
- Human and plant nutrition
- Transport in plants and animals
- Coordination, response, and homeostasis
- Reproduction and inheritance
- Variation and selection
- Organisms and their environment
- Biotechnology and genetic modification

- Communicate effectively and clearly, using scientific terminology, notation, and conventions.
- Understand that the application of scientific knowledge can benefit people and the environment.



Assessment

- **Paper 2:** Multiple Choice (45 minutes, 30% of the qualification)
- **Paper 4:** Theory (1 hour 15 minutes, 50% of the qualification)
- **Practical Assessment:** Candidates choose either:
 - **Paper 5:** Practical Test (1 hour 15 minutes, 20%)
 - **Paper 6:** Alternative to Practical (1 hour, 20%)



Progression

Biology develops an understanding of living systems and the skills needed for further studies in the sciences. This subject equips students with critical thinking, problem-solving, and analytical abilities, making it valuable for numerous careers, including medicine, environmental science, biotechnology, and education.

The IGCSE Biology course provides a strong foundation for qualifications such as A-Level Biology, Marine Science, or Environmental

Useful Links:

<https://www.cambridgeinternational.org/programmes-and-qualifications/cambridge-igcse-biology-0610/>

Science. It prepares students for higher education in science-related fields and careers in industries like healthcare, research, conservation, and agriculture. Biology combines well with other STEM subjects and offers insights into topics that shape the future, such as genetic engineering and climate change.

IGCSE Business Studies

It is unlikely that you will have studied business before taking this course, but that does not matter. You might have an interest in business, and want to start your own business one day. You may have an enquiring mind and be interested in learning about the world around you, how businesses are set up, and what it is that makes someone a great entrepreneur.

This course is both active and enjoyable. You need to be good at communicating and

explaining your ideas, and not afraid of learning new things and working with numbers to solve business problems. You will learn how to be a creative thinker and how to make decisions. What's more, you will also learn about the world of business through research and investigation, as well as through practical tasks.

Learners will be able to:

- Understand different forms of business organizations, the environments in which businesses operate, and business functions such as marketing, operations, and finance.
- Appreciate the varied roles and careers in business
- Learn to calculate and interpret business data
- Develop communication skills needed to support arguments with reasoning and logic
- Analyse and evaluate business situations and reach informed decisions and judgements.

Course Content:

1. Understanding business activity

This section introduces the underlying ideas and concepts of business and includes the purpose and nature of business activity and how businesses can be classified. Enterprise and entrepreneurs, and why some businesses grow while others remain small are further important issues. How business size can be measured, types of business organisation, business objectives and stakeholder objectives are the concluding topics.

2. People in business

The focus is the functional area of human resources, and includes the importance and methods of motivating a workforce. How businesses are organised and managed and the methods of recruitment, selection, and training of employees are also considered. Finally, the section covers the importance and methods of effective internal and external communication.



3. Marketing

This section includes the role of marketing, the distinctions between niche and mass markets, and the techniques of market segmentation. The methods and importance of market research are covered. The central role of the marketing mix, i.e. the four Ps, is made clear. Marketing strategies to influence consumer decisions at home and in new foreign markets are the final topics in this section.

4. Operations management

The focus is the functional area of production and includes the meaning and methods of production and how productivity can be increased. The different costs of production and break-even analysis are covered. The section concludes with the importance and methods of achieving quality in the production process and location decisions of businesses.

Assessment

• **Paper 1:** Short answer and data response (1 hour 30 minutes, 50% of the qualification)

• **Paper 2:** Case study (1 hour 30 minutes, 50% of the qualification)

Progression

Business studies opens doors to a wide variety of academic and career opportunities in a range of fields including accountancy, actuary, law, marketing, finance, law, human resources, and

5. Financial information and decisions

This finance and accounting section covers the need for and sources of business finance, cash-flow forecasting, and working capital. Simple income statements are covered as well as statements of financial position and the analysis of accounts including why and how accounts are used.

6. External influences on business activity

This section focuses on different external influences on business activity and how these impact on a business. It includes government influences on economic, environmental, and ethical issues. In addition, the international economy includes globalization and its effects on businesses and governments, multinational businesses, and exchange rates.

the leisure and tourism industry. The course prepares students for AS and A Level Business Studies and Economics as well as supporting other subjects.

Useful Links:

<https://www.cambridgeinternational.org/programmes-and-qualifications/cambridge-igcse-business-studies-0450/>

IGCSE Chemistry

Cambridge IGCSE Chemistry (0620) provides students with a foundational understanding of chemical principles and develops experimental and analytical skills. The course emphasizes both theoretical knowledge and practical application, preparing students for further education or careers in science-related fields.

We ensure that our chemists are numerically literate, are able to problem solve, and make reasoned judgments from a range of data sources and communicate their findings and reasons.

Course Content:

The aims and objectives of this qualification are to enable students to:

- Acquire scientific knowledge and understanding of theories and practices.
- Develop experimental skills, including handling variables and working safely.

- Use scientific data to solve problems and evaluate methods.
- Communicate scientific concepts effectively using appropriate terminology.
- Understand the impact of scientific applications on individuals and the environment.

Pupils cover a broad range of topics including natural resources, atomic structure and bonding, states of matter, rates of reaction, acids and bases, and metal reactivity.

Other topics include:

- States of Matter
- Atoms, Elements, and Compounds
- Stoichiometry
- Electrochemistry
- Chemical Energetics
- Chemical Reactions
- Acids, Bases, and Salts
- The Periodic Table
- Metals
- Chemistry of the Environment
- Organic Chemistry
- Experimental Techniques and Chemical Analysis



Assessment

- **Paper 2:** Multiple Choice (Extended) - 45 minutes, 30% of qualification.
- **Paper 4:** Theory (Extended) - 1 hour 15 minutes, 50% of qualification.
- **Paper 5:** Practical Test or Paper 6: Alternative to Practical - 1 hour or 1 hour 15 minutes, 20% of qualification.

Progression

The IGCSE Chemistry course is designed to provide students with a strong academic foundation in chemistry and develop skills that are essential for higher education and future careers. Students who complete the course successfully, particularly those achieving grades A* to C, are well-prepared to progress to AS and A Level Chemistry.

The course also prepares students for degrees in science-related fields such as:

- Medicine and healthcare (e.g., pharmacology, biochemistry, and nursing).
- Engineering and technology (e.g., chemical engineering and materials science).
- Environmental science (e.g., sustainable energy and pollution control).
- Biotechnology and molecular biology.

Additionally, IGCSE Chemistry lays the groundwork for careers in research, education, and industries such as pharmaceuticals, food science, and renewable energy. The problem-solving and data analysis skills gained are transferable to fields like business, law, and technology, making it an excellent subject for a wide range of academic and career pathways.

Useful Links:

Cambridge IGCSE Chemistry (0620)



At the AS and A Level stages, students build on the knowledge gained in IGCSE to explore advanced concepts in physical, organic, and inorganic chemistry, as well as deepen their understanding of experimental techniques. This progression helps students develop critical thinking, problem-solving, and analytical skills that are highly valued in a variety of disciplines.



For students passionate about science, IGCSE Chemistry is a stepping stone to specialized programs, competitive university applications, and future innovation in chemistry and related areas.

IGCSE Economics

The aim of the Economics curriculum is to develop students' understanding of how the local, national, and global economy works through analyzing economic issues, problems, and institutions that affect everyday life.

The course aims to develop a thorough understanding of the principles and theory of global macroeconomics and the principles of microeconomics which influence producers and consumers.

Students study the economics of developed and

Course Content:

- Introduces learners to economic terminology, concepts, and principles
- Develops learners' skills in working with simple economic data to analyze and interpret information, as well as organize and present ideas
- Explores the tools of economic analysis and evaluation, understanding links and

The following topics are covered during the two years of the IGCSE Economics course:

• The basic economic problem

An introduction to the fundamental ideas and concepts that underpin the study of economics including the basic economic problem, factors of production opportunity cost and production possibility curves.

• The allocation of resources

Principles of resources allocation are considered through the price mechanism in a market economy. Students learn about the market forces of demand and supply, market equilibrium and disequilibrium.

• Microeconomic decision makers

Students study the role of major economic decision makers: banks households, workers, trade unions and firms.

• Government and the macro economy

developing nations and how they interrelate. Students will also develop an understanding of economic concepts and apply these concepts to real-life situations. By the end of the course, students are able to display knowledge and understanding of economic facts, definitions, concepts, principles, and theories. They can select, organize and interpret data confidently, as well as draw conclusions from economic information, and critically evaluate data in order to make reasoned arguments and informed judgments.

relationships between variables

- Explores how economies are affected by issues such as population change, environmental sustainability, and globalization
- Engages learners in applying their understanding of economics to current world issues.

Governments have different macroeconomic aims, and conflicts sometimes arise between the choice of measures used to achieve them.

• Economic development

As an economy develops, there will be changes in population, living standards, poverty, and income redistribution. Students learn about the effects of these changes and other influences on development in a variety of countries.

• International trade and globalization

The importance of trade between countries and the growth of globalization is explored. Students develop a deep understanding of specialization, the role of free trade, the role of multinational companies, foreign exchange rates, and the balance of payments.

Assessment

Paper 1: Multiple Choice (45 minutes, 30% of the qualification)

Paper 2: Structured questions (2 hours 15 minutes, 70% of the qualification)

Progression

Economics is a highly respected qualification and can lead to many successful career paths, including roles in finance, government, data analysis, and policy making. Students who are keen to work in areas like banking, consultancy, or even international trade, Economics give you the analytical skills needed to thrive within these roles.

Studying IGCSE Economics will help students prepare for AS, A Level and university degree courses in a wide range of subjects.

Useful Links:

Cambridge IGCSE Economics (0455)



IGCSE Geography

Pupils learn about a range of local and global challenges to establish a solid foundation of geographical understanding and skills for future study. Understanding today's global issues, from climate change to migration, requires a strong appreciation of temporal and locational change and an academic knowledge of the myriad sub-disciplines of Geography. The topics include tectonic hazards, global populations, the Arctic, globalization, and energy production.

Pupils then learn about the challenges of human development and the issues and management

Course Content:

The IGCSE Geography curriculum is structured around core themes and topics:

1. Physical Geography:

- Landforms and landscapes
- Climate and weather
- Ecosystems and Biodiversity

2. Human Geography:

- Population and settlement
- Economic activities
- Resource management

3. Geographical skills and fieldwork:

- Application of geographical skills including map reading, data interpretation, and use of GIS (Geographical Information Systems)
- Conducting fieldwork to gather primary data, allowing students to apply their theoretical knowledge to real-world situations.

Throughout the two-year course, students will develop a variety of valuable skills:

- Analytical skills: evaluating geographical data, identifying patterns, and making informed conclusions
- Research skills: conducting fieldwork, gathering data and utilizing various sources of information
- Communication skills: presenting findings

of ecosystems including hot deserts and tropical rainforests. Geography enables pupils to explore people and their societies, economies, cultures, and the environment. As the pace of global change accelerates and the world becomes ever more interconnected, Geography allows pupils the opportunity to develop transferable skills and ways of thinking that will help them make sense of the world's ever-increasing complexity.



clearly through written reports, presentations and discussions

- Numeracy: interpreting and analysing statistical data, graphs and maps
- Critical thinking: understanding complex global issues and assessing different viewpoints.

Assessment

• **Written Examinations:** Typically comprising two papers that assess students' understanding of geographical concepts, their ability to apply knowledge, and their problem-solving skills. These papers may include multiple-choice questions, structured questions, and extended-response questions.

• **Coursework (if applicable):** Some candidates may have the option to complete a fieldwork project or investigate a geographical issue, allowing for practical application of knowledge and skills.

Progression

Students who excel in IGCSE Geography can progress to A-Level Geography, Economics, or related subjects like Environmental Science. University degrees can be pursued in Geography, Urban Planning, Environmental Studies, International Relations, or Development Studies. This may lead to a range of different careers including: urban planning, education, tourism, international development, and government agencies among others.



This progression ensures students build a strong foundation, master key concepts, and are equipped with the analytical and practical skills required for academic and real-world applications in geography.

Useful Links:

<https://www.cambridgeinternational.org/programmes-and-qualifications/cambridge-igcse-geography-0460/>

IGCSE History

History offers pupils the opportunity to explore the past from a range of perspectives and positions. Our syllabus offers a varied mix of topics and time periods to give you both a broad understanding of historical themes and in-depth knowledge of some important periods in British and World history. History is a subject that hones your ability to argue and debate whilst expressing your ideas both verbally and on paper. To understand historical processes, you need to understand people's thinking, you need to understand economics, politics, technology, and architecture. Who knows history - knows the knowledge of this world. We encourage all pupils to stretch themselves, to be inquisitive, and to think independently.



Course Content:

- An understanding of history provides context and background on the world around us. Many of today's social, political, and economic issues are deeply rooted in historical events and decisions.
- Studying history fosters a sense of identity by exploring the cultural, national and global heritage.
- The ability to develop critical thinking, analytical, and evaluation skills. Analyzing historical events involves evaluating sources and learning to distinguish between facts and interpretations. These skills are transferable to

other subjects and careers, including politics, law and business.

- Studying the lives, cultures, and struggles helps to challenge stereotypes and prejudices.
- History inspires action and change. Historical knowledge and understanding helps inform policies and strategies, guiding us to make more informed decisions for the better.

The following topics are covered during the two years of the IGCSE History course:

- Was the Treaty of Versailles fair?
- To what extent was the League of Nations a success?
- How far was Hitler's foreign policy to blame for the outbreak of war in Europe in 1939?
- Who was to blame for the Cold War?
- How effectively did the United States contain the spread of Communism?
- How secure was the USSR's control over Eastern Europe, 1948 – 1989
- World War 1
 - Introduction to European Colonial Politics
 - The social and economic status of world powers
 - Reasons for the outbreak of World War 1
 - Main battles
 - Impact of war on world history.

Assessment

Paper 1: Structured Questions (2 hours, 40% of the qualification)

Paper 2: Document Questions (1 hour 45 minutes, 30% of the qualification)

Component 3 (Coursework 30% of the qualification) OR Paper 4 (1 hour, 30% of the qualification)



Progression

Students who study History can progress to A Level History or equivalent qualifications, such as Geography, Politics, and Sociology, which all complement historical studies. There are many universities that offer degrees in History or related fields such as International Relations, Archaeology, or Cultural Studies. There are opportunities to specialize in areas like Medieval History, Modern History or specific geographical regions.



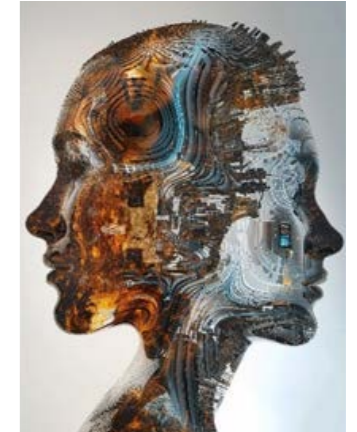
Studying History helps develop essential skills such as critical thinking, research, analysis, and effective communication skills that are valuable in many professions and sectors. For example, Education, Heritage Management, Media and Journalism, Law, and Government.

Useful Links:

<https://www.cambridgeinternational.org/programmes-and-qualifications/cambridge-igcse-history-0470/>

IGCSE ICT

ICT (Information and Communication Technology) plays a critical role in the modern world. It equips students with the skills and knowledge required to navigate, understand, and influence the digital environment. This course provides students with the tools to use ICT effectively and responsibly in a wide range of scenarios, preparing them for the challenges of a digital economy.



Course Content:

- Understand and use ICT tools and software applications effectively to solve problems
- Develop problem-solving skills using ICT solutions in a real-world context
- Learn about data handling, digital communication, and the importance of

cybersecurity

- Acquire practical skills in document creation, data analysis, presentations, and website development
- Understand the ethical, social, and legal implications of ICT

Assessment:

The IGCSE ICT course is assessed through a combination of written examinations and practical tests:

Paper 1: Theory (Written – 2 hours – 40% of qualification)

This paper assesses students' theoretical understanding of ICT, including its applications, components, and societal impacts.

Paper 2: Practical Test (2 hours 30 minutes –

30% of qualification)

Students are required to demonstrate their practical skills by completing tasks using standard software.

Paper 3: Practical Test (2 hours 30 minutes – 30% of qualification)

This paper evaluates students' ability to design, implement, and document ICT solutions.

Progression:

The IGCSE ICT course provides an excellent foundation for further studies and careers in ICT and related fields. It supports students interested in pursuing qualifications in Computing,

Information Technology, Digital Media, and other STEM-related areas. Career pathways include roles in IT support, systems analysis, web design, digital marketing, and cybersecurity.

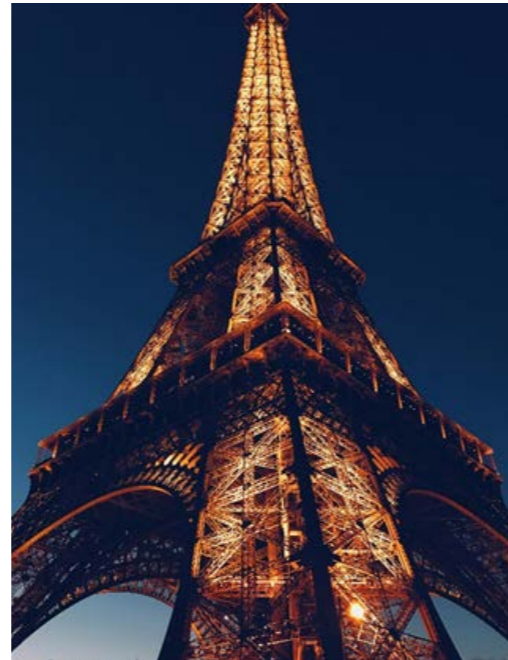
Useful Links:

<https://www.cambridgeinternational.org/programmes-and-qualifications/cambridge-igcse-information-and-communication-technology-0417/>

Modern Foreign Languages:

Cultural knowledge and understanding remain fundamental to meaningful communication and friendships with others. Learning a foreign language broadens student's horizons and creates an awareness on how language is formed and the provenance of language. It helps students understand cultural differences and the formation of language can also aid students' ability to grasp the fundamentals of other subjects more easily.

Our curriculum gives students an opportunity to learn about French and German language but also the culture of the speaking worlds. Students will learn how to string sentences to communicate in the foreign language learned. They will also have an insight into films, music, and food.



Students will learn how to introduce themselves and other people, including being able to describe their personalities and those of friends and family. To extend their sentences they will learn how to give opinions about school subjects. As students develop their confidence more complex topics and sentence structures are introduced. This includes topics on:

- Animals and the natural world
- Where we live
- Food and drink
- Sports and leisure
- Fashion
- Healthy lifestyle
- Technology
- Festivals and holidays

Language courses being considered include:

German Russian

GCSE Russian

Pearson Edexcel Level 1/Level 2 GCSE (9–1) in Russian has been developed to help students of all abilities progress and develop a passion for languages, through culturally engaging content. This inspirational course of study will enable students to manipulate and use the target language effectively, independently, and creatively, so that they have a solid basis from which to progress to A Level or employment.

Course Content:

The Pearson Edexcel Level 1/Level 2 GCSE (9–1) in Russian allows students to develop their ability to communicate with Russian native speakers in both speech and writing. Students will study across a variety of contexts relevant to their age and interests and will also develop a greater awareness of the culture of Russian-speaking

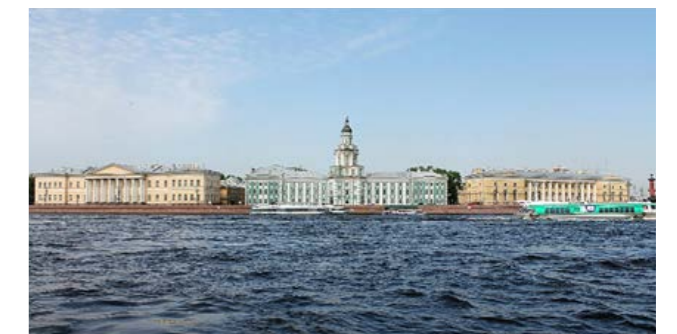
communities and countries.

Content has been structured across five themes featuring engaging and popular topics. This flexible programme of study allows time for a focused revision period at the end of the course.

Qualification aims and objectives:

The aims and objectives of this qualification are to enable students to:

- develop their ability to communicate confidently and coherently with native speakers in speech and writing, conveying what they want to say with increasing accuracy
- express and develop thoughts and ideas spontaneously and fluently
- listen to and understand clearly articulated, standard speech at near-normal speed
- deepen their knowledge about how language works and enrich their vocabulary in order for them to increase their independent use and understanding of extended language in a wide range of contexts
- acquire new knowledge, skills, and ways of thinking through the ability to understand and respond to a rich range of authentic spoken and written material, adapted and abridged, as appropriate, including literary texts
- develop awareness and understanding of the culture and



identity of the countries and communities where the language is spoken

- be encouraged to make appropriate links to other areas of the curriculum to enable bilingual and deeper learning, where the language may become a medium for constructing and applying knowledge
- develop language-learning skills both for immediate use and to prepare them for further language study and use in school, higher education or employment

Themes and topics:

Questions across all four language skills are set in common contexts, addressing a range of relevant contemporary and cultural themes. They are organized into five themes, each broken down into topics and sub-topics. The five themes are:

- Identity and culture
- Local area, holiday, travel
- School
- Future aspirations, study, and work
- International and global dimension.



Assessment:

Paper 1: Listening and understanding in Russian

Students will respond to multiple-response and short-answer open-response questions based on a recording featuring male and female Russian speakers.

Foundation tier:

- Section A is set in English. The instructions to students are in English.
- Section B is set in English. The instructions to students are in English.

Higher tier:

- Section A is set in Russian. The instructions to students are in Russian.
- Section B is set in Russian. The instructions to students are in Russian.

Paper 2: Speaking in Russian

Students are assessed on their ability to communicate and interact effectively through speaking in Russian for different purposes and in different settings.

Paper 3: Reading and understanding in Russian

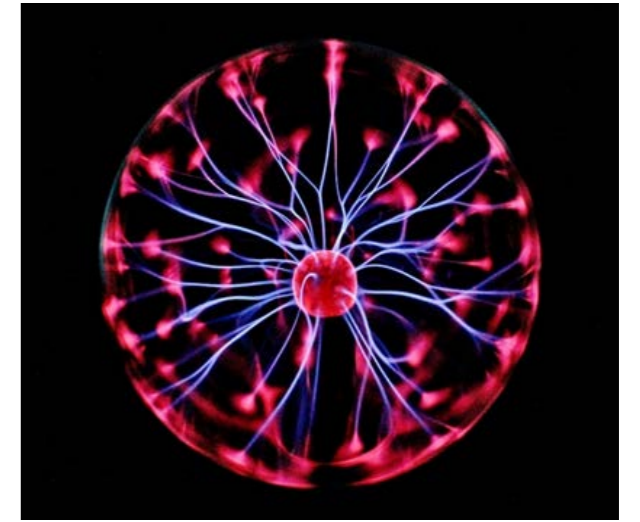
Students are assessed on their understanding of written Russian across a range of different types of texts, including advertisements, emails, letters, articles and literary texts.

Paper 4: Writing in Russian

Students are assessed on their ability to communicate effectively through writing in Russian for different purposes and audiences.

Physics

Physics is the study of the physical universe and the processes that shape it. Pupils develop a sense of the enormous scale and complexity of the subject, enabling them to appreciate just how amazing and fascinating physics can be. From the smallest atom to the vast expanse of space, IGCSE offers a fascinating journey of discovery. Pupils carry out experiments and use these to instill the basics of good laboratory practice and enhance their understanding of the underlying laws and principles. Pupils study hands-on topics including electricity, mechanics, waves, atmospheric physics, and nuclear physics.



Course Content:

The IGCSE Physics curriculum delves into a range of captivating topics, fostering critical thinking and problem-solving abilities:

- **Mechanics:** Explore the concepts of motion, forces, energy, and their interaction in various environments.
- **Waves:** Unravel the properties of sound and light waves, understanding their behaviour and applications
- **Electricity and Magnetism:** Delve into the fascinating world of electrical circuits, magnetism, and electromagnetism, which power our modern world.
- **Thermal Physics:** Investigate the nature of heat, temperature, and the laws of thermodynamics that govern energy transfer
- **Atomic Physics:** Demystify the structure of atoms, the principles of radioactivity, and their implications in the field of nuclear energy

Throughout the course, you will develop valuable skills that will benefit you not only in Physics but also in other elements of study and life:

- **Problem-solving:** Learn to analyze situations, apply physics principles, and develop logical solutions
- **Mathematical skills:** Hone your mathematical skills by applying them to solve problems and interpret data
- **Scientific investigation:** Gain hands-on experience through practical experiments and activities, fostering your ability to design experiments, analyze results, and draw conclusions
- **Communication:** Develop effective communication skills through reporting on experiments and explaining scientific concepts

Assessment Methods:

The IGCSE Physics exam incorporates a variety of assessment methods to evaluate your understanding and skills:

- **Written papers:** Demonstrate your learning and knowledge through two written papers, testing your understanding of core concepts and your ability to apply them to solve problems
- **Practical Assessment:** Showcase your practical skills in a laboratory by conducting experiments, analyzing data, and drawing

Progression:

The IGCSE Physics qualification opens doors to further study in science and engineering fields. It equips you with the foundation knowledge and skills necessary for success in Post-16 qualifications such as A Level Physics, Engineering, and Mathematics, whilst also complementing the other Sciences: Biology and Chemistry.

Physics also opens exciting career pathways beyond A Level, in a variety of fields. Many universities offer degrees in Physics, Architecture, Engineering, Astrophysics and Material Science. There is also the possibility to specialize in areas such as Theoretical Physics, Quantum Mechanics, Nuclear Physics, or Medical Physics.

There are plenty of careers in which Physics would prove beneficial, including engineering, education, healthcare, data science, aerospace,

conclusions. This can be done through a hands-on-practical examination (Paper 5) or an alternative written paper (Paper 6)



and defence. Overall, IGCSE Physics can provide a solid foundation for numerous educational and career opportunities, allowing you to explore your interests in science and technology while also acquiring valuable skills for the future.

IGCSE Combined Science

IGCSE Combined Science (0653) is a comprehensive course designed to provide students with a broad understanding of key scientific concepts across biology, chemistry, and physics. This integrated approach allows students to explore the interconnections between the sciences while developing critical thinking and analytical skills. The course is suitable for

students who want to gain a solid foundation in science, whether they plan to pursue further studies or enter the workforce.

Course Content:

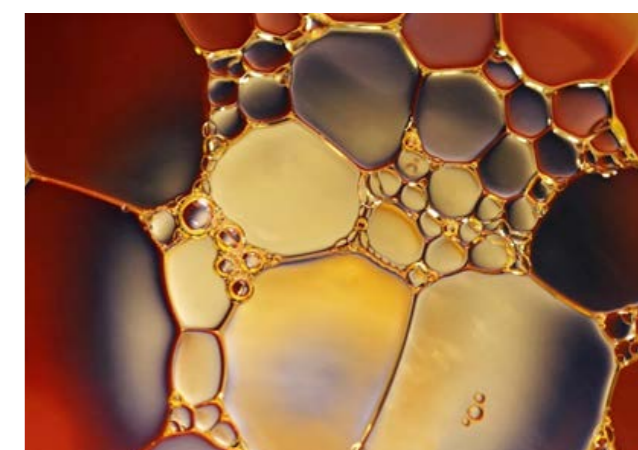
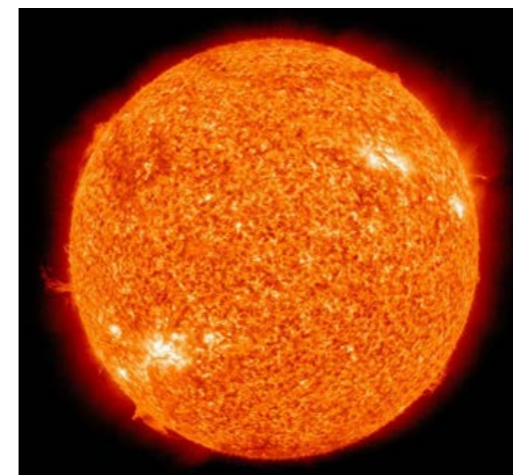
The IGCSE Combined Science curriculum is divided into three main disciplines:

1. Biology:

- **Cell Biology:** Structure and function of cells, cellular processes, and microscopy.
- **Human Biology:** Human anatomy, nutrition, and the immune system.
- **Ecology:** Ecosystems, energy flow, and environmental science.
- **Genetics:** Inheritance, variation, and evolution.

2. Chemistry:

- **Structure of Matter:** Atoms, elements, compounds, and the periodic table.
- **Chemical Reactions:** Types of reactions, balancing equations, and energy changes.



- **Acids and Bases:** Properties, pH scale, and neutralization reactions.
- **Organic Chemistry:** Introduction to hydrocarbons and functional groups.

3. Physics:

- **Motion and Forces:** Speed, velocity, acceleration, and Newton's laws of motion.
- **Energy:** Forms of energy, conservation, and energy transfer.
- **Waves:** Types of waves, sound, and light.
- **Electricity and Magnetism:** Circuits, electrical components, and magnetic fields.

During the course, you will develop a range of important life skills, designed to stretch and challenge you. Helping you prepare for further studies and the world of work:

- **Scientific Inquiry:** Designing experiments, formulating hypotheses, and analyzing data.
- **Practical Skills:** Conducting laboratory experiments, using scientific equipment, and applying safety protocols.
- **Critical Thinking:** Evaluating scientific information, making informed decisions, and solving problems.

- **Numeracy:** Applying mathematical techniques to scientific contexts, including calculations and data interpretation.
- **Communication:** Effectively presenting scientific ideas and findings, both in written and verbal formats.

Assessment Methods:

The IGCSE Combined Science is assessed through a combination of written examinations and practical assessments:

Written Exams: Typically comprising two or three papers that cover all three science disciplines. These exams assess students' understanding of concepts, their ability to apply knowledge, and their problem-solving skills.

Practical Assessments: An assessment of students' practical skills may be included, where they demonstrate their ability to conduct scientific investigations and experiments.



Progression:

Studying IGCSE Combined Science can lead to various educational and career pathways, including:

- **Further Education:** Students may progress to A-Level or equivalent courses in individual science subjects (Biology, Chemistry, Physics) or take courses in Combined Science.
- **Higher Education:** University degrees in fields such as Medicine, Engineering, Environmental Science, Biotechnology, or Education.
- **Careers:** Graduates can pursue careers in healthcare, engineering, research, environmental management, teaching, and various roles in the scientific and technological sectors.

In conclusion, IGCSE Combined Science (0653) equips students with a strong foundation in science, preparing them for further study and a variety of career opportunities in an increasingly scientific and technological world.

To help you plan which subjects you would like to choose for Year 9 and Year 10 please complete the form below.

Tick the English and Science pathways. Ensure that you have spoken with Mr. Graham (English) and Miss Aghja (Science) first.

Please mark your **THREE** or **FOUR** further options with numbers **1-3** (or **1-4**), with 1 being your most preferred subject, then 2, 3, and 4 accordingly. Please also mark **TWO** reserve choices as R1 and R2. Choices need to have been made by the **15th of March 2025**.

OPTIONS FORM (Full Student Name):		
Curriculum Area	Subject	IGCSE Choices
Core Curriculum	Mathematics	
	English Language	
	Separate Sciences	You must choose one of the Science pathways
	Combined Science (minimum 2)	
Options Curriculum	Biology	
	Business Studies	
	Chemistry	
	Economics	
	English Literature	
	German	
	Geography	
	History	
	Information Technology	
	Physics	
	Russian	

Please choose 2 or 3 subjects as a reserve should a course be unavailable:

Reserve Choice	Reserve Subjects
1	
2	
3	

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