

# Key Stage 5 Curriculum Information Booklet 2021 - 2023



GLOBAL  
CITIZENSHIP



PURSUING  
EXCELLENCE



GROWING BY  
LEARNING



LEADING  
THROUGH  
INNOVATION



High  
Performance  
Learning



مدرسة جيمس كامبردج العالمية أبوظبي  
GEMS Cambridge International School  
ABU DHABI

Dear Parents,

### Key Stage 5 at Cambridge International School

Our aim at GEMS Cambridge International School is to provide each and every one of our learners with a broad and balanced Key Stage 5 curriculum that is tailored to the individual's needs and contains a range of possibilities and opportunities for their Post-16 education and beyond. The Key Stage 5 courses and the way in which they are taught at GEMS Cambridge International School are designed to best equip your child for their future. We have provided a variety of choice to give a broad and balanced offer of subjects resulting in internationally recognised qualifications.

The purpose of this booklet is to provide you with the information you need about the exciting range of courses your child could study in Years 12 and 13 (Key Stage 5). We hope you will find it not only interesting but a useful reference tool throughout the two years of study. It will show you at a glance the various subjects on offer; the areas of study and key skills in need of development for each and how each course is structured and assessed.

The programme we have developed to assist learners in choosing the subjects they will study in the Sixth Form has included interviews with the principal and visits and presentations from a variety of universities and colleges. If you still have queries or wish to have further information, then do not hesitate to contact the Curriculum Leader for the subject or Mr. Harwood and Mrs. Stanton.

On behalf of all the staff at GEMS Cambridge International School, I would like to wish your son or daughter every success as they embark on this new and exciting phase of their education.

With kind regards,

David Craggs,  
Vice Principal and Head of Secondary,  
GEMS Cambridge International School, Abu Dhabi

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## The Key Stage 5 Curriculum

GEMS Cambridge International School is committed to the provision of a broad and balanced curriculum to meet the needs of all learners, allowing them to succeed at GCSE level and beyond into Post 16 education. We are committed to ensuring that all our learners acquire and develop the necessary skills and experience needed for university and the world of work.

Key Stage 5 means qualifications at an 'advanced level'; it is a significant step up from IGCSE. Learners will need to meet the academic entry requirements for each course. This is because the courses are challenging and we must be sure that learners have the ability and skills to be successful. We expect learners to take between two and four subjects in Year 12/13.

Most courses take two years to reach the full qualification. At the end of the first year there is a half-way qualification (AS Level), for many subjects, when it is possible to review choices.

### Entry requirements

In order to study A Levels, learners must have at least **5 GCSEs at grade 5 or above, including English**. No learner can start AS courses without a grade 5 (C grade) in English. In addition to this, subjects have their own, **non-negotiable**, entry criteria. These are outlined on the following pages.

### ADEK Equivalency

In order to gain Equivalency or promotion through ADEK, and therefore graduate, learners must complete **Year 13** (therefore meeting the requirement of 12 years of education) and need to achieve at least **2 D grades at A Level in the recognised ADEK subjects** (this list can be found on ADEK's website).

Learners looking at studying at universities within the UAE will be expected to complete EMSAT, more details available on the EMSAT website (<https://emsat.moe.gov.ae/emsat/>).

### Optional Subjects

All other subjects are optional and considered equally by employers and universities around the world.

Most learners will choose 3 AS Levels to follow through to A Level. Up to 3 subjects can be used in applications to universities. Some learners study 4 AS Levels and A Levels. However, this is rare, and is dependent on achieving excellent IGCSE grades and requires the written approval of either Mr. Harwood, Ms. Wood or Mr. Craggs.

At GEMS Cambridge International School, we will offer 16 subjects at AS and A Level in 2021. Courses and specifications outlined in this booklet are subject to change to meet pupil needs.

## Careers and Options Advice

One must not underestimate the importance of choosing the best combination of subjects for your child. These will be affected by their ambitions and career choices, their own interests and requirements that different countries have for university systems. As such, researching a range of pathways and options is important. At GEMS Cambridge International School, Sixth Form learners can get advice and application support from their subject teachers, form tutors, the School Counsellor or the Director of Sixth Form. Below is a selection of websites to help you make an informed decision.

<a href="http://www.unifrog.com">www.unifrog.com</a>	One website for worldwide careers, study skills, support and tertiary education needs. Use the code 'CIAParents' to get full access.
<a href="http://www.ucas.com">www.ucas.com</a>	Official information on higher education in the United Kingdom and how to apply. Use the buzzword VARKEY to link your account to GEMS CIA.
<a href="http://www.commonapp.org">www.commonapp.org</a>	Official information and a major application platform of higher education in the United States of America.
<a href="http://www.mypathhtouni.com">www.mypathhtouni.com</a>	A portal that ties together many providers offering application support, study support, career planning and links to many universities and related events in the UAE.
<a href="http://www.gemseducation.com/academic-success/gems-uniconnect">www.gemseducation.com/academic-success/gems-uniconnect</a>	A list of universities with special scholarships and opportunities for GEMS learners.
<a href="http://gems.oliv.com">gems.oliv.com</a>	GEMS Education has partnered with Oliv to help high school learners like you find rewarding internships and part-time jobs to gear up for the future of work.
<a href="http://investin.org">investin.org</a>	InvestIN Education offers internships around the world. GEMS learners receive discounts of up to 15%
<a href="http://www.topuniversities.com/subject-rankings/2020">www.topuniversities.com/subject-rankings/2020</a>	World university rankings, by subject.
<a href="https://bridge-u.com">https://bridge-u.com</a>	University & careers guidance for global secondary schools.
<a href="http://www.prompt.com">www.prompt.com</a>	GEMS official partner for support with Common Application essays.
<a href="http://www.volunteers.ae">www.volunteers.ae</a>	Volunteering opportunities across the UAE.
<a href="http://www.thestudentroom.co.uk">www.thestudentroom.co.uk</a>	A one stop website for all things related to studying, revision and peer support.



# English Literature (Edexcel) - AS Level (XET01) and A Level (YET01)

## Entry Requirements

At least **5 IGCSEs at a grade 5 or above**, including IGCSE English first language OR IGCSE English literature for which you need a **Grade B** or above.

## Course outline

*'When we read great literature, something changes in us that stays changed. Literature remembered becomes material to think with.'* Studying English Literature at A Level allows for the development of critical thinking and analytical skills that dovetail with many further education paths. In A Level English Literature you will study a variety of texts in the three main of forms: prose, poetry and drama from a wide range of different periods. You will develop skills of reading and analysis of texts, and are encouraged to undertake wider reading to aid understanding of the texts studied. Additionally, you will learn skills of effective and appropriate communication including the ability to discuss the critical context of texts. Studying Literature lies at the heart of society; this A Level will ensure you develop as a rounded and well-read scholar.

### The AS Level is comprised of the following papers:

#### Poetry and Prose:

The Kite Runner – Khaled Hosseini

The Forward Book of Poetry – “Poems of the Decade” – Various authors

#### Drama (Literary Heritage and Modern):

Othello – William Shakespeare

Top Girls – Caryl Churchill

### The A Level is comprised of the following papers:

#### Poetry and Prose:

Unseen poetry analysis

Never Let Me Go – Kazuo Ishiguro

Frankenstein – Mary Shelley

#### Shakespeare and pre-1900 poetry:

Hamlet – William Shakespeare

The Victorians: prescribed poems from The Oxford Book of Victorian Verse – Various authors

## Assessment structure

External assessments will be comprised of analytical essay style questions:

#### AS Level:

**Unit 1:** Post-2000 Poetry and Prose

Length: 2 hours

**Unit 2:** Drama

Length: 2 hours

#### A Level:

**Unit 3:** Poetry and Prose

Length: 2 hours

**Unit 4:** Shakespeare and Pre-1900 Poetry

Length: 2 hours

## Next Steps

**English Literature A Level** is highly regarded by all universities and can lead to the following degrees: English Language, English Literature, Politics, Law, Journalism, Philosophy, History, Creative Writing, Media and International Relations. English Literature degrees are increasingly sought after by technology companies because of its analytical and creative foci.

**Studying English Literature** at university can lead to a diverse range of career paths, from politics and law, to teaching and media, marketing and publishing, even banking and insurance. English Literature degrees consistently rank in the top few for employment ratings.



**“I love analysing texts: it’s amazing how something written hundreds of years ago is still so relevant to today!”**

# English General (Cambridge) - IAS Level (8021)

## Entry Requirements

At least **5 IGCSEs at a grade 5 or above**, including IGCSE English first language or IGCSE English literature at **grade C or above**, or IGCSE English 2<sup>nd</sup> Language **grade B or above**.

## Course outline

The English General AS Level will allow you to develop your understanding and use of English language in the context of contemporary topics. It will encourage you to research and appraise a broad range of topics while developing a wider awareness and knowledge of contemporary issues through reading. You will continue to develop independent reasoning skills while also fostering your skills of interpretation, analysis, evaluation and persuasion. You will develop skills in writing structured and developed arguments, and present reasoned explanations. Additionally, this course encourages you to present a point of view clearly, and consider and reflect upon those of others.

You will have the opportunity to gain knowledge and understanding of issues in these three broad topic areas:

1. Economic, historical, moral, political and social studies.
2. Science, including its history, philosophy, ethics, general principles and applications; environmental issues; technology and mathematics
3. Literature, language, the arts, crafts, and the media.

You will research and discuss the above topics within local and international contexts and should be able to draw upon knowledge and understanding gained from studying your other A Level subjects. Through the study of these broad topic areas, you will be able to develop effective reading and writing skills in English which are transferrable to the other areas of your study. You will work with information, ideas and opinions and analyse and evaluate opinions and ideas. Additionally, you will also learn how to build an argument. These skills are all highly transferable and will help you in other subjects you are studying, and equip you for higher education or employment.

**The AS Level is comprised of the following papers:**

### Paper 1

Essay

### Paper 2

Comprehension

**There is no coursework component for this AS Level**

**THIS SUBJECT IS ONLY AVAILABLE AS AN IAS LEVEL, ASSESSED IN FULL, AT THE END OF YEAR 12.**

## Assessment structure

External assessments will be comprised of an argumentative style essay and a reading paper that will test the candidate's comprehension abilities.

### AS Level:

#### Paper 1

Essay

1 hour 15 minutes

30 marks

Candidates answer one essay question from a choice of 10.

Externally assessed

50% of the AS Level

#### Paper 2

Comprehension

1 hour 45 minutes

50 marks

Candidates answer compulsory questions on reading material.

Externally assessed

50% of the AS Level

## Next Steps

**English General AS Level** complements many higher education paths as it allows learners who may not traditionally take English Literature A Level the opportunity to gain a further education qualification in the subject.

**Studying English General AS Level** can complement many career paths, such as the sciences, medicine, business and international relations. In particular, those who are considering going to university in countries where a language qualification is an entry requirement may want to consider this option.



# Mathematics (Edexcel) IAS (XMAO1) & IA Level (YMAO1)

## Entry Requirements Course outline

IGCSE Mathematics **grade 6 or above**. At least 5 IGCSEs at a **grade 5 or above**.

Mathematics develops our reasoning, analytical thinking, and quickens our minds, generates practicality with numerous day to day applications. New technologies are changing the way we work and live: Mathematics can be very useful in understanding how and why things work the way they work.

### The AS Level is comprised of the following papers:

#### Pure Mathematics 1: WMA11

This module introduces learners to A level mathematics. The unit comprises of the following; Algebra and functions; coordinate geometry in the (x,y); trigonometry; differentiation; integration.

#### Pure Mathematics 2: WMA12

This is a continuation of P1 with more advanced topics. This includes; Proof; algebra and functions; coordinate geometry in the (x,y) plane; sequences and series; exponentials and logarithms; trigonometry; differentiation; integration.

#### Mechanics 1: WME01

Modelling and analyzing the physical world around us, including the study of forces and motion. Mechanics is particular useful to learners studying physics and engineering. This unit comprises of the following topics; 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.

### The A Level is comprised of the following papers:

#### Pure Mathematics 3: WMA13

P3 is the first module of A Level Mathematics. It comprises of; Algebra and functions; trigonometry; exponentials and logarithms; differentiation; integration; numerical methods.

#### Pure Mathematics 4: WMA14

The last of the Pure Mathematic modules, it comprises of the following topics; Proof; algebra and functions; coordinate geometry in the (x,y) plane; binomial expansion; differentiation; integration; vectors.

#### Statistics 1: WST01

Collecting and analyzing data and using this to make predictions about future events. Many subjects make use of statistical information and techniques. An understanding of probability and risk is important in careers like insurance, medicine, engineering and the sciences.

## Assessment structure

External assessment will be on all six modules outline above. All exams are equally weighed.

#### AS Level:

P1: (1 Hour and 30 minutes) Exam worth 75 marks. 33⅓ % of AS and 16⅔ % of A Level

P2: (1 Hour and 30 minutes) Exam worth 75 marks. 33⅓ % of AS and 16⅔ % of A Level

M1: (1 Hour and 30 minutes) Exam worth 75 marks. 33⅓ % of AS and 16⅔ % of A Level

#### A Level:

P3: (1 Hour and 30 minutes) Exam worth 75 marks. 33⅓ % of AS and 16⅔ % of A Level

P4: (1 Hour and 30 minutes) Exam worth 75 marks. 33⅓ % of AS and 16⅔ % of A Level

S1: (1 Hour and 30 minutes) Exam worth 75 marks. 33⅓ % of AS and 16⅔ % of A Level

## Next Steps

A Level Mathematics is a very versatile qualification, well-respected by employers and a “facilitating” subject for entry to higher education. Careers anyone with good mathematics skills and qualifications are not only well paid, but they are also often interesting and rewarding. People who have studied mathematics are in the fortunate position of having an excellent choice of career.

## What our learners say

**“Mathematics is such an interesting and dynamic subject which enables me think analytically about problems.”**



# Physics (Edexcel) - IAS Level (XPH11) and IA Level (YPH11)

## Entry Requirements Course outline

IGCSE Physics and Mathematics grade 7 or above.

In A level Physics you will study a wide range of topics, from the structure of subatomic particles and the particle accelerators used to detect them, to the theories about the beginning and ultimate fate of the universe. You will begin with topics you are familiar with from the IGCSE course, but will study these in more depth and apply them to solving challenging problems. You will carry out core experiments that will help your understanding of the concepts and develop your practical skills, your ability to analyse and evaluate experimental techniques and data and your team working.

### The AS Level is comprised of the following papers:

#### Unit 1: Mechanics and Materials

Rectilinear motion, forces, energy and power, flow of liquids, Hooke's law, the Young modulus and elastic strain energy.

#### Unit 2: Waves and Electricity

Properties of different types of wave, including standing waves. Refraction, polarisation and diffraction are also included and the wave/particle nature of light. Ohm's law and non-ohmic conductors, potential dividers, e.m.f. and internal resistance of cells and negative temperature coefficient thermistors

#### Unit 3: Practical Skills in Physics I

Develop experimental skills, and a knowledge and understanding of experimental techniques, by carrying out a range of practical experiments and investigations while studying Units 1 & 2.

### The A Level is comprised of the following papers:

#### Unit 4: Further Mechanics, Fields and Particles

Impulse, conservation of momentum in two dimensions and circular motion. Coulomb's law, capacitors, magnetic flux density and the laws of electromagnetic induction. Atomic structure, particle accelerators and the standard quark-lepton model.

#### Unit 5: Thermodynamics, Radiation, Oscillations and Cosmology

Specific heat capacity, specific latent heat, internal energy and the gas equation. Radioactive decay, simple harmonic motion and damping. Gravitational fields and the physical interpretation of astronomical observations, the formation and evolution of stars and the history and future of the universe.

#### Unit 6: Practical Skills in Physics II

Further develop the experimental skills acquired in Units 1 and 2

## Assessment structure

External assessments will be comprised of written examinations consisting of multiple-choice, short-open, open-response, calculations and extended-writing questions. The papers will include questions that target mathematics at Level 2 or above.

#### AS Level:

Paper 1: 1hr 30 mins 40% of the AS  
Paper 2: 1hr 30 mins 40% of the AS  
Paper 3: 1hr 20 mins 20% of the AS

#### A Level:

Paper 4: 1hr 45 mins 40% of the A2  
Paper 5: 1hr 45 mins 40% of the A2  
Paper 6: 1hr 20 mins 20% of the A2

## Next Steps

Universities offer a wide range of degree courses for learners who have studied physics at A level, including Physics, Mathematics, Astronomy, Mechanical Engineering, Aeronautical Engineering, Civil Engineering, Electrical Engineering, Computer Science, Architecture, Veterinary Science, Biomedical Sciences, Forensic Science, Geology, Meteorology etc. Career options include Aeronautical Engineer, Mechanical Engineer, Astronomer, Airline Pilot, Architect, Civil Engineer, Geoscientist, Medical Physicist, Nuclear Engineer and Astronaut etc.

## Chemistry (Exam board) - IAS Level (code) and IA Level (code)

### Entry Requirements

IGCSE Chemistry grade 7 or above. At least 5 IGCSEs at a grade 5 or above, including English and Mathematics.

### Course outline

In A level Chemistry we will study the material world, and through chemistry we can describe and explain common life phenomenon. We will begin with the topics we are familiar with from the IGCSE course, but will study these in more depth and apply them to solving challenging problems. A level Chemistry courses cover a wide variety of basic concepts such as the structure of the atom; the interaction of matter and energy; how to control reactions; patterns in the Periodic Table; understanding carbon-based molecules. We will carry out core experiments that will help your understanding of the concepts and develop your practical skills, your ability to analyse and evaluate experimental techniques and data and your team working.

#### The AS Level is comprised of the following papers:

##### Unit 1: Structure, Bonding and Introduction to Organic Chemistry

Formula equations; Atomic structure and the Periodic Table; Bonding and Structure; Alkanes and Alkenes.

##### Unit 2: Energetics, Group Chemistry, Halogenoalkanes and Alcohols

Energetics; Intermolecular Forces; Redox Chemistry and Group 1,2 & 7; Introduction to Kinetics and Equilibrium; Organic Chemistry: Alcohols, Halogenoalkanes and Spectra.

##### Unit 3: Practical Skills in Chemistry I

Develop experimental skills, and a knowledge and understanding of experimental techniques, by carrying out a range of practical experiments and investigations while studying Units 1 & 2.

#### The A Level is comprised of the following papers:

##### Unit 4: Rates, Equilibria and Organic Chemistry

Kinetics; Entropy and Energetics; Chemical Equilibria; Acid-base Equilibria; Organic Chemistry: Carbonyls, Carboxylic Acids and Chirality

##### Unit 5: Transition Metals and Organic Nitrogen Chemistry

Redox Equilibria; Transition Metals and their Chemistry; Organic Chemistry-Arenes; Organic Nitrogen Compounds: Amines, Amides, Amino acids and Proteins; Organic Synthesis.

##### Unit 6: Practical Skills in Chemistry II

Further develop the experimental skills acquired in Units 1 and 2

### Assessment structure

External assessments will be comprised of written examinations consisting of multiple-choice, short-open, open-response, calculations and extended-writing questions. The papers will include questions that target mathematics at Level 2 or above.

#### AS Level:

Paper 1: 1hr 30 mins 40% of the AS  
Paper 2: 1hr 30 mins 40% of the AS  
Paper 3: 1hr 20 mins 20% of the AS

#### AS Level:

Paper 1: 1hr 30 mins 40% of the AS  
Paper 2: 1hr 30 mins 40% of the AS  
Paper 3: 1hr 20 mins 20% of the AS

### Next Steps

Universities offer a wide range of degree courses for learners who have studied Chemistry at A level, including Chemistry, Mathematics, Chemical Engineering, Biochemistry, Medical Science, Veterinary Science, Biomedical Sciences, Forensic Science, pharmacology etc.

Career options include doctor of medicine, Chemical Engineer, Biochemist, Forensic scientist, Pharmacologist, Research scientist, Nanotechnologist, Toxicologist, Nuclear Engineer, Analytical chemist and Oceanographer etc.

## Biology (Edexcel) - IAS Level (code) and IA Level (code)

### Entry Requirements Course outline

IGCSE Biology grade 7 or above. At least 5 IGCSEs at a grade 5 or above, including English and Mathematics.

In A Level Biology you will study a wide range of topics, from molecules, cells, metabolic processes such as respiration and photosynthesis to genetics. You will begin with topics you are familiar with from the IGCSE course, but will study these in more depth and apply your in-depth knowledge to solve challenging questions. You will carry out core experiments that will help your understanding of the concepts and develop your practical skills, your ability to analyse and evaluate experimental techniques and data, whilst also developing many other life-long skills such as communication skills and working effectively as part of a team.

#### **The AS Level is comprised of the following papers:**

##### **Unit 1: Molecules, Diet, Transport and Health**

Biological molecules, relevance of diet to health and the cardiovascular system, cell membrane and cell physiology, enzymes, protein synthesis, genetic code and how mutations can result in disorders.

##### **Unit 2: Cells, Development, Biodiversity and Conservation**

Cells and their structures, cell division, formation of gametes, fertilisation, continuity of life, stem cells, gene expression, epigenetics, plant structure and function, biodiversity and conservation.

##### **Unit 3: Practical Skills in Biology I**

Develop experimental skills, and a knowledge and understanding of experimental techniques, by carrying out a range of practical experiments and investigations while studying Units 1 & 2.

#### **The A Level is comprised of the following papers:**

##### **Unit 4: Energy, Environment, Microbiology and Immunity**

Photosynthesis, energy flow, ecosystems and the environment to include climate change, microbiology, immunity and forensics.

##### **Unit 5: Respiration, Internal Environment, Coordination and Gene Technology**

Respiration, muscles and the internal environment to include kidney function and the role of hormones, coordination in mammals and flowering plants, response and gene technology.

##### **Unit 6: Practical Skills in Biology II**

Further develop the experimental skills acquired in Units 1 and 2.

External assessments will be comprised of written examinations consisting of multiple-choice, short-open, open-response, calculations and extended-writing questions.

##### **AS Level:**

Paper 1: 1hr 30 mins 40% of the AS

Paper 2: 1hr 30 mins 40% of the AS

Paper 3: 1hr 20 mins 20% of the AS

##### **A Level:**

Paper 4: 1hr 45 mins 40% of the A2

Paper 5: 1hr 45 mins 40% of the A2

Paper 6: 1hr 20 mins 20% of the AS

Universities offer a wide range of degree courses for learners who have studied biology at A level, including Biology, Veterinary Science, Biomedical Sciences, Forensic Science, Biochemistry, Dentistry, Dietetics, Earth Sciences, Environmental Science, Geology, Medical Science, Medicine, Nursing, Pharmacy, Physiotherapy, Sports Science, etc.

Career options include many obvious choices such as careers in medicine, physiotherapy, etc. However, a few other and equally interesting career options could be working as a biological technician, genetic counsellor, health communication specialist, health educator, pharmaceutical representative, or even in the field of law.

# Psychology (Oxford AQA International) Spec code 9685

## IAS Level – 9686, IA Level - 9687

### Entry Requirements Course outline

At least **5 IGCSEs at a grade 5 or above**, including **grade 6 or above in English, Mathematics**, and **grade 5 in Biology (Grade 6 or above in Double Science)**.

Do you have a curious mind and a desire to learn about human behaviour? Psychology is an intriguing subject that aims to provide learners with knowledge of the human mind and how it is correlated with our behaviour. A Level Psychology explores human behaviour from a number of viewpoints. You will be challenged to combine rigorous scientific and mathematical work with research and discussion. You will get plenty of chances to get involved in debating theories, studies and evidence. Psychology is a subject that suits any individual who is determined to understand what motivates themselves and others, and to learn why it is that people think and act in a particular way.

### The AS Level is comprised of the following papers:

#### Unit 1: Introductory topics in psychology

**Memory:** Models of memory, types of long term memory and the factors affecting accuracy of eyewitness testimony.

**Social Psychology:** Types and explanations of conformity and the variables affecting this. In this area they will cover explanations for obedience and explanations of resistance to social influence.

**Psychopathology:** Definitions of abnormality, looking specifically at two disorders; phobias and depression, exploring them from differing psychological approaches; behavioural and cognitive.

#### Unit 2: Biopsychology, development and research methods 1.

**Biopsychology:** Divisions of the nervous system, structure and function of neurons, the role of fight and flight and localisation of function in the brain.

**Cognitive development:** Piaget and Vygotsky's theory of cognitive development. Baillargeon's expectation research and Social cognition.

**Research Methods:** Learners will learn about a range of research methods, scientific processes and techniques of data handling and analysis, of which underpin all psychological research.

### The A Level is comprised of the following papers:

#### Unit 3: Advanced topics and Research Methods 2.

**Psychology of Sleep:** Biological rhythms and disruption, the nature and function of sleep and disorders.

**Schizophrenia:** Symptoms, issues with diagnosis, biological and cognitive explanations and therapies

**Research Methods:** Learners will learn about a range of research methods, scientific processes and techniques of data handling and analysis, of which underpin all psychological research.

#### Unit 4: Approaches and Application (Synoptic Unit)

**Approaches in psychology:** Learning approach; SLT and Behavioural, Cognitive and Biological approach.

**Issues and debates in psychology:** Free will and determinism, nature-nurture, holism and reductionism, psychology and science

**Applied Psychology - work and the individual:** communication at work, job motivation and satisfaction, workplace stress.

### Assessment structure

External assessments will be comprised of short answer questions, as well longer essay questions.

#### AS Level:

Unit 1: (1 hour and 30 minutes worth 50% of the AS Level and 20% of the A Level

Unit 2: (1 hour and 30 minutes worth 50% of the AS Level and 20% of the A Level

#### A Level:

Unit 3: (1 hour and 30 minutes) worth 30% of the A Level

Unit 4: (1 hour and 30 minutes) worth 30% of the A Level

### Next Steps

Universities offer the following degrees linked to psychology: Psychology, Sociology, Law, Nursing, Teacher Training, Sports Science and Business. In most universities it is also often paired with a science or social science such as sociology or criminology.

Career options open to Psychology graduates include marketing, the health sector, as well as sports or criminology. With further training, Psychologists can progress into careers such as counselling, teaching, clinical psychologists, forensic psychologists, educational psychologists and occupational psychologists.

*'Psychology is an intriguing subject that allows us insight into our mind and behaviour'*  
*'Psychology has enabled me to view the world in a completely different way!'*

# Physical Education (AQA) - IAS Level and IA Level (9396)

## Entry Requirements

IGCSE Physical Education at **grade 6 or above**. At least **5 IGCSEs at a grade 5 or above**, including **English, Mathematics and Biology (Grade 6 or above in Double Science)**.

## Course outline

International A Level Physical Education will give you a fantastic insight into the amazing world of sports performance. The IAS and IA Level Physical Education course enables learners to participate in both practical and theoretical studies, covering anatomy and physiology, movement skills and contemporary studies in sport. Learners work both independently and collaboratively to overcome tasks challenges in the classroom and on the sports field, in both practical and coaching capacities. Learners engage in an array of topics and sports are afforded a range of opportunities to attend enriching school trips and sporting events.

### The AS Level is comprised of the following papers:

Factors Affecting Participation in Physical Activity and Sport;

- Applied Anatomy and Physiology
- Skill Acquisition
- Sport Society
- Biomechanical Movement
- Sport Psychology
- Sport and Society and the Role of Technology in Physical Activity and Sport.

### The A Level is comprised of the following papers:

Factors Affecting Optimal Performance in Physical Activity and Sport

- Applied Anatomy and Physiology
- Skill Acquisition
- Sport Society
- Exercise Physiology
- Biomechanical Movement
- Sport Psychology
- Sport and Society and the Role of Technology in Physical Activity and Sport

## Assessment structure

External written assessments will be comprised of shorter source based questions and longer essay type questions. Practical assessment portfolios are assessed in school, and moderated by the exam boards.

#### AS Level:

70% Examination (2 hours)

30% Practical Assessment

#### A Level:

70% Examination (2 hours)

30% Practical Assessment

## Next Steps

University options for learners with AS or A-Level Physical Education are incredibly diverse and include, but are not limited to, Sports Science, Sports Studies, Biology, Physiology, Physiotherapy, Medicine, Diet and Nutrition, Media and Marketing.

This course will give learners the initial knowledge and platform to access a wide range of further courses and careers in; sports science, nutrition, physiotherapy, sports leisure, management, sports coaching, event and facilities management, exercise, physiology, human biology, biomechanics, psychology, sports technology, media and marketing.

**"I really enjoy the chance to participate in different sports and understanding how my body works. It's not just about your body, but your mind as well."**





# Geography (Edexcel) - IAS Level (XG01) and IA Level (YG01)

## Entry Requirements

IGCSE Geography **grade 6 or above**. At least **5 IGCSEs at a grade 5 or above**, including **English** and **Mathematics**.

## Course outline

Geography is your window to the world. If the interactions between people and places, and our increasingly uncertain futures interest you, then Geography A Level is for you. Learners widen their knowledge and understanding of the subject, whilst developing their investigative abilities and their evaluation and decision-making skills in relation to a wide range on current global issues.

### The AS Level is comprised of the following papers:

**Global Challenges** introduces you to the in depth study of a range of hazards, including climate change, and how they affect different societies. The second part of this paper focuses on globalisation, how the politics and economics of our interconnected world has far reaching opportunities and challenges, not least being the impacts on people, how they live and the environment

**Geographical Investigations** involves a compulsory 4 day field trip to Ras Al Khaimah and Dubai, focusing on coastal and urban management. Learners will be required to analyse and evaluate their research in exam conditions as well as show an in depths knowledge of the challenges and opportunities of managing these contrasting environments.

### The A Level is comprised of the following papers:

**Contested Planet** requires the in depth study of atmospheric systems, the management of biodiversity at a variety of scales, superpower geographies and geopolitics, resource use and energy security. This is an incredibly broad unit, addressing some of the most fundamental challenges of our time. As such, it is synoptic in nature and requires an awareness of a range of global issues.

**Researching Geography** is the preparation for producing a report, backed up by current readings and academic research, under exam conditions. We will be given the title in January 2021 and will focus on the management of hazards.

## Assessment structure

External assessments will be comprised of short-answer and data response questions, as well as synoptic and longer essay questions.

### AS Level:

Paper 1 (1 hour and 45 minutes) worth 60% of the AS Level & 30% of the A Level.

Paper 2 (1 hour and 30 minutes) worth 40% of the AS Level & 20% of the A Level.

### A Level:

Paper 3 (2 hours) worth 30% of the A Level.

Paper 4 (1 hour and 30 minutes) worth 20% of the A Level.

## Next Steps

**Geography A Level can lead to the following degrees:** geography, geology, international development, sociology, environmental science and sustainability, environmental geoscience, geopolitics, town and regional planning, oceanography, marine, politics, history, law, psychology, economics and engineering.

**Career paths related to geography include:** politics, resource exploitation, chartered surveyor, software development, photography, logistics, urban planning, teaching, event management, environmental consulting, law, armed forces, geology, engineering, media and marketing, business and finance.

## What our learners say

**“Geography is the most interesting subject! I keep telling people ...”**

**“I love how Geography allows me to understand what I see!”**



# History (Edexcel) - IAS Level (WHI01/01 and WHI02/01) and IA Level (WHI03/01 and WHI04/01)

## Entry Requirements Course outline

History GCSE **grade 6 or above**. At least **5 IGCSEs at a grade 5 or above**, including **English**.

History allows learners the opportunity to explore the past and therefore understand the present world which surrounds them. It allows them to develop their research, evaluation and analytical skills through a series of investigations into the past.

### The AS Level is comprised of the following papers:

**France in Revolution, 1774–99:** Learners study the tumultuous period of change for the French people who became citizens instead of subjects in a maelstrom of revolutionary activity, war and constitutional experiment that would inspire revolutionary movements around the world.

Learners will gain an in-depth understanding of the causes and onset of revolutionary activity in France, and the subsequent political, social and economic changes.

**Russia, 1917–91:** From Lenin to Yeltsin: Learners will learn about the key political, social and economic features of Communist rule in Russia during the 20th century, an era that saw its authority and influence rise to the status of a superpower, only to diminish and decline later in the century

### The A Level is comprised of the following papers:

**Civil Rights and Race Relations in the USA, 1865–2009:** Learners explore the developments that have shaped contemporary America and remain a fundamental issue in US society: the changing pattern of race relations between black and white Americans over a period that began with millions of black Americans in slavery and ended with Barack Obama as President.

**The World Divided: Superpower Relations, 1943–90:** Learners study historical interpretations on a broad question, namely the reasons for the outbreak and development of the Cold War in the years 1943–53. This is contextualized by, and overlaps with, a study of superpower relations (USA, USSR and China) in the years 1953–90. The two main themes are confrontation and the threat of war on the one hand, and Détente and the resolution of conflict on the other.

## Assessment structure

External assessments will be comprised of four examinations. The two IAS topics will be examined at the end of Year 12 and two IAL topics will be assessed at the end of Year 13. Re-sit options available.

### AS Level:

#### Paper 1

*Option 1A: France in Revolution, 1774–99*  
(50% of the total IAS/25% of the total IAL)  
2 hours

- Each paper has four questions. Learners must answer two 25-mark essay questions from a choice of four.

#### Paper 2

*Option 1C: Russia, 1917–91: From Lenin to Yeltsin*  
(50% of the total IAS/25% of the total IAL)

- Section A comprises one compulsory question in two parts and Section B comprises a choice of three essays, which assess understanding of the period in depth.

### A Level:

#### Paper 3

*Option 1D: Civil Rights and Race Relations in the USA, 1865–2009*  
(25% of the total IAL)

- Section A comprises one compulsory essay and Section B comprises a choice of two essays.

#### Paper 4

*Option 4C: The World Divided: Superpower Relations, 1943–90*  
(25% of the total IAL)

- Section A comprises one compulsory question and Section B comprises a choice of two essays, which assess understanding of the period in depth.

## Next Steps

**A History A Level can lead to the following degrees:** History, Modern History, Ancient History, History and Law, Law, Politics, Economics, Geography, English Literature, Business and Management, Teacher training.

**Career paths related to History include:** Academia/Education (teaching), law, Government roles e.g. communications officer, police officer, Project Manager, PR consultant, HR Manager, Finance, Research analyst, Customer Service Managers, HR Manager, Writing, Publishing, Politics, journalism, Non-profit Management, museum curator, Arts or heritage officer and Medicine.



# Politics (AQA) - A Level (7152)

## Entry Requirements Course outline

English Literature **grade 6 or above** OR English as a Second Language **grade 8 or above**. At least 5 IGCSEs at a grade 5 or above.

Lively, relevant, controversial... there are many ways to describe A-level Politics. There's no denying that it's one of the most interesting and engaging qualifications you can choose. As our world becomes increasingly unpredictable, the study of Politics has never been more relevant or fascinating. Covering news and current affairs from around the world, you will learn how governments operate domestically and internationally and find out answers to burning questions including 'What is Brexit all about and why is it happening?', 'How did Donald Trump become President?', 'Why is it so easy to have a gun in the USA?'.

### The A Level is comprised of the following papers:

#### Paper 1 - Government and politics of the UK

You will learn about the nature and sources of the British Constitution, the structure and roles of Parliament, the Executives, judiciary, political parties and devolution, democracy, elections and referendums, and the European Union.

#### Paper 2 - The government and politics of the USA, and comparative politics

You will learn about the constitutional frameworks of the US Government, the roles of the President, Judiciary and Congress, the electoral college and direct democracy, political parties and pressure groups and civil rights.

In addition to this, you will undertake structural, rational and cultural analyses of key elements of government and politics of the UK and the USA.

#### Paper 3 - Political ideas

You learn about the core ideologies underpinning political systems around the world including: liberalism, conservatism, socialism, nationalism, feminism, multiculturalism and ecologism.

### POLITICS IS ONLY AVAILABLE AS AN A LEVEL, ASSESSED IN FULL, AT THE END OF YEAR 13.

## Assessment structure

External assessments will be comprised of medium length 'explain' and essay style questions.

#### Paper 1 - Government and politics of the UK

Written exam: 2 hours (77 marks & 33⅓ % of A-level)

#### Paper 2 - The government and politics of the USA, and comparative politics

Written exam: 2 hours (77 marks & 33⅓ % of A-level)

#### Paper 3 - Political ideas

Written exam: 2 hours (77 marks & 33⅓ % of A-level)

## Next Steps

**Degrees that favour politics include:** politics, PPE, law and international law, history, geography, economics, business and management, criminology, journalism, media studies, international development, sociology, international development, geopolitics, psychology.

**Career paths related to politics include:** civil service and government roles, sociology, ethics, advertising or journalism, political advising, industrial relations advisor, consulting, charity work, international development, mediating, law, politics, urban planning, armed forces, media, business and finance.

**"Just because you do not take an interest in politics, doesn't mean politics won't take an interest in you." –Pericles**

**"Politics is power!"**

# Business Studies (Edexcel) - IAS Level (XBS11) and IA Level (YBS11)

## Entry Requirements Course outline

IGCSE Business Studies **grade 6 or above**. At least **5 IGCSEs at a grade 5 or above**, including **English** and **Mathematics**.

International A Level Business studies enables learners to understand and appreciate the nature and scope of business, and the role it plays in society. The course covers: economic, environmental, ethical, governmental, legal, social and technological issues, and encourages a critical understanding of organisations, the markets they serve and the process of adding value. Learners examine the management of organisations and, in particular, the process of decision-making in a dynamic external environment. This course is suitable for learners interested in learning a range of business skills which can be applied to any business organisation including decision making, problem solving, entrepreneurial and analytical skills.

### The AS Level is comprised of the following papers:

**Unit 1: Marketing and people**

In this unit, learners are introduced to the market, explore the marketing and people functions and investigate entrepreneurs and business start-up.

**Unit 2: Managing business activities**

In this unit, learners explore the finance and operations functions, and investigate external influences on business.

### The A Level is comprised of the following papers:

**Unit 3: Business decisions and strategy**

In this unit, learners develop their understanding of the concepts introduced in Units 1 and 2, and explore influences on business strategy and decision making.

**Unit 4: Global business**

In this unit, learners develop their understanding of the concepts introduced in Units 1, 2 and 3, and explore business activity in a global context.

## Assessment structure

### AS Level:

#### Unit 1: Marketing and people

Unit code: WBS11/01

Externally assessed written examination: 2 hours  
80 marks 50% of IAS

#### Assessment overview:

Section A: Short- and extended-response questions based on sources (30 marks).

Section B: Same format as Section A, based on different sources (30 marks).

Section C: One 20-mark essay question, based on one or more sources (20 marks).

#### Unit 2: Managing business activities

Unit code: WBS12/01

Externally assessed written examination: 2 hours  
80 marks 50% of IAS

#### Assessment overview:

Section A: Short- and extended-response questions based on sources (30 marks).

Section B: Same format as Section A, based on different sources (30 marks).

Section C: One 20-mark essay question, based on one or more sources (20 marks).

### A Level:

#### Unit 3: Business decisions and strategy

Unit code: WBS13/01

Externally assessed written examination: 2 hours  
80 marks 50% of IA2

#### Assessment overview:

Section A: Short and extended-response questions, based on sources (40 marks).

Section B: One 20-mark essay question, based on one or more sources (20 marks).

Section C: One 20-mark essay question, based on one or more sources (20 marks).

#### Unit 4: Global business

Unit code: WBS14/01

Externally assessed written examination: 2 hours  
80 marks 50% of IA2

#### Assessment overview:

Section A: Short and extended-response questions, based on sources (40 marks).

Section B: One 20-mark essay question, based on one or more sources (20 marks).

Section C: One 20-mark essay question, based on one or more sources (20 marks).

## Next Steps

This course is a useful preparation for many degree courses including law, geography, economics, accounting, business and management, psychology, international law, marketing and media studies. It is also a useful preparation for employment, especially for those planning to work in the business sector.

# Information Technology (Cambridge) – IAS/IA Level (9626)

## Entry Requirements Course outline

IGCSE ICT at **grade 6 or above**. At least **5 IGCSEs at a grade 5 or above**, including **English** and **Mathematics**.

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Learners of CIE A/AS-Level IT will gain both theory and practical learning of computer systems. The syllabus aims to enable learners to develop a broad range of IT skills, develop an understanding of the parts, use and applications of IT systems within a range of organisations and develop a broad knowledge of the use of IT in workplace situations.

### The AS Level is comprised of the following papers:

Paper 1: Theory

A range of theory topics including hardware and software, monitoring and control, networks and expert systems.

Paper 2: Practical:

Spreadsheets, Database and file concepts, sound and video editing.

### The A Level is comprised of the following papers:

Paper 3: Theory

Advanced theory topics including emerging technologies, systems life cycle, project management and Networks.

Paper 4: Practical

Advanced mail-merge, graphics creation, animation and coding for the web.

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## Assessment structure

External assessments will be comprised of:

#### AS Level:

Paper 1: Theory (1 hour 45 mins) worth 50% of the AS Level & 25% of the A Level.

Paper 2: Practical (2 hours 30 mins) worth 50% of the AS Level & 25% of the A Level.

#### A Level:

Paper 3: Theory (1 hour 45 mins) worth 25% of the A Level.

Paper 4: Practical (2 hours 30 mins) worth 25% of the A Level.

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## Next Steps

Learners can progress onto A2 after successful completion of the AS. The skills learnt during the course will be useful in any work across the curriculum; the course will prepare learners for further study for a degree in an ICT related field and/or future employment.

**“I needed to know about video and sound editing for my future work in multimedia, I have those skills now!”**

**“I love learning new IT skills and applying them to tackle real-life scenarios”**



# Computer Science (Cambridge) – IAS/IA Level (9618)

## Entry Requirements

IGCSE Computer Science at **grade 6 or above**. At least **5 IGCSEs at a grade 5 or above**, including **English** and **Mathematics**.

## Course outline

The aim of this course is to encourage learners to meet the needs of higher education courses in computer science as well as twenty-first century digital employers. It encourages learners to think creatively, through applying practical programming solutions, demonstrating that they are effective users of technology. Learners develop computational thinking & programming skills to solve computer science problems. Computer Science will help learners develop a range of skills such as thinking creatively, analytically, logically and critically. They will also be able to appreciate the ethical issues that arise with current and emerging computing technologies.

### The AS Level is comprised of the following papers:

Paper 1: Theory fundamentals

A range of theory topics including data representation, processor fundamentals, hardware and software, security and database modelling.

Paper 2: Fundamental Problem-solving and Programming

Algorithm design, programming, software development and data representation.

### The A Level is comprised of the following papers:

Paper 3: Advanced Theory

Advanced theory topics including user defined data types, protocols, Boolean algebra, AI, Encryption and translation software.

Paper 4: Further Problem Solving and Programming Skills

Low level programming, object orientated programming, declarative programming, file processing and exception handling.

## Assessment structure

External assessments will be comprised of:

### AS Level:

Paper 1: Theory (1 hour 30 mins) worth 50% of the AS Level & 25% of the A Level.

Paper 2: Programming (2 hours) worth 50% of the AS Level & 25% of the A Level.

### A Level:

Paper 3: Theory (1 hour 30 mins) worth 25% of the A Level.

Paper 4: Practical (2 hours 30 mins) worth 25% of the A Level.

## Next Steps

Learners can progress onto A2 after successful completion of the AS. The skills learnt during the course will be useful in learners' work across the curriculum; the course will prepare learners for further study for a degree in a Computer Science related field and/or future employment.

**"I want to become a software engineer and this course has taught me the skills that I need!"**

**"I love learning about computers and how they function!"**



# Art & Design (Cambridge) - IAS Level (9479) and IA Level (9479)

## Entry Requirements

IGCSE Art and design (or equivalent) at **grade 6 or above**. At least **5 IGCSEs at a grade 5 or above**, including **English**.

## Course outline

Art and design is a practical-based course designed to stimulate personal enrichment and enjoyment through artistic exploration and critical thinking. The learners engage in integrated critical, practical and theoretical study and learn about the world of art and design through exploration, experimentation and the development of a wide range of media and techniques.

Learners will work in a range of Fine Art techniques, emphasising drawing, painting, photography & Photoshop, sculpture, textiles and printmaking. Learners will develop their ideas by studying other artist's works and gaining inspiration from the world around them.

### The AS Level is comprised of the following papers:

**Cambridge International AS Level:** AS candidates, take Components 1 and 2 only.

#### **Component 1: Coursework, Component 2: Externally Set Assignment**

Learners research, develop and realise a project to develop into a personal response.

**Component 1** is an internally set assignment, which is marked by Cambridge International. There is no question paper for this component. The portfolio can be up to five sheets of A2.

**Component 2** is an externally set assignment that is marked by Cambridge International. There is a question paper for this component. The supporting studies can be up to three sheets of A2.

### The A Level is comprised of the following papers:

**Cambridge International A Level:**

Cambridge International A Level candidates take all 3 components. A Level (staged over two years)  
Year 1 -AS Level (component 1&2), Year 2 -Complete the A Level (component 3)

#### **Component 1: Controlled Test, Component 2: Coursework, Component 3: Personal Study**

**Component 3: Personal Study** -This is an internally set assignment that is marked by Cambridge International. There is no question paper for this component. Learners investigate a theme, idea, concept or process that is personal to them. The Personal Investigation is an in-depth study that demonstrates the learner's ability to carry out independent research from a starting point of their choice through to a fully realised and coherent conclusion. It is submitted on A2.

## Assessment structure

All 3 components will be externally assessed.

**AS Level: Component 1-** Coursework- 100 marks  
There are **two** parts to the coursework:

– a portfolio **and a final outcome- 15 hours practical exam** -50% of the AS Level / 25% of the A Level

**Component 2-** Externally Set Assignment of 100 marks. There are **two** parts to the assignment: supporting studies, created during the preparation period and a **final outcome, produced during a supervised exam of 15 hours.** 50% of the AS Level / 25% of the A Level

**A Level: Component 3-** Personal Investigation- 100 marks (weighted to 200 marks)

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.  
50% of the A Level

## Next Steps

Studying Art and Design at A Level will open up many opportunities for you, whether you are looking to go into higher education or into the workplace.

**Higher education:** University courses to study include Fine Art, Illustration, Architecture, Graphic Design, Photography, and Art History/Journalism, to name just a few. **Leading to a career in:** Fine Artist, Sculptor, Printmaking, Architecture, Medical Illustrator, Industrial Design, Marketing and Advertising, Graphic Design, Computer Aided Design, Fashion Design, Hair and Make-up Design, Textile Design, Ceramic Design, Film and Photography, set design, Jewellery Design, Teaching, Art History, Art Curator, Art therapy etc.



*"Art gave me lifelong skills and creativity to express myself freely."*



*"Art made me more creative, patient and confident with my own works and myself."*

## French (AQA) - IAS Level (7651) and IA Level (7652)

### Entry Requirements Course outline

IGCSE French at grade 6 or above. At least 5 IGCSEs at a grade 5 or above, including English.

A-level French will enhance your ability to discuss matters or read and write in French – but will open up to you an understanding of French society and culture and, in today's global job market, important work opportunities. If you are looking for a career in linguistics/translation or further study in modern languages then A-level French is surely a subject considering taking.

### Assessment structure

#### The AS Level is comprised of the following papers:

**Term 1:** Grammar programme linked to thematic content. 1/Aspects of French-speaking society: current trends. 2/Artistic culture in the French-speaking world.

**Term 2:** Theme-linked teaching and learning. 1/ Aspects of French-speaking society: current trends. 1/ Artistic culture in the French-speaking world. 3/ Chosen film or book.

**Term 3:** Practice of exam-specific skills and assessment tasks in speaking, essay writing, listening, reading, summary writing and translation into and from target language. 1/ essay writing on book or film. 2/ speaking and stimulus cards. 3/reading, listening and translation according to sub-themes and aspects.

#### The A Level is comprised of the following papers:

**Term 1:** Development of skills in the two theme areas of year 13. Intensive first phase of teaching and learning for the second work. 1/ Aspects of French-speaking society: current issues and aspects of political life in the French-speaking world. 2/ Study of second work.

**Term 2:** As for Term 1 with less time spent on the 2nd work and more time spent on social issues. 1/Aspects of French-speaking society: current issues and aspects of political life in the French-speaking world. 2/ Study of second work.

**Term 3:** Intensive and comprehensive exam preparation. All skills targeted on a timely basis according to the needs and priorities of the schedule of the exams.

*Learners will have regular opportunities in class to practice their listening, reading, writing and speaking skills.*

#### AS Level:

Paper 1 Listening: 30 minutes – 40 marks - 25%.

Paper 2 Reading and Writing: 1 hr. 45 – 80 marks - 50%

Paper 3 speaking: 8 to 10 minutes – 40 marks - 25%

#### A Level:

Paper 1 Listening: 30 minutes – 40 marks - 25%.

Paper 2 Reading and Writing: 1 hr. 45 – 80 marks - 50%

Paper 3 Speaking: 8 to 10 minutes – 40 marks - 25%

### Next Steps

The communication skills acquired during a languages degree are highly sought after by many employers and universities, can be applied across many sectors. There are many courses around the world where you can study Single Honours in French. These courses involve a year studying in France or another French-speaking country, which is a fantastic opportunity. There are many courses where you can take a language in addition to another subject such as Law or another language.

Popular careers included teaching your chosen language, teaching English as a second language, translation and interpretation. Other industries that welcome language graduates are the media, PR, finance, banking, tourism, consulting or working internationally with a charities or businesses.



## Alumni Destinations

98% of our learners at GEMS Cambridge International School go onto study at universities all over the world. Popular destinations for our learners include Europe, USA, Canada, UAE, Australia, Indonesia, Malaysia and UK.



### **What and where I'm studying now:**

Mechanical engineering (MEng) at Imperial College London

### **My experience at CIA sixth form:**

My experience at CIA has been absolutely amazing. I couldn't have asked for anything more. I'm so glad that I had such dedicated teachers, who made A-levels less challenging. They made sure that we enjoyed the whole learning process and understood all the difficult concepts. In addition, my teachers have also supported me throughout my journey at school and have shaped me into a better person. From winning a scholarship, attending hackathons, to gaining first-hand experience in the field of engineering, I've been provided with many opportunities which have helped me choose my career and develop the necessary skills to succeed in university.

What makes CIA sixth form special is that it forms a diverse community. It allows everyone to learn about different cultures, promotes tolerance and helps in developing lifelong friendships. CIA sixth form has been one of the best years of my life and I truly miss that time.

**Aditya Titus**

### **What and where I'm studying now:**

BSc International Business Management at University of Nottingham (Malaysia Campus)

### **My experience at CIA Sixth Form:**

As challenging as A Levels were, the supportive teachers and friends I had at CIA during Sixth Form made my experience so much better. The learning environment at CIA really shaped my mindset to continuously push myself to my fullest potential. I'm also thankful that there was always room for everyone to unleash their inner leader with the numerous leadership opportunities presented during my Sixth Form experience, which left me with the skills needed to not only be a good university student, but to also still hold leadership positions even after leaving Sixth Form. Overall, my enjoyable experience at CIA during Sixth Form has really taught me the importance of being well-rounded, and the resourceful and encouraging teachers and friends helped me achieve that.

**Moza Pramesty**





**What and where I'm studying now:**

BSc International Business at Vrije University, Belgium

**My experience at CIA Sixth Form:**

It goes without saying that high school is one of the most formative periods of a person's life, that's exactly what my experience was like at CIA. In a fast paced but fun learning environment, I had the opportunity to cover a wide range of subjects, which helped me decide what I wanted to pursue at university level. It was one of the most challenging yet rewarding experiences of my life; from competition such as the Hackathon and the world record attempts. These attainments allowed a hands on experience and building blocks into the world of business, which is what I went on to pursue here in Belgium, in one of the top 50 universities in Europe. My time at CIA has given me an internationally diverse stance and allowed me to grow as a global citizen. I truly miss my time spent there, the people I met and all the wisdom I received. Nothing could've prepared me more for the independent life I'm living now.

**Sarod Mehdi**

**What and where I'm studying now:**

MSci. Physics with Nanoscience at the University of Nottingham.

**My experience at CIA Sixth Form:**

CIA was home to the exposures and challenges that excited me and paved a path for the research skills that I regularly use today. The coding and tech competitions we were involved with enabled us to see the theory we studied applied in practice. However, to understand the rigorous foundations that enable us to code and even to do basic functions on a computer, or even to do basic calculations in physics or maths, I needed deeper insights and rootings which I gained through my time in sixth form. From computer architectures to basic particle physics, the mechanisms that I considered to be 'magic', were becoming clearer to me.

Although learning these new concepts was required of our syllabus, this helped me hone skills in 'searching'. Searching for information is a trivial matter when you are in the initial stages of high school, but once you decide to specialize in a certain area, specificity and focus are key to the growth of your research. Other factors are also important, such as credibility of information and maintaining a proper bibliography. For the concepts I studied, my teachers encouraged me to read papers and other material and also helped me break down the jargon, which set new targets of research as I read more.

CIA also introduced me to a plethora of leadership and communication opportunities - Student Council and MUN - just to name a few. You need to impress both colleagues and staff at university with the extra-curricular repository you possess. This enables you to develop your rapport with them - and with the high competition especially within the STEM fields, this is necessary, and it can only come through your exposure to various ventures outside academia. I was blessed to receive such opportunities at CIA to improve, examine and exhibit my skills, making me ready for a diverse and specialist community at university. "

**Roshan Chacko**

## Online Options Form

Please scan the QR code or follow the link to the online options form, here learners will be able to register their interest in the subjects they would like to pursue at Sixth Form.

**It is important to note that learners will not be guaranteed their option choices, as they depend upon them achieving the entry criteria in the IGCSE's.** Please read the information in the Options Booklet carefully and consider the entry requirements for each subject. The school will confirm subject selection at a later date.



<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=3Kez0n7Vf0GQrRSbhy6aoVDzOM3Js4RNhb5FFSYSsx5UQ0lCV01MUjBWSTZYU1hDTDJaRzRCVEIOVS4u>