



International GCSE Curriculum Guide August 2025

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Welcome to Oryx International School



Dear parents and students,

Choosing the correct subjects for I/GCSE examinations is vital when preparing students for their future careers and employment opportunities. We offer a range of subjects to cater for all areas of interest whether these are in sciences, technology, arts, humanities, languages or other non-subject related areas of study. This ensures that our students' interests and strengths are utilised whilst taking the first step towards I/GCSE qualifications. Our experienced staff will guide you and your child through this next stage of school, making sure that all your questions are answered and that sound advice is given to you and your child.

Subjects are split into the three categories, shown below, which are explained later in this document.

1. Compulsory subjects: Maths, English, Arabic language and Islamic studies (for Arabic passport holders only).
2. Optional subjects: your choice of optional subjects.
3. Complementary subjects: compulsory but without any examination, e.g. PE and PSHE

The three questions students should ask regarding which optional subjects to choose are:

1. Do I enjoy this subject?
2. Am I good at this subject?
3. Will it help me towards my future career pathway?

The advice we give is that students should keep their range of subjects as wide as possible at this stage to allow for any future changes in career pathway, e.g. not to choose all technology or all art subjects.

The main differences between current assessments and I/GCSE examinations are that they are now external, not school-based. The specification and examinations content

are prepared by the national examination centre in the UK (The Joint Council for Qualifications^{CIC} - JCQ) and regulated by Ofsted. This ensures that all children sitting these exams are measured against each other using the same standards, no matter which country they live in. The other main difference is that the exam time and dates are set by the examination board and are not flexible. Students must sit the same subject exams on the same days throughout the world. This will mean that some exams will be taken outside the usual operating times of the school and possibly on Fridays. As the exam dates are set by the examination board, students must be available up to the last day of Term 3 and possibly even beyond that date. The school will be informed of the exam dates at the start of each academic year, i.e. September.

Examination Fees: Finally, the examination board charges a fee for each International GCSE, which is not included in our school fees. The approximate cost per exam is QAR 550. Please note that this changes year on year and is provided only as an approximation for your information at this time. The examination board will inform the school of the fees at the start of each academic year, after which we will inform you of the cost and the payment methods in Year 11.

I hope you will find this booklet an informative first step to deciding your child's I/GCSE examinations for Year 10.

Regards,

Imran Sidat

Assistant Vice Principal - Head of Secondary

Secondary school structure

Key Stage 3	Year 7	UK National Curriculum plus regulatory requirements of the MOE&HE, Qatar	Termly school exams and GL Assessments
	Year 8	UK National Curriculum plus regulatory requirements of the MOE&HE, Qatar	Termly school exams and GL Assessments
	Year 9	UK National Curriculum plus regulatory requirements of the MOE&HE, Qatar	Termly school exams and GL Assessments Students choose I/GCSE subjects for KS4
Key Stage 4	Year 10	First year of I/GCSE courses with Edexcel Pearson Examination Board UK National Curriculum plus regulatory requirements of the MOE&HE, Qatar	Termly assessments and mock exams. Preparation of portfolio in practical IGCSE. Some subject will follow the modular structure
	Year 11	Second year of I/GCSE courses UK National Curriculum plus regulatory requirements of the MOE&HE, Qatar	Mock exams in November/December All external exams in May/June

2024 - 25 Key personnel

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Mrs. Nehad Hamada	Head of Arabic, Islamic Studies & Qatar History	nehad.hamada@oryxschool.qa
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Mr. Maliki Saidy	Head of Modern Foreign Languages	maliki.kontehsaidy@oryxschool.qa

Key Stage 4 curriculum

Key Stage 4 (KS4) is an important stage in your child's education. It is the start of a two-year programme of study that will culminate in examinations that are set and marked by examination boards in the U.K and indicate the final two years of this stage of compulsory education. During these two years, your child will be studying a range of

subjects, some of which are optional and some of which are compulsory.

This booklet is designed to give you further information on what to expect from the next two years and to encourage you to start thinking about the optional subjects your child may wish to study when they start Year 10.

The following subjects are compulsory in Year 10 and 11:

Core subjects (with examinations)

- English Language
- Mathematics

Complementary subjects (no examination)

- Physical Education
- PSHE embedded in the curriculum as part of form time

Students are then able to choose from a selection of optional subjects:

A maximum of six subjects can be chosen, giving eight subjects in total.

These optional subjects are normally taught for three lessons per week.

Optional subjects (with examinations)

- Art & Design
- Biology (**Modular**)*
- Business
- Chemistry (**Modular**)*
- Computer Science
- Design and Technology
- Double Science (**Modular**)*
- Drama
- Economics (**Modular**)*
- French
- Geography (**Modular**)*
- History (**Modular**)*
- Islamic Studies
- ICT
- Music
- Physical Education
- Physics (**Modular**)*
- Psychology
- Spanish

You may find that when the final subjects are published you are unable to select the exact combination of subjects you originally wanted.

We do our best to meet the desires of the entire cohort, but it is not always possible to run courses that gives everyone their first choice and makes that subject viable for the student.

*Modular

Courses are divided into units, with exams taken at the end of each unit.

Linear

All exams are taken at the end of the course, after two years of study.

Making informed decisions for your I/GCSE choices



You will still study and take examinations in English, mathematics and at least one science, and you can select up to five additional courses that you would like to study in Years 10 and 11.

You will also study Core PE and PSHE in Year 10, which

will be delivered in discrete lessons. Students do not take examinations in these subjects.

The International GCSE options that you choose, and the grades you achieve in them, will assist with your decision for Sixth Form subject choices.



I/GCSE Subjects

Examinations

Throughout the course of Year 10 and 11, students will be working towards IGCSEs. These are official examinations that prove a student has successfully completed this stage of compulsory secondary education.

I/GCSE examinations are managed by various government approved organisations in the UK. Oryx International School is an approved examination centre for one of the biggest examination boards for all its exams: Pearson Edexcel International Examinations. The exams are marked on a 9-point scale as shown in the table below.

I/GCSE old grades	I/GCSE new grades	Description
A*	9	High Grade PASS
A	8	
B	7	
C	6	
D	5	
E	4	Low Grade PASS
F	3	
G	2	
U	1	Ungraded
U	U	

In order to 'pass' Year 11 and meet the entrance requirements of our Sixth Form, students must achieve a minimum of 5 A*-C grades (9 - 5) in their I/GCSE examinations.

Please note: All I/GCSE examinations incur additional costs not included in school fees.

Mock examinations

Please note that mock examinations in December for Year 11 are compulsory for all students.

These are used by the school to support and mentor our students and the results can be requested by the

examination board in the event of a query.

You are asked not to arrange holidays during the terms in Year 11.

Important Dates

Students are entered for their final I/GCSE examinations at the end of Year 11. Some subjects, however, have **controlled assessments**, which are 'coursework-like' activities that take place at different points throughout Year 10 and 11.

Controlled assessments are activities, undertaken by students in a controlled environment or under examination conditions, which directly contribute to their final exam grade.

In some cases, they could account for 60% or more of the grade that is awarded. If students are absent and miss these activities, then it is highly unlikely the examination board will allow them to attempt them at a later date. It is essential that students do their best to attend school at all times, particularly when these activities have been organised.

The table below explains some of the key dates when students must ensure they are in school.

Please note: The examination board sets the date and time of the examinations and we are unable to change those dates.



Year 10	
All Year	Ongoing Assessment activities
May/June Year 10	Formal end of year exams

Year 11	
All Year	Ongoing Assessment activities
November/December Year 11	Mock Examinations
March Year 11 until July Year 11	Practical and oral examinations will start in March and continue until May. Written exams usually begin at the end of April and can continue until the beginning of July.

I/GCSE results from the exam board are released in August each year. Students and parents will be given a secure 'log-on' access code to find out the results of their examinations.

Work experience and careers

We endeavour to offer all Year 10 students the opportunity to take part in a work placement, with a local business, during the academic year. Work experience opportunities

with the Airline may be available. Students will gain a valuable insight into the world of work in a structured and motivated environment.

Concerns

If you have any concerns regarding the welfare of your child, you should contact your child's Form Tutor in the first instance in order to raise the matter. Thereafter, senior staff will be able to meet with you to discuss any specific ongoing concerns.

The school operates an Anti-Bullying Policy (including Cyber-Bullying) and we encourage students, parents and

staff to discuss concerns openly towards a satisfactory conclusion. In all cases of wrong-doing we aim to change attitudes and behaviour to more acceptable levels and where necessary implement appropriate sanctions.

If you have a concern regarding a member of staff, or a particularly sensitive issue, please contact Mr. Laidlaw, the Executive Principal.

Attendance

Attendance at school and at every timetabled lesson or activity is compulsory. If you wish your child to leave school during the school day this must be approved by Mr Haggarty. All requests for time off during term time must be notified to the Executive Principal in writing in advance. Requests to miss school will be treated on an individual basis and generally cannot be supported unless in extraneous circumstances.

It is important to understand that during examinations, including the Mock Examinations held in November of Year 11, any absence must be justified with a doctor's

certificate. With this document it is possible for us to apply to the examination board for special consideration. Please bear in mind that it is unlikely that the examination boards will award a grade if a candidate has missed an exam – but without a doctor's note, translated into English, it is impossible to apply for that consideration.

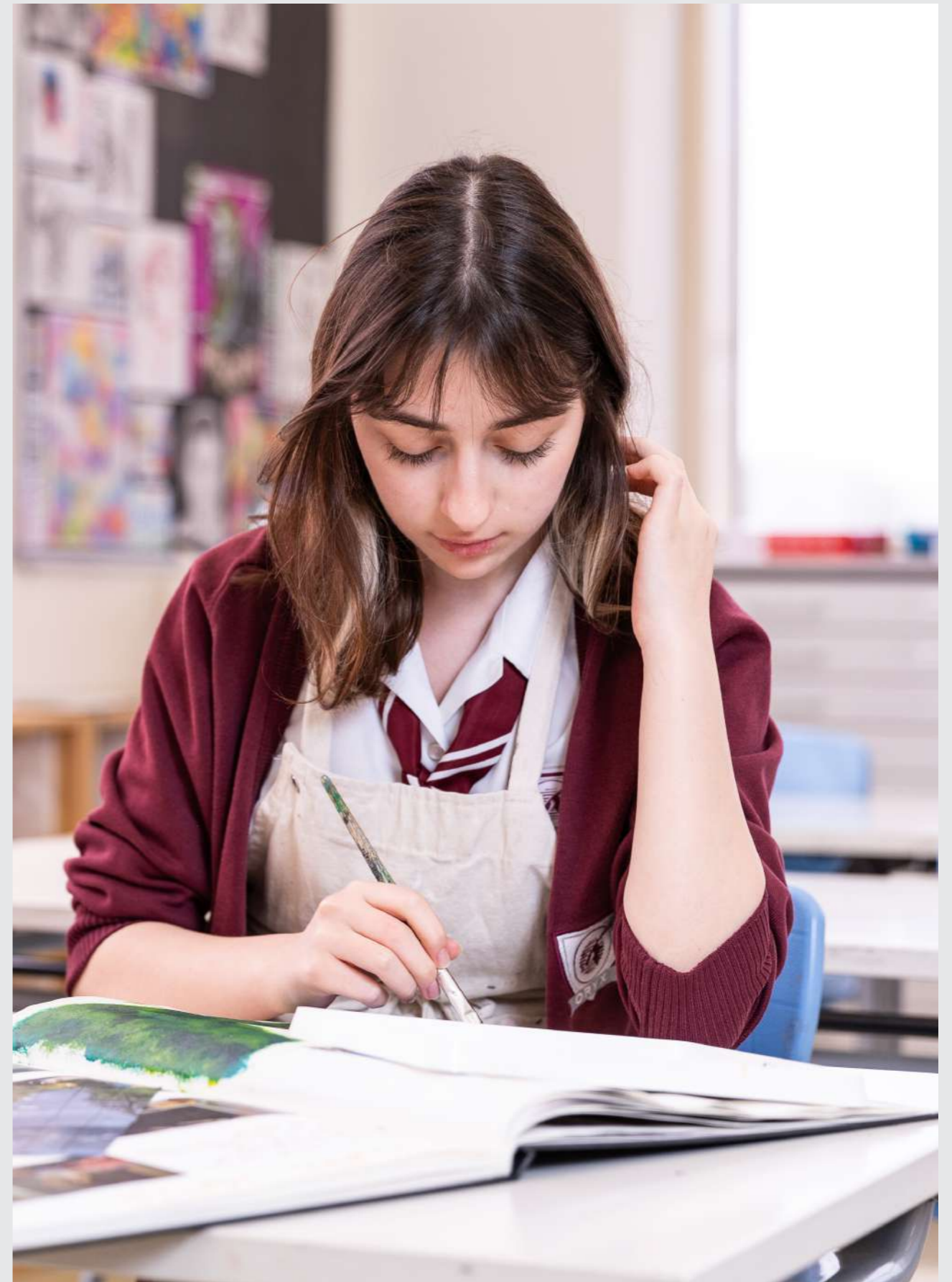
Consideration for additional time and support can be applied for in the case of candidates who meet the criteria set by the examination board. Each circumstance is treated on a case-by-case basis. School SENCO will coordinate this process as required.

DID YOU KNOW?

An attendance level of 90% means your child is missing **1 day of learning every two weeks...**



Core subjects



English Language A

International GCSE Edexcel – 4EA1

Course outline

The English Faculty will deliver the Edexcel I/GCSE for both English Language and English Literature. This I/GCSE is exclusive to independent and international schools. The Edexcel International GCSE in English Language (Specification A) is designed as a two-year course.

The specification includes a wide range of reading and writing - the reading requirements of the course are covered in the Edexcel Anthology for International GCSE, for use throughout the course and the examination.



Course details

Paper 1: 4EA1/01 (Examination – 60% of total GCSE) Non-Fiction and Transactional Writing

Overview of content:

Reading

- A mixture of short and long answer questions related to a non-fiction text from the anthology and one previously unseen extract.
- Students will analyse how writers use linguistic and structural devices to achieve their effects.
- For this unit students will look at the contemporary non-fiction texts from Part 1 of the Edexcel Anthology for International GCSE and Certificate Qualifications in English Language and Literature.

Writing

- Transactional writing – one 45-minute writing task from a choice of two involving a given audience, form or purpose.

Overview of assessment:

- The assessment of this unit is through a two-hour and 15-minute examination paper, set and marked by Edexcel.
- Single tier of entry.
- The total number of marks available is 90.
- Students are provided with an Anthology for the examination.

Paper 2: 4EA1/03 (Examination – 40% of total GCSE) Poetry and Prose Texts and Imaginative Writing

Overview of content:

Assignment A

- One 30-mark essay question on a poetry or prose text from the Pearson Edexcel Anthology.

Assignment B

- One 30-mark imaginative writing task.

Overview of assessment:

- The assessment of this unit is through an internal assessment
- The total number of marks available is 60.

Mathematics

International GCSE Edexcel – 4MA1

Course outline

Students have been following this course from the start of the academic year. During Year 10 students will continue to study topics from these six areas: number, geometry and measures, probability and statistics. New topics are introduced under these headings such as errors in calculations, further trigonometry, solving quadratic equations, vectors and statistical measures. Other topics are studied to a greater depth than in previous years.

The aims of the Mathematics Department at Oryx International School relate to all year groups but are especially relevant to those students in Years 10 and 11 who may be considering taking mathematics after I/GCSE:



- To develop an ability to think and reason mathematically.
- To notice and realise the application of mathematics in the real world.
- To understand how to use mathematics up to I/GCSE level and create a firm foundation for those wishing to study the subject further.
- For students to have a positive attitude to mathematics and to achieve to the best of their ability, with confidence and enjoyment.

Course details

Students are assessed by two written examinations: each paper contributes to 50% of the qualification. Both examination papers are calculator based. In addition, both papers must be taken during the same assessment series. The total number of marks for each paper is 100 marks.

We use the Pearson Edexcel International GCSE in Mathematics (Specification A). Each paper is assessed through a 2-hour examination set and marked by Pearson.

Assessment criteria

Students will be required to show their application of mathematics and their choice of skills in a variety of practical and investigative problems within these assessments.

Entry to International GCSE Mathematics is made in one of two overlapping tiers:

1. Higher tier: Grades 9 - 4
2. Foundation tier: Grades 5 - 1

Career prospects

Successful completion of the course provides an excellent platform to study AS/A Level mathematics. Furthermore, most Sixth Form colleges/further education providers require a minimum of a Grade 4 on the new grading system.

Optional subjects



Arabic (First Language)

International GCSE Edexcel – 4AA1

Course outline

Over the two-year International GCSE course, students will study five key topic areas for approximately one term per topic:

1. Identity and culture.
2. Local area, holiday, and travel.
3. School.
4. Future aspirations, study and work.
5. International and global dimension.

Course details

Lessons will develop the four skill areas of speaking, listening, reading and writing.

Students will be supported and encouraged to use the language for genuine communication and as creatively as possible.



Assessment criteria

All assessments will take place at the end of Year 11.

Paper 1: Reading, Summary and Grammar	Paper 2: Writing
Topics: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Youth matters • Education • Media • Culture • Sport and leisure • Travel and tourism • Business, work and employment • Environment • Health • Technology 	Topics: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Youth matters • Education • Media • Culture • Sport and leisure • Travel and tourism • Business, work and employment • Environment • Health • Technology
Assessment Information: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 hours 15 minutes • Part one: reading (49 marks) Short- and extended-response questions on two texts. • Part Two: Summary (6 marks) Summary of the main points of a third text. • Part Three: Grammar (20 marks) Four questions on a range of aspects of grammar. 	Assessment Information: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 hour 30 minutes • Two extended-response writing tasks (25 marks for each task).
60% of total I/GCSE	40% of total I/GCSE

Career prospects

Language graduates have a vast array of career opportunities open to them in all fields, thanks to the wide range of skills developed through learning a foreign language. There are exciting opportunities often involving travel abroad in almost every sector.

Art & Design

International GCSE Edexcel – 4FA1



Course outline

The course is made up of two components each weighing at 50% of the total:

Component 1: Personal portfolio must include supporting studies and personal responses, demonstrating evidence of the four assessment objectives and approximately 120 hours supervised study. This component is internally set and externally assessed.

Component 2: Externally set Assignment is a body of work for the four assessment objectives based on an externally set theme. The work produced will consist of approximately 25 hours supervised study and 10 hours of sustained focus in exam conditions. This component is externally set and assessed.

The course objectives are to:

- Develop the student's creative and imaginative ability and practical skills, for engaging with, and for communicating and expressing ideas, feelings and meanings with the use of art, craft and design.
- To develop investigative, analytical, experimental and interpretive capabilities, aesthetic understanding and critical and enquiring minds, with increasing independence, cultural knowledge and understanding of art, craft, design and of the media and technologies used in different times, contexts and societies.
- To further develop personal attributes including self-confidence, resilience, perseverance, self-discipline and commitment.

The skills that will be developed will include recording experiences and observations, undertaking research and gathering, selecting and organising visual, tactile and sensory materials and other relevant information. Exploring relevant resources, analysing and evaluating images, objects and products, and making independent judgements as to their relevance in visual art.

Course details

Component 1

Personal Portfolio in Art and Design (50% of total I/GCSE)

Component 2

Externally Set Assignment (50% of total I/GCSE)

Assessment criteria

An on-going portfolio of work throughout the course plus an examination under controlled conditions.

This I/GCSE qualification will be graded and certificated on a nine-grade scale from 9 to 1 using the total subject mark where 9 is the highest grade. Individual components are not graded.

Career prospects

This is a gateway to A Level in Art and Design. If students choose to seek employment, they will have a portfolio of work that evidences their ability to pursue a course in Art and Design, covering different projects and producing a range of work. There may be opportunities to work, for example, in local galleries, design offices, graphics companies and retail.



Biology

International GCSE Edexcel – GXBII

Course outline

Pearson Edexcel International GCSE in Biology (Modular) is a modular qualification. All units are available in the June and November exam series and can be sat in any order or re-sat. Unit 1 exam will be sat in Year 10 and Unit 2 exam will be sat in Year 11. It builds a foundation for learners wishing to progress to the Pearson Edexcel International AS and A Level qualifications or equivalent qualifications, focusing on key biology theory.



Our approach

Learners will learn about unifying patterns and themes in biology and use them in new and changing situations. They will acquire knowledge and understanding of biological facts, terminology, concepts, principles and practical techniques to evaluate biological information, make judgements based on this information. They will analyse, interpret and evaluate data and experimental methods, drawing conclusions that are consistent with evidence from experimental activities and suggesting possible improvements and further investigations.

Assessment criteria

Biology Unit 1	*Unit code 4WB11/1B
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Externally assessed Written examination: 1 hour and 40 minutes Availability: June and November 90 marks 	50% of the total International GCSE (Modular)
<p>Content summary</p> <p>Assesses content listed below, including content that is in bold and has a 'B' reference. Questions may come from any topic area listed below.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The nature and variety of living organisms <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Characteristics of living organisms Variety of living organisms Structure and functions in living organisms: Part 1 <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Level of organization Cell structure Biological molecules Movement of substances into and out of cells Nutrition Respiration Gas exchange 	
<p>Assessment</p> <p>A combination of different question styles, including multiple-choice questions, short-answer questions, calculations and extended open-response questions. A calculator may be used in the examinations.</p>	

Biology

International GCSE Edexcel – GXBII



Biology Unit 2	*Unit code 4WB11/1B
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Externally assessed Written examination: 1 hour and 40 minutes Availability: June and November 90 marks 	50% of the total International GCSE (Modular)
<p>Content summary</p> <p>Assesses content listed below, including content that is in bold and has a 'B' reference. Questions may come from any topic area listed below.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Structure and functions in living organisms: Part 2 <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Transport Excretion Co-ordination and response Reproduction and inheritance <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Reproduction Inheritance Ecology and the environment <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The organism in the environment Feeding relationships Cycles within ecosystems Human influences on the environment Use of biological resources <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Food production Selective breeding Genetic m 	
<p>Assessment</p> <p>A combination of different question styles, including multiple-choice questions, short-answer questions, calculations and extended open-response questions. A calculator may be used in the examinations.</p>	

Career prospects

After the completion of IGCSEs, students can progress to a range of different, relevant academic or vocational higher education qualifications, for example a degree in biology or in a related subject, including marine biology, natural science and anatomy, or equivalent qualifications such as BTEC Higher Nationals, employment and further training.

Business

International GCSE Edexcel – 4BSI

Course Overview

The IGCSE Business Studies course provides students with a thorough understanding of how businesses operate within a dynamic global environment. The curriculum is divided into two key units, each designed to develop foundational knowledge and practical skills:

Unit 1: Investigating Small Businesses

This unit introduces the core concepts of business and examines the key stages of setting up and managing a small enterprise. Topics include entrepreneurship, business opportunities, market research, and business planning. Students will also explore the importance of understanding customer needs and managing resources efficiently.

Unit 2: Building a Business

This unit focuses on how businesses grow and adapt to external influences. Areas of study include marketing, operations, finance, and human resources, as well as the impact of the economic environment and ethical considerations on business decision-making.

Together, these units equip students with the knowledge and skills needed to analyse and evaluate business activities in a range of contexts.



Objectives for Studying Business Studies

1. Develop an understanding of the dynamic nature of business and the factors influencing success.
2. Build critical thinking and decision-making skills by analysing real-world business scenarios.
3. Foster an entrepreneurial mindset and the ability to assess business opportunities and risks.
4. Prepare for further studies in business-related fields and careers across diverse industries.

Course Details and Assessment Information

- The IGCSE Business Studies course is assessed through two external examinations:
 - Paper 1: Investigating Small Businesses and
 - Paper 2: Building a Business.
- Each paper is 1 hour 30 minutes in duration and is worth 80 marks.
- Both papers use a mix of multiple-choice, short-answer, and structured questions, with an emphasis on applying knowledge to real-world business scenarios.
- The two papers are equally weighted, contributing 50% each to the final grade.

Career Prospects

Studying IGCSE Business Studies provides a strong foundation for a variety of career paths and further education opportunities. Students may pursue careers in: The course also serves as an excellent stepping stone for advanced studies in A-Level Business, Economics, or related subjects such as Accounting, Business Administration, and International Relations.

- Entrepreneurship and start-ups
- Marketing and advertising
- Finance and banking
- Management and consultancy
- Human resources

Chemistry

International GCSE Edexcel – 4XCH1

Course outline

Pearson Edexcel International GCSE in Chemistry (Modular) is a modular qualification. All units are available in the June and November exam series and can be sat in any order or re-sat. Unit 1 exam will be sat in Year 10 and Unit 2 exam will be sat in Year 11. It builds a foundation for learners wishing to progress to the Pearson Edexcel International AS and A Level qualifications or equivalent qualifications, focusing on key chemistry theory.

Our approach

Learners will learn about unifying patterns and themes in chemistry and use them in new and changing situations. They will acquire knowledge and understanding of chemical facts, terminology, concepts, principles and practical techniques to evaluate chemical information, make judgements based on this information. They will analyse, interpret and evaluate data and experimental methods. Learners will draw conclusions that are consistent with evidence from experimental activities and suggesting possible improvements and further investigations.



Chemistry Unit 1	*Unit code 4WCH1/IC
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Externally assessed • Written examination: 1 hour and 40 minutes • Availability: June and November • 90 marks 	50% of the total International GCSE (Modular)
Content summary	
Assesses content listed below, including content that is in bold and has a 'B' reference. Questions may come from any topic area listed below.	
1. Principles of chemistry: Part 1 a. states of matter b. elements, mixtures & compound c. atomic structure d. periodic table e. chemical formulae, equations & calculations	2. Inorganic chemistry: Part 1 a. reactivity series b. extraction and uses of metals c. acids, alkalis and titrations d. acids, bases and salt preparations
3. Physical chemistry: Part 1 a. energetics	4. Organic chemistry: Part 1 a. introduction b. crude oil c. alkanes d. alkenes
Assessment	
A combination of different question styles, including multiple-choice questions, short-answer questions, calculations and extended open-response questions. A calculator may be used in the examinations.	

Chemistry

International GCSE Edexcel – 4XCH1

Chemistry Unit 2	*Unit code 4WB11/1B
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Externally assessed Written examination: 1 hour and 40 minutes Availability: June and November 90 marks 	50% of the total International GCSE (Modular)
<p>Content summary</p> <p>Assesses content listed below, including content that is in bold and has a 'B' reference. Questions may come from any topic area listed below.</p> <p>5. Principles of chemistry: Part 2 d. periodic table (note that this is the same content from 1. Principles of chemistry: Part 1) e. chemical formulae, equations & calculations (note that this is the same content from 1. Principles of chemistry: Part 1) f. ionic bonding g. covalent bonding h. metallic bonding i. electrolysis</p> <p>6. Inorganic chemistry: Part 2 e. Group 1 f. Group 7 g. gases in the atmosphere h. chemical tests</p> <p>7. Physical chemistry: Part 2 b. rates of reaction c. reversible reactions and equilibrium</p> <p>8. Organic chemistry: Part 2 e. alcohols f. carboxylic acids g. esters h. synthetic polymers</p>	
<p>Assessment</p> <p>A combination of different question styles, including multiple-choice questions, short-answer questions, calculations and extended open-response questions. A calculator may be used in the examinations.</p>	

Career prospects

After the completion of IGCSEs, students can progress to a range of different, relevant academic or vocational higher education qualifications, for example Analytical chemist, Biotechnologist, Chemical engineer, Clinical scientist, Forensic scientist, Nanotechnologist, Pharmacologist, Research scientist (physical sciences), Scientific laboratory technician, Toxicologist.

Computer Science

International GCSE Edexcel – 4CPO

Course outline

The course consists of six different topics.

Topic 1 – Problem solving: includes the study of algorithms, decomposition and abstraction.

Topic 2 – Programming: includes the study of developing code, constructs, data types and structures, input/output, operators and subprograms.

Topic 3 – Data: includes the study of binary, data representation, data storage, compression and encryption.

Topic 4 – Computers: includes the study of machines, hardware, logic, software and programming languages.

Topic 5 – Communication and the Internet: includes the study of networks, network security and the internet,

Topic 6 – The Bigger Picture: includes the study of emerging trends, issues and the impact of computers. The course objectives are to:

- Understand and apply the fundamental principles and concepts of computer science, including abstraction, decomposition, logic, algorithms and data representation.
- To analyse problems in computational terms through practical experience of solving such problems, including designing, writing and debugging programs.
- To think creatively, innovatively, analytically, logically and critically.
- To understand the impacts of digital technology to the individual and to wider society.
- To apply mathematical skills relevant to computer science.

Skills that will be developed will include programming, problem solving, networking, emerging future trends in computing, logical thinking, modelling and critical thinking.

Course details

Paper 1

Principles of Computer Science (50% of total I/GCSE)

Paper 2

Application of Computational Thinking (50% of total I/GCSE)

Assessment criteria

Students will take two examinations at the end of Year 11. Paper 1 is a 2-hour examination-based paper. Paper 2 is a 3-hour practical-based paper.

Career prospects

Having successfully completed the International GCSE Computer Science course, this would provide you with an excellent grounding for the AS/A Level Computer Science course or the BTEC National Diploma in Computing. Future careers could include Computer Engineer, Software Developer, Games Developer, Network Manager, Website/APP Developer, Security Analyst or Games/Software Tester.



Design & Technology

GCSE Edexcel – IDTO

Course outline

The aims and objectives of the course are to:

- Enable students to understand and apply the iterative design processes through which they explore, create and evaluate a range of outcomes.
- Enable students to use creativity and imagination to design and make prototypes that solve real and relevant problems, considering their own and others' needs, wants and values.
- Provide opportunities to apply knowledge from other disciplines, including mathematics, science, art and design, computing and the humanities.
- Acquire subject knowledge in Design and Technology that builds on Key Stage 3, incorporating knowledge and understanding of different materials and manufacturing processes in order to design and make prototypes in response to issues, needs, problems and opportunities.
- Learn how to take design risks; helping students to become resourceful, innovative and enterprising citizens.
- Prepare students to participate confidently and successfully in an increasingly technological world.
- Be aware of, and learn from, wider influences on design and technology, including historical, social/cultural, environmental and economic factors.



Course details

The course is made up of 2 components:

Component 1 is working towards an exam which makes up 50% of the total grade. The exam paper consists of two sections.

- Section A is assessed on the core content which provides students with a breadth of study, and
- Section B is assessed on material which provides students with the depth of study. Students must study at least one material from the following: metals, papers and boards, polymers, systems, textiles, and timbers.

Component 2 is a non-examined assessment, where students will complete the contextual challenge. This will provide a basis from which they will investigate, design, make and evaluate a project. The exam board will communicate a contextual challenge to centres in June of the calendar year preceding the year in which the qualification is to be awarded.

Assessment criteria

Component 1

Written examination: 1 hour and 45 minutes
(50% of total I/GCSE)

Component 2

Non-examination assessment
(50% of total I/GCSE).

Career prospects

Design and Technology goes well with art, but also science and technology subjects, including physics, maths, chemistry and IT. It can prepare students for a career in a wide variety of industries such as fashion, engineering, architecture, industry, information technology and even education. Popular careers for people with design and technology qualifications include; industrial designer, graphic designer, web developer, software engineer, civil engineer, fashion designer, product designer and many more.

Double Science

International GCSE Edexcel – 4XSDI

Course outline

Pearson Edexcel International GCSE in Science (Double Award) is a modular qualification. All units are available in the June and November exam series and can be sat in any order or re-sat. 3 exams (Unit 1,3,5) will be sat in Year 10 and 3 exams (Unit 2,4,6) will be sat in Year 11. It builds a foundation for learners wishing to progress to the Pearson Edexcel International AS and A Level qualifications or equivalent qualifications, focusing on key biology, chemistry, and physics theory.

Our approach

Learners will learn about unifying patterns and themes across all three sciences and use them in new and changing situations. They will acquire knowledge and understanding of facts, terminology, concepts, principles and practical techniques to evaluate information, make judgements based on this information in all the three sciences. They will analyse, interpret and evaluate data and experimental methods. Learners will draw conclusions that are consistent with evidence from experimental activities and suggesting possible improvements and further investigations.



Biology Unit 1	Unit code 4WSD1/1B
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Externally assessed • Written examination: 1 hour and 10 minutes • Availability: June and November • 60 marks 	<p>16.6% of the total International GCSE Science (Double Award) (Modular)</p>
<p>Content summary</p> <p>Assesses content listed below:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The nature and variety of living organisms <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Characteristics of living organisms b. Variety of living organisms 2. Structure and functions in living organisms: Part 1 <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Level of organization b. Cell structure c. Biological molecules d. Movement of substances into and out of cells e. Nutrition f. Respiration g. Gas exchange 	
<p>Assessment</p> <p>A combination of different question styles, including multiple-choice questions, short-answer questions, calculations and extended open-response questions. A calculator may be used in the examinations.</p>	

Double Science

International GCSE Edexcel – 4XSD1

Biology Unit 2	Unit code 4WSD2/1B
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Externally assessed Written examination: 1 hour and 10 minutes Availability: June and November 60 marks 	<p>16.6% of the total International GCSE Science (Double Award) (Modular)</p>
<p>Content summary Assesses content listed below:</p> <p>3. Structure and functions in living organisms: Part 2 h. Transport i. Excretion j. Co-ordination and response</p> <p>4. Reproduction and inheritance a. Reproduction b. Inheritance</p> <p>5. Ecology and the environment a. The organism in the environment b. Feeding relationships c. Cycles within ecosystems d. Human influences on the environment</p> <p>6. Use of biological resources a. Food production b. Selective breeding c. Genetic modification (genetic engineering)</p>	
<p>Assessment A combination of different question styles, including multiple-choice questions, short-answer questions, calculations and extended open-response questions. A calculator may be used in the examinations.</p>	



Double Science

International GCSE Edexcel – 4XSD1

Chemistry Unit 3	Unit code 4WSD3/1C
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Externally assessed Written examination: 1 hour and 10 minutes Availability: June and November 60 marks 	<p>16.6% of the total International GCSE Science (Double Award) (Modular)</p>
<p>Content summary Assesses content listed below:</p> <p>1. Principles of chemistry: Part 1 a. states of matter b. elements, mixtures & compound c. atomic structure d. periodic table e. chemical formulae, equations & calculations</p> <p>2. Inorganic chemistry: Part 1 a. reactivity series b. acids, alkalis and titrations c. acids, bases and salt preparations</p> <p>3. Physical chemistry: Part 1 a. energetics</p> <p>4. Organic chemistry: Part 1 a. introduction b. crude oil c. alkanes d. alkenes</p>	
<p>Assessment A combination of different question styles, including multiple-choice questions, short-answer questions, calculations and extended open-response questions. A calculator may be used in the examinations.</p>	

Double Science

International GCSE Edexcel – 4XSD1

Chemistry Unit 4	Unit code 4WSD4/1C
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Externally assessed Written examination: 1 hour and 10 minutes Availability: June and November 60 marks 	16.6% of the total International GCSE Science (Double Award) (Modular)
Content summary Assesses content listed below:	
5. Principles of chemistry: Part 2 d. periodic table (note that this is the same content from 1. Principles of chemistry: Part 1) e. chemical formulae, equations & calculations (note that this is the same content from 1. Principles of chemistry: Part 1) f. ionic bonding g. covalent bonding 6. Inorganic chemistry: Part 2 d. Group 1 e. Group 7 f. gases in the atmosphere g. chemical tests 7. Physical chemistry: Part 2 b. rates of reaction c. reversible reactions and equilibrium 8. Organic chemistry: Part 2 e. synthetic polymers	
Assessment A combination of different question styles, including multiple-choice questions, short-answer questions, calculations and extended open-response questions. A calculator may be used in the examinations.	

Double Science

International GCSE Edexcel – 4XSD1

Physics Unit 5	Unit code 4WSD5/1P
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Externally assessed Written examination: 1 hour and 10 minutes Availability: June and November 60 marks 	16.6% of the total International GCSE Science (Double Award) (Modular)
Content summary Assesses content listed below:	
1. Forces and motion a. Units b. Movement and position c. Forces, movement, shape and momentum 2. Electricity a. Units b. Mains electricity c. Energy and voltage circuits 3. Energy resources and energy transfer a. Units b. Energy transfers c. Work and power 4. Solids, liquids and gases: Part 1 a. Units b. Density and pressure	
Assessment A combination of different question styles, including multiple-choice questions, short-answer questions, calculations and extended open-response questions. A calculator may be used in the examinations.	

Double Science

International GCSE Edexcel – 4XSD1

Physics Unit 6	Unit code 4WSD6/1P*
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Externally assessed Written examination: 1 hour and 10 minutes Availability: June and November 60 marks 	16.6% of the total International GCSE Science (Double Award) (Modular)
Content summary Assesses content listed below:	
5. Waves a. Units b. Properties of waves c. The electromagnetic spectrum d. Light and sound 6. Solids, liquids and gases: Part 2 a. Units (note that this is the same content from 4. Solids, liquids and gases: Part 1) c. Ideal gas molecules 7. Magnetism and electromagnetism a. Units b. Magnetism c. Electromagnetism d. Electromagnetism induction 8. Radioactivity and particles a. Units b. Radioactivity c. Fission and fusion 9. Astrophysics a. Units b. Motion in the universe c. Stellar evolution	
Assessment A combination of different question styles, including multiple-choice questions, short-answer questions, calculations and extended open-response questions. A calculator may be used in the examinations.	

Career Prospects

- After the completion of IGCSEs, students can progress to a range of different, relevant academic or vocational higher education qualifications, A level in any of the sciences for example Analytical chemist, Biotechnologist, Chemical engineer, Clinical scientist, Forensic scientist, Nanotechnologist, Pharmacologist, Research scientist (physical sciences), Scientific laboratory technician, Toxicologist, Aviation, Engineering, Architecture, Medicine, Marine Biology, Natural Science and Anatomy.

Drama

GCSE Edexcel – IDRO

Course outline

The aim and objectives of the qualification are to enable students to:

- Apply knowledge and understanding when making, performing and responding to drama.
- Explore performance texts, understanding their social, cultural and historical context including the theatrical conventions of the period in which they were created.
- Develop a range of theatrical skills and apply them to create performances.
- Work collaboratively to generate, develop and communicate ideas.
- Develop as creative, effective, independent and reflective students able to make informed choices in process and performance.
- Contribute as an individual to a theatrical performance.
- Reflect on and evaluate their own work and that of others.
- Develop an awareness and understanding of the roles and processes undertaken in contemporary professional theatre practice and to adopt safe working practices.



Course details

Component 1

Devising (Practical 40% of total GCSE - 60 marks)

Component 2

Performance from text (Practical 20% of total GCSE - 48 marks)

Component 3

Theatre makers in Practice

(Written Examination 40% of total GCSE - 60 marks)

Assessment criteria

Component 1 is a practical component in which students are assessed on their ability to create and develop a devised piece from a stimulus which is moderated by Pearson Edexcel. For this component students must complete two assessment tasks:

- A portfolio covering the creating and developing process and the analysis and evaluation of this process.
- A devised performance.

Component 2 is a practical component in which students are assessed on their ability to either perform in and for two key extracts from a performance text. This is assessed by a visiting examiner.

Component 3 students will prepare for a written exam which is divided into two compulsory sections:

- Section A: Bringing texts to life
- Section B: Live theatre evaluation

Career prospects

After you have completed the GCSE Drama course you can go on to higher levels of study, such as Drama and Theatre Studies at A Level or BTEC Performing Arts in Acting. This GCSE is also very helpful with any post age 16 course, due to it giving you confidence and creativity. Students have the chance to enhance their presentation and evaluation skills through critical reviews of professional productions, all of which will make for a smooth transition to the next level of study. This clearly links to Journalism, Marketing, Media, Business or English degree subjects due to its practical and theoretical nature.

Economics

International GCSE Edexcel – GXECI

Course Overview

The IGCSE Economics course provides students with a deep understanding of how economic principles shape decision-making at individual, business, and government levels. The modular curriculum develops analytical and evaluative skills by focusing on two distinct units:



Unit 1: Microeconomics and Business Economics

This unit explores the fundamental economic problem, resource allocation, and the operations of markets. Students examine supply, demand, and market equilibrium alongside the behaviour of businesses and the economic decisions they make.

Unit 2: Macroeconomics and the Global Economy

This unit addresses broader economic issues such as government policy, economic growth, inflation, and global trade. Students develop insights into how economies function and interact on a global scale. These units equip students with the ability to apply economic theory to real-world scenarios and to think critically about economic challenges.

Course Details and Assessment Information

- The IGCSE Economics course is assessed through modular examinations, with each unit being examined separately.
- Unit 1 Exam: Microeconomics and Business Economics – Duration: 1 hour 30 minutes, Marks: 80.
- Unit 2 Exam: Macroeconomics and the Global Economy – Duration: 1 hour 30 minutes, Marks: 80.
- Both exams include multiple-choice, short-answer, and structured questions to test knowledge, application, and evaluation.
- Each unit contributes 50% to the final grade.

Career Prospects

Studying IGCSE Economics provides a strong foundation for careers in diverse fields and further academic opportunities. Students can pursue careers in:

- Banking and finance
- Economic research and policy-making
- International trade and development
- Management consultancy
- Data analysis and statistics

The course also serves as an excellent preparation for A-Level Economics or related disciplines, including Business, Accounting, and Political Science.

French

International GCSE Edexcel – 4FRI

Course outline

Over the two year I/GCSE course, students will study five key topic areas for approximately one term per topic:

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

Course details

Lessons will develop the four skill areas of speaking, listening, reading and writing.

Students will be supported and encouraged to use the language for genuine communication and as creatively as possible.



Assessment criteria

All assessments will take place at the end of Year 11.

Paper 1: Listening	Paper 2: Reading & Writing	Paper 3: Speaking
Topics: Covers all 5 key topic areas.	Topics: Covers all 5 key topic areas.	Topics: Covers all 5 key topic areas.
Assessment Information: • 30 min exam, plus 5 min reading time.	Assessment Information: • Written examination of 1hr 45 minutes.	Assessment Information: • Recorded discussion and conversation with class teacher lasting a maximum 10 minutes. • Marked by Edexcel
25% of total I/GCSE	50% of total I/GCSE	25% of total I/GCSE

Career prospects

Students who achieve a Grade 5 or above will have the opportunity to continue their chosen language to AS Level. Language graduates have a vast array of career opportunities open to them in all fields, thanks to the wide range of skills developed through learning a foreign language. There are exciting opportunities often involving travel abroad in almost every sector.

French is an official language in many major political bodies like the EU and UN and would also be considered a major asset by companies with operations in one of the twenty-nine countries worldwide where it is the official language.

Geography

International GCSE Edexcel – 4XGE1

Course outline

Geography is an ideal subject for developing a full range of skills. You will be encouraged to develop your investigative approaches to explore geographical questions and issues.

There will be a focus on improving your ability to make geographical decisions by applying your knowledge, understanding and skills with a real-world focus.

Fieldwork is an integral part of the course, and this will help you to develop the skills of organising your own time, and working and co-operating with others.

All these skills are transferable and will help you to make progress in other subjects. They are also skills that are highly valued by employers and will be useful in the world of work.



Course details

Paper 1 – Physical Geography (40% of total I/GCSE)

- Coastal environments, including fieldwork.
- Hazardous environments including fieldwork from one of these topics

Paper 2 – Human Geography (60% of total I/GCSE)

- Economic activity and energy
- Urban environments including fieldwork
- Global issues - Globalization and Migration

Assessment criteria

End of Year 10

Paper 1: Examination of 1 hour and 10 minutes, consisting of two sections. The questions are a mixture of multiple-choice, short-answer, data-response and open-ended questions.

- Section A: Candidates answer questions on- coastal environments and hazardous environments.
- Section B: Candidates answer fieldwork-related questions on coastal environments.

End of Year 11

Paper 2: Examination of 1 hour and 45 minutes, consisting of three sections. The questions are a mixture of multiple-choice, short-answer, data-response and open-ended questions.

- Section A: Candidates answer questions on- economic activity, energy and urban environments.
- Section B: Candidates answer fieldwork-related questions on urban environments.
- Section C: Candidates answer questions on globalisation and migration.

Career prospects

Geography ensures students are well placed to contribute to the scientific and political debates regarding the world in which we live. Students learn an excellent range of transferable skills that enable them to be successful across a range of professions. Employment opportunities include Journalism, Media, Law, Engineering, Business Management, ICT, Environmental Management, Teaching, Economic Planning, Marketing, Leisure and Recreation and Tourism.

History

International GCSE Edexcel – 4XH11

Course outline

The topics to be covered across the two years of study are as follows:

Paper 1:

- Depth Studies - A world divided: superpower relations, 1943–72, and
- Dictatorship and conflict in the USSR, 1924-53

Paper 2:

- Investigation and Breadth Studies - A1 The origins and course of the First World War, 1905–18 and B2 Changes in Medicine, 1848 - 1948

The objective of the course will be to enable students to recall, select, organise and deploy knowledge and communicate it through description, explanation and analysis. Show that students understand and can analyse and interpret historical sources in context. To show that students can comprehend, analyse and evaluate how and why events, people, situations and changes have been interpreted and represented in relation to the historical themes and periods studied.

The skills that will be developed will be to foster a knowledge and understanding of selected periods and/or aspects of history, exploring the significance of historical events, people, changes and issues and to give students the ability to use historical sources critically, in context, recording significant information and reaching conclusions. To enable learners to organise and communicate their knowledge and understanding of history and to enable learners to draw conclusions and make historical judgements.

Course details

End of Year 10

Paper 1 – Students answer two questions, one on each of the depth studies they have studied. (50 % of total I/GCSE)

End of Year 11

Paper 2 – Students answer two questions, one question on their historical investigation and one question on their breadth study in change. (50 % of total I/GCSE)

Assessment criteria

All the assessment for International GCSE History will take place at the end of the two years of study. There is no coursework element to the course. The examination will be 2 un-tiered written examinations.

- Paper 1: 1hr 30 mins.
- Paper 2: 1hr 30 mins.

The I/GCSE qualification will be graded and certificated on a nine-grade scale from 9 to 1 using the total subject mark where 9 is the highest grade. Individual papers are not graded.

Career prospects

Successful completion of the International GCSE History course allows for the progression to Edexcel GCE AS and A2 Level History.

However, because the course is very much geared to allowing students to become independent thinkers, who are good communicators and able to articulate sound judgements, it also provides a sound basis for a number of other avenues.



Information Communication Technology (ICT)

International GCSE Edexcel - 4ITI

Course outline

Pearson Edexcel International GCSE in Information Communication Technology (ICT) is a linear qualification. It aims to provide students with a comprehensive understanding of Information and Communication Technology (ICT). Students will develop both theoretical knowledge and practical skills, preparing them for further education and careers in the digital world.

Course Details

The course is divided into six main topics, each focusing on different aspects of ICT:

- Topic 1 – Digital Devices: Understand digital devices, their rapid advancements, and how they impact individuals and society.
- Topic 2 – Connectivity: Understand how digital devices exchange data, communicate, and support "access everywhere" developments.
- Topic 3 – Operating Online: Understand online risks, their management, and the societal impact of digital device use.
- Topic 4 – Online Goods and Services: Understand standalone and LAN networks and the growing use of online systems.
- Topic 5 – Applying ICT: Use a range of software applications effectively and appropriately.
- Topic 6 – Software Skills: Demonstrate skills in using the software applications identified in Topic 5

Assessment Criteria

Students will be assessed through a combination of practical assignments, projects, and written exams. Each topic will have specific assessment criteria to evaluate students' understanding and application of ICT concepts and skills.

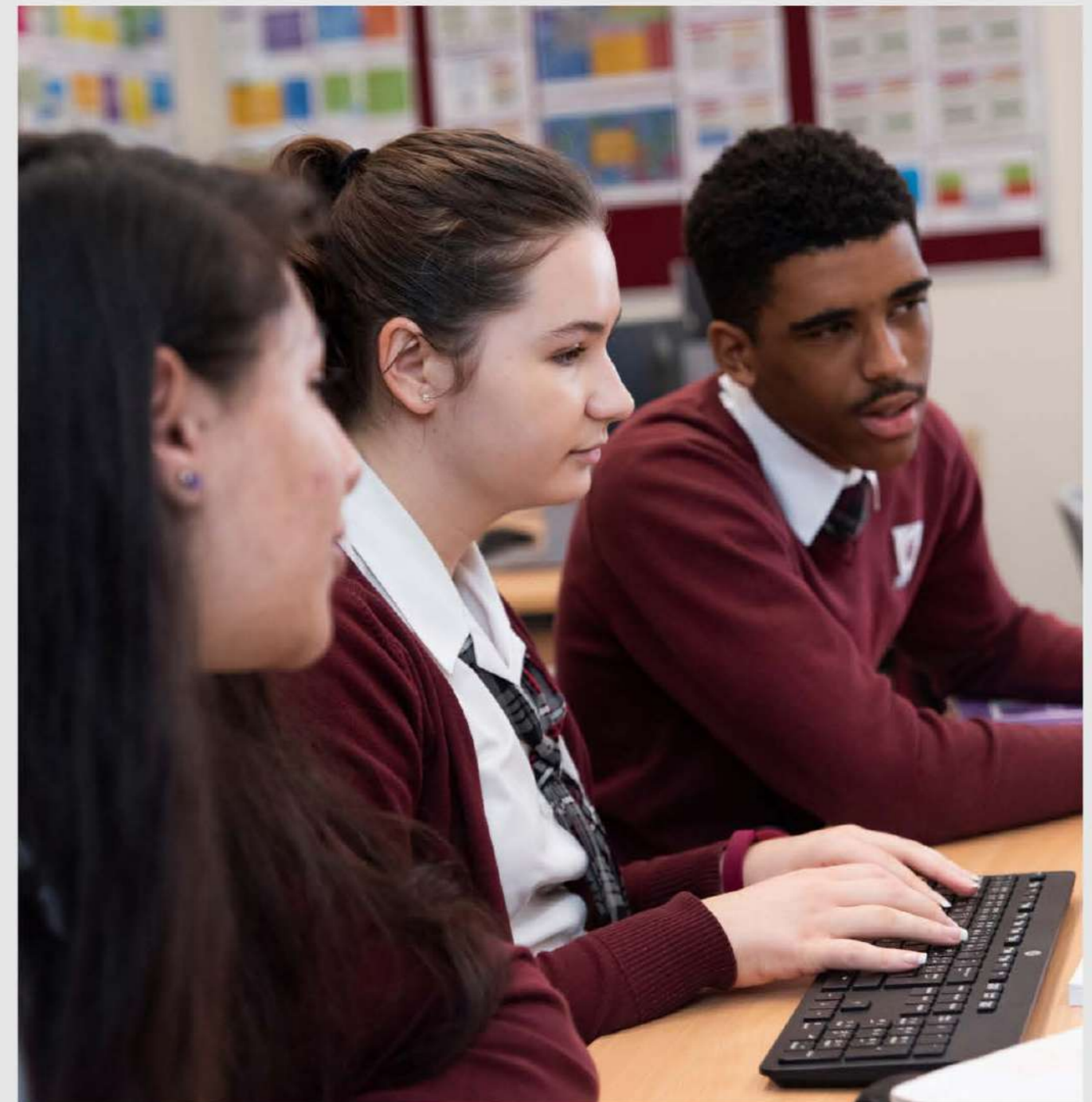
Paper 1: Written Paper	Unit code 4WSD1/1B
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Externally assessed • Availability: June • First assessment: May/June 2019 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paper code 4ITI/01 • 50% of the total iGCSE in ICT
<p>Content: Students may be assessed on the following topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Topic 1: Digital Devices • Topic 2: Connectivity • Topic 3: Operating Online • Topic 4: Online Goods and Services. 	<p>Assessment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students are assessed through a 1-hour and 30-minute written examination, set and marked by Pearson. • The examination comprises a mixture of multiple-choice, short- and long-answer questions. • The total number of marks available is 100.
Paper 2: Practical Paper	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Externally assessed • Availability: June • First assessment: May/June 2019 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paper code 4ITI/02 • 50% of the total iGCSE in ICT
<p>Content: Students may be assessed on the following topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Topic 5: Applying ICT • Topic 6: Software Skills 	<p>Assessment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students are assessed through a 3-hour practical examination, set and marked by Pearson. • The examination window takes place during one week in May/June. • The total number of marks available is 100.

Information Communication Technology (ICT)

International GCSE Edexcel - 4ITI

Career Prospects

Students can pursue Information Technology at AS and A Level, followed by tertiary education in technical fields. Potential career prospects include roles in software development, network management, cybersecurity, data analysis, and IT consultancy. The skills gained from this course are highly valued in today's technology-driven job market, offering students a strong foundation for a successful career in Tech.



Music

GCSE Edexcel – IMUO



Course outline

GCSE Music takes you deeper into the world of music, studying and performing a variety of pieces ranging from classical to rock. Students must be able to perform at a level equivalent to ABRSM Grade 3 on their chosen instrument (or voice). Additionally, it is important to be taking individual instrumental/vocal lessons in order to pass and excel in the performance component of the course.

The course is split into three main areas: Performing, Composition and Listening & Appraising.

- **Performing:** you will perform as a soloist and a member of an ensemble, this can be on an instrument you are already learning or wish to learn.
- **Composition:** you will compose two pieces of music, one of your own choice and one to a set brief from the exam board. Styles and genres are based on the set work pieces studied.
- **Listening & appraising:** continuous studies throughout the course with the written exam taking place at the end of year 11. The exam is based on the set works studied during the course, as well as unfamiliar pieces, where the student will answer a range of questions about what they can hear in the music.



Set works

Instrumental Music:

- J S Bach 3rd Movement from Brandenburg Concerto no.5 in D Major, and
- L Van Beethoven 1st movement from Piano Sonata no.8 in C minor 'Pathétique'

Vocal Music:

- H Purcell: Music for a While, and
- Queen's Killer Queen

Music for Stage & Screen:

- Defying Gravity from Wicked, and
- Main title/rebel blockade runner from Star Wars: A New Hope

Fusions:

- Afro Celt Sound System Release, and
- Esperanza Spalding Samba Em Preludio

Assessment criteria

Unit 1

Performing Music (30% of total GCSE)

Unit 2

Composing Music (30% of total GCSE)

Unit 3

Listening and Appraising (40% of total GCSE)

Career prospects

Studio Engineers, Teachers, Professional Musicians, Session Musicians, DJs, Producers, Record Label Managers, Singers are some of the possible career paths after taking GCSE Music.

Please note: Due to the nature of the course we highly recommend that students have instrumental/singing lessons alongside the GCSE course.

Physical Education

GCSE Edexcel – IPEO

Course outline

GCSE Physical Education will equip students with the knowledge, understanding, skills and values they need to be able to develop and maintain their performance in physical activities. Students will also gain understanding of how physical activities benefit health, fitness and well-being.



The objectives of this course are to:

- Develop knowledge and understanding of the factors that underpin physical activity and sport, and how to use these factors to improve performances.
- Provide opportunities for students to understand how the physiological and psychological state affects performance in physical activity and sport and the contribution that sport can make to health, fitness and well-being.

The practical element of the course aims to improve performances in different physical activities by developing skills, techniques, tactics and strategies. Students will also become equipped to analyse and evaluate to improve performances in physical activity and sport.

Course details

Component 1

Fitness and Body Systems (36% of total GCSE)

Component 2

Health and Performance (24% of total GCSE)

Component 3

Practical Performance (30% of total GCSE)

Component 4

Personal Exercise Programme (10% of total GCSE)

Assessment criteria

The GCSE course is assessed over the four components.

Component 1 and 2 are externally assessed through two written examination papers in May/June 2021.

Component 3 is assessed internally by the teacher. These marks are then modified by an external moderator. Students will be assessed in three different physical activities in the role of player/performer.

Component 4 is internally marked and externally moderated by Pearson. This piece of work should include planning, performing and evaluating a Personal Exercise Programme (PEP) and will be completed prior to the final exams.

The GCSE qualification will be graded and certificated on a nine - grade scale from 9 to 1 using the total subject mark where 9 is the highest grade. Individual papers are not graded.

Career prospects

As well as being the ideal preparation for the A Level Physical Education course, the blend of scientific and social knowledge in GCSE PE positions students to access a range of qualifications.

GCSE PE allows for progression to related vocational qualifications and gives students an in-depth insight into the career pathways in sport and the necessary skills to allow them to take on coaching roles in the future. Careers includes Physiotherapy, Sport Science and Sport Medicine Doctor .



Physics

International GCSE Edexcel – 4XPHI

Course outline

Pearson Edexcel International GCSE in Physics (Modular) is a modular qualification. All units are available in the June and November exam series and can be sat in any order or re-sat. Unit 1 exam will be sat in Year 10 and Unit 2 exam will be sat in Year 11. It builds a foundation for learners wishing to progress to the Pearson Edexcel International AS and A Level qualifications or equivalent qualifications, focusing on key physics theory.



Our approach

Learners will learn about unifying patterns and themes in physics and use them in new and changing situations. They will acquire knowledge and understanding of physical facts, terminology, concepts, principles and practical techniques to evaluate chemical information, make judgements on the basis of this information. They will analyse, interpret and evaluate data and experimental methods. Learners will draw conclusions that are consistent with evidence from experimental activities and suggesting possible improvements and further investigations.

Assessment criteria

Physics Unit 1	Unit code 4WPH1/IP*
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Externally assessed Written examination: 1 hour and 40 minutes Availability: June and November 90 marks 	50% of the total International GCSE (Modular)
Content summary Assesses content listed below, including content that is in bold and has a 'B' reference. Questions may come from any topic area listed below.	
1. Forces and motion a. Units b. Movement and position c. Forces, movement, shape and momentum	2. Electricity a. Units b. Mains electricity c. Energy and voltage circuits d. Electrical charge
3. Energy resources and energy transfer a. Units b. Energy transfers c. Work and power d. Energy resources and electrical generation	4. Solids, liquids and gases: Part 1 a. Units b. Density and pressure c. Change of state
Assessment A combination of different question styles, including multiple-choice questions, short-answer questions, calculations and extended open-response questions. A calculator may be used in the examinations.	

Physics

International GCSE Edexcel – 4XPHI

Physics Unit 2	Unit code 4WPH2/IP*
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Externally assessed Written examination: 1 hour and 40 minutes Availability: June and November 90 marks 	50% of the total International GCSE (Modular)
Content summary Assesses content listed below, including content that is in bold and has a 'P' reference. Questions may come from any topic area listed below.	
Content summary Assesses content listed below, including content that is in bold and has a 'P' reference. Questions may come from any topic area listed below.	
5. Waves a. Units b. Properties of waves c. The electromagnetic spectrum d. Light and sound	
6. Solids, liquids and gases: Part 2 a. Units (note that this is the same content from 4. Solids, liquids and gases: Part 1) d. Ideal gas molecules	
7. Magnetism and electromagnetism a. Units b. Magnetism c. Electromagnetism d. Electromagnetism induction	
8. Radioactivity and particles a. Units b. Radioactivity c. Fission and fusion	
9. Astrophysics a. Units b. Motion in the universe c. Stellar evolution d. Cosmology	
Assessment A combination of different question styles, including multiple-choice questions, short-answer questions, calculations and extended open-response questions. A calculator may be used in the examinations.	

Psychology

GCSE Edexcel – IPSO

Course outline

The GCSE course in Psychology introduces students to psychological concepts and methodologies in the context of real-life issues, focusing on key questions, the work of renowned psychologists and the research students can undertake themselves.

Course Outline

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

- Use specialist vocabulary, psychological concepts, terminology and convention to engage in the process of psychological enquiry
- Acquire knowledge and understanding of psychology, developing an understanding of self and others, and how psychological understanding can help to explain everyday social phenomena
- Understand how psychological research is conducted, including the role of scientific method and data analysis
- Present information, develop arguments and draw conclusions through a critical approach to psychological evidence, developing as reflective thinkers
- Develop an understanding of the relationship between psychology and personal, moral, social and cultural issues, and develop an understanding of ethical issues in psychology
- Develop an understanding of psychological issues, the contribution of psychology to individual, social and cultural diversity, and how psychology contributes to society.

Course Details

Students will gain knowledge and understanding of key features of the following core areas of psychology through the study of the compulsory and optional topics in this specification, including research methods:

- Biological – an understanding of biological concepts in psychology, including neuroscience and genetics as contributors to behaviour
- Cognitive – an understanding of thought, information and mental processing as contributors to behaviour
- Social – an understanding of the social area of psychology, the impact of social and environmental factors on behaviour and the influence of groups
- Developmental – an understanding of how individuals change throughout their lives, with a particular focus on childhood and how both nature and nurture can affect individuals
- Individual differences – an understanding of the complex nature of human behaviour and experiences and why and how people are different.

Assessment Criteria

Paper 1	
• Written examination: 1 hour and 45 minutes	*Paper code IPSO/01 55% of the qualification 98 marks
Paper 2:	
• Written examination: 1 hour and 45 minutes	*Paper code IPSO/02 45% of the qualification 79 marks

Career prospects

- GCEs, for example in psychology, biology and geography
- Level 3 vocational qualifications, for example the BTEC Level 3 in Health and Social Care, Applied Science and Children's Care, Learning and Development
- Employment in a wide range of careers (with further training), for example product management and general management, or a science-based apprenticeship.

Spanish

International GCSE Edexcel – 4SPI

Course outline

Over the two year I/GCSE course, students will study five key topic areas for approximately one term per topic:

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

Course details

Lessons will develop the four skill areas of speaking, listening, reading and writing.

Students will be supported and encouraged to use the language for genuine communication and as creatively as possible.



Assessment criteria

All assessments will take place at the end of Year 11.

Paper 1: Listening	Paper 2: Reading & Writing	Paper 3: Speaking
Topics: Covers all 5 key topic areas.	Topics: Covers all 5 key topic areas.	Topics: Covers all 5 key topic areas.
Assessment Information: • 30 min exam, plus 5 min reading time.	Assessment Information: • Written examination of 1hr 45 minutes.	Assessment Information: • Recorded discussion and conversation with class teacher lasting a maximum 10 minutes. • Marked by Edexcel
25% of total I/GCSE	50% of total I/GCSE	25% of total I/GCSE


Career prospects

Students who achieve a Grade 5 or above will have the opportunity to continue their chosen language to AS Level. Language graduates have a vast array of career opportunities open to them in all fields, thanks to the wide range of skills developed through learning a foreign language. There are exciting opportunities often involving travel abroad in almost every sector.

Spanish is the world's second most popular language after Mandarin, with over four-hundred million speakers worldwide. It is an official language of the UN and knowledge of the language is therefore also very valuable in the global labour market.



Our school at a glance

 English National Curriculum

Examination Board
IGCSE, L/IAL, BTEC

Pearsons Edexcel

Languages taught

- English
- Arabic
- French
- Spanish



+2000

Numbers of Students

9.5:1

Student teacher ratio as at August 2021



3-18 current Age range



90+

Nationalities

Contact us to arrange a visit
Tours@oryxschool.qa

British education for children aged 3-18 years

www.oryxschool.qa