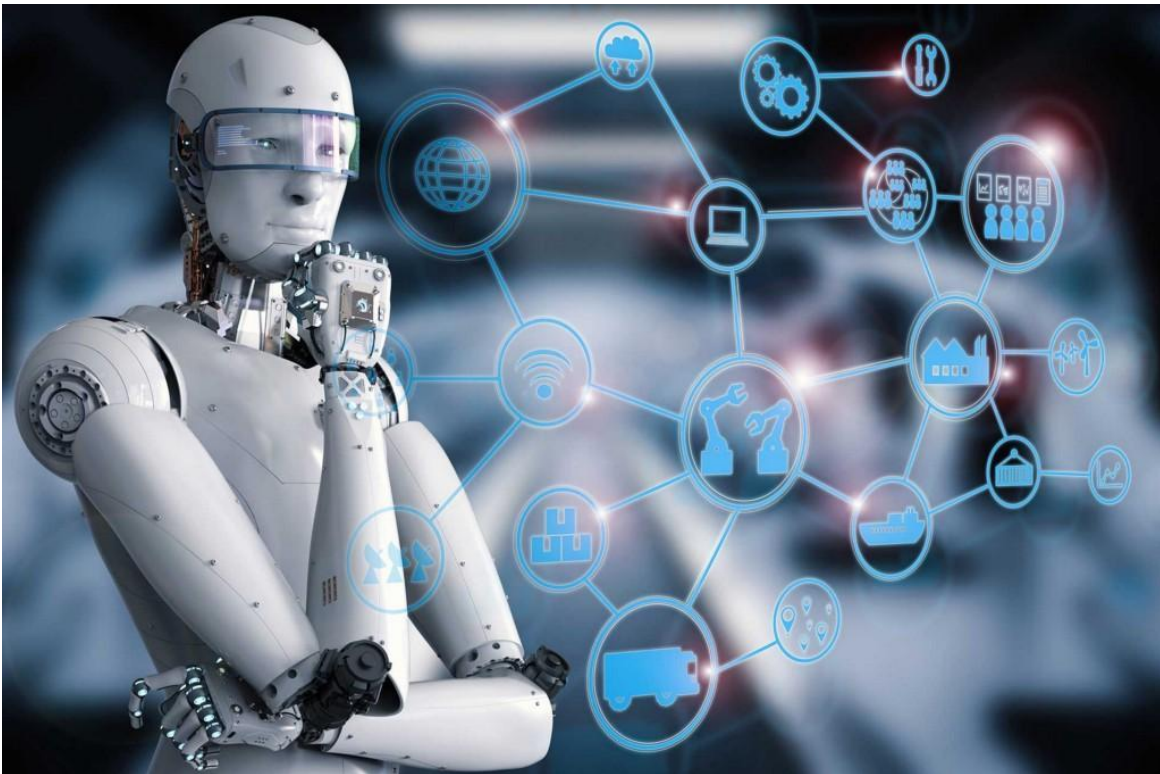


# Key Stage 4 Option Booklet



**Academic Years:  
2021-2023**

## Key Stage 4

### Option Booklet Academic Years: 2021- 2023

Our intention is to make sure that every student has access to the full range of subjects we can offer, and that all students have flexibility in their learning pathway from Year 10 to Year 13. All students must be supported and encouraged in their learning, as well as given the opportunity to achieve to the very best of their potential.

We offer a mixture of BTEC and (I)GCSE courses which allow students to work in the way best suited to their ability and learning style. All students follow the same structure. We are proud to offer a wide range of IGCSE subjects accredited by Cambridge International Exams (CAIE), AQA and Edexcel examination boards. All the qualifications we offer are recognised by schools, colleges and universities in the UAE and internationally thus enabling all of our students to gain access to the best academic institutions in the world. As an international school, we understand the need to provide the highest possible level of education which, most importantly, allows world-wide opportunities for our successful pupils.

CAIE is part of Cambridge Assessment, Europe's largest assessment agency and a department of the University of Cambridge. Edexcel is the UK's largest awarding body offering academic and vocational qualifications and testing to schools, colleges, employers and other places of learning in the UK and internationally. AQA is the most popular British examination board and Oxford AQA has recently become an international education awarding body. Details regarding each subject delivered at Key Stage 4 are contained online:

[www.aqa.org.uk](http://www.aqa.org.uk)

[www.cie.org.uk](http://www.cie.org.uk)

[www.edexcel.com](http://www.edexcel.com)

### **BTEC First Qualifications**

We are also very excited about our new vocational range of BTEC First courses at TSPS this year for students wanting to take a 100% coursework route to achieving their IGCSE equivalent qualification. BTEC First courses offer a practical approach to mastering the subject and are internally assessed, moderated by Pearson, the Edexcel examination board. In our Option blocks this year, students can combine BTEC First courses with our range of IGCSE subjects to enjoy a broader balance of curriculum of project based learning and external assessments. BTEC qualifications have been established in schools across Dubai for over a decade. For further information about BTEC First courses, please visit the Pearson website:

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/btec-firsts.html>

**There are, of course, some subjects which are compulsory:**

- ✓ All students must study English, Mathematics, Physics, Biology, Moral Education, Social Studies and Core Physical Education
- ✓ All students must study MOE Arabic, Arabic A (Arabs) and Arabic B (non-Arabs)
- ✓ All Muslim students must study Islamic Studies
- ✓ All non-Muslim students will study PSHE (Personal, Social and Health Education) In addition to these compulsory subjects:
- ✓ Students must choose one subject from each of the Options Block 1 – 3.
- ✓ Students must select a different second choice subject from each group in case the first is not available (class sizes are capped at 30)

GL Progress Tests (PT) are a mandatory assessment by KHDA conducted annually in April. These assessments measure the progress your child makes in Maths (PTM), English (PTE) and Science (PTS) over the academic year. The assessments examine the development of key skills in these core subject areas. The results of these assessments are reported as grades or stanine. See table:

Description	GL Target Stanine
Very High	9
Above Average	8
	7
Average	6
	5
	4
Below Average	3
	2
Very Low	1

Students must choose subjects very carefully. Courses run for two years and complete at the end of Year 11. We do not support early exam entry in Year 10. After the start of Year 10 there is a one-month window where we will consider students changing courses where they feel that they have made an error in their choices. After the month is over, we will not allow students to swap or change their subject choices.

It is imperative that your child is fully aware of the expectations we will have from them once they commence Key Stage 4. In order to maximise their full potential all students must have 94% attendance and make expected progress to guarantee the opportunity to sit their final examinations in June 2022.

## **IGCSE ACCOUNTING**

**Examination Board: CAIE (Cambridge)**

**Syllabus Code: 0452**

IGCSE Accounting is accepted by universities and employers as proof of an understanding of the theory and concepts of accounting, and the ways in which accounting is used in a variety of modern economic and business contexts. Candidates focus on the skills of recording, reporting, presenting and interpreting financial information; these form an ideal foundation for further study, and for a future career within the profession.

### **Assessment:**

All candidates will be doing two papers which is externally assessed.

Paper 1 is multiple-choice questions - One hour 15minutes (30%)

Paper 2 is structured written paper- One hour 45 minutes (70%)

### **Content summary**

1. The fundamentals of accounting

This section introduces the subject by explaining the difference between book-keeping and accounting. The role of accounting in providing information and the purposes of measuring business profit and loss are also explored. Basic accounting terms and the accounting equation are introduced.

2. Sources and recording of data

The core topic of this section is the double entry system of book-keeping and how this is applied in the preparation of ledger accounts. The division of the ledger is considered. Business documents and their use as sources of information are also included. Consideration is given to the procedures for processing information in books of prime entry.

3. Verification of accounting records

This section concentrates on the use of trial balances, bank reconciliation statements and control accounts as means of verifying accounting records. The procedures for the correction of errors are also covered.

4. Accounting procedures

Within this section, consideration is given to the importance of distinguishing between capital and revenue expenditure and receipts. Non-current assets are further explored in terms of accounting for depreciation and disposals. Procedures to record adjustments for accruals and prepayments, irrecoverable debts, provision of doubtful debts and the recovery of debts written off are included. Inventory valuation, and its impact on financial statements, is also covered.

5. Preparation of financial statements

The focus of this section is the preparation of financial statements, including year-end adjustments, for different types of businesses (sole traders, partnerships and limited companies). Consideration is also given to the financial statements of clubs and societies and manufacturing businesses. The procedures employed when only incomplete records are available are also covered.

6. Analysis and interpretation

This section introduces the calculation and the interpretation of the main accounting ratios. The use of ratios in inter-firm comparison is also included. Consideration is also given to the uses of accounting information by interested parties. The limitations of accounting statements are also explored.

7. Accounting principles and policies

The main accounting principles are introduced together with how they are applied in accounting records and statements.

## **IGCSE ARABIC**

### **Introduction**

Following the rules and regulations of the Ministry of Education, Arabic is a compulsory subject for all Arab students in Year 1 to 12, in the United Arab Emirates. Students are required to follow a Ministry program and at the end of each year the final grades are sent to the KHDA. Arab Students have an opportunity to sit an IGCSE exam in Arabic as first language. Non Arabs may opt for IGCSE exam as second language

### **Course Content**

Arabic language for non – Arabs follow the program set by the exam board. Arabic language for Arabs uses the book: ‘Arabic Language’ – from the Ministry of Education

### **IGCSE Arabic requires students to**

Communicate accurately, appropriately and effectively in writing

Understand and respond appropriately to what they read

Enjoy and appreciate the beauty of Arabic

Complement other areas of study, by developing the skills of a more general application (example: analysis, synthesis and drawing of inferences).

Promote the student’s personal development and an understanding of themselves and other people

Ensure the eligibility criteria for admission to university and approval of certificate on completion of course

## **IGCSE Arabic A**

**Examination Board: Edexcel**

**Syllabus Codes: Arabic as a First Language: (4AA1)**

### **Assessment information**

**Paper 1** assesses 60% of the total Arabic (First Language Qualification through reading, summary and grammar.

**There will be three parts in the paper**

#### **Reading**

Students are advised to allocate approximately 1 hour and 15 minutes to Part One

- There will be short- and long-answer questions related to two text extracts.
- Students will answer all questions in this section.
- Total of 49 marks for this section.
- Questions will test the following assessment objective:

### **AO1**

- Read and understand a range of texts, selecting and interpreting information, ideas and opinions.
- Understand how the writer uses techniques to create effect.
- Compare and contrast information.

### **Summary**

- Students are advised to allocate approximately 30 minutes to Part Two.
- There will be a 6-mark summary question.
- Students will answer the one question in this section.
- Total of 6 marks for this section.
- Questions will test the following assessment objective:

### **AO1**

- Summarise information.

### **Grammar**

- Students are advised to allocate approximately 30 minutes to Part Three.
- There will be two 10-mark questions, each assessing different grammar skills.
- Students will answer all questions in this section.
- Total of 20 marks for this section.
- Questions will test the following assessment objectives.

### **AO3**

- Show an understanding of grammatical terminology and structures.
- Demonstrate an ability to manipulate language.
- Demonstrate an ability to analyse linguistic features.

### **Paper 2: Writing**

- Students are required to convey their understanding of Arabic through two pieces of continuous writing.
- Students are advised to write approximately 300 words for each title.
- The number of words is approximate and students will not be penalised for writing more or fewer words than recommended in the word count.
- All work produced by the student will be marked.

### **Students must be able to demonstrate the following skills:**

- Ø Communicate meaning effectively in written language in a variety of forms, genres and styles.
- Ø Focus writing on a particular purpose and audience.
- Ø Write imaginatively using a variety of techniques.
- Ø Use a wide range of suitable vocabulary.
- Ø Use accurate spelling.
- Ø Employ a variety of sentence structures for effect.
- Ø Structure their work effectively.

∅ Use complex structures.

∅ Use the rules of grammar to create effect, variety and interest.

- Students must choose two titles from a choice of three.
- The three titles will include the following purposes: to argue, to narrate, to describe, to persuade, to inform, to explain.
- The forms of writing could include a discursive essay, a narrative, a description, a letter, an article, an email, a speech or an information leaflet.

**All tasks in this paper are linked to the topic areas.**

**Paper 2: Assesses 40% of the total Arabic (First Language)**

**Qualification through two writing tasks.**

- Students are advised to allocate approximately 45 minutes to each writing question.
- Students will answer two 25-mark questions out of a choice of three questions in this section.
- Total of 50 marks for this section.
- Questions will test the following assessment objectives.

**AO2**

- Communicate in writing effectively and imaginatively, in different forms for particular audiences and purposes.
- Organise writing into clear and coherent sentences and whole texts.
- Use accurate spelling.

**Relationship of assessment objectives to papers:**

Paper	Assessment Objectives			
	AO1	AO2	AO3	Total for paper
<b><u>Paper 1:</u></b> Reading, Summary and Grammar	44%	0%	16%	60%
<b><u>Paper 2:</u></b> writing	0%	40%	0%	40%
<b>Total for International GCSE</b>	44%	40%	16%	100%

## **IGCSE Arabic B**

**Examination Board: Cambridge International**

**Syllabus Codes:**

**Arabic as a Second Language: CIE-0544**

**Assessment information: (2020)**

**All candidates take the following three components:**

**Paper 2 Reading 1 hour**

**Candidates read a number of texts and answer questions testing comprehension.**

**45 marks**

**Externally assessed**

**Paper 3 Speaking\* approximately 15 minutes**

**Candidates complete two role plays, a topic presentation/conversation and a general conversation.**

**100 marks**

**Internally assessed/externally moderated**

**Paper 4 Writing 1 hour**

**Candidates respond in the target language to three tasks.**

**50 marks**

**Externally assessed.**

**Assessment information: (2021)**

**Paper 1 – Listening**

**Approximately 45 minutes, 40 marks**

**This paper consists of 33 multiple-choice and matching questions. Candidates answer all questions by selecting the correct option or options.**

**Paper 2 – Reading**

**Written paper, 1 hour, 45 marks**

**This paper consists of six groups of questions, each comprising a number of multiple-choice and matching questions, as well as questions requiring short answers in Arabic. The number of questions in each group may vary in each examination session.**

**Paper 3 – Speaking**

**Approximately 10 minutes (plus 10 minutes of preparation time), 40 marks**

**Paper 4 – Writing**

**Written paper, 1 hour, 45 marks**

**This paper consists of a form-filling task, a directed writing task and an extended writing task in response to given contexts and prompts.**



## IGCSE Art and Design

**Examination Board: Edexcel**

**Syllabus Code: 4FA1**

IGCSE Art and Design is designed to help meet the needs of skilled, knowledgeable, creative individuals who are growing up in this rapidly changing creative environment. The intention of the syllabus is to provide a broad introduction to Fine Art for example Drawing, Painting, Collage, Mixed Media, Printmaking, Pastels, etc. The syllabus develops practical skills across a range of different artistic disciplines. Students gain an overview of different themes, techniques and Artists work for visual inspiration. Through their studies, students will gain an understanding of the concepts, models, theories and approaches used within the Art and Design practice. Students will also enhance their higher order thinking skills for example critical thinking and self-expression through questioning and analysis. Students will investigate the work of a selection of different themes. They will interpret different artists work. They will evaluate their own work and the work of others. This will improve their knowledge and thinking skills for not only Art but other subjects such as English.

<b>Component 1</b>	<b>Component 2</b>
Personal Portfolio	Externally set assignment
50%	50%
Centre set theme	Externally set theme

### **Syllabus aims:**

- The purpose of the coursework is to show a coherent journey with a sustained focus and to also show your thought process through words and imagery.
- Annotating your work and the work of others is another important skill to develop, for example saying what you like or dislike about certain art work.
- Students use a combination of Primary and Secondary sources to experience the benefits of both.
- Students will also improve their knowledge of specialist art terminology to improve literacy skills.
- They will also get the opportunity to visit Art galleries to see contemporary and traditional art work first hand.
- Students will become more aware of the visual world around them for example their natural surroundings and environment.
- They will record ideas, observations, and insight and use their independent judgment.

## **IGCSE Biology**

**Examination Board: Edexcel Syllabus code: 4Bi1**

### **Course Content:**

What is Biology?

The Pearson Edexcel International GCSE in Biology is designed for students to ensure good preparation, both for those continuing to further study and for those wishing to work in a biology-related field.

### **IGCSE Biology requires students to:**

- Learn about unifying patterns and themes in biology and use them in new and changing situations
- Acquire knowledge and understanding of biological facts, terminology, concepts, principles and practical techniques
- Apply the principles and concepts of biology, including those related to the applications of biology, to different contexts
- Evaluate biological information, making judgements on the basis of this information
- Appreciate the practical nature of biology, developing experimental and investigative skills based on correct and safe laboratory techniques
- 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
- Recognise the importance of accurate experimental work and reporting scientific methods in biology
- Select, organise and present relevant information clearly and logically using appropriate vocabulary, definitions and conventions
- Develop a logical approach to problem solving in a wider context
- Select and apply appropriate areas of mathematics relevant to biology as set out under each topic
- Prepare for more advanced courses in biology and for other courses that require knowledge of biology.

### **Assessment structure:**

The Pearson Edexcel International GCSE in Biology comprises two externally-assessed papers:

- Biology Paper 1
- Biology Paper 2.

Each paper will consist of a mixture of different question styles, including multiple-choice questions, short-answer questions, calculations and extended open-response questions.

### **Course options after IGCSE:**

IGCSE Biology Award will lead perfectly on to study Biology at AS and A2 level. It is an important qualification to attain for students wishing to enter any biology-based higher education course. The career options available are numerous as scientists are expected to have a wide ranging skill set including strong analysis, logical reasoning and numerical skills.

**Minimum requirements for Pathway 1 Double Science:**

English: Year 9 PTE 5

Maths: Year 9 PTM 5

Science: Year 9 PTS 5

**Minimum requirements for Ebacc Pathway Triple Science:**

English: Year 9 PTE 7

Maths: Year 9 PTM 7

Science: Year 9 PTS 7

## **IGCSE Chemistry**

**Examination Board: Edexcel Syllabus code: 4Ch1**

### **Course Content:**

What is Chemistry?

The Pearson Edexcel International GCSE in Chemistry is designed for students to ensure good preparation, both for those continuing to further study and for those wishing to work in a chemistry-related field.

### **IGCSE Chemistry requires students to:**

- Learn about unifying patterns and themes in chemistry and use them in new and changing situations
- Acquire knowledge and understanding of chemical facts, terminology, concepts, principles and practical techniques
- Apply the principles and concepts of chemistry, including those related to the applications of chemistry, to different contexts
- Evaluate chemical information, making judgements on the basis of this information
- Appreciate the practical nature of chemistry, developing experimental and investigative skills based on correct and safe laboratory techniques
- 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
- Recognise the importance of accurate experimental work and reporting scientific methods in chemistry
- Select, organise and present relevant information clearly and logically using appropriate vocabulary, definitions and conventions
- Develop a logical approach to problem solving in a wider context.
- Select and apply appropriate areas of mathematics relevant to chemistry as set out under each topic
- Prepare for more advanced courses in chemistry and for other courses that require knowledge of chemistry.

### **Assessment structure:**

The Pearson Edexcel International GCSE in Chemistry comprises two externally-assessed papers:

- Chemistry Paper 1
- Chemistry Paper 2.

Each paper will consist of a mixture of different question styles, including multiple-choice questions, short-answer questions, calculations and extended open-response questions.

### **Course options after IGCSE:**

IGCSE Chemistry Award will lead perfectly on to study Chemistry at AS and A2 level. It is an important qualification to attain for students wishing to enter any chemistry-based higher education course. The career options available are numerous as scientists are expected to have a wide ranging skill set including strong analysis, logical reasoning and numerical skills.

**Minimum requirements for Pathway 1 Double Science:**

English: Year 9 PTE 5

Math: Year 9 PTM 5

Science: Year 9 PTS 5

**Minimum requirements for Ebacc Pathway Triple Science:**

English: Year 9 PTE 7

Math: Year 9 PTM 7

Science: Year 9 PTS 7

**IGCSE Physics**

**Examination Board: Edexcel**

**Syllabus code: 4Ph1**

**Course Content:**

What is Physics?

The Pearson Edexcel International GCSE in Physics is designed for students to ensure good preparation, both for those continuing to further study and for those wishing to work in a physics-related field.

**IGCSE Physics requires students to:**

- Learn about unifying patterns and themes in physics and use them in new and changing situations
- Acquire knowledge and understanding of physical facts, terminology, concepts, principles and practical techniques
- Apply the principles and concepts of physics, including those related to the applications of physics, to different contexts
- Evaluate physical information, making judgements on the basis of this information
- Appreciate the practical nature of physics, developing experimental and investigative skills based on correct and safe laboratory techniques
- 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
- Recognise the importance of accurate experimental work and reporting scientific methods in physics
- Select, organise and present relevant information clearly and logically using appropriate vocabulary, definitions and conventions
- Develop a logical approach to problem solving in a wider context
- Select and apply appropriate areas of mathematics relevant to physics as set out under each topic
- Prepare for more advanced courses in physics and for other courses that require knowledge of physics.

**Assessment structure:**

The Pearson Edexcel International GCSE in Physics comprises two externally-assessed papers:

- Physics Paper 1
- Physics Paper 2.

Each paper will consist of a mixture of different question styles, including multiple-choice questions, short-answer questions, calculations and extended open-response questions.

**Course options after IGCSE:**

IGCSE Physics Award will lead perfectly on to study Physics at AS and A2 level. It is an important qualification to attain for students wishing to enter any physics-based higher education course. The career options available are numerous as scientists are expected to have a wide ranging skill set including strong analysis, logical reasoning and numerical skills.

**Minimum requirements for Pathway 1 Double Science:**

English: Year 9 PTE 5

Math: Year 9 PTM 5

Science: Year 9 PTS 5

**Minimum requirements for Ebacc Pathway Triple Science:**

English: Year 9 PTE 7

Math: Year 9 PTM 7

Science: Year 9 PTS 7

## **IGCSE Business Studies**

**Examination Board: Edexcel**

**Syllabus Code: 4BS1**

Edexcel IGCSE Business is designed to help meet the need for skilled and knowledgeable individuals in this rapidly diversifying and innovative industry. The intention of the syllabus is to develop and apply knowledge, understanding and skills to contemporary issues in a wide range of businesses from small enterprises to large multinationals. Students gain an overview of the business industry, and learn about different types of business ownerships, financial and non-financial objectives, and people in business, financial concepts, business operations and marketing and promotion. The course is designed to give students a sound understanding of business, and the ability to use knowledge, skills and understanding appropriately in the context of individual countries and the global economy.

### **Assessment:**

At TSPS we carry out a combination of Paper 1 and Paper 2. We believe that students flourish when it comes to applying the theoretical knowledge to past case-studies and current real-life scenarios presented to them. This application in both exams builds up and consolidates students understanding, emphasises their analytical skills, and compliments other subjects which they will be studying with excellent cross-curricular links.

### **Syllabus aims:**

Edexcel IGCSE Business aims to provide candidates with:

- Developing an interest in and enthusiasm for the study of business
- Developing an understanding of business concepts, business terminology, business objectives and the integrated nature of business activity
- Understanding how the main types of business are organised, financed and operated
- Developing critical-thinking and enquiry skills to distinguish between facts and opinion, calculating, interpreting and evaluating business data, to help build arguments and make informed judgements
- Developing an understanding of the dynamics of business activity and the related considerations of ethics and sustainability for global businesses

### **Minimum requirements for choosing this course:**

English: Year 9 PTE 5

## **IGCSE Economics**

**Examination Board: Edexcel**

**Syllabus Code: 4EC1**

Edexcel IGCSE Economics is designed to give students a sound understanding of economics, and the ability to use knowledge, skills and understanding appropriately in the context of individual countries and the global economy. The Syllabus develops the students' ability to interpret and evaluate economic information and write extended responses. Through their studies, the Students will gain an understanding of economic concepts and apply these concepts to real- life Situations.

### **Assessment:**

Paper Overview –

#### **Paper 1 – Microeconomics and Business Economics**

Paper code – 4EC1/01

##### **Content Summary**

The market system: • The economic problem • Economic assumptions • Demand, supply and market equilibrium • Elasticity • The mixed economy • Externalities

Business economics: • Production • Productivity and division of labour • Business costs, revenues and profit • Business competition • The labour market • Government intervention

#### **Paper 2 – Macroeconomics and the Global Economy**

Paper code – 4EC1/02

##### **Content Summary**

Government and the economy: • Macroeconomic objectives • Government policies • Relationships between objectives and policies

The global economy: • Globalisation • International trade • Exchange rates

### **Syllabus aims:**

Edexcel IGCSE Economics provides candidate with:

- An understanding of economic concepts and apply these concepts to real-life Situations
- To calculate, interpret and evaluate economic data in order to make reasoned arguments And informed judgements
- To develop an awareness of economic change and its impact on developing and developed Economies
- To understand economic issues, problems and possible solutions that affect mixed economies
- To participate effectively in society as citizens, producers and consumers.

### **Minimum requirements for choosing this course:**

Math: Year 9 PTM 6



## English Language at IGCSE

English is compulsory for all students. TSPS now offer all students access to both Second Language and First language English and English Literature.

### IGCSE English As a First Language

**Examination Board: CIE**

**Syllabus Code: 0500**

#### First Language English

This will be studied in year 11, on the assumption that all students will have completed English as a Second Language and English Literature in year 10. It is a direct continuation of English as a Second language.

### IGCSE English as a Second Language

**Examination Board: Cambridge International**

**Syllabus Code: 0511**

#### Course Content:

Cambridge IGCSE English as a Second Language is designed for students who already have a working knowledge of the language and who want to consolidate their understanding in order to progress in their academic or professional career. The qualification reflects the widespread use of English in education and commerce, and also in entertainment. The aim is to achieve a level of practical communication ideal for everyday use.

#### IGCSE English as a Second Language requires students to:

- Develop and exhibit English Language skills relating to four areas of competency: Reading, writing, Listening and Speaking.
- Understand and present facts, ideas and opinions.
- Evaluate information
- Communicate effectively and appropriately.

#### Assessment Structure:

- There are two assessment papers that will contribute to the final grade:
- Paper 2. Reading and Writing (2 Hours) 70%
- Paper 4. Listening (45 Minutes) 30%

There is also a 15 minute oral exam allowing students to exhibit their speaking competency. The exam is in the form of an interview and will be represented on the IGCSE Certificate as a number. The range is 1-5; 1 being the highest. Your teacher will set up a variety of situations which will enable you to practice your spoken skills.

### **Course Options after IGCSE:**

This course will enable successful students to exhibit a level of competency necessary to gain access to all higher educational institutions and courses utilising the English language. This course can also form the basis for further, more in-depth language study.

### **GCSE English Literature**

**Examination Board: Edexcel**

**Syllabus Code: 4ET0**

#### **Course Content:**

GCSE English Literature will be taught in year 10, parallel to English as a Second Language. It aims to assess the ability of the candidate to present an informed personal response to works of Literature. It is an exciting course which provides students with the opportunity to experience literature written by a range of famous international authors and poets.

#### **GCSE English Literature requires students to:-**

- Communicate accurately, appropriately and effectively in both speech and writing
- Understand and respond imaginatively
- Enjoy reading literature, developing imagination, analysis and understanding of periods and themes.
- Explore areas of human concern leading to a greater understanding of yourself and others
- Explore the links between literature and its context, making evaluations of how meaning is shaped
- Exploring a variety of reactions to evidence, developing ability to explore ambiguity in meaning

#### **Assessment Structure:**

##### **Examination (50%):**

Candidates have one exam paper:

Paper 1 – Unseen Poetry and Prose- one question on the Prose text, one on an Unseen poem and one on poetry from the anthology

##### **Coursework (50%)**

Drama Coursework: Students produce 2 pieces of coursework. One is in relation to a Shakespeare play and one related to a Modern Drama from the specified list.

#### **Course Options after GCSE:**

GCSE English Literature will lead perfectly on to study AS and A2 level English Language. It is an important qualification to attain for students wishing to enter any higher education course where they will be required to exhibit strong comprehension, evaluative and analytical skills. It is an impressive qualification to have for all career and university options.

#### **Minimum requirements for choosing this course:**

English: Year 9 PTE 6

## **GCSE Media Studies**

**Examination Board: AQA**

**Syllabus Code: 8572**

### **Course Content:**

**Non-Exam Assessment: 30%**

**Exam: 70%**

Within the course, you will analyse and respond to a range of media texts and topics exploring the ways in which media texts are produced and consumed including the study of the industry. Non-exam assessment consists of the choice of a brief from annually changing projects that explore one of the various media platforms and a practical production project which will involve researching, producing and evaluating your own product. Possible topics are film openings, music promotion and magazine production. There are two 1 hour 30 minutes exams which will consist of an unseen text in paper 1 and questions relating to the close study products you shall research and analyse throughout the course. The close study products are set each year by the exam board. Previous CSPs have included, broadsheet and tabloid newspapers, Science fiction television, Online and Print Music Promotion, magazines, Vlogging, Promotion and Marketing of Video Games and product advertisement.

### **The attributes that you as a student need to bring to this course:**

- Creativity
- Willingness to work with a range of technology
- Teamwork
- Independence
- Resilience
- Organisation

### **Some of the skills that you will gain if you opt to take this course are:**

Analytical skills (e.g. exploring why and how media products are produced and the effect this has on the audience) Practical skills, e.g. Storyboarding, desktop publishing, editing, filming etc.

### **Course Options after IGCSE:**

Higher level courses and careers: - e.g. camera Operator, Journalism, TV researcher, Marketing/Advertising, PR (Public Relations), web design/development, Directing 6) Post-production careers, e.g. Editing, Publishing 7) Many jobs require technical media skills, e.g. if you set up your own business (whether it be as a plumber, Mobile hairdresser or IT consultant) you will be required to market your business through social networking, a website, etc.

Year 9 is the requirement for entry of their courses.

### **Minimum requirements for choosing this course:**

English: Year 9 PTE 5

## **IGCSE FRENCH As FOREIGN LANGUAGE**

**Examination Board: Edexcel**

**Syllabus Code:4FR1**

### **Course Content:**

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

### **IGCSE French- Foreign Language requires students to:-**

Develop their knowledge of the French language is developed in these key areas:  
Everyday Activities Personal and Social Life ,The World Around Us The World of Work  
The International World

### **Assessment Structure:**

There are three examinations of equal weighting for this course. This course is aimed at any student wishing to develop the skills they have learned at KS3. The students are assessed on their skills in:

- Speaking
- Listening
- Reading and Writing

The assessment is comprised of 3 Exams taken at the end of year 11, one which is a spoken assessment, and the other two which encompass the skills of listening, reading and writing. All aspects of equally weighted at 25% per skill. Students will develop each of these skills throughout the IGCSE course.

### **Course Options after IGCSE:**

With the world becoming a smaller place, and people travelling more widely than ever before, a GCSE in a foreign language has become an expectation for anyone who would expect to travel abroad with work, in jobs such as journalism, politics, engineering, the travel industry, psychology, teaching & education, medicine and child-care.

Therefore, it is important that we give languages a chance – as having a GCSE in French will give students a chance to progress, further, quicker and more successfully than their counterparts, in every aspect of their career, as well as inspiring confidence and promoting good conversational and communication skills, which are imperative for any profession in life.

This course enables students to access A-Level French and it also allows students to exhibit a competency in Modern Foreign Languages which could be applied to further language studies

**Minimum requirements for choosing this course: Year 9 French S2**

## **IGCSE GEOGRAPHY**

**Examination Board: Edexcel**

**Syllabus Code: 4GE1**

### **Course Content:**

Successful Edexcel IGCSE Geography candidates develop lifelong skills, including:

- An understanding of the impacts which both physical and human geography can have and the processes which affect their development;
- A sense of place and an understanding of relative location on a local, regional and global scale;
- The ability to use and understand geographical data and information;

An understanding of how communities and cultures around the world and how they are affected and constrained by different environments.

### **Course options after IGCSE:**

The skills learnt in Geography are extremely employable and link and support other academic subject such as Mathematics and the core and applied Sciences. Here is a short list of careers that see Geography as an important qualification to have in the job market; every job needs a good Geographer.

- Government Policy maker
- Accountant
- Fashion Designer
- Architect
- Graphic Designer
- Doctor
- Urban Planner
- Teacher
- Meteorologist
- Geologist

Geography is recognised for its academic ‘robustness’ and, most importantly, it also helps young people into the world of work... So many employers prize the knowledge and skills that studying geography can provide, be it knowing how the world works, planning, researching and report writing in a team, using new technologies, communication skill – and much more.’

## **IGCSE GEOGRAPHY**

- Paper 1 : 40.0% (written)
- Paper 2 : 60% (Written including fieldwork)

### **Minimum requirements for choosing this course:**

Year 9 English PTE: 5

Year 9 Math PTM: 5

## IGCSE History

**Examination Board: Cambridge International**

**Syllabus Code: 0470**

### **Course Content:**

Cambridge IGCSE is accepted by universities and employers worldwide as providing proof of historical knowledge and understanding.

The History syllabus offers students the opportunity to study some of the major international issues of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, by exploring seven key historical questions:

- Were the peace treaties of 1919–23 fair?
- To what extent was the League of Nations a success?
- Why had international peace collapsed by 1939?
- Who was to blame for the Cold War?
- How effectively did the USA contain the spread of Communism?
- How secure was the USSR's control over Eastern Europe, 1948–c.1989?

Students also do an in-depth study, looking in greater detail at the economic and social history of Russia, from the Tsarist reign of Nicholas II, to the revolutions of 1917, up to the Great Terror and Josef Stalin. The emphasis within the syllabus is as much on developing lifelong historical skills as on acquiring knowledge. Successful candidates gain valuable skills including:

- An interest in and enthusiasm for learning and understanding about the past
- An understanding of historical concepts such as cause and consequence, continuity and change, and significance
- In depth investigative and evaluative expertise
- An appreciation of historical evidence and how to use it
- A greater understanding of international issues and inter-relationships
- How to present clear, logical arguments

### **Assessment:-**

- Paper 1: 40% of total marks
- Paper 2: 33% of the total marks
- Coursework: 27% of the total marks

### **Course option after IGCSE:-**

The skills taught in History are diverse: they provide an exceptional basis for a variety of careers. History is seen as a good background for lawyers, politicians, diplomats, journalists, writers, and those interested in academia. It is directly useful for those who want to go into media, education, tourism and conservation. This is in addition to being an excellent introduction to the study of History at A level and university.

### **Minimum requirements for choosing this course:**

Year 9 English GL PTE 5

## IGCSE Information and Communication Technology

**Examination Board: Cambridge International**  
**Syllabus Code: Syllabus code: 0417**

### What is IGCSE ICT?

Information Communication Technology combines theoretical and practical studies focusing on the ability to use common software applications, including word processors, spreadsheets, databases, interactive presentation software, e-mail, web browsers and website design. Students will develop a greater awareness of how applications are used in the workplace, and consider the impact of new technologies on methods of working and on social, economic, ethical and moral issues.

### Why study IGCSE ICT?

Cambridge IGCSE Information and Communication Technology encourage learners to develop lifelong skills, including:

- understanding and using applications
- using Information and Communication Technology (ICT) to solve problems
- analyzing, designing, implementing, testing and evaluating ICT systems, ensuring that they are fit for purpose
- understanding the implications of technology in society, including social, economic and ethical uses
- Awareness of the ways ICT can help in home, learning and work environments.

### Assessment structure:

The two assessment objectives in Information Technology are:

- Practical Skills
- Knowledge and understanding
- Paper 1 (40%) Written
- Paper 2 (30%) Practical
- Paper 3 (30%) Practical

### Course Options after IGCSE:

Cambridge IGCSE syllabuses are general qualifications that enable candidates either to progress directly to employment, or to proceed to further qualifications. Candidates who are awarded grades C to A\* in Cambridge IGCSE in Information and Communication Technology are well prepared to follow courses leading to Cambridge International AS and A Level Applied Information and Communication Technology, or the equivalent.

### Potential Careers:

Careers in information and communication technology fields include a variety of roles and tasks associated with planning, researching, installing and monitoring the performance of ICT systems and transmissions.

- ICT support technicians assist with planning and installing ICT hardware and systems and repair any damages or defects.
- Sales professionals in the ICT industry provide information and sell ICT hardware, systems and services on behalf of ICT companies.
- ICT trainers develop training programs and user guides to assist customers and clients

operate systems.

- ❑ ICT business and systems analysts evaluate and develop technology systems to help businesses run at optimal standards.
- ❑ ICT managers direct and oversee the operations and facilitation of ICT services in companies and organisations.

### Minimum requirements for choosing course:

English Year 9 PTE: 5

Maths Year 9 PTM: 5

## IGCSE Computer Science

**Examination Board: Oxford**

**AQA Syllabus Code : 9210**

**Course content: International GCSE computer Science by Oxford AQA What is Computer Science?**

Computer science is the theory, experimentation, and engineering that form the basis for the design and use of computers. It involves the study of algorithms that process, store, and communicate digital information. A computer scientist specializes in the theory of computation and the design of computational systems.

### Why choose International GCSE Computer Science?

The Oxford AQA International GCSE takes a highly practical approach to teaching computer science. Students will spend the majority of the course learning to design, write and test computer programs using a high-level programming language. They will also have the opportunity to cover other useful practical skills such as web page design using HTML and working with relational databases using SQL.

### Assessment

Programming skills are assessed by a practical programming exam with a pre-release skeleton program, which students can complete in the programming language that they have used throughout the course.

Component	Maximum Raw mark	Paper weightage	Paper content
Paper 1	80	Practical- 50%	Programming
Paper 2	80	Written-50%	Concepts and principles of computer science
<b>Total Marks</b>	<b>160</b>		

### Aims and Learning outcome

Our International GCSE Computer Science encourages students to be inspired, motivated and challenged by following a broad, coherent, practical, satisfying and worthwhile course of study. It should encourage students to develop their curiosity about the living world, enable students to engage with computer science in their everyday lives in order to make informed choices about further study in computer science and related disciplines.

**Our International GCSE Computer Science should enable students to:**



- ❑ analyse problems in computational terms
- ❑ design and write computer programs to solve problems
- ❑ test and debug programs
- ❑ build simple web pages and work with relational databases
- ❑ demonstrate and apply knowledge and understanding of the key concepts and principles of computer science
- ❑ progress to employment or further courses of study Course option after International GCSE computer science

**Course Options after IGCSE:**

Oxford AQA general qualifications that enable candidates either to progress directly to employment, or to proceed

to further qualifications. Candidates who are awarded grades C to A\* in International GCSE can take AQA or CIE computer science.

**Minimum requirements for choosing course:**

English GL PTE: 7

Math: GL PTM: 7

Students should have some background knowledge about programming or Information Technology.

## IGCSE MATHEMATICS

**Examination Board: EDEXCEL**

**Syllabus Code: 4MA1**

**Course Content:**

### **Key subject aims:**

The Edexcel International GCSE in Mathematics (Specification A) qualification enables students to:

- Develop their knowledge and understanding of mathematical concepts and techniques
- Acquire a foundation of mathematical skills for further study in the subject or related areas
- Enjoy using and applying mathematical techniques and concepts, and become confident to
- Use mathematics to solve problems
- Appreciate the importance of mathematics in society, employment and study.

### **Key features and benefits of the specification:**

The Edexcel International GCSE in Mathematics (Specification A) has been developed to focus on:

- Tiers of entry that allow students to be entered for the appropriate level
- Questions designed to be accessible to students of all abilities within that tier
- Papers that are balanced for topics and difficulty
- Standards that are equivalent to Edexcel's UK GCSE in Mathematics
- A full range of teacher support
- A solid basis for students wishing to progress to Edexcel AS and Advanced GCE Level, or equivalent qualifications.

### **Assessment structure:**

Students will be required to sit two examination papers consisting of:

- Short answer questions (35%)
- Structured questions (65%)

### **Assessment overview:**

- Two written papers.
- Each paper is assessed through a two-hour examination set and marked by Edexcel.
- The total number of marks for each paper is 100.
- Each paper weighted at 50% of the qualification.
- Foundation papers [1F and 2F] are targeted at grades C – G.
- Higher papers [3H and 4H] are targeted at grades A\* – D.

### **Progression:**

This qualification supports progression to:

- International GCSE in Further Pure Mathematics
- GCE AS and Advanced Level in Mathematics
- GCE AS and Advanced Level in Further Mathematics

- GCE AS and Advanced Level in Pure Mathematics
- GCE and other further qualifications in numerate disciplines, such as the Sciences, Economics or Business, etc
- Further education or employment where mathematics skills are required

## **IGCSE Further Pure Mathematics (9-1)**

**Examination Board: Edexcel**

**Syllabus code: 4PM1**

### **What is Edexcel International GCSE in Further Pure Mathematics?**

The Pearson Edexcel International GCSE in Further Pure Mathematics is a linear qualification. It consists of two examinations available at Higher Tier only (targeted at grades 9–4, with 3 allowed). Both examinations must be taken in the same series at the end of the course of study.

### **Broaden and deepen students' skills:**

International GCSE to be designed extend students' knowledge by broadening and deepening skills, for example:

- Students use numerical skills in both a purely mathematical way and in real-life situations
- Students use algebra and calculus to set up and solve problems
- Students develop competence and confidence when manipulating mathematical expressions
- Students use vectors and rates of change to model situations.

### **Qualification aims and objectives:**

Provides a solid basis for students wishing to progress to Edexcel AS and Advanced GCE Level, or equivalent qualifications.

- study knowledge of mathematical techniques beyond International GCSE Mathematics content
- provide a course of study for those whose mathematical competence may have developed early
- develop an understanding of mathematical reasoning and processes, and the ability to relate different areas of mathematics
- enable students to acquire knowledge and skills with confidence, satisfaction and enjoyment
- develop mathematical skills for further study in the subject or related areas.

### **Quality of written communication**

Students will be assessed on their ability to:

- Write legibly, with accurate use of spelling, grammar and punctuation in order to make the meaning clear
- Select and use a form and style of writing appropriate to purpose and complex subject matter
- Organise relevant information clearly and coherently, using specialist vocabulary when appropriate.

### **Minimum requirements for choosing this course:**

English: Year 9 PTE 7

Math: Year 9 PTM 8

## Qualification at a glance

The Pearson Edexcel International GCSE in Further Pure Mathematics comprises of two externally assessed papers.

This specification is offered through a single tier.

Questions are targeted at grades in the range 9-4, with 3 allowed.

Students whose level of achievement is below the minimum judged by Pearson to be of sufficient standard will receive an unclassified U result.

## Paper overview

Paper 1	*Component/paper code 4PM1/01
Paper 2	*Component/paper code 4PM1/02
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Externally assessed</li> <li>Availability: January and June</li> <li>First assessment: June 2019</li> </ul>	Each paper is 50% of the total International GCSE
<p>Content summary</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Number</li> <li>Algebra and calculus</li> <li>Geometry and trigonometry</li> </ul>	
<p>Assessment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Each paper is assessed through a 2-hour examination set and marked by Pearson.</li> <li>The total number of marks for each paper is 100.</li> <li>Each paper will consist of around 11 questions with varying mark allocations per question, which will be stated on the paper.</li> <li>Each paper will contain questions from any part of the specification content, and the solution of any questions may require knowledge of more than one section of the specification content.</li> <li>The paper will have approximately 40% of the marks distributed evenly over grades 4 and 5 and approximately 60% of the marks distributed evenly over grades 6, 7, 8 and 9.</li> <li>A formulae sheet (<i>Appendix 4</i>) will be included in the written examinations.</li> </ul>	

## GCSE PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Examination Board: Edexcel

Syllabus code: 3PE0

Do you?

- Enjoy PE and being physically active
- Think that Physiotherapy, Sports Coach or PE teaching might be a career choice for you?
- Want the knowledge to keep yourself fit, healthy and active for life?
- Find the human body fascinating?
- Want to learn how to train SMART, not just train harder?
- Or, do you just want to develop the knowledge to get better in the sport or activity you take part in?

If so, GCSE Physical Education is for you.

### What is GCSE Physical Education?

- GCSE PE equips students with the knowledge, understanding, skills and values to develop and maintain performance in physical activities and understand the benefits of health, fitness and well-being.
- You will develop a theoretical knowledge and understanding of the factors that underpin physical activity and use this knowledge to improve performance.
- You will perform effectively in different physical activities developing skills and techniques, and using tactics.
- You will develop your ability to analyse and evaluate to improve performance in sport.
- You will understand the contribution that physical activity makes to health and well-being.
- You will understand key socio-cultural influences which affect people's involvement in physical activity.

Where can Physical Education take you?

- GCSE Physical Education is not just an excellent base for the BTEC Sport or A Level in Physical Education, it can take you much further. For those of you fascinated by the human mind, why not carry on to Psychology?
- Beyond A-Level, the study of Physical Education can lead on to University degrees in sports science, sports management, healthcare, or exercise and health. Physical Education can also complement further study in biology, human biology, physics, psychology, nutrition, sociology, teacher training and many more. The transferable skills you learn through your study of Physical Education, such as decision making and independent thinking are also useful in any career path you choose to take.

### **Minimum requirements for choosing course (if any):**

- Ideally Set 1 pupils
- Playing regularly for a school sports team or club outside of school.
- Excellent fitness level.
- Good achievement level in English and Science.

### **Minimum requirements for choosing this course:**

Science: Year 9 PTS 5

Assessment Criteria:

#### **Component 1**

Written exam: 1 ½

Hours 80 marks

60% of qualification

#### **Component 2**

Practical Performance

2 Sports

70 marks

40% of qualification

## **IGCSE PSYCHOLOGY**

**Examination Board: Edexcel**

**Syllabus Code: 1PS0**

### **Course Content:**

Paper 1: ALL topics are compulsory:

- Topic 1 - Development: How do you develop?
- Topic 2 - Memory: How does your memory work?
- Topic 3 - Psychological problems: How would psychological problems affect you?
- Topic 4 - The brain and neuropsychology: How does your brain affect you?
- Topic 5 - Social Influence: How do others affect you?

Paper 2: Students choose 2 topics, alongside topic 11, which is compulsory:

- Topic 6 - Criminal Psychology: Why do people become criminals?
- Topic 7 - The self: What makes you who you are?
- Topic 8 - Perception: How do you interpret the world around you?
- Topic 9 - Sleep and dreaming: Why do you need to sleep and dream?
- Topic 10 - Language, thought and communication: How do you communicate with others?
- Topic 11 - Research methods: How do you carry out psychological research?

### **GCSE Psychology requires students to:**

- Recall, select and communicate their knowledge and understanding of psychology and how psychology works
- Apply skills, knowledge and understanding of psychology and how psychology works
- Interpret, evaluate and analyse psychological data and practice

### **Assessment Structure:**

Students will be required to sit two examination papers consisting of multiple choice, short answer, and extended writing questions.

- Paper 1: 55% of total grade
- Paper 2: 45% of total grade

### **Course options after GCSE:**

Students can complete AS and A Level courses in Psychology. Topics covered in this course will inform various degrees and careers including psychology, business, medicine, education, and the humanities. A background in psychology will be beneficial to any employment that involves working with others.

### **Minimum requirements for choosing this course:**

English: Year 9 PTE 5

## **IGCSE SOCIOLOGY**

**Examination Board: Cambridge**

**Syllabus code: 0495**

### **What is Sociology?**

The science of society, social institutions, and social relationships; specifically: the systematic study of the development, structure, interaction, and collective behaviour of organized groups of human beings.

### **Why study Sociology?**

In order to create awareness, knowledge and understanding of human societies, develop an understanding of sociological methods, including the collection, analysis and interpretation of data, provide an introduction to sociological concepts, theories and research findings. It stimulates awareness of the range and limitations of sociological theory and research and promotes candidates' understanding of continuity and change in social life. Pupils are encouraged to develop a critical awareness of social, economic and political processes, and their effects. It helps

### **Assessment structure:**

- Paper 1 - the sociology of families, the sociology of education and social theory and methodology. 2 hours (including 15 minutes' reading time). 54% of GCSE. Candidates answer one compulsory data response question and one optional structured question from a choice of two
- Paper 2 - the sociology of crime and deviance, the sociology of social stratification and social theory and methodology. 1 hour 45 minutes (including 15 minutes' reading time). 46% of GCSE. Candidates answer two optional structured questions from a choice of four.

### **Minimum requirements for choosing course:**

Students should have reasonable comprehension and essay writing skills.

### **Course Options after IGCSE:**

Students could go on to some form of further study, either research, a higher degree or vocational training for courses such as teaching, social services, or education. Students can opt for higher educational qualifications in law, welfare services, government services, counselling, media and the voluntary sector. They can go on to work as community development worker, counsellor, lecturer, housing officer, teacher, probation officer, social researcher, and social worker and welfare rights adviser.

### **Minimum requirements for choosing this course:**

English: Year 9 PTE 5

## **IGCSE Travel & Tourism**

**Examination Board: Cambridge**

**Syllabus code: 0471**

IGCSE Travel and Tourism is designed to help meet the need for skilled and knowledgeable individuals in this rapidly diversifying industry. The syllabus develops practical skills across a range of working roles, as well as providing a global and local perspective on travel and tourism. Students gain an overview of the industry, and learn about popular destinations, customer care, working procedures, travel and tourism products and services and marketing and promotion. Through their studies, students will gain an understanding of the concepts, models and theories used within the industry, and also enhance their skills of investigation, analysis, interpretation and evaluation. It is a journey of real-life learning, empowering students to develop a knowledge and understanding of this fast growing industry.

### **Content Overview -**

The syllabus content is organised into six study units. These are used to explore the background to the travel and tourism industry and more specific areas.

Candidates must study all units.

Unit 1: The travel and tourism industry

Unit 2: Features of worldwide destinations

Unit 3: Customer care and working procedures

Unit 4: Travel and tourism products and services

Unit 5: Marketing and promotion

Unit 6: The marketing and promotion of visitor services

### **Course Options after IGCSE**

Travel and tourism provides employment directly and indirectly to millions of people worldwide. A career in the travel and tourism industry can provide opportunities in a number of sectors and organizations, such as State Tourism Agencies, Immigration and Customs Services, Airlines, Hotels and Transport Providers.

Specific roles include; Tour Operations Assistant and Manager, Travel Agent, Customer Service Agent, Hotel and Resort Manager, Tourism Marketing roles, Strategic Tourism Development and numerous others. The tourism industry is made up of large multinational companies as well as many small to medium sized organisations, which provides an appropriate platform for enterprising individuals wishing to develop and establish their own business.

### **Minimum requirements for choosing this course:**

English: Year 9 PTE 5



### **BTEC FIRST Business Studies – Pearson/Edexcel**

The BTEC qualifications are designed to provide highly specialist, work-related qualifications in a range of vocational sectors. They give learners the knowledge, understanding and skills that they need to prepare for employment. The qualifications provide progression opportunities to BTEC level 3 in Year 12, higher education, degree and professional development programmes within the same or related areas of study, within universities and other institutions.

<b>Qualification Name</b>	<b>Duration</b>	<b>Units</b>	<b>Equivalent to</b>
BTEC First Certificate	2 Years	3 Units	1 GCSE/iGCSE

BTEC First courses are vocational; this means that the assessment for this qualification is 100% coursework with no external examination in a range of different subject units. Students are not graded A\* - E but are graded Pass, Merit & Distinction or Distinction\*.

### **Equivalency Tables**

<b>IGCSE Grading</b>	<b>Pass</b>	<b>Merit</b>	<b>Distinction</b>	<b>Distinction*</b>
A - E	C	B	A	A*
9 - 1	5	6	7	8

### **Unit 1 – Business Purposes**

The aim of this unit is to develop learners' understanding of the nature of business organisations and the business environment in which they operate. Businesses are organised differently. The largest businesses operate globally. Others may wish to remain small and free from too much legal control. The smallest businesses, for example, individuals providing an ironing or gardening service, may be run from the owner's home and have a limited sphere of operation. Learners will look at how businesses are classified in terms of their activities and will consider the relative importance of each by looking at the local economy.

### **Unit 2 – Business Organisations**

The aim of this unit is to develop learners' understanding of the aims and objectives of business organisations and how they are organised into functional areas to meet their business goals. Learners will look at how different businesses have different aims and objectives and how they then structure themselves to meet them. Many businesses have an aim/mission, which is a broad statement that defines the ethos of the business. The business needs to have objectives that flesh out how the aim/mission is to be accomplished and these should be specific and measurable. The unit will consider the range of objectives that exist in business.

### **Unit 3 – Financial Forecasting for Business**

The aim of this unit is to develop learners' understanding of the financial aspects of running a business. Learners will do this by looking at the key concepts used by businesses to manage their money, and forecast their finances for the future. Learners are introduced to the types of costs that different businesses will incur. This is followed by exploring how the sale of products and services generates revenue to give the learner the basis on which they can develop their understanding of profit.

## **BTEC FIRST Information Technology – Pearson/Edexcel**

The BTEC qualifications are designed to provide highly specialist, work-related qualifications in a range of vocational sectors. They give learners the knowledge, understanding and skills that they need to prepare for employment. The qualifications provide progression opportunities to higher education, degree and professional development programmes within the same or related areas of study, within universities and other institutions.

<b>Qualification Name</b>	<b>Duration</b>	<b>Units</b>	<b>Equivalent to</b>
BTEC First Certificate	2 Years	3 Units	1 GCSE/IGCSE

BTEC First courses are vocational; this means that the assessment for this qualification is 100% coursework with no external examination in a range of different subject units. Students are not graded A\* - E but are graded Pass, Merit & Distinction.

### **Equivalency Tables**

<b>IGCSE Grading</b>	<b>Pass</b>	<b>Merit</b>	<b>Distinction</b>	<b>Distinction*</b>
A - E	C	B	A	A*
9 - 1	5	6	7	8

### **Unit 1 – Communicating in the IT Industry**

Communication skills are key to success in any sector but are particularly important in highly technical sectors such as IT where the language used can become full of jargon. It is important that learners are able to communicate with technical and nontechnical staff and understand how interpersonal skills affect communication. Learners will also consider the positive and negative effects that IT has on individuals, communities and society.

### **Unit 2 – Working in the IT Industry**

With the IT industry continuing to grow and computers becoming increasingly fundamental to how organisations function, employers are increasingly looking for people with specialised knowledge. In addition, businesses are also looking for certain 'soft skills' which enable an individual to function more effectively as part of an organisation. This unit provides an opportunity for learners to explore the personal attributes which can play an important role in establishing a successful career as an IT professional. As part of this unit, learners will become familiar with the range of job roles available to people with professional IT qualifications and consider the personal attributes these roles require

### **Unit 3 Computer Systems**

Most learners will set up a computer system at some stage. To do this, learners need to know about the different elements of a computer system and how hardware works with software and how all the elements communicate to make the system function. In order to decide the requirements for a computer system and typical tasks it will be used for, learners will specify hardware and software for different user requirements. Learners will need to demonstrate that they can connect hardware devices safely and configure different types of software for a defined user.

### **KS4 Option Block for Academic year 2021-23**

<b>Compulsory IGCSE Subjects</b>	<b>Options 1</b>	<b>Options 2</b>	<b>Options 3</b>
English Language	Accounting	Business Studies	Economics
Mathematics	Business Studies	Chemistry	Chemistry
Physics	Art & Design	Sociology	PE (GCSE)
Biology	Psychology	ICT	ICT
	Geography	Computer Science	History
	French	Media	Travel & Tourism
	Statistics	BTEC ICT	
	BTEC Business		

**Students are requested to select one subject from each option block. They will complete 8 IGCSE qualifications at the end of year 11 .**

## **Some tips for making good choices**

When considering option choices students should try to balance the following factors –

- Interest and Enjoyment
- Ability and progress
- Sensible combination

## **Choosing Your Subjects**

### **Some Principles**

#### **DO.....**

- ✓ Go for subjects you enjoy;
- ✓ Think about your strengths;
- ✓ Think about the higher education degree courses;
- ✓ Do some research;
- ✓ Think about subjects that complement each other.

#### **Don't.....**

- \* Choose subjects just because your friends are choosing them
- \* Choose a subject just because you get on well with your teacher

## **Useful Website to research on Career choices**

- ❑ UK university Application System – [www.ucas.com](http://www.ucas.com)
- ❑ British Qualifications required to study in USA – [US-UK Fulbright Commission | Funding for US-UK exchange | EducationUSA advice for British students](#)
- ❑ Career Wales website (a comprehensive career site) – [www.careerswales.com](http://www.careerswales.com)
- ❑ Higher Education Option in Europe – [Welcome to Study in Europe | Education and Training \(europa.eu\)](#)
- ❑ Choosing subjects – <https://www.myworldofwork.co.uk/my-career-options>
- ❑ Choosing subjects - <https://www.careerpilot.org.uk/information/your-choices-at-14>