



BRITISH VIETNAMESE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL
HO CHI MINH CITY
A NORD ANGLIA EDUCATION SCHOOL

HOW TO CHOOSE THE CORRECT

IGCSEs



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Introduction to IGCSE

Welcome to IGCSE: the gateway to your future!

IGCSE stands for the International General Certificate of Secondary Education. It is the world's most popular international qualification for 14 to 16 year olds and the examinations are taken by students in more than 4800 schools, in over 150 countries, each year. The courses prepare students perfectly for further study at A level and are globally transferable to other educational systems, for example in the USA or Australia.

The IGCSE examination papers are written and marked in the UK by Cambridge Assessment International Education, the new name for Cambridge International Examinations. Most assessment is done through written examinations at the end of year 11 but a few subjects also contain practical examinations and coursework.

Examinations in all subjects are done in English. At BVIS, we therefore ensure that all our students have the best possible opportunities to develop their English proficiency before taking these examinations.

The IGCSE program is undertaken in years 10 and 11. Certain IGCSE subjects are compulsory and for many subjects there is the option to take either a core or extended exam. Grading in extended exams is from A*- D, while if the student sits the core paper grading is from C- G. The decision on which exams a student take is made by subject teachers in Year 11 based on academic evidence. In addition to the compulsory subjects, students also do three optional subjects. All students should aim to get, as a minimum, 5 IGCSE passes at grades A-C including English Language and Mathematics



Compulsory IGCSE subjects

Mathematics
Co-ordinated Science
English (First or Second Language)
English Literature (for higher set students only)

Compulsory non-IGCSE subjects

Vietnamese Literature
Vietnamese Humanities (History/ Geography)
Core Physical Education (PE)
Personal, Social & Health Education (PHSE)

Optional IGCSE subjects

Art & Design
Business Studies
Computer Science
Drama
Economics
Geography
History
Music
Physical Education (PE)
Separate Sciences (Physics, Chemistry, Biology)

Options Advice & Recommendations

The following information is to help you make informed decisions about your choice of IGCSE subjects.

Your compulsory subjects

Everyone at BVIS in year 10 and 11 studies the following:

- IGCSE English Language (1st or 2nd language)
- IGCSE English Literature (for higher set students only)
- IGCSE Mathematics
- IGCSE Science
- Personal, Health and Social Education (PHSE)*
- Core Physical Education* (PE is also offered as an IGCSE option subject)
- Vietnamese Literature*
- Vietnamese Humanities* (History and Geography)

**These subjects enable a broad and balanced curriculum but do not lead to IGCSE qualifications.*

Your Options

Students also choose 5 option subjects and will be assigned three of them as IGCSE courses.

- Do choose subjects you enjoy.
- Do choose subjects you are already doing well in.
- Don't choose subjects just because your friends are doing them.
- Don't choose subjects because you like your current teacher. You may not have the same teacher next year.
- Do talk to your form tutor, subject teachers and parents before making your final decision.
- Do talk to the university guidance counsellor if you think you might want to go to university in California as this state has specific subject requirements.
- Do consider trying a new subject which you might not have studied before.



Progression from IGCSE to A Levels

Students and parents often ask if you need to study a particular subject at IGCSE to study it at A Level. The answer depends on the subject.

The first group of subjects require an IGCSE in the same subject before starting A Level. This is because A Level study builds upon the knowledge, skills and understanding gained through IGCSE study. Our experience suggests that students who do well in these subjects normally have a B grade (or above) pass at IGCSE:

- Art
- Maths
- Music
- English Literature

Similarly, the following subjects require a good IGCSE pass in either coordinated or triple science before starting A Level:

- Biology
- Physics
- Chemistry



The following subject requires a grade A or A* pass in both Maths and Additional Maths IGCSE:

- **Further Maths**

The next group of subjects are offered at IGCSE and this is a good preparation for A level study. However, the syllabuses are designed to allow students to start A level study without having done the subject at IGCSE and some students do this successfully each year:

- **Business Studies**
- **Drama**
- **Economics**
- **History**
- **Geography**
- **Physical Education**

Finally, BVIS also offers a few new subjects at A level which are not taught at IGCSE and you do not need prior knowledge to study these courses. They often make good choices if you are interested in that subject:

- **Media Studies**
- **Psychology**



Art and Design

IGCSE Art and Design offers students the opportunity to develop their technical skills and ideas through a range of different media and materials. In the course, students are encouraged to develop their own personal response to themes, whilst also critically engaging in artwork made by artists from different cultures and times in history. Examples of previous projects are Natural Form; I, Me, Mine; Looking Through; Expression.

Throughout the course, students will be given the opportunity to work with a variety of 2D and 3D materials including drawing, painting (acrylic, gouache, watercolour), printmaking (mono, Lino, dry point, block, silkscreen), textiles, collage, sculpture (assemblage, construction, moulding) and mixed-media.

Sketchbooks are supplied by the school, and students are expected to complete their homework tasks in these. They are also encouraged to use the sketchbook to evidence their development, through both primary and secondary research. Students must show engagement with their surroundings through first-hand recording and drawing from observation. Marks are awarded for the quality and depth of this preparatory work and it is essential that it supports and informs the final piece.



IGCSE Art and Design course consists of two components:

- Component 1 (100 marks - 50% of iGCSE) - Coursework
- For the coursework component, candidates produce a supporting portfolio of up to four sheets (eight sides) of A2 and a final outcome in a chosen medium.
- Component 2 (100 marks - 50% of iGCSE) – Externally Set Assignment.
- Students respond to a given theme, provided by CIE. There is a limited preparatory period during which time candidates produce supporting studies, leading up to an eight-hour controlled examination where students produce a final artwork.

The world of Art and Design encompasses a multitude of areas including Fine Art, Sculpture, Graphic Design, Fashion and Textile Design, Interior Design, Product Design, Architecture, Photography, Advertising, Handicraft, Film, Animation, Theatre Design as well as Philosophy; Media Studies; Cultural Theory and Art History. When we look around us, and see that everything is designed, from our shoes, our hair, our car, our mobile phone, then we realize the enormous impact that design and creative innovation has on our lives. The fundamental skills needed to create an enterprising design are developed along with visual sensitivity. Many countries' economies have been built upon the strength of their design companies and continue to rely on them today.

IGCSE Art & Design gives students the opportunity to develop a visual and critical language, as well as their skills in creative problem solving, transferable skills for any chosen progression route or career path.





Drama

Why study Drama?

Drama enriches students' imagination, creativity and self-esteem. The course provides an excellent means of developing personal and communication skills for all students, which contributes to the student's individuality and character.

Course Description

Students will study a range of projects to develop abstract interpretation, learn about the stylistic features of genres/practitioners and perform their work to others. The course demands commitment and a willingness to move out of one's comfort zone and experiment with new ideas and expressions. The course is an intense journey of self discovery and will challenge you to think differently.

Assessment

Component 1 is an externally assessed written examination - 2 hours 30 minutes.

The questions on this paper relate to pre-release material which is sent to centres in advance of the examination. This material consists of three stimuli and an extended extract from a play (or an abridged version of an entire play). Candidates devise a piece of drama based on one of the three stimuli and study the extract from the play.

The questions on the paper will require candidates to have engaged with the pre-release material from the perspective of actor, director and designer.

Component 2 is internally assessed and externally moderated coursework.

Candidates submit three pieces of practical work.

One individual piece (3–5 minutes): one performance of an extract from a play.

Two group pieces (maximum 15 minutes each): one performance of an extract from a play and one original devised piece.

What kind of student is this course suitable for?

Students must have shown focus and interest in Drama during Key Stage 3. Students who are willing to explore new ideas and challenge themselves to understand their own thoughts and feelings better. This course is also an ideal compliment to further English or Business education due to the transferable skills and differing perspective.

This course will:

- Increase your confidence – both in your ability to express yourself to an audience but also in terms of your self belief and value in your abilities and ideas.
- Develop communication skills – verbally and physically. You will also learn about how to read others' communication through character analysis.
- Support your knowledge and understanding of the English Language – we analyse text and learn how to use language for a purpose.
- Improve your Emotional Intelligence – through exposure to a diverse range of characters and stories from a variety of cultures and eras.
- Develop performance skills such as voice projection, expression, discipline and stage presence. This will improve ability in public speaking, debating and presentation.
- Introduce you to a wide variety of dramatic techniques, practitioners and creative stimuli you will develop creative and critical thinking skills as you explore each one.
- Provide an opportunity for you to demonstrate flexibility, adaptability, teamwork, leadership and creativity.

Music

Why study Music?

Music as an academic subject provides a unique set of skills which are acknowledged to be excellent preparation for a range of careers and vocations. Music enhances creativity, communication and self-expression and as a result learners have a deeper appreciation for Music in a global context. Music combines Arts, Maths, Science, Humanities, Languages and Sociology which creates a well-rounded education admired by universities and employers.



Course Description

Cambridge IGCSE Music aims to enable students to:

- Acquire and consolidate a range of basic musical skills, knowledge and understanding, through the activities of listening, performing and composing
- Help students develop a perceptive and critical response to the main historical periods and styles of Western music
- Help students to recognise and understand the music of selected non Western traditions, and thus to form an appreciation of cultural similarities and differences
- Provide a foundation for the development of an informed appreciation of music
- Provide a foundation for further study in Music at a higher level.

Assessment Overview

All students complete the following components:

- **Component 1:** Listening (examination) – 1 hour 15 minutes listening exam on Unprepared Western Repertoire; World Music; World Focus; Skeleton Score; Set Work. (40% of the IGCSE)
- **Component 2:** Performing (coursework) – Two prepared performances, one individual and one ensemble. (30% of the IGCSE)
- **Component 3:** Composing (coursework) – Two contrasting compositions, using Western notation. (30% of the IGCSE)

What kind of student is this course suitable for?

All students are welcome to apply for IGCSE Music as long as they can play at least one instrument to a good standard (equivalent to ABRSM Grade 1 and above) or are a competent and confident singer. Students should have a passion and interest in the subject and should have enjoyed studying Music at Key Stage 3.

Cambridge IGCSE Music can prepare you for further Music study as well as developing transferable skills such as self-confidence, teamwork, problem solving and creative thinking.

English First Language, Second Language, Literature

Why study English Language and Literature?

The study of English and Literature is your passport to the social, professional and business world. English is a world language which is essential for anyone who wants to become a doctor, engineer, architect, lawyer or a business executive or indeed, to gain entry to universities and colleges worldwide. English Literature is vital to developing your cultural capital and enriches your life in a meaningful and profound way.

What courses do we offer?

We offer the University of Cambridge IGCSE First and Second Language and Literature courses. Students take the course which is most suitable for them and their future ambitions, based on the advice and guidance of their English teacher and their record of work at KS3.

What will you learn as part of your course?

Both First and Second Language courses develop each student's ability to:

- write fluently in a variety of styles for different audiences and purposes
- read and respond to a wide range of literature and non-fiction texts
- engage in oral work, including discussions, role plays and presentations
- summarise accurately
- compare texts and draw conclusions based on inference as well as on what is clearly stated
- study sections of the media, including newspapers, film and advertising
- consolidate knowledge and understanding of grammar, spelling and punctuation
- to write fluently and creatively

The study of English first or second language is compulsory at KS4. Student pathway will depend on assessment results and progress and develop at KS3, as well as teacher-based judgement.

The First Language pathway is only appropriate for our most confident learners who seek admission to the top universities and courses. The Second Language pathway is still a respected pathway and is accredited by most universities across the world

First Language Pathway

Assessment	Weighting	Timing
Reading and writing	50%	2 hours
Coursework portfolio	50%	Students will complete 3 pieces of work

The Second Language Pathway (count-in speaking)

Assessment	Weighting	Timing
Reading and writing	50%	2 hours
Listening	25%	50 minutes
Speaking	25%	15 minutes

The Second Language Pathway (speaking endorsement*)

Assessment	Weighting	Timing
Reading and writing	70%	2 hours
Listening	30%	50 minutes
Speaking	N.A	15 minutes

**With this pathway, marks for the Speaking component do not contribute to the overall grade candidates receive*

English Literature

Literature is compulsory for Set 1 students and may be recommended for Set 2 students. Students need to have a high proficiency of English Language to succeed in the Literature course. A challenging and mature course, Literature is immensely satisfying, enjoyable and valuable.

This course is particularly suitable for students who enjoy reading and sharing their ideas with others in class discussions. The emphasis of the course is on personal response, supported by solid understanding of the texts and an awareness of the use of language, structure, characterisation and other literary devices.

English Literature pathway

Assessment	Description	Weighting
Poetry and Prose	50%	1 hour 30 minutes
Drama (open text)	25%	1 hour 30 minutes
Coursework portfolio	25%	Students will complete 2 assignments on 2 different texts



The course will develop your ability to:

- Reading closely and thoughtfully for pleasure and for meaning
- Responding personally and maturely to the texts you have read
- Selecting evidence, details and quotations to support your ideas
- Understanding and crafting a sophisticated response to the text;
- Writing critical essays
- Writing creatively



Business Studies

Why study Business Studies?

The Business Studies course is a practical course for students who expect to see themselves in the roles of the various people involved in business. They are given basic data about a situation or problem and are expected to respond in the same way as a responsible person would in business. Students should have a strong interest in business studies and want to learn how a business is organised, operates, plans and makes its decisions.

Course Description

Below is a selection of the areas studied and what is covered:

- **People in business** - Looks at people in organisations with a focus on their roles, relationships and management in business.
- **Financial information and financial decisions** - Focuses on the use of accounting and financial information as an aid to decision-making.
- **Marketing** - Looks at identifying and satisfying customer needs in a changing and competitive environment.
- **Operations management** - Considers the way organisations use and manage resources to produce goods and services.
- **External influences on business issues** – Considers and examines the external factors that affect business activity.

Assessment

At the end of the two-year course students will be required to take two external examination papers:

Paper	Description	Weighting
Paper 1 (1 hour 30 mins)	Short answers and data response	50%
Paper 2 (1 hour 30 mins)	Case study paper	50%



What kind of student is this course suitable for?

This course will appeal to those students who:

- Have an interest in how a business operates
- Enjoy studying a subject that is relevant to their own lives and experiences
- Would like to do a subject that offers opportunities for a career in business
- Would like to learn how to make business decisions and solve business problems
- Want to keep their options open – Business Studies can be a useful choice for a wide range of careers and can be combined with a wide range of subjects.

Economics

Why study Economics?

The Economics course is designed to develop an understanding of economic principles in relation to the world in which we live. Economics provides students with an analytical challenge since it seeks answers to difficult questions. Examples include:

- What can we do about poverty?
- What is the best way to allocate resources in society?
- Should governments tax businesses that pollute?
- Is the free market the best way to produce goods and services?



The subject will help students to participate more fully in decision-making processes, as consumers and producers and as citizens of the local, national and international community. Students will also develop an understanding of the economies of developed and developing nations and of the relationships between them.

Course Description

Below is a selection on the areas studied and what is covered:

1. The basic economic problem
2. The allocation of resources
3. Microeconomic decision makers
4. Government and the macro economy
5. Economic development
6. International trade and globalisation

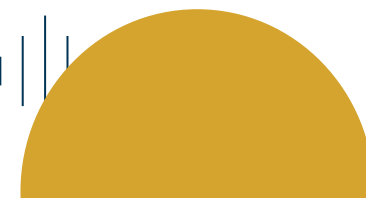
Assessment

At the end of the two year course students will be required to take two external examination papers:

Paper	Description	Weighting
Paper 1 (45 mins)	30 multiple choice question	30%
Paper 2 (2¼ hours)	Structured questions	70%

What kind of student is this course suitable for?

- Students who have an interest in why and how economies exist and how they can be managed and developed.
- Those students who have an interest in economic numeracy and literacy and have the ability to handle simple data including graphs and diagrams.



Geography



The study of geography is about understanding the complexity of our world, appreciating the diversity of cultures that exists across continents. And in the end, it's about using all that knowledge to help bridge divides and bring people together.

- President Barack Obama -



Geography helps you to make sense of the world around you. It is hands on, it is relevant and it is fun.

IGCSE Geography aims to develop students' understanding, geographical skills and attitudes towards global problems, with an emphasis on engaging students' by making topics culturally relevant and interesting. Students will be able to apply their knowledge to real life situations using their judgment and analytical and decision-making skills.

It involves the study of places and the natural and human processes which affect them. Students study patterns and processes in the world, including many major contemporary issues which are extremely important to the future of Vietnam. As international links become closer, easier and faster, we need more than ever to understand the geography of the world.

At the end of the two year course three exams will be undertaken, assessing knowledge, skills and field work techniques respectively. Two field trips within Ho Chi Minh City and a residential field trip to Mui Ne will prepare you for the field work techniques paper.

The following topics will be covered:

Theme A	Theme B	Theme C
Population and migration Change in settlement patterns	Volcanoes & earthquakes River and Coastal processes Weather, climate & ecosystems	Development & Globalisation Leisure activities & tourism Environmental issues Energy & water resources



The course will appeal to those students who are interested in:

- The issues which affect people and the places they live in
- How villages, towns and cities are changing and why
- How people are affecting the environment we all live in
- What causes different landscapes

And

- Enjoy a subject that is relevant to their lives and experiences
- Want the opportunity to do fieldwork as well as classwork
- Want a broad range of skills that will enable them to work effectively in a variety of future careers

Paper	Description	Weighting
Paper 1	This paper looks at the main theory of the course	45%
Paper 2	This paper contains map skills & short-answer questions	27.5%
Paper 3	This paper is about the fieldwork you carry out in Mui Ne & Saigon	27.5%

History

To understand political, social and economic issues in the present day, it is essential to understand and learn about History. If you have an inquisitive mind and want to understand the world around you more, then History is an excellent option to choose. Not only will the course help you to make sense of significant social and political events, but it will also give you the opportunity to discuss what happened and why it happened, whilst encouraging you to develop your own opinions.

IGCSE History will also help you to develop many new and valuable skills that will benefit you in whatever you do in life. It will help you to write and argue more coherently, organise your work so that your ideas are clearly explained and evaluate source material more critically. The transferable nature of these skills means it is highly regarded in universities in Europe and the USA and is a great choice for a wide range of careers such as; journalism, law, politics, business, the public sector, broadcasting, NGO's, archaeology and anthropology.

History students need to be able to do the following:

- Acquire knowledge and understanding of selected periods and/or aspects of history, exploring the significance of historical events, people, changes and issues.
- Use historical sources critically, in context, recording significant information and reaching conclusions
- Develop an awareness that different interpretations have been constructed about people, events and developments.
- Organise and communicate their knowledge and understanding of history.
- Draw conclusions and make historical judgements.

The course is split into two parts:

Paper 1 – Depth Studies:

1. Germany: development of dictatorship, 1918–45
 - The establishment of the Weimar Republic and its early problems
 - The recovery of Germany, 1924–29
 - The rise of Hitler and the Nazis to January 1933
 - Nazi Germany 1933–39
 - Germany and the occupied territories during the Second World War

2. A world divided: superpower relations, 1943–72
 - Reasons for the Cold War
 - Early developments in the Cold War, 1945–49
 - The Cold War in the 1950s
 - Three crises: Berlin, Cuba and Czechoslovakia
 - The Thaw and moves towards Détente, 1963–72

Paper 2 – Investigation and Breadth Studies:

1. The USA, 1918–41 (Investigation)
 - The Roaring Twenties
 - Increased social tensions in the 1920s
 - The USA in Depression, 1929–33
 - Roosevelt and the New Deal, 1933–41
 - The Opposition to the New Deal
2. Changes in medicine, c1848–c1948 (Breadth)
 - Progress in the mid19th century; Nightingale, Chadwick, Snow and Simpson
 - Discovery and development, 1860–75; Lister and Pasteur
 - Accelerating change, 1875–1905; Ehrlich, Koch and chemistry
 - Government action and war, 1905–20
 - Advances in medicine, surgery and public health 1920–48; the NHS.

At the end of the course the students will be graded on the international IGCSE 9-1 scale, with 9 being the highest grade achievable, and 1 the lowest. The course is examined in two parts and all candidates are entered for the same two papers at the end of the two-year course.:

Paper 1 (50%) 1 hour and 30-minute examination comprising a mixture of extended writing and essay-based questions, based on two selected depth studies. Marks will be split equally between both depth studies, for a total of 60 marks.

Paper 2 (50%) 1 hour and 30-minute examination comprised of two sections, with a mixture of extended writing and essay-based questions. Section A is based on a selected historical investigation and Section B on a breadth study in change. Students answer two question sets, one for each section. The total mark for the paper is 60.

Mathematics

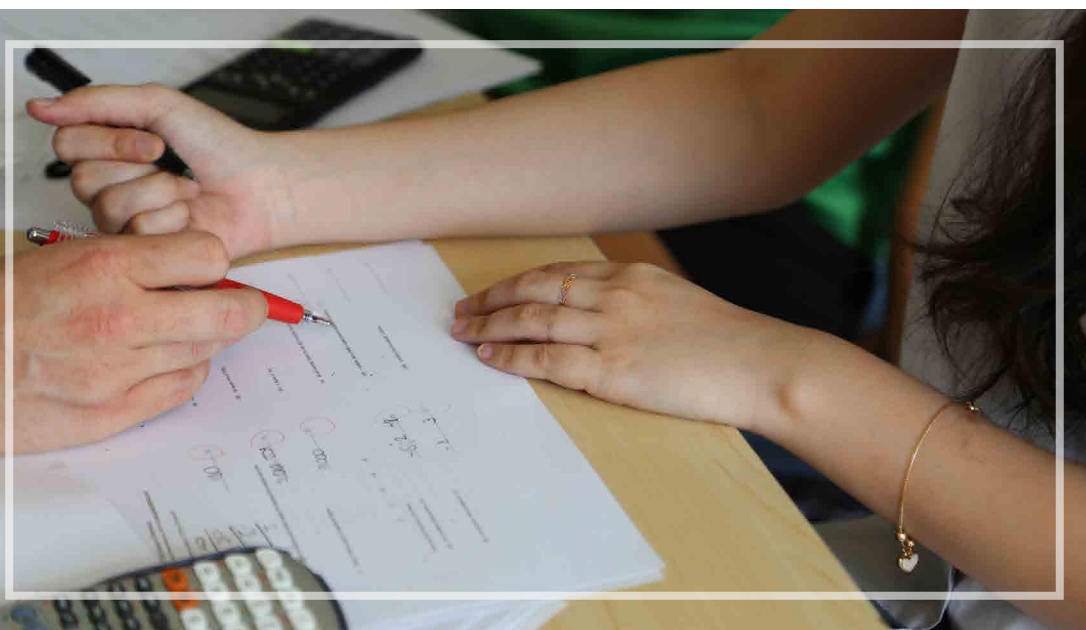
'Number rules the universe' - Pythagoras. The study of Mathematics is as ancient as civilisation. It has been developed in all cultures throughout history and is at the root of all technological developments.

The aim of the IGCSE Mathematics syllabus is to enable students to:

- Develop their mathematical knowledge and skills;
- Apply Mathematics in everyday situations and recognise Mathematical connections with other subjects, particularly science and technology;
- Interpret a situation which may be presented mathematically, construct a mathematical model and solve the problem.

The syllabus follows on from work covered in Years 7-9. The areas of focus are:

- Number and Algebra, including everyday number work;
- Shape, Space and Geometry which includes trigonometry, areas and volumes and transformations;
- Statistics, which includes handling data and probability;
- Problem solving to develop skills for tackling difficult Mathematical problems



CHOOSING YOUR IGCSEs

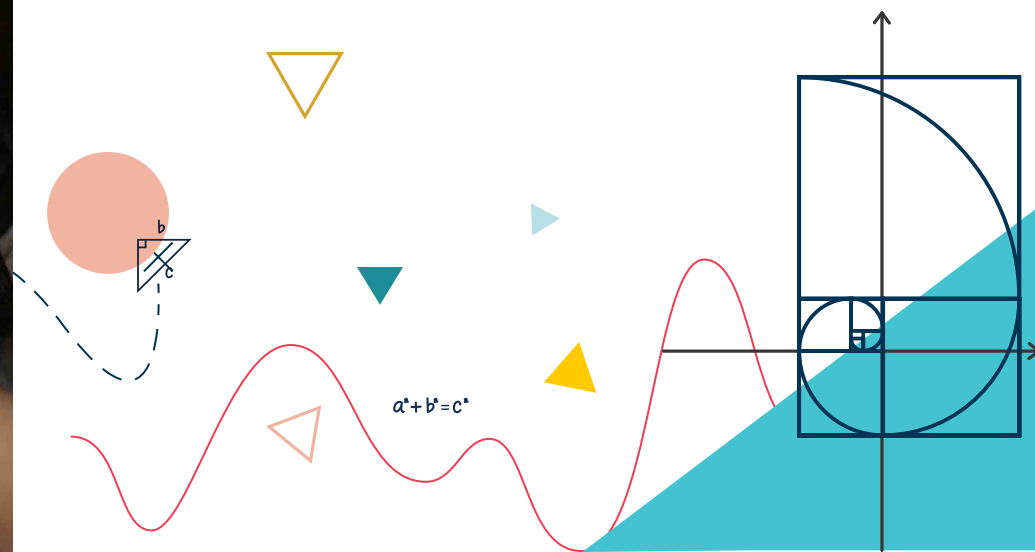
There is a **FOUNDATION** curriculum and a **HIGHER** curriculum; higher is for the more able students. Those students who have followed the foundation curriculum are eligible for an award of grades 1 to 5 only. Students who have followed the Higher curriculum are eligible for an award of grades 3 to 9 only.

All students will take 2 written papers as follows:

Foundation Curriculum (Grades 1 – 5)	Higher Curriculum (Grades 3 - 9)
Paper 1F (2 hours) Structured and Unstructured Questions Calculator REQUIRED	Paper 1H (2 hours) Structured and Unstructured Questions Calculator REQUIRED
Paper 3F (2 hours) Structured and Unstructured Questions Calculator REQUIRED	Paper 2H (2 hours) Structured and Unstructured Questions Calculator REQUIRED

It will be decided in Year 11 whether students will sit the Foundation or the Higher Curriculum. This will be dependent on the ability demonstrated by the student over the course.

The study of Mathematics is compulsory in Y10-11.



Computer Science

Computer science is the study of the foundational principles and practices of computation and computational thinking and their application in the design and development of computer systems. Learning computational thinking involves learning to program, that is to write computer code, because this is the means by which computational thinking is expressed.

Cambridge IGCSE Computer Science enables learners to develop an interest in computing and to gain confidence in computational thinking and programming. They develop their understanding of the main principles of problem-solving using computers.

Learners apply their understanding to develop computer-based solutions to problems using algorithms and a high-level programming language. They also develop a range of technical skills, as well as the ability to test effectively and to evaluate computing solutions.

This qualification will help learners appreciate current and emerging computing technologies and the benefits of their use. They learn to recognise the ethical issues and potential risks when using computers.

Computer Systems	Algorithms, Programming & Logic
1. Data representation	1. Algorithm design and problem-solving
2. Data transmission	2. Programming
3. Hardware	3. Databases
4. Software	4. Boolean logic
5. The internet and its uses	
6. Automated and emerging technologies	

Paper	Description	Weighting
Paper 1 Written exam	This contains mostly multiple choice or short answer questions, but also some requiring longer responses.	50%
Paper 2 Written exam	This written paper contains short-answer and structured questions. The students will be expected to have practical experience in programming and creating their own applications.	50%



Physical Education



Why study Physical Education?

For sports lovers or future physiotherapists, sports and leisure managers, sports-scientists, strength and conditioning coaches, professional athletes or simply someone who is passionate about health and fitness, this is the course for you! The PE IGCSE offers exciting opportunities to be involved in a range of physical activities from basketball to swimming to trampolining to weight training to football; all of which promote an active and healthy lifestyle. This course is designed not only for those students who have a strong personal interest in sport and physical education, but who want a deeper understanding of how PE and sport is organised. Students enjoy learning the science behind sport and the factors that affect or improve sports performance and participation.

Aims and Objectives

Candidates develop a deeper understanding of sport and PE theory topics and students will improve their ability to physically perform in a range of sports. Students will learn how to analyse their own and others performance effectively.

Course Content

- Anatomy and physiology
- Health, fitness and training
- Skill acquisition and sport psychology
- Social, cultural and ethical influences

Assessment

Part 1 Theory (50%)	Part 2 Practical Performance (50%)
1 hour 45-minute written examination	Performance in 4 sports



What kind of student is this course suitable for?

Students who have an interest in Physical Education and sport and who are reasonably fit and are willing to push themselves to improve. This course is suitable for Students who want to further develop their interest and understanding in PE and Sport.

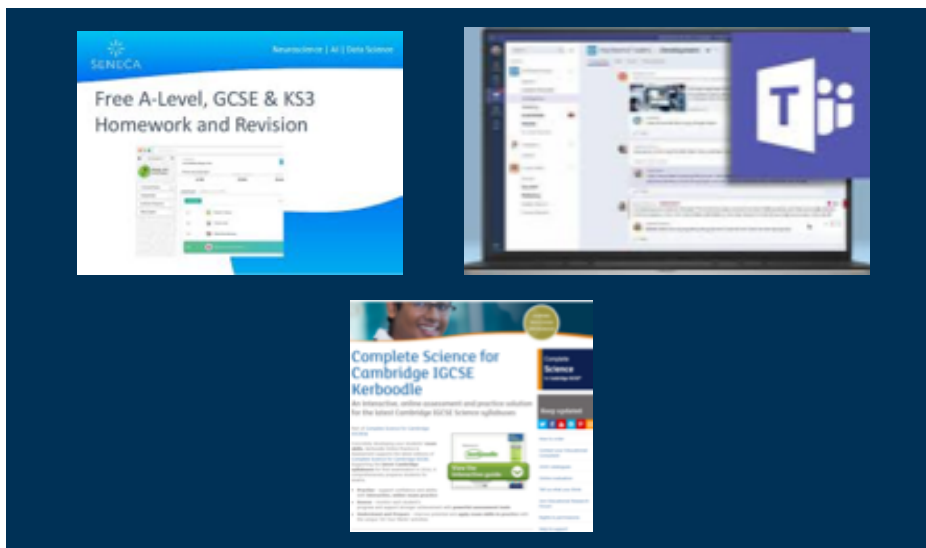
Future pathways

IGCSE PE is the ideal preparation for the A-level in PE. The course not only develops your physical skill level in a range of sports, but also offers you transferable life skills such as teamwork, communication, and leadership, all of which employers look for during recruitment. Typical careers chosen by people who study the PE IGCSE are physiotherapy, coaching, fitness instruction and personal training, PE teaching as well as being a professional athlete or for people who want to be involved with sports and the leisure industry at management level.

Co-ordinated Science (Double Award)



Co-ordinated textbooks are available in print to all students



Free-to-use online resources to support learning at home and in school. All students will have a Kerboodle account (institution code hfz5), access to Seneca Learning and can communicate with their classmates and teacher via Microsoft Teams.

Assessment

Students study two thirds of the syllabuses of each of Physics, Chemistry and Biology for the two years – they are awarded the Co-ordinated Science Certificate worth two separate IGCSEs (sometimes called the Double Award).

There is a **Core** curriculum and an **Extended** curriculum (for the more able students). Students sitting the Core exams can achieve an award of grades CC to GG. Students sitting the Extended exams can achieve an award of grade A*A* to GG. It will be decided in Year 11 whether students will sit the Core or Extended Curriculum exams. This will be dependent on student's ability as demonstrated over the course.

Students will take three exams as follows: a multiple-choice paper, a short answer and structured question paper, and a practical or alternative to practical assessment.

Please note: The study of Science is compulsory in Y10-11 and will fully prepare students for the A-level sciences offered at BVIS.



Separate Sciences (Triple Award)

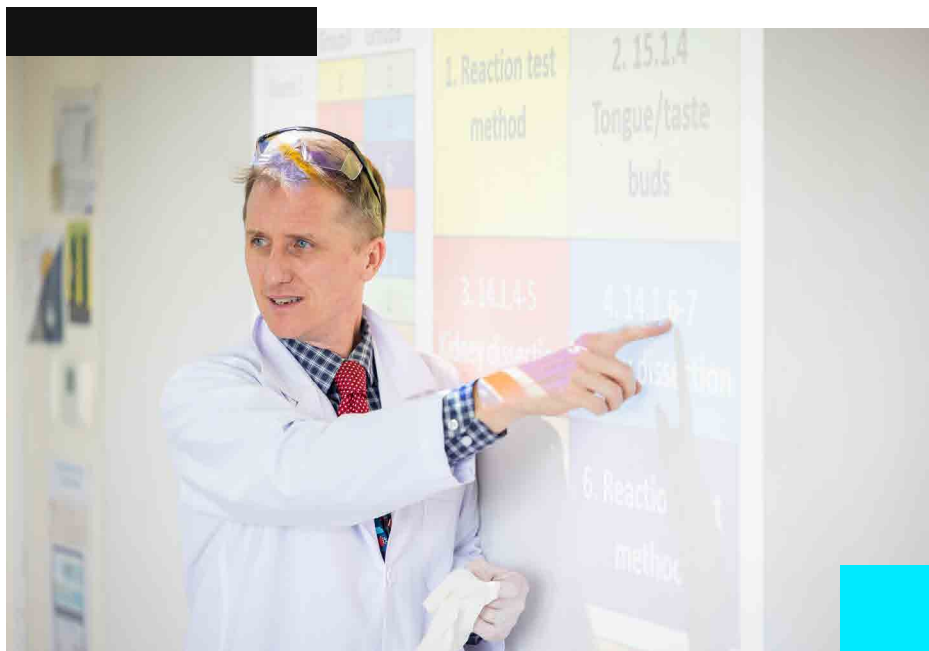
What an opportunity?

Are you a future Phạm Tuân, endeavoring to be Einstein, the next Newton or do you simply love science? This was a brand-new course at BVIS and we are delighted to be able to offer again this year.

Why study Separate Science?

These Separate sciences have been developed for students who just can't get enough science. Each subject has its own distinct purpose and flavour. Contemporary contexts are used to explore new concepts, and to encourage students to draw together some of the ideas they have already developed.

If you choose the Separate Science iGCSE course then you will be studying science for nine periods a week and will have an opportunity to gain THREE separate iGCSEs at BVIS.



Further Information:

Cambridge IGCSE Biology (0610)

The Cambridge IGCSE Chemistry syllabus enables learners to understand the industrial and chemical world in which they live, and take an informed interest in science and scientific developments. Learners gain an understanding of the basic principles of Chemistry through a mix of theoretical and practical studies.

As they progress, learners understand how science is studied and practised, and become aware that the results of scientific research can have both good and bad effects on individuals, communities and the environment.

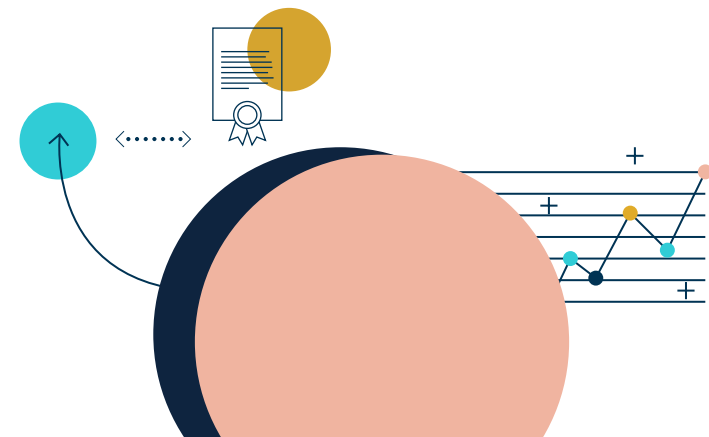
Students will go into more detail about the topics studied in the double-award Combined Science iGCSE as well as studying an additional Biochemistry unit. They also develop an understanding of the scientific skills essential for further study and skills which are useful in everyday life.

Cambridge IGCSE Chemistry (0620)

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Cambridge IGCSE Physics (0625)

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Students will go into more detail about the topics studied in the double-award Combined Science iGCSE as well as studying an additional Biochemistry unit. They also develop an understanding of the scientific skills essential for further study and skills which are useful in everyday life.

Comparison between Co-ordinated and Separate Science

Co-ordinated Science (compulsory)	Separate Sciences (Optional)
2x iGCSEs	3x iGCSEs
2/3 of the Biology iGCSE	3/3 of the Biology iGCSE
2/3 of the Chemistry iGCSE	3/3 of the Chemistry iGCSE
2/3 of the Physics iGCSE	3/3 of the Physics iGCSE
Three exams	Nine exams

Assessment

There is a Core curriculum and an Extended curriculum (for the more able students). Students sitting the Core exams can achieve an award of grades CCC to GGG. Students sitting the Extended exams can achieve an award of grade A*A*A* to GGG. It will be decided in Year 11 whether students will sit the Core or Extended Curriculum exams. This will be dependent on student's ability as demonstrated over the course.

Students will take nine exams in total at the end of the course. Taking each of the following in Biology, Chemistry and Physics respectively: a multiple choice paper, a short answer and structured question paper, and an alternative to practical assessment.

Please note: The study of Science is compulsory in Y10-11 with students choosing either the Co-ordinated or Separate science courses (both options will fully prepare students for the A-level sciences offered at BIVS).



Design and Technology

Why study Design and Technology?

Design and Technology allows students to develop their ability to solve real life design problems creatively, by encouraging students to use skills and knowledge learnt in complimentary subjects (such as Science, Mathematics, Art, Business Studies/Economics and Geography) to create solutions that will enhance and improve the lives of others. Design and Technology supports their understanding of the world around them, and how they can make a positive impact through innovative design.



Course Description

Students use high order thinking skills and through analysis, synthesis and evaluation, they learn to investigate opportunities for design and development. Throughout the course students develop their design capability through detailed research, drawing and modelling. They learn how to manufacture products with skill and accuracy using a wide range of techniques including Computer Aided Design and Computer Aided Manufacture (CAD/CAM). Students learn how different manufacturing techniques are used in industrial situations including printing techniques, plastic forming and automation. They consider the social, moral and environmental issues associated with design and technological activity and consider how to minimize its negative impact. They learn to use a range of different drawing techniques that include geometry, orthographic and isometric projection, perspective, annotated freehand sketching and colour rendering. They use industry standard software including Adobe Photoshop and Illustrator. Students are given the opportunity to demonstrate their skills in a self-directed coursework project. With teacher guidance they choose their own area of study and develop a design brief that encourages creativity, innovation and the solution of a real-life design problem. They learn to overcome technical problems in the pursuit of design excellence. The assessment for Design and Technology also includes two examinations.



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