



# International School Khuzam (ISK)

**OPTION BOOK GRADES 9 - 10**

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*\*\*Denotes subjects that are not recognised by the Ministry of Education for equivalence purposes.*



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*Family of Schools*

Dear Parents,

It is with great pleasure that I write to you regarding the important next steps in your child's education. As the Deputy Head of School, I have a duty of care to ensure that we provide our students with bespoke careers advice and guidance. At ISK we believe that this option book, along with the support of staff provides both parents and students with the tools to make the correct option choices.

The aim of this Options Book is to explain the option choices available to your son/daughter at ISK. Certain subjects in Grades 9 and 10 are optional, but others are compulsory for all students to study. We aim to ensure that each student follows a broad and balanced curriculum which provides opportunities based on the British Curriculum Subjects, but also comply with the Ministry of Education requirements (MoE) to ensure the equivalency requirements are maintained. As this is such an important time for your son/daughter, we are making every effort to ensure that all decisions are made only after full consultation between teachers, parents and students.

Due to Covid restrictions we cannot have a face-to-face meeting at present. The Grade 8 Option Evening will take place via a weblink which will be sent to you in due course. This Grade 8 Option evening will also provide you with an opportunity to ask questions relating to your son/daughter's option choices via the webinar.

**The Grade 8 Option Information Evening will take place on the 24<sup>th</sup> of November at 6.00 pm.**

All option choice forms must be returned by **Monday 31<sup>st</sup> January 2022**. Any forms returned after this date will be marked late and students may not receive all their first choices for their options so, please ensure that these are submitted before the date indicated.

Finally, individual consultations will be arranged with students. There are also tutor period activities and student subject ambassadors to support subject choices. However, you can also schedule an appointment with staff members to discuss options further:

- Mr Marc Groenewald - Deputy Headteacher [marc.groenewald@rakacademy.org](mailto:marc.groenewald@rakacademy.org)
- Mr Callum Liddicott – Progress Leader [callumliddicott@rakacademy.org](mailto:callumliddicott@rakacademy.org)
- Mr Ian Wilson – Careers Counsellor [ian.wilson@rakacademy.org](mailto:ian.wilson@rakacademy.org)

The **Grade 8 Option Meeting Request Form** is available in this book on page 12, and this should be completed and emailed to the relevant member of staff.

We look to providing an exciting and challenging four years of study and development for your son/daughter at International Secondary School Khuzam through Grades 9 - 12.

Yours sincerely,

**Marc Groenewald**  
**Deputy Head of School**



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### *Family of Schools*

Dear student,

You are at a very important stage in your education, for it is now that you must decide on the five non-core IGCSE exam courses you wish to study over Grades 9 and 10. These will lay the foundation for study in our sixth form or for your future career.

This Option book has been designed to help you make your decisions as well as giving you advice on possible selections. This is an important choice and you have many people available to support you with this process, including:

- Parents
- Form tutor
- Careers Advisor
- Progress Leader
- Subject teachers
- Senior staff

When considering courses, there are several questions you should be asking yourself:

#### **Should I select a subject just because I like it?**

You are more likely to do well if you enjoy a subject, but there will be courses on offer that you have not previously studied and there may be subjects which are important for the career you have in mind. You can read about the various subjects on offer in this book. Remember to think about your future plans and what subjects align with them best.

#### **Which subjects do my teachers recommend?**

Your subject teachers know your ability and the standard of your work throughout Grades 6 to 8. Your tutor and teachers know you well, and they will be able to offer advice about the best balance of courses for you. Ensure you talk about your decisions with your parents and teachers.

#### **What will I need for my chosen career?**

The best advice is to decide what general areas of work interest you, look at the courses available in this book and then decide on the appropriate choice.

#### **Things to do!**

- Read the option book carefully.
- Talk it over with your parents and family.
- Ask your form tutor for advice.
- Speak to your teachers, our Careers Advisor, and your Progress Leader.
- Complete the Guided Choices Form given to you and hand it to **Ms Dua Zain by 31 January 2022**

#### **Careers Counseling:**

The role of the Careers Counselor is to:

- Provide interest surveys and personality testing.
- Assist in course selection geared towards a future career.
- Show students how to research careers.
- Encourage students to consider subjects that will support their future aspirations and goals.

It is never too early to start planning your career. Many studies have shown that students who know what they want to do and or study in the future are more likely to be successful. Questions are free so make sure

that you ask as many as possible. Even start to think about what you want to do in university as you need to start laying down plans now.

For any further enquiries about universities, careers or course selection, feel free to contact Mr. Ian Wilson, his office is located in the Sixth Form Centre.

***Ian Wilson***

*University Advisor / Careers Counsellor*

*Email: [ian.wilson@rakacademy.org](mailto:ian.wilson@rakacademy.org)*

## Useful links

Ministry of Education: [www.moe.gov.ae](http://www.moe.gov.ae)

### International exams

Cambridge International

[www.cambridgeinternational.org](http://www.cambridgeinternational.org)

Edexcel:

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/home.html>

IELTS:

[www.ielts.org](http://www.ielts.org)

TOEFL:

[www.ets.org/toefl](http://www.ets.org/toefl)

SAT:

[www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org)

### University guidance:

UCAS: [www.ucas.com](http://www.ucas.com)

Common application: [www.commonapp.org](http://www.commonapp.org)

Big Future: [www.bigfuture.collegeboard.org](http://www.bigfuture.collegeboard.org)

Unistats: [www.unistats.direct.gov.uk](http://www.unistats.direct.gov.uk)

Top Universities [www.topuniversities.com](http://www.topuniversities.com)

### Careers advice & support:

Courses/careers: [www.courses-careers.com](http://www.courses-careers.com)

Careers portal: [www.careers-portal.co.uk](http://www.careers-portal.co.uk)

Futurewise: [www.myfuturewise.org.uk](http://www.myfuturewise.org.uk)

Future Morph: [www.futuremorph.org](http://www.futuremorph.org)

STEM: [www.wherestemcantakeyou.co.uk](http://www.wherestemcantakeyou.co.uk)

Career test: [www.yourfreecareertest.com](http://www.yourfreecareertest.com)

### Personality Test:

[www.truity.com/test/300-question-personality-test](http://www.truity.com/test/300-question-personality-test)

## Design of our Curriculum

Our curriculum is based on the British Curriculum and is broadly divided into three Key Stages as follows: Key Stage 3 (Grades 6 to 8), Key Stage 4 (Grades 9 and 10) and Key Stage 5 (Grades 11 and 12).

In Grades 6 to 8 all students follow a similar curriculum (in terms of subjects and curriculum time), but variations occur based on whether students are classified as Arabic A/B; Islamic A/B or non-Muslim students. In most subjects our students are taught in mixed ability groups with teaching being differentiated to ensure both support and challenge.

In Grades 9 and 10 students follow core subjects which include English, English Literature, mathematics, at least one-science subject, Social Studies, Arabic and Islamic Studies (Muslim students only).

The options curriculum allows students to progress further in areas in which they have a particular skill or interest. Students are requested to select five option choices. For non-Islamic students, an extra option choice is required.

The Grades 11 and 12 curriculums focus on AS/A-level subjects and the IB programme. In this way, our sixth form students are thoroughly prepared for further study in ISK or in other international institutions. Again, we provide our students with courses that will equip them to study or work in RAK or Internationally if they so choose.

## Curriculum intent

Our curriculum is designed with students' learning at the centre. We recognise that a curriculum must be broad, balanced and offer students opportunities to grow as individuals as well as learners. Whilst we generally follow the British Curriculum in Grades 6 to 8 and Grades 9 to 10, we are keen to ensure that students are educated beyond its strict limits and that they undertake a wide range of educational experiences aimed at enriching and extending their knowledge and skills. In so doing students will leave us as internationally minded, confident, self-reliant individuals able to make a positive contribution to society and their community in general.

Through a combination of learning techniques, we aim to ensure students enjoy learning and feel prepared for life after school. We also intend to offer students new and exciting experiences through extra-curricular activities that are designed to build resilience, confidence and self-esteem. As an IB World School that offers the Diploma programme and Grades 11 and 12, we also integrate the skills embedded on this programme into our Key Stage 4 provision. This has a basis in inquiry-based learning and critical thought development.

We recognise that students should be challenged in their schooling, learning from failures and celebrating successes through the promotion of a growth mindset. We intend for our curriculum to be empowering, enabling students to develop their interpersonal skills, creativity and independence. All the while ensuring that their progress is measured, with intervention and support put in place as and when required.

## Examination Board Information

Please note that the course information outlined in this book are the Examination boards specified at the time of compilation of this book and may be subject to change.

We have been through extensive review processes to ensure that the Examination boards selected serve the interests of our students toward obtaining the best possible outcomes. To ensure continuity, all Examination boards are the same in Key Stage 4 (Grades 9 and 10) and Key Stage 5 (Grades 11 & 12). This means that if a student takes History in Grades 9 and 10, they will have the same Examination board for Grades 11 and 12 should they continue with the subject.

## Performance Measures – Gaining MoE Equivalency

The Ministry of Education (MoE) for the United Arab Emirates stipulates that students registered with the MOE as being in Grade 9 will be unable to graduate from Grade 10 without achieving a minimum of five IGCSEs in approved subjects at a Grade 4 **or higher**.

These subjects must include:

- ***English/English Literature/ English as Second Language***
- ***Mathematics***
- ***One science subject***
- ***Two other MoE recognised IGCSE subjects***

Students failing to achieve these grades will be required to repeat Grade 10.

The above results are required to gain equivalency from the MoE.

The Ministry of Education requirement is a minimum that all students need to achieve.

Students should aspire to meet their CAT4 'If-challenged' indicators to ensure they are achieving their very best individual outcomes.

Please note that internationally an IGCSE Grade 5 is considered a 'good pass'.

Students wishing to progress and attend one of the world's most prestigious universities should be aspiring to achieve as many as eight IGCSEs at a Grade 5 or above, with most universities expecting students to achieve Grade 6 or higher in each of the eight IGCSEs studied.

## Overview of the Curriculum

Subject	Grade	Periods	Core	Optional	Set
<b>Ministry of Education Subjects</b>					
Arabic A <i>Arabic Speakers</i>	9 and 10	3	Yes	No	No
Arabic B <i>Non-Arabic Speakers</i>	9 and 10	3	Yes	Grade 9 – No Grade 10 - Yes	No
Islamic Studies A/B	9 and 10	2	Yes <i>(Muslim students only)</i>	No	No
Social Studies Arabic	9	2	Yes	No	No
Social Studies English	9	1	Yes	No	No
<b>Core Subjects</b>					
English Language or First/Second	9 and 10	5/6	Yes	No	Yes
English Literature			Yes	No	Yes
Mathematics	9 and 10	5	Yes	No	Yes
Biology	9 and 10	3	Students must choose at least one science subject	Yes	No
Chemistry	9 and 10	3		Yes	No
Physics	9 and 10	3		Yes	No
Physical Education (non-exam)	9 and 10	1	Yes	No	No
<b>Option Subjects</b>					
Global Citizenship**	9 and 10	3/2	Yes <i>Arabic B/C &amp; Arabic A Students who are non- Muslim</i>	Yes	No
Economics	9 and 10	3	Yes <i>Arabic B/C students who are non-Muslim</i>	Yes	No
Further Pure Mathematics	9 and 10	3	Yes <i>Arabic B/C students who are non-Muslim</i>	Yes	No
Art**	9 and 10	3	No	Yes	No
Business Studies	9 and 10	3	No	Yes	No
Computer Science	9 and 10	3	No	Yes	No
Design and Technology	9 and 10	3	No	Yes	No
French	9 and 10	3	No	Yes	No
Geography	9 and 10	3	No	Yes	No
History	9 and 10	3	No	Yes	No
Music**	9 and 10	3	No	Yes	No
Physical Education**	9 and 10	3	No	Yes	No
Spanish	9 and 10	3	No	Yes	No
** = subjects not recognised by the MoE for equivalency Graduation					

## Compulsory and Option Subjects

The choices below have been organised to provide students with a broad range of subjects to best meet their interests and future career ambitions.

All students are expected to study:

- Arabic A/B/C
- Social Studies (Grade 9 only)
- Islamic Studies (Muslim students only)
- Global Citizenship (Arabic B/C students and non-Muslim) or Further Pure Mathematics (Arabic B/C and non-Muslim students).
- IGCSE English Language/English Second Language, English Literature
- Mathematics
- One science subject (minimum) and
- Core PE.
- Students are only permitted to choose one subject that is not recognised by the Ministry of Education for equivalency purposes\*\*. This is to ensure that there are enough subjects studied that will ensure equivalency is obtained.

<b>Core Subjects</b>  <i>(There are no choices to study these subjects).</i>	<b>All students must choose at least one Science subject.</b> <i>(You can choose one, two or all three Science subjects)</i>	<b>Once you have chosen your Science subject(s) then you can choose subjects from this list.</b> <i>(Including your science subject(s), you must choose a total of five IGCSE subjects)</i>	<b>Arabic B/C and Non-Muslim Students ONLY - must choose an additional subject from the ones listed below.</b>  <i>(This is because you do not study Islamic Studies and so must study one of these subjects instead)</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ministry Arabic</li> <li>• Islamic Studies</li> <li>• Moral Education</li> <li>• English Language &amp; English Literature</li> <li>• Mathematics</li> <li>• One Science subject (see the next column for details)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• IGCSE Biology</li> <li>• IGCSE Chemistry</li> <li>• IGCSE Physics</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• IGCSE Arabic-First Language**</li> <li>• IGCSE Art and Design**</li> <li>• IGCSE Business Studies</li> <li>• IGCSE Computer Science</li> <li>• IGCSE Design Technology</li> <li>• IGCSE Economics</li> <li>• IGCSE French</li> <li>• IGCSE Geography</li> <li>• IGCSE History</li> <li>• IGCSE Music**</li> <li>• IGCSE Physical Education**</li> <li>• IGCSE Spanish</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• IGCSE Global Citizenship**</li> <li>• IGCSE Additional Mathematics</li> </ul> <p><i>Please note that if you are an Arabic B/C and non-Muslim student you will automatically study Global Citizenship.</i></p>

\*\*Denotes subjects that are not recognised by the Ministry of Education for equivalence purposes.

- **Students will have a free choice on their five option subjects. However, these subjects then must be placed into OPTION BLOCKS.**

- **Subjects are placed into option blocks for timetabling purposes, consequently, not all subject combinations will be possible.**
- **Whilst we do our best to ensure every student gets their choices, there are some occasions when this proves impossible. There are several reasons for this. For example, some courses may not run if there is insufficient demand. Some may clash on the timetable with other subject choices.**
- **We will always consult you if this happens. However, it is important that you put as much thought into your reserve choice as you do your other choices.**

All students must make a reserve choice on the option form. This can be from any of the subjects offered.

Once students start a course, they are expected to finish it, so please choose carefully. In all but the most exceptional of circumstances, there will be no transfers to other courses.

**The completed sheet should be handed in to Ms Dua Zain by Monday 31<sup>st</sup> January 2022.**

**If you hand in your form late, you are less likely to get the choices you want.**

Please rest assured your future is of the utmost importance and we will do our best to accommodate your choices, ensuring they are the best ones to support your future, whatever that maybe.

**Grade 8 Options Meeting Request Form**

**Student Name:**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Form Tutor: 8** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

**Please explain your reason(s) for requesting a meeting:**

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**Online meeting request for Mr Groenewald (Deputy Head)**

**Online meeting Request for Ms Satchell (Progress Leader)**

**Online meeting request for Mr Wilson (Careers Advisor)**

**Date received:** \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

**Meeting date agreed:** \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

**Outcome of meeting to be communicated by** letter/phone/e-mail/online meeting

**Tutor Time Discussions: how you make the best choices**

It is important to make the right decision about the subjects you choose to study in Key Stage 4. You will probably **not be able** to make changes once the courses have started, so think very carefully about what you want.

Consider subjects, combinations of subjects, the amount and type of coursework and/or independent study that will be needed. It is often best to study a breadth of subjects.

**Do not** choose any subject just because you like a particular teacher, as there is no guarantee that this member of staff will teach you.

**Do not** pick because your friends make a choice, as you may be put in a different class, and you must choose what is right for you and your future plans – not them!

Going through the steps below with your form tutor will help you decide what will be right for you.

**Stage 1 – Your Future**

What are your thoughts and plans?

Do you think you will go to university or into the world of work when you leave ISK?

Will you be living in the UAE or heading abroad for work or further study?

Do you have an idea of the sort of work you eventually see yourself doing?

Have you an idea of the career you want to follow?

Filling in each of the following where you can, should help you:

After I leave school, I can see myself going:					
To an International University		To UAE University		To work	

<b>The subject area(s) I want to study for my degree are:</b>
<b>The entry criteria for the university I wish to attend is:</b>
<b>The qualifications needed for me to go straight into work are:</b>

**Stage 2 – Subjects from Grade 8**

Think about how well you are progressing in your Grade 8 subjects.

Fill in the boxes in the table below to help you decide which subjects would be the best choice for you.

Subject	Possible Subject Choice Yes/No	Reasons for Choosing this Subject
Biology*		
Chemistry*		
Physics*		
Computer Science		
Design & Technology		
French		
Geography		
History		
Arabic**		
Art**		
Music**		
Physical Education**		

\* must choose one science subject

\*\*Denotes subjects that are not recognised by the Ministry of Education for equivalence purposes – only choose one of these subjects

### Stage 3 – Subjects you do not know

Now think about the subjects you have not tackled yet but may be available to you from next year.

Find out all you can about them from this booklet, from your parents, by asking teachers and from asking students in Grade 9 and Grade 10. Write down the skills and subjects linked to success in each subject and whether you think you might enjoy each one, and why.

Subject	Skills/subjects I need	Possible Choice Yes/No
Business Studies		
French		

## Student Option Choice Form

Student's Name:	Form:	Form Tutor:
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- **All students will have to choose a total of FIVE IGCSE subjects from Columns A and B.**
- You **MUST** choose at least **one science subject – Column A.**
- If you choose only **one science subject from Column A**, then you will need to choose **four other subjects from Column B.**
- If you choose **two science subjects from Column A**, then you will need to choose **three other subjects from Column B.**
- If you choose **three science subjects from Column A** then choose **two subjects from Column B.**
- Please make sure that you write your **First-choice subjects** in your order of preference.
- The **Reserve Subjects** are your second-choice subjects, which will be used if we cannot offer you your first-choice subjects.
- **Arabic B/C and non-Muslim students** will have to also **choose an additional subject from Column C.**

Column A <u>SCIENCE SUBJECTS</u>	Column B <u>OTHER SUBJECTS</u>	Column C <u>ARABIC B/C AND NON-MUSLIM STUDENTS ONLY</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• You <b>MUST</b> choose at least <b>ONE</b> science subject.</li> <li>• You can choose two Science subjects.</li> <li>• You can choose three Science subjects.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Including your science subject(s), you must choose a <b>TOTAL</b> of <b>FIVE</b> subjects from columns A and B.</li> <li>• You can only choose one subject with a <b>**</b>.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Choose one of these subjects.</li> </ul>
Biology	Business Studies	Global Citizenship**
Chemistry	Computer Science	Further Pure Mathematics
Physics	Design Technology	
	Economics	
	French	
	Spanish	
	Geography	
	History	
	Arabic**	
	Art and Design**	
	Music**	
	Physical Education**	

### FIRST CHOICE SUBJECTS:

Column A <u>SCIENCE SUBJECTS</u>	Column B <u>OTHER SUBJECTS</u>	Column C <u>ARABIC B/C AND NON-MUSLIM STUDENTS ONLY</u>
Write your Science subject(s) below in order of preference	Write your Other Subjects below in order of preference	Write your chosen subject below
1	1	1
2	2	
3	3	
	4	

**RESERVE CHOICES SUBJECTS:**

<b>Column A</b> <u>SCIENCE SUBJECTS</u>  Write down your reserve subjects from Column A	<b>Column B</b> <u>OTHER SUBJECTS</u>  Write down your reserve subjects from Column B	<b>Column C</b> <u>ARABIC B/C AND NON-MUSLIM STUDENTS ONLY</u>  Write down your reserve subjects from Column C
1	1	1
2	2	2

**Please complete the separate option form that is available.**

# **Ministry of Education Subjects (MoE)**

# Arabic A

## Intent:

Arabic A is taught to all Arab students in Grades 9 and 10. We follow a course which is designed for Arabic speaking students. The course is provided by the Ministry of Education (MoE) of the UAE.

## Implementation:

This course is taught from Grades 1 to 12 for native Arabic speakers (Arabic A). The Arabic course is designed to provide all students with a high level of competence in the subject. The students develop and refine their language skills, to do this, they need to become familiar with a wide range of vocabulary and complex grammatical structures.

## Impact:

At the end of Grade 10, students are expected to understand and use the language accurately. They are exposed to a wide range of texts in Arabic: in the main these will be texts that they encounter in their everyday lives (short stories, advertisements, and news reports). Students will learn how to compare and write how the Arabic language is used in different texts and how the language and style affect the presentation of the theme or topic.

## Course Information

Arabic A course in Grades 9 and 10 is a core subject for all Arabic native speakers taught by qualified Arabic A teachers. Students have 3 lessons per week. These lessons develop Arabic speaking, writing and comprehension skills.

## Areas of Study

In Arabic A course, students in Grades 9 and 10 are studying a variety of topics including ancient classic poetry, rules of Arabic grammar and literature - inclusive of short stories.

## Course Assessment

All students in ISK Grades 6 to 12 are doing a common internal assessment during the year regarding to MOE Assessment System.

### Term 1:

Mid-term Exam  
End of term Exam

### Term 2:

Mid-term Exam

### Term 3:

Mid-term Exam  
End of term Exam

Both formative and summative assessment is used in conjunction with the MOE Assessment Criteria during the whole of the academic year.

## Further Opportunities

Ministry of Education examination in Arabic for Grade 12 students who are Arabic speaking.

**International External Examination Available (*providing there are adequate numbers and curriculum time*).**

- GCSE Arabic Second Language (Edexcel, London) - Grades 9 and 10

Two years course (*for all Arabic speaking students*).

- IGCSE Arabic First Language (Edexcel, London)) - Grades 9 and 10

Two years course (*for all native Arabic speaking students*).

## Subject Contact

Head of Arabic - Mr Ibrahim Alqabbani [ibrahem.alqabbani@rakacademy.org](mailto:ibrahem.alqabbani@rakacademy.org)

# Arabic B

## Intent:

- Arabic language has a high position compared to all languages, and it is the language of communication among millions of Arabs as it is also one of the factors that have risen to contemporary nations, as it represented a link throughout the ages by transmitting thought, science and knowledge and influencing humanity's heritage and culture.
- Regarding to the global standing of the Arab world and the attractions that characterize UAE, which encouraged civilization dialogue between different nationalities. The resident's communities were keen to integrate into the Arab culture by learning the official language of UAE.
- **Arabic B is a compulsory for grade 6 to 9** and the subject is designed for foreign students in the educational stages (from grade 6 to grade 9) and it is necessary to succeed in it by achieving the minimum level of success as a condition for transfer to the next classes.
- **Arabic B is not a compulsory subject for grade 10.** They can choose to drop Arabic B, but in return they will not be able to obtain a certificate equivalency.
- Mastering the Arabic language is a great challenge for many non-Arab students, especially in international schools.

## Implementation

- According to the plan and the ministerial curriculum, Arabic B is taught three lessons per week which we focus in explaining and simplifying the rules of the Arabic language, reading texts, and developing the four language skills: listening, speaking, reading and writing.
- Teachers present their lessons using a large and diverse number of educational methods. Innovative teaching methods, including a large and varied number of interesting, stimulating, and competitive educational applications are used to make lessons as engaging as possible.
- Teachers plan their lessons based on criteria for individual differences between students, which are discovered according to accurate studies of students' abilities based on approved and standardized scan tests, and accordingly to that, the ministerial curriculum is modified and developed in line with students' proficiency.
- The subject is linked to the real life of the students and touches the reality of their lives through videos, educational aids, and various teaching methods, moving away from the material from the old classic methods.
- Also, there is always a link between language skills that students learn and previous skills, to achieve balance and coherence between language skills and grammar.
- Homework is designed in a way that enables the student to demonstrate understanding of lesson skills and apply the skills learned during the week.
- The subject's lessons are linked - as much as possible - with other subject areas to achieve balance and harmony between the different subjects that the student learns.
- Students are taught and supported in the completion of curriculum levels based on their demonstrated proficiency in the language
- Each unit of the curriculum contains many texts which covers new vocabulary and grammatical skills.

## Impact

- As a result of studying Arabic B, the student will be able to:
  - Confidently speak and communicate, using the Arabic language in activities, interactions, and communication with Arabic speaking peers in and outside the school.
  - Employing and using different linguistic concepts in an effective manner.
  - Follow up and monitor the progress of students through various means of evaluation.
  - Interaction, competition, and challenge in understanding, reading, and speaking the Arabic language.

## Course Information

Studying Arabic B allows non-Arab students to:

- Interact and integrate into the Emirati society, which the Arabic language is the main language in it.
- Develop the ability to communicate clearly, accurately and effectively when speaking and writing.

- Learn how to use a wide range of vocabulary, correct grammar, spelling and punctuation.
- Develop a personal style and an awareness of the audience being addressed.

### Main Aims of the Course and Skills Developed Throughout the Course

The aims are to enable students to:

- Understand the importance of Arabic language as it is the language of the Holy Quran, and consequence, respecting cultural sensitivity.
- Fully participate in the UAE community or any other Arab & Islamic community.
- Read a wide range of texts, fluently and with good understanding, enjoying and appreciating a variety of Arabic language.
- Use knowledge gained from wide reading to inform and improve their writing.
- Write accurately and effectively, using Standard Arabic appropriately.
- Work with information and with ideas in language by developing skills of evaluation, analysis, use and inference.
- Listen to, understand and use spoken language effectively.
- Acquire and apply a wide vocabulary, alongside a knowledge and understanding of grammatical terminology and linguistic conventions.

### Areas of Study

#### Grade 9

Level B	LEVEL C (Overseas students)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• UNIT 1:</li> <li>• In my hospitality</li> <li>• How to write a letter &amp; replay to it.</li> <li>• Various texts about hospitality in the Emirates.</li> <li>• Future tense</li> <li>• Extract multiple grammar rules from different texts</li> <li>• UNIT 2:</li> <li>• Famous races.</li> <li>• Camel race.</li> <li>• Horse race.</li> <li>• Cycling.</li> <li>• Cars race.</li> <li>• UNIT 3:</li> <li>• Colours festival</li> <li>• Colours festival in India</li> <li>• Colours festival in Sri Lanka and Nepal</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• UNIT 1:</li> <li>• The Arabic alphabetical letters</li> <li>• Contain 28 lessons</li> <li>• (أ / د / ذ / ر / ز / و)</li> <li>• (ب / ت / ث) - (ج / ح / خ)</li> <li>• (س / ش) - (ص / ض)</li> <li>• (ط / ظ) - (ع / غ)</li> <li>• (ف / ق) - (ك / ل)</li> <li>• (م / ن) - (ه / ي)</li> </ul>

#### Grade 10

Level B	Level C
UNIT 1: How did you spend your holiday? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Popular places to spend vacation</li> <li>• Writing a topic expressing where to spend your vacation.</li> <li>• Extraction of different grammatical rules from texts.</li> <li>• UNIT 2: Helping my mother</li> <li>• Dialogue text on helping the mother.</li> </ul>	UNIT 1: the first day in the school <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 4 texts</li> <li>• Present verb</li> <li>• How to modify present verb with pronouns.</li> </ul> UNIT 2: Everyday morning <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 5 texts about daily routine.</li> <li>• Past verb.</li> <li>• How to modify past verb with pronouns</li> </ul>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tasks that can be done at home.</li> <li>• Places &amp; times adverbs.</li> </ul> <p>UNIT 3: The importance of work</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An essay text on the importance of work</li> <li>• Extraction of different grammatical rules from texts.</li> </ul>	<p>UNIT 3: School activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 4 texts about school activities</li> </ul>
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### Course Assessment

All students in ISK Grades 6 to 12 are doing a common internal assessment during the year regarding to MOE Assessment System

Term 1:

Mid-term Exam  
End of term Exam

Term 2:

Mid-term Exam

Term 3:

Mid-term Exam  
End of term Exam

Both formative and summative assessment is used in conjunction with the MOE Assessment Criteria during the whole of the academic year.

### Further Opportunities

Apart from improving your ability to speak, understand, and write in Arabic, this course will give you some of the skills that you need to study Arabic at Key Stage 5, as well as improve your overall Arabic language abilities.

### Subject Contact

Head of Department: Mr. Ibrahim Alqabbani ; [ibrahem.alqabbani@rakacademy.org](mailto:ibrahem.alqabbani@rakacademy.org)

Arabic B Coordinator: Ms. Haidy Khamis ; [haidy.kahmis@rakacademy.org](mailto:haidy.kahmis@rakacademy.org)

# Islamic Studies A/B

## Intent:

This curriculum is based on practical vision of Islam which makes the teaching of Islamic education an important introduction to form civilized and effective person who can build and develop the nation. Therefore, all the entries of the curriculum shall aim to affirm behavioural objective which is based on instilling noble values by making such values, an aim and objective to each part of this curriculum as Islam is a religion of values, accordingly, all its legislations, provisions, information, and ideas are not an end in itself, but the superior end is the saying of the Prophet (Peace Be Upon His Head): "I did not come except to perfect good character"

## Implementation:

The aim is to connect all the components of the Islamic education curriculum with the system of values and ethics, which came in the Islamic religion, whether individual values such as truth, chastity, and righteousness, or collective values such as cooperation, brotherhood, love of work, and volunteering, sacrifice and consultation. Making these values purpose and aim for each part of this curriculum and behavioural goal for all its vocabulary.

## Impact:

To establish the value of worship in its wide-range meaning for all the human's activities and behaviours - as a superior destination for human existence in this world and as an end for the life of the individual and society. Consolidate the system of the individual and collective values as a pivot of the message and instructions of Islam.

## Course Information

Islamic Education is a compulsory subject for Muslim students living in UAE. Islamic A and B curriculum is designed by MOE and has adopted a unit-based approach. Each unit addresses diverse topics that collectively represent the domains and focal points of the curriculum discussing Divine Revelation, creed, the values and mannerisms of Islam, the rulings of Islam and their purposes, the biography of Prophet Muhammad, prominent Muslim characters, national identity and contemporary issues.

## Main Aims of the Course and Skills Developed Throughout the Course

This course aims at learning Islamic Education and developing thinking and performance skills in a persistent endeavour to equip this generation of students with the tools necessary for ingenuity, inventiveness, meeting challenges and achieving success in this life and hereafter.

It also aims at:

- Strengthening the learner's relation with the Holy Quran as it is the primary source of knowledge, behaviour, values, taste and beauty in order to build a Quranic mentality and personality.
- Strengthening the relation of the learner with the Hadith as it is the second source of legislation which explains the judgments, knowledge, values, and behaviour of the Holy Quran.

## Areas of Study - Grade 9

### Book 9

- In the Holy Presence of Allah, His Messenger and the Ruler
- Surat Hujurat
- The Seven Grave Sins
- A Forgiving (Ghafour) Lord
- Exchanging Advice in Islam (Tanasuh)
- Zakat (alms-giving) in Islam
- Permissibility (Halal) is Self-evident

**Book 10**

- Surat ul-Kahf 1-8
- Makkan and Madinian Qur'an
- Sakinah bint al Hussein
- The People of the Cave
- Stages of collecting the Holy Qur'an
- Endowments: Giving and Growth

**Course Assessment**

Assessment type	Marks
Test 1	20%
Test 2	20%
Qur'an and Hadith Memorization	20%
Tilawah and Tajweed	15%
Term Project and research	5%
Written class tasks	20%

**Further Opportunities**

This course gives the students better understanding of who they are and what is their purpose of living creating a balanced individual ready to face the challenges of life. The knowledge and the skills they attain in this course will be used throughout their life whenever they will need to take a decision.

Furthermore, completing Islamic Education course provides the opportunity to the students to get their High School diploma attested in MOE which is prerequisite to joining any university in UAE.

**Subject Contact**

Head of Department: Violeta Axhami - [violeta.axhami@rakacademy.org](mailto:violeta.axhami@rakacademy.org)

# Social Studies – Arabic

## Intent:

- This curriculum is in line with the Ministry’s vision and philosophy on such subjects that develop and enhance the students’ national identity and personality, in accordance with the National Standards Framework on the Criteria for Social Studies & National Education.
- This development comes from the Ministry’s belief in the importance of social studies and national education.
- It is related to the building of personalities, instilling the values of national identity, the practice of good citizenship, which is an incubator of human function in history, geography, political science, economics, sociology and psychology, and the foundation from which humans move towards the future.

## Implementation:

- Introducing students to the influence of personalities, events and important developments and their role in forming societies during various specific periods and at difference places.
- Articles within the subjects of social studies and national education hold contemporary titles that reflect the extent to which they correspond to local and international events and global issues that require awareness such as the environment and climate. Such titles include “processions for martyrs”, “country of happiness”, “local environment”, “nuclear energy”, “human civilizations” and “soft power”.

## Impact

- The subject of Social Studies is a noble one that seeks to instil the values of citizenship in the minds of student in a scientific and studied manner.
- Deepen their sense of national responsibility which will enable them to convert those national values into daily practice.
- The subjects also increase students’ awareness about earth and the extent of its connection with human interactions, to reach an understanding of mutual relationships between human societies and the surrounding physical environment.

## Course Information – Grade 9

Arabic Social Studies is a UAE Government Mandated Subject. It is compulsory for all students who have an Arab passport. The curriculum is designed by MOE. It is taught into two parts, throughout three semesters.

- In this course the students learn more about their community’s causes, the level of development within their country, and the efforts exerted by the UAE government in this field.
- Furthermore, it familiarizes students with economic principles and regulations, the operation of markets, and the role of the government in developing both the national and international economy.

## Main Aims of the Course and Skills Developed Throughout the Course

It aims at building of personalities, instilling the values of national identity, the practice of good citizenship, which is an incubator of human function in history, geography, political science, economics, sociology and psychology, and the foundation from which humans move towards the future.

## Areas of Study

- الإمارات نبض العالم ( دستور دولة الإمارات العربية )
- الملامح الطبيعية للوطن العربي : موقع الوطن العربي أهميته
- الملامح الطبيعية للوطن العربي : تضاريس الوطن العربي
- قضايا اقتصادية ( التكتلات الاقتصادية )
- المناخ والنبات الطبيعي في الوطن العربي
- وثيقة الاخوة الانسانية.

## Course Assessment

Assessment type	Marks
Test 1	20%
Test 2	20%
Quiz	10%
Term Project and Research	10%
Homework	15%
Worksheets	15%
Collaborative activities	10%

## Further Opportunities

This course provides the UAE students with a better understanding the main causes of their country and how to contribute in them. It also allows the non-UAE students to integrate in the society and appreciate the peace and prosperity that UAE government offers.

Furthermore, completing Arabic Social Studies course provides the opportunity to the students to get their High School diploma attested in MOE which is prerequisite to joining any university in UAE.

## Subject Contact

Head of Department: Violeta Axhami - [violeta.axhami@rakacademy.org](mailto:violeta.axhami@rakacademy.org)

# Social Studies – English (MoE)

## Intent:

This curriculum is in line with the Ministry's vision and philosophy on such subjects that develop and enhance the students' national identity and personality, in accordance with the National Standards Framework on the Criteria for Social Studies & National Education.

The Social Studies for non-Arabs curriculum has been designed to include international topics on Social Studies, History, Geography, Economics, Civics and National Education. The lessons and text that are used scaffold and spiral learning to inspire students with interesting and engaging topics that not only convey content but also introduce and reinforce 21st century skills to prepare students to contribute positively to the 4th industrial revolution global environment.

## Implementation:

Social Studies is a UAE Government Mandated Subject taught twice a week at Key Stage 4.

- A great emphasis is placed on class discussion and verbal assessment. Students are actively encouraged to contribute in several ways as well as to challenge the information they are presented with.
- A cross curricular approach is adopted to help support learning in another Humanities subject at IGCSE.
- A range of reasoning resources are used to challenge all students and give them the opportunity to reason with their understanding.
- Students are taught through targeted differentiated small groups and mixed abilities in whole class lessons.
- Lessons use a variety of approaches to guide students through their understanding of historical skills, knowledge and perspectives.
- Revise and Review consolidation lessons are used to revisit previous learning and ensure Historical and English Language skills are embedded.
- Homework is set to develop and review student's learning.

## Impact

- Explain how social, cultural, political and economic factors shape and are shaped by the physical environment.
- Evaluate the relationship between human societies and the environment, e.g., agricultural productivity, improved water transport (river locks), electric power, global warming, pollution, natural disasters, etc.
- Identify and evaluate long-term changes, enduring influences, and recurring patterns in world history
- Analyse the impact of revolution on politics, economies, and societies.
- Analyse how ideals and institutions of freedom, equality, justice, and citizenship have changed over time and from one society to another.
- Perform analyses of quantitative and qualitative data.
- Evaluate historians' interpretations of the past using a variety of sources
- Examine historical and current influences of modern science on technological innovation.
- Analyse instances in which economic conditions have influenced and been influenced by scientific developments and technological developments.

## Course Information – Grade 9

English Social Studies is a UAE Government Mandated Subject. It is compulsory for all students who have a non-Arab passport. The curriculum is designed by MOE. It is taught into two parts, throughout three semesters.

- In this course the students learn more about their community's causes, the level of development within their country, and the efforts exerted by the UAE government in this field.
- Furthermore, it familiarizes students with economic principles and regulations, the operation of markets, and the role of the government in developing both the national and international economy

### Main Aims of the Course and Skills Developed Throughout the Course

The course is designed with further study in mind. A significant emphasis is placed on developing conceptual awareness and practical research skills which can then be utilised on the IB Diploma Program and in A-Level study.

The course looks to build on knowledge developed in IGCSE to give students a more global outlook on several Humanities topics, again preparing students for further study.

### Areas of Study

The course is mandated by the UAE Ministry of Education and is subject to change.

In term one students will discuss geography and social aspects of broad areas of the world. Climate, animals and cultures are discussed, and a focus is placed on how all these factors are interconnected. Modern issues related to climate change and sustainability are discussed.

In term two students focus on specific important historical events that form the body of common knowledge for modern global civilization. Natural disasters such as earthquakes, tsunamis, and volcanoes are introduced as well as their historical and current impact on people in areas which they have occurred. Non-western cultures and explorers who visited them in History are discussed to give students a wide historical perspective of the development of civilizations. Expo 2020 is introduced to make students aware of its origins and benefits to be UAE

Term three focuses on Emirati History and Sociology, and how to perform research on social science topics. Students learn about important initiatives in the UAE related to health, education and sustainability. Students are introduced to social science research starting from the purpose of conducting research.

### Course Assessment

Assessment type	Marks
Test 1	20%
Test 2	20%
Quiz	10%
Term Project and Research	10%
Homework	15%
Worksheets	15%
Collaborative activities	10%

### Further Opportunities

This course provides the UAE students with a better understanding the main causes of their country and how to contribute in them. It also allows the non-UAE students to integrate in the society and appreciate the peace and prosperity that UAE government offers.

Furthermore, completing Social Studies course provides the opportunity to the students to get their High School diploma attested in MOE which is prerequisite to joining any university in UAE.

### Subject Contact

Head of Humanities – Mr Liam Core [liam.core@rakacademy.org](mailto:liam.core@rakacademy.org)

# Core and Selected Option Subjects

# Physical Education (Non-exam)

## Intent:

It is our aim in Physical Education to allow students to be exposed to a wide range of physical activities and sports in practical environments. We strive for all students to achieve their maximum potential and provide them with the opportunity to do this through a wide range of activities offered both in lessons, online and as extra-curricular activities.

Through practical lessons, students are given opportunities to:

- Develop a passion for sport and physical activity.
- Enjoy experiences of sport and physical activity that inspires healthy habits and active lifestyles.

## Implementation:

- Students will have one lesson per week.
- Practical lessons will focus on exposing students to a range of sports and physical activities, with students then choosing their preference for the term.
- Leadership, communication, and tactical skills will be developed in a practical setting.
- The online platform will be used to support those working from home opportunities to be active and lead healthy lifestyles.

## Impact:

- Students should be confident in selecting physical activities or sports they have a passion for with healthy habits embedded to help them lead a healthy active lifestyle.
- A sense of anticipation and excitement for competitive opportunities will be embedded into student mindsets.

## Course Information

Core PE offering is based on sports and physical activities which promote lifelong participation in active lifestyles. Students can also take ownership of their learning and contribute suggestions for consideration to the offering of activities.

## Main Aims of the Course and Skills Developed Throughout the Course

The main aim of Core PE is to allow students to be enjoy being physically active, participate in competitive and non-competitive opportunities and inspire healthy lifestyles. Core PE also supports academic progress as being physically active can provide holistic benefits such as stress relief, improved focus and greater concentration levels.

## Areas of Study

Students will be able to select physical activities and sports from a range of offerings including:

- Invasion games – football, basketball, netball and rugby
- Striking games – cricket, rounders and softball
- Fitness activities – yoga, circuit training, HIIT and exercise to music
- Net games – tennis, badminton and table tennis

## Course Assessment

Students are assessed based on their efforts in Core PE, which is shared during data captures.

## Further Opportunities

Students can explore local opportunities and offering to maintain healthy, active lifestyles.

## Subject Contact

Subject Leader – Ms Rhiannon Lavin [rhiannon.lavin@rakacademy.org](mailto:rhiannon.lavin@rakacademy.org)

# IGCSE English First Language

Pearson Edexcel 4EA1/01

## Course Information

It is compulsory to study English. This course allows students to:

- Develop the ability to communicate clearly, accurately and effectively when speaking and writing.
- Learn how to use a wide range of vocabulary, correct grammar, spelling and punctuation.
- Develop a personal style and an awareness of the audience being addressed.

Students are also encouraged to read widely, both for their own enjoyment and to further their awareness of the ways in which English can be used. IGCSE First Language English also develops more general analysis and communication skills such as inference, and the ability to order facts and present opinions effectively.

## Main Aims of the Course and Skills Developed Throughout the Course

The aims are to enable students to:

- Read a wide range of texts, fluently and with good understanding, enjoying and appreciating a variety of language.
- Read critically, and use knowledge gained from wide reading to inform and improve their own writing.
- Write accurately and effectively, using Standard English appropriately.
- Work with information and with ideas in language by developing skills of evaluation, analysis, use and inference.
- Listen to, understand and use spoken language effectively.
- Acquire and apply a wide vocabulary, alongside a knowledge and understanding of grammatical terminology and linguistic conventions.

## Areas of Study

The English Language course lasts one year and is taken at the end of Grade 9. Here, the students will improve their reading and writing skills. They will have the opportunity to respond with understanding to a rich array of reading texts during the course. They will use these texts to inform and inspire their own writing, and write in a range of text types for different purposes and audiences.

## Course Assessment

100% examination, all students take two papers: Paper 1 and Paper 3

<b>Paper 1: Reading (non-fiction) and transactional writing</b>	<b>Paper 3: Reading fiction and creative writing</b>
2 hours Paper 1 is comprised of 5 questions This is 50% of the language paper grade	2 hours Paper 3 is comprised of 2 section: Analysing and comparing fiction
Candidates apply a variety of inference, comparison and analytical skills to an anthology of texts and an unseen text	Creative writing
Externally assessed	This is 50% of the language paper grade
	Externally assessed

### **Further Opportunities**

Apart from improving your ability to speak and write in English, this course will give you some of the skills that you need to study English at Key Stage 5, as well as improve your overall English language abilities.

### **Subject Contact**

Subject Leader – Mrs. J Griffiths: [jennifer.griffiths@rakacademy.org](mailto:jennifer.griffiths@rakacademy.org)

Key Stage Co-ordinator- Ms. K Whittle: [kymbley.whittle@rakacademy.org](mailto:kymbley.whittle@rakacademy.org)

# IGCSE English Second Language

Pearson Edexcel 4ES1

## Course Information

It is compulsory to study English. This course allows students to:

- Develop the ability to communicate clearly, accurately, and effectively when speaking and writing.
- Learn how to use a wide range of vocabulary, correct grammar, spelling, and punctuation.
- Develop a personal style and an awareness of the audience being addressed.

Students are also encouraged to read widely, both for their own enjoyment and to further their awareness of the ways in which English can be used. IGCSE First Language English also develops more general analysis and communication skills such as inference, and the ability to order facts and present opinions effectively.

## Main Aims of the Course and Skills Developed Throughout the Course

The aims are to:

- develop learners' ability to use English effectively for the purpose of practical communication
- Form a solid foundation for the skills required for further study or employment using English as the medium
- Develop learners' awareness of the nature of language and language-learning skills
- Promote learners' personal development.

## Areas of Study

The English Second Language course lasts one year and is taken at the end of Grade 9. Here, the students will improve their reading and writing skills. They will have the opportunity to respond with understanding to a rich array of reading texts during the course as a whole. They will use these texts to inform and inspire their own writing, and write in a range of text types for different purposes and audiences.

## Course Assessment

100% examination, all students take two papers: Paper 1 and Paper 2.

<b>Paper 1: Reading and writing</b> 2 hours Reading and Writing 66% of overall grade  Six exercises testing a range of reading and writing skills Externally assessed	<b>Paper 2: listening</b> 50 minutes Listening 33% - 40 marks Candidates listen to several short extracts and longer texts, and complete a range of task types, including short-answer questions, gap filling, matching, multiple choice and note making. Externally assessed
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## Further Opportunities

Apart from improving your ability to speak and write in English, this course will give you some of the skills that you need to study English at Key Stage 5, as well as improve your overall English language abilities.

## Subject Contact

Subject Leader – Mrs. J Griffiths: [jennifer.griffiths@rakacademy.org](mailto:jennifer.griffiths@rakacademy.org)

Key Stage Co-ordinator- Ms. K Whittle: [kymbley.whittle@rakacademy.org](mailto:kymbley.whittle@rakacademy.org)

# IGCSE English Literature

Pearson Edexcel 4ET1

## Course Information

It is compulsory to study English. This course allows students to read, interpret, evaluate and respond to a range of literature in English. The range includes drama, prose and poetry. It enables students to deepen their understanding and appreciation of the ways in which writers use English to express meaning and achieve effects. IGCSE Literature in English will stimulate students to read for pleasure and to explore wider and universal issues, promoting a better understanding of themselves and the world.

## Main Aims of the Course and Skills Developed Throughout the Course

The syllabus enables students to read, interpret and evaluate texts through the study of literature in English. Students develop an understanding of literal meaning, relevant contexts and of the deeper themes or attitudes that may be expressed. Through their studies, they learn to recognise and appreciate the ways in which writers use English to achieve a range of effects, and will be able to present an informed, personal response to the material they have studied. The syllabus also encourages the exploration of wider and universal issues, promoting students' better understanding of themselves and of the world around them.

## Areas of Study

This course is taken in Grade 10 only. Here you will improve your analytical skills and learn how authors write. You'll also get the chance to voice your opinions and feelings about worldwide issues such as prejudice, love, belonging and poverty, to list but a few.

## Course Assessment

100% examination

<b>Paper 1: 2 hours</b> Poetry and Modern Prose 50% 90marks Two questions on two texts: one poetry and one prose Externally assessed	<b>Paper 2 1 hour 30 minutes</b>  <b>Modern Drama and Heritage</b>	
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## Further Opportunities

Studying English Literature helps to sharpen our students' analytical skills. They will be expected to take a text and find the themes, and then connect it with other texts, theories and historical events. Students will use their complex ideas to search for patterns and interpret information in a wider context. They will also develop their planning and research skills as well as gain knowledge of history, culture, philosophy and even human behaviour. English is good for any job that involves communication, writing and / or literary knowledge. These include: advertising and marketing, writing and journalism, law, consultancy, business, teaching, performing arts, academia, government, linguistics, foreign languages, media and design.

## Subject Contact

Subject Leader – Mrs. J Griffiths: [jennifer.griffiths@rakacademy.org](mailto:jennifer.griffiths@rakacademy.org)

Key Stage Co-ordinator- Ms. K Whittle: [kymbley.whittle@rakacademy.org](mailto:kymbley.whittle@rakacademy.org)

# IGCSE Mathematics

Exam board and specification number – Edexcel 1MA1

## Course Information

This is a core subject that all students take. It is essential in life to have good numeracy skills and to be able to solve problems. Many career pathways, apprenticeships and college and university courses require a certain level of mathematics for students to be accepted on to them.

## Main Aims of the Course and Skills Developed Throughout the Course

To develop fluent knowledge, skills and understanding of mathematical methods and concept; to acquire, select and apply mathematical techniques to solve problems; to be able to reason mathematically, make deductions and draw conclusions and to understand and interpret mathematical information in a variety of ways.

## Areas of Study

Mathematics falls into 6 key areas and aims to develop these skills and develop an aptitude for problem solving using these skills. The 6 key areas are:

- Number
- Algebra
- Ratio, Proportion and rates of change
- Geometry and measures
- Probability
- Statistics

## Course Assessment

100% examination.

All students will take two papers.

The course provides two tiers of entry, a foundation and higher tier to ensure students are best placed to ensure exam success.

<b>Paper 1:</b>	<b>Paper 2:</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 2 Hours</li><li>• 50%</li><li>• Calculator</li><li>• Externally assessed</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 2 Hours</li><li>• 50%</li><li>• Calculator</li><li>• Externally assessed</li></ul>

A high level of mathematics is sought by all employers and the types of course available to you at university and beyond are usually defined by your grade in mathematics.

## Further Opportunities

Mathematics is used in all careers but is a vital skill for careers in accountancy, business, banking, science and technology-based careers. Students that achieve good qualifications in Mathematics are in high demand in this country and worldwide and are very well paid as a result.

Students can study A-level mathematics and mathematics as part of the IB programme.

**Subject Contact**

Subject Leader: Mrs Nashmia Zubair: [nashmia.zubair@rakacademy.org](mailto:nashmia.zubair@rakacademy.org)

# IGCSE Biology

Exam board and specification number – Cambridge International IGCSE 0970

## Course Information

Cambridge IGCSE Biology enables students to:

- Increase their understanding of the technological world
- Take an informed interest in scientific matters
- Recognise the usefulness of scientific method, how to apply this to other disciplines and everyday life
- Develop an interest, and a care for, the environment

This programme balances a thorough knowledge and understanding of Biology and develops skills that will be useful for further education or employment.

## Main Aims of the Course and Skills Developed Throughout the Course

- Develop practical skills relevant to the study and practice of Biology
- Encourage a systematic approach to problem solving
- Encourage safe practice in investigative work
- Develop effective communication through the language of science
- Develop a concern for accuracy and precision, objectivity, integrity, and initiative in Biology

## Areas of Study

Students will study a variety of biological concepts including but not limited to;

- Classification of living organisms
- Biological molecules
- Plant nutrition
- Respiration
- Inheritance
- Biotechnology and Genetic Engineering

## Course Assessment

100% examination, students will take 3 papers.

Paper	Paper Type	Final Grade (%)	Time (min)	Core/Extended
1	Multiple Choice	30	45	Core
2	Multiple Choice	30	45	Extended
3	Theory	50	75	Core
4	Theory	50	75	Extended
6	Alternative to Practical	20	60	Core and Extended

## Further Opportunities

IGCSE Biology provides a good scientific foundation for all career paths, allowing students to develop their analytical skills, practical techniques, and knowledge application in a range of areas. It can lead to AS and A level Biology, or Biology as a subject choice in IB.

IGCSE Biology will develop skills in scientific communication, logical progression of Biological theory, and basic mathematical skills which are a pre-requisite for many career pathways. Students considering the field of teaching, psychology, medicine, biological research or the general health profession should consider taking this course.

## Subject Contact

Subject Leader – Mr Adam Khan, [adam.khan@rakacademy.org](mailto:adam.khan@rakacademy.org)

# IGCSE Chemistry

Exam board and specification number – Cambridge International IGCSE 0971

## Course Information

Cambridge IGCSE Chemistry enables students to:

- Develop relevant attitudes, such as concern for accuracy and precision, objectivity, integrity, enquiry, initiative and inventiveness
- Recognise the usefulness of scientific method, and how to apply this to other disciplines and everyday life

This programme balances a thorough knowledge and understanding of Chemistry and develops skills that will be useful for further education or employment.

## Main Aims of the Course and Skills Developed Throughout the Course

- Develop practical skills relevant to the study and practice of Chemistry
- Enable students to appreciate that the applications of science may be both beneficial and detrimental to the individual, and the community and the environment
- Encourage safe practice in investigative work
- Develop effective communication through the language of science
- Develop a concern for accuracy and precision, objectivity, integrity, and initiative in Chemistry

## Areas of Study

Students will study a variety of Chemistry concepts including but not limited to:

- The particulate nature of matter
- Atoms, elements and compounds
- Stoichiometry
- Acids, bases and salts
- The Periodic Table
- Organic chemistry

## Course Assessment

100% examination, students will sit 3 papers.

Paper	Paper Type	Final Grade (%)	Time (min)	Core/Extended
1	Multiple Choice	30	45	Core
2	Multiple Choice	30	45	Extended
3	Theory	50	75	Core
4	Theory	50	75	Extended
6	Alternative to Practical	20	60	Core and Extended

## Further Opportunities

IGCSE Chemistry is the scientific discipline involved with compounds or atoms, elements, and molecules. It can lead to AS and A level Chemistry, or Chemistry as a subject choice in IB.

IGCSE Chemistry will develop skills in scientific communication, the ability to predict and make observations on chemical reactions, and calculating concentrations and reacting mass, which are a pre-requisite for many career pathways.

Students considering the field of teaching, pharmacology, medicine, chemical engineering or the general health profession should consider this course.

## Subject Contact

Subject Leader – Mr Adam Khan, [adam.khan@rakacademy.org](mailto:adam.khan@rakacademy.org)

# IGCSE Physics

Exam board and specification number – Cambridge International IGCSE 0972

## Course Information

Cambridge IGCSE Physics enables students to:

- Allow students to recognise that science is evidence based and understand the usefulness, and the limitations of scientific method.
- Encourage safe and efficient investigative practice.
- Encourage a systematic approach to problem solving.

This programme balances a thorough knowledge and understanding of Physics and develops skills that will be useful for further education or employment.

## Main Aims of the Course and Skills Developed Throughout the Course

- Develop practical skills relevant to the study and practice of Physics.
- Enable students to appreciate that the applications of science may be both beneficial and detrimental to the individual, and the community and the environment.
- Develop effective communication through the language of science.
- Develop a concern for accuracy and precision, objectivity, integrity, and initiative in Physics.

## Areas of Study

Students will study a variety of Physics concepts including but not limited to;

- Forces and motion
- Thermal physics
- Properties of waves, including light and sound
- Electricity and magnetism
- Atomic physics

## Course Assessment

100% examination, students will sit 3 papers.

Paper	Paper Type	Final Grade (%)	Time (min)	Core/Extended
1	Multiple Choice	30	45	Core
2	Multiple Choice	30	45	Extended
3	Theory	50	75	Core
4	Theory	50	75	Extended
6	Alternative to Practical	20	60	Core and Extended

## Further Opportunities

IGCSE Physics is the scientific discipline involved with matter and its motion, and its behaviour through space and time. It studies the related entities of energy and force and tries to understand how the universe behaves. This course leads to AS and A level Physics, or Physics as a subject choice in IB. Physics IGCSE will develop skills in scientific calculation, the ability to predict new technologies, and suggest efficiencies of modern-day appliances, which are a pre-requisite for many career pathways. Students considering the field of engineering, mechanics, data analyst, would be recommended to take this course.

## Subject Contact

Subject Leader – Mr Adam Khan, [adam.khan@rakacademy.org](mailto:adam.khan@rakacademy.org)

# IGCSE Global Citizenship

Exam board and specification number – IGCSE CIE 0460

**This course is only a choice for students who are Arabic B/C and are non-Muslim and do not study Islamic Studies.**

## Course Information

The Pearson Edexcel International GCSE in Global Citizenship is a linear qualification. All units are taken at the end of the course of study. The curriculum is engaging and relevant and widens students' knowledge of contemporary issues. It encourages them to reflect on what makes them a 'global citizen', and how their learning will develop their skills and knowledge within their local and national communities.

## Main Aims of the Course and Skills Developed Throughout the Course

Through the content studied and assessment, students will engage in responding to issues and take part in the community project, which allows them to 'engage' with global society. This will enable them to take greater ownership and responsibility of the community activity to demonstrate active citizenship – improving others' societies as well as their own.

The aims and objectives of this qualification are to:

- Introduce key issues and changes affecting societies across the globe and develop students' understanding of them.
- Develop students' understanding of how communities interact locally, nationally, regionally and globally in response to change.
- Develop students' skills of enquiry, analysis and evaluation of different perspectives in relation to global issues and change.
- Enable students to participate in local community activities and understand the impact of these actions in terms of making a difference to their own community, to the communities of others or society.

## Areas of Study

Themes relate to possible community action projects which can be undertaken.

Contexts and settings will be those that students are likely to encounter, for example in society, employment and their own community. Culturally sensitive themes are used throughout to build on knowledge and widen understanding of global and local issues affecting communities and societies.

## Course Assessment

100% external assessment.

**Paper 1:** Global Citizenship – 2.5 hours examination

- Externally assessed
- This paper assesses knowledge and understanding of four key themes relating to global citizenship studies:
- Politics and Governance
- Economic Development and the Environment
- Culture and Community
- Technology

These themes are broken down into related subject areas, which enable students to explore a wide range of issues and ideas, with a specific focus on how they interrelate with being an effective citizen.

## Further Opportunities

This course provides an excellent foundation for students wishing to study the IB Diploma Program, well as most A-Levels.

## Subject Contact

Head of Humanities: Mr Liam Core [liam.core@rakacademy.org](mailto:liam.core@rakacademy.org)

# IGCSE Further Pure Mathematics

Exam board and specification number – IGCSE Pearsons 4PM1/01 and 4PM1/02

**This course is only a choice for students who are non-Muslim and do not study Islamic Studies.**

## Course Information

This qualification is to enhance the learning for students whose mathematical competence may have developed early, or who wish to pursue their interest in the subject. It provides an additional Level 2 International GCSE qualification, which extends mathematical techniques beyond those covered in International GCSE/GCSE in Mathematics.

- Broaden and deepen students' skills – this International GCSE has been designed to extend students' knowledge by broadening and deepening skills
- Supports progression to A Level – this qualification enables successful progression onto A Level and beyond.

## Main Aims of the Course and Skills Developed Throughout the Course

The Pearson Edexcel International GCSE in Further Pure Mathematics qualification enables students to:

- 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.

## Areas of Study

Mathematics falls into 3 key areas and aims to develop these skills and develop an aptitude for problem solving using these skills. The key areas are:

### Number

- Use numerical skills in a purely mathematical way and in real-life situations.

### Algebra and calculus

- Use algebra and calculus to set up and solve problems.
- Develop competence and confidence when manipulating mathematical expressions.
- Construct and use graphs in a range of situations.

### Geometry and trigonometry

- Understand the properties of shapes, angles and transformations.
- Use vectors and rates of change to model situations.
- Use coordinate geometry.
- Use trigonometry.

## Course Assessment

100% assessment based

All students will take two papers at only Higher level

Paper 1:	Paper 2:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 2 Hours</li><li>• 50%</li><li>• Calculator</li><li>• Externally assessed</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 2 Hours</li><li>• 50%</li><li>• Calculator</li><li>• Externally assessed</li></ul>

### Further Opportunities

Mathematics is used in all careers but is a vital skill for careers in accountancy, business, banking, science and technology-based careers. Students that achieve good qualifications in Mathematics are in high demand in this country and worldwide and are very well paid as a result.

Students can study A-level mathematics and mathematics as part of the IB programme and Further Pure Mathematics can help provide a foundation for it.

### Subject Contact

Subject Leader: Mrs Nashmia Zubair: [nashmia.zubair@rakacademy.org](mailto:nashmia.zubair@rakacademy.org)

# OPTION SUBJECTS

# International GCSE Arabic \*

Edexcel International Examinations – Arabic (First Language) (4AR0)

## Course Information

It is an optional to study Arabic IGCSE. This course allows students to:

- Develop the ability to communicate clearly, accurately, and effectively when speaking and writing.
- Learn how to use a wide range of vocabulary, correct grammar, spelling, and punctuation.
- Develop a personal style and an awareness of the audience being addressed.

Students are also encouraged to read widely, both for their own enjoyment and to further their awareness of the ways in which Arabic can be used. IGCSE First Language Arabic also develops more general analysis and communication skills such as, the ability to order facts and present opinions effectively.

## Main Aims of the Course and Skills Developed Throughout the Course

The aims are to enable students to:

- Read a wide range of texts, fluently and with good understanding, enjoying, and appreciating a variety of language.
- Read critically, and use knowledge gained from wide reading to inform and improve their own writing.
- Write accurately and effectively, using Standard Arabic appropriately.
- Work with information and with ideas in language by developing skills of evaluation, analysis, use and inference.
- Acquire and apply a wide vocabulary, alongside a knowledge and understanding of grammatical terminology and linguistic conventions.

## Areas of Study

The Arabic Language course lasts two years and is taken at the end of Grade 10, the students will improve their reading and writing skills. They will have the opportunity to respond with understanding to a rich array of reading texts during the course. They will use these texts to inform and inspire their own writing and write in a range of text types for different purposes and audiences.

## Course Assessment

100% examination, all students take two papers: Paper 1 and Paper 2.

<b>Paper 1:</b> <b>Paper code:</b> 4AA1/01 <b>Written examination:</b> 2 hours and 15 minutes <b>Availability:</b> January and June <b>Part One:</b> Reading (49 marks) <b>Part Two:</b> Summary (6 marks) <b>Part Three:</b> Grammar (20 marks) <b>75 Marks = 60%</b> of the qualification <b>Externally assessed</b>	<b>Paper 2: Writing</b> <b>Paper code:</b> 4AA1/02 <b>Written examination:</b> 1 hour and 30 minutes <b>Availability:</b> January and June Two extended-response writing tasks (25 marks for each task)  <b>50 Marks = 40%</b> of the qualification <b>Externally assessed</b>
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## Further Opportunities

- Teaching Arabic
- Translation to/from Arabic
- Study Arabic at higher levels e.g. [IB Arabic](#) / [A LEVEL Arabic](#)

## Subject Contact

Head of Arabic: Mr. Ibrahim Alqabbani: [ibrahem.alqabbani@rakacademy.org](mailto:ibrahem.alqabbani@rakacademy.org)

# IGCSE Art and Design\*\*

**Exam board and specification number** – Cambridge IGCSE (9-1) Art & Design 0989

## Course Information

This course is suitable for students who have good basic drawing skills and who have completed KS3 Art. Students must have the motivation to explore and develop their ideas in response to set themes. They should be independent thinkers and be able to reflect upon their work. Commitment and enthusiasm towards the subject are vital ingredients for success on this course. Students will be able to use their imagination and experiment with a range of materials so that they can develop their ideas into visually interesting outcomes.

## Main Aims of the Course and Skills Developed Throughout the Course

For IGCSE Art students will be able to:

- Develop ideas through investigations, demonstrating critical understanding of sources.
- Refine work by exploring ideas, selecting and experimenting with appropriate media, materials, techniques and processes.
- Record ideas, observations and insights relevant to intentions as work progresses.
- Present a personal and meaningful response that realises intentions and demonstrates understanding of visual language.

## Areas of Study

In studying IGCSE Art students will learn to:

- Use the formal elements through a range of compositions.
- Communicate ideas through observations and annotation.
- Experiment with different materials such as wet, dry resistant, malleable and digital.
- Demonstrate an understanding of colour and light.
- Use digital and/or non-digital applications.
- Understand the effects of combining different materials to create creative solutions.
- Carry out visual research using primary and secondary sources effectively.

## Course Assessment

**Component 1:** 50% of the overall grade.

- Internally set Personal Portfolio
- Centre devised theme. Students create a portfolio of work that demonstrates their knowledge, understanding and skills of the theme.
- Final 10-hour exam

**Component 2:** 50% of the overall grade.

- Externally set Assignment
- Externally set theme which is released in January of final year.
- Students must create a body of work in response to an externally set theme, set by Edexcel.
- Final 10-hour exam
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## Further Opportunities

Further study options at RAK Academy include:

- AS Art
- A Level Art
- IB Visual Art

IGCSE Art is a useful qualification for any student wishing to pursue a creative career in the field of Art, Craft, graphic designer, fine art, sculpting, media and many other interesting and creative pathways.

### **Subject Contact**

Head of Department – Mrs Natasha Koka [Natasha.Koka@rakacademy.org](mailto:Natasha.Koka@rakacademy.org)

Art Subject Coordinator – Mrs Sarah Laverty [sarah.laverty@rakacademy.org](mailto:sarah.laverty@rakacademy.org)

# IGCSE Business Studies

Exam board and specification number – Pearson Edexcel Examinations – 4BS1

## Course Information

This course would be suitable for students who are keen to understand how businesses operate in the real world. Students will learn to appreciate the role of people in business, how to calculate and interpret business data, analyse business situations and provide appropriate recommendations. The course is aimed at students who are creative thinkers, have a fair grasp of Mathematics and who are committed and enthusiastic about learning how businesses work.

## Main Aims of the Course and Skills Developed Throughout the Course

The course is designed to give you an understanding of the different forms of business organisations, the environment in which businesses operate and business functions such as marketing, operations and finance.

## Areas of Study

Students will be given the opportunity to explore the following themes:

- Business activity and influences on business
- People in business
- Business finance
- Marketing
- Business operations

## Course Assessment

The course is 100% examination, and all students will take two papers

<b>Paper 1: Short response questions (1, 2, 3, 6, 9, 12 marks) (80 marks total)</b> 1 hour 30 min 50% Paper 1 will focus on a small business of up to 49 employees that has a local/national market. Externally assessed	<b>Paper 2: Extended response questions (1, 2, 3, 6, 9, 12 marks) (80 marks total)</b> 1 hour 30 min 50% Paper 2 will focus on a large business of more than 250 employees that has a multinational/global market. Externally assessed
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## Further Opportunities

This course is good preparation for A Level courses in Business, Economics or IB Business Management. It would also be useful to any students who wish to set up or run their own business. Students interested in a wide range of careers including retail, accounting, travel & tourism, financial services, charities and general management would benefit from the skills and themes covered.

## Subject Contact

Head of Department - Mrs P. Seymour: - [phillippa.seymour@rakacademy.org](mailto:phillippa.seymour@rakacademy.org)

# IGCSE Computer Science

Exam board and specification number – Cambridge International Examinations (0984)

## Course Information

- The IGCSE Computer Science course is intended for students with an interest in learning about the functioning of computer systems
- The course covers learning about how computer programs are designed and coded.
- It is recommended that students possess good knowledge of Maths and/or Science in order to understand and solve problems in topics that require higher level logical thinking

## Main Aims of the Course and Skills Developed Throughout the Course

Cambridge IGCSE Computer Science enables the student 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.

## Areas of Study

For IGCSE Computer Science students should:

- Develop computational thinking
- Develop an understanding of the main principles of solving problems by using computers
- Develop an understanding of the component parts of computer systems and how they interrelate, including software, data, hardware, communications and people
- Acquire the skills necessary to apply this understanding to develop computer-based solutions to problems using a high-level programming language.

## Course Assessment

All candidates take two components. Candidates will be eligible for grades 9 to 1.

Paper 1: Computer Systems (50%) 1 hour 45 minutes - Externally assessed

The written paper contains short-answer and structured questions. There is no choice of questions and no calculators are permitted.

Paper 2: Algorithms, Programming and Logic (50%) 1 hour 45 minutes - Externally assessed

This written paper contains short-answer and structured questions and a scenario-based question. There is no choice of questions and no calculators are permitted.

## Further Opportunities

Students who are awarded grades 9 to 4 in Cambridge IGCSE Computer Science are well prepared to follow courses leading to Cambridge International AS and A Level Computer Science or IB Computer Science. Computer Science can lead to careers such as Web designer, Software developer, Data analyst, Network manager, Graphics designer, and many more. The skills learnt during the course can also be used in other areas of study and in everyday life.

## Subject Contact

Head of Computer Science – Mr. Loganathan – [ezhilarasu.loganathan@rakacademy.org](mailto:ezhilarasu.loganathan@rakacademy.org)

# IGCSE Design Technology

Exam board and specification number - Cambridge IGCSE (9-1) Design and Technology 0979

## Course Information

This course is ideal for students who enjoy designing and creating solutions to problems. It provides an ideal basis for further study in Design and Technology. The course is designed to accommodate a wide range of interests, materials and resources and it equips students with the technical knowledge and practical designing and making skills for the world of work.

## Main Aims of the Course and Skills Developed Throughout the Course

The main aims are to enable students to:

- Develop creative thinking in areas relevant to design and technology
- Apply problem-solving skills to practical and technological problems
- Develop the communication skills central to design, realisation and evaluation
- Gain knowledge and understanding of design and technology
- Develop skills in research and investigation
- Design and make products, taking into consideration sustainability and the wider impact on society
- Develop the ability to make aesthetic, economic, ethical and technical value judgements.

## Areas of Study

### Graphic Products:

1. Formal drawing techniques,
2. Projections- views and developments,
3. Presenting and communicating information,
4. Materials and modelling,
5. Use of instruments and/or ICT,
6. Manufacture of graphic products

### Product Design:

1. Health and safety
2. Initiation and development of ideas, and recording data,
3. Communication of design ideas,
4. Use of technology in design and making,
5. Design & technology in society,
6. Practical design application,
7. Environment and sustainability,
8. System & Control

## Course Assessment

1. Component 1- Externally set examination: **50% of the overall grade.**

**Paper 1:** 1 hour 15 minutes based on knowledge of Product Design 25%.

**Paper 2** -1 hour based on knowledge of Graphic Products 25%.

2. Component 2: **50% of the overall grade**

The school-based assessment is internally assessed and externally moderated. It comprises of portfolio that evidence a major design and make project.

## Further Opportunities

IGCSE Design Technology is the ideal base for progression into the IB Design Technology diploma (IBDP) pathway or AS/A-Level Design and Technology (Product Design). Design and Technology can lead to careers in a wide variety of industries such as; fashion, engineering, architecture, information technology, CAD & CAM studies, manufacturing, aeronautical studies, education and many other pathways.

**Subject Contact**

Head of Department – Mrs Natasha Koka [Natasha.Koka@rakacademy.org](mailto:Natasha.Koka@rakacademy.org)

# IGCSE Economics IGCSE

## Pearson Edexcel International GCSE in Economics (4EC1)

### Course Information

The Pearson Edexcel International GCSE in Economics is designed as a two-year course. As students' progress through the course, they will be introduced to new ideas and concepts while continuing to use and reinforce previously learned concepts and skills. The course 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.

### Main Aims of the Course and Skills Developed Throughout the Course

The Pearson Edexcel International GCSE in Economics qualification enables students to:

- Develop an understanding of economic concepts and apply these concepts to real-life situations
- Calculate, interpret and evaluate economic data in order to make reasoned arguments and informed judgements
- Develop an awareness of economic change and its impact on developing and developed economies
- Understand economic issues, problems and possible solutions that affect mixed economies
- Participate effectively in society as citizens, producers and consumers.

### Areas of Study

In studying IGCSE Economics students will learn to:

The market system:

- The economic problem
- Economic assumptions
- Demand, supply and market equilibrium
- Elasticity
- The mixed economy

### Course Assessment

Two-paper assessment

Students will be tested on their knowledge, understanding, analytical and evaluation skills around two themes:

**Paper 1: Microeconomics and Business Economics**

**Paper 2: Macroeconomics and the Global Economy**

### Further Opportunities

Further study options at RAK Academy include:

- IAS Business

### Subject Contact

Head of Department – Mrs Phillipa Seymour [phillippa.seymour@rakacademy.org](mailto:phillippa.seymour@rakacademy.org)

# IGCSE French

Exam board and specification number – Pearson (Edexcel) (4FR1)

## Course Information

This course is suitable for all students who have studied French up to the end of Grade 8 and allows for students to gain a solid foundation of the French language in four skills: Reading, Writing, Listening and Speaking.

## Main Aims of the Course and Skills Developed Throughout the Course

For IGCSE French students should:

- Be confident in understanding how language works.
- Understand and produce the French language in a variety of contexts.
- Use acquired grammar skills correctly, punctuate and spell accurately.

## Areas of Study

- Home and abroad
- Education and employment
- Personal life and relationships
- The world around us
- Social activities, fitness and health

## Course Assessment

- 100% examination

Paper	Paper type	Final grade (%)	Time (min)
Paper 1	Listening	25	30 mins + 5 minutes reading time
Paper 2	Reading & Writing	50	1hr 45 minutes
Paper 3	Speaking	25	8-10 minutes

## Further Opportunities

IGCSE French develops a set of transferable skills for understanding and communicating in everyday situations in French. Students begin to develop cultural awareness of countries and communities where French is spoken. They acquire the essential linguistic skills required for progression to further studies or employment. Students can study French as part of the IB Diploma Programme.

## Subject Contact

Subject Leader – Ms. Annette Hull – [Annette.Hull@rakacademy.org](mailto:Annette.Hull@rakacademy.org)

# IGCSE Geography

Exam board and specification number – IGCSE CIE 0976

## Course Information

This course would be suitable for students who are curious about the world around them. Students need to have an enquiring mind and want to find out about both physical and human environments.

## Main Aims of the Course and Skills Developed Throughout the Course

The Cambridge IGCSE Geography curriculum aims to develop lifelong skills and practices. When studying geography, students gain insights into a range of practical, social, economic, and environmental issues. In addition to core geographic skills (for example field work and the use of specialist equipment; preparing maps and diagrams; and using social surveys and interpretative methods), students develop a range of key skills that are relevant to many jobs and sectors.

These include skills in research and data collection; analysis and evaluation; mathematical and computational skills; written and oral communications skills; report writing and data presentation; planning and problem-solving skills; creative thinking and an ability to recognise the moral and ethical issues involved in debates; time management; and the ability to meet deadlines.

## Areas of Study

The content is covered within three themes:

1. Population and settlement
2. The natural environment
3. Economic development.

## Course Assessment

100% examination

### **Paper 1: Geographical Themes (45%)**

Students must answer one question from each section.

Theme 1: Population and settlement

Theme 2: The natural environment

Theme 3: Economic development

### **Paper 2: Geographical Skills (27.5%)**

The paper is based on testing the interpretation and analysis of geographical information, decision making and the application of graphical and other techniques as appropriate.

### **Paper 4: Fieldwork (27.5%)**

Students attend a two-day fieldtrip where they learn key geographical skills. They will also learn about key data collection methods and how to evaluate and analyse the data collected. Students complete an exam based on these fieldwork methods. As long as COVID restrictions are in place, Fieldwork takes the form of scenario provided by the exam board.

## Further Opportunities

IGCSE Geography provides an excellent foundation for the IB Diploma Program and most A-Levels. IGCSE Geography will also help you embark on a career in a range of fields, including those in the education, commerce, industry, transport, tourism, and public sectors. You will also develop many transferable skills, attracting employers from the business, law, and finance sectors.

## Subject Contact

Head of Humanities – Mr Liam Core [liam.core@rakacademy.org](mailto:liam.core@rakacademy.org)

Subject Leader – Mrs E Turner – [emily.turner@rakacademy.org](mailto:emily.turner@rakacademy.org)

# IGCSE History

Exam board and specification number – IGCSE CIE 0977

## Course Information

The IGCSE History syllabus looks at some of the major international issues of the twentieth centuries, as well as covering the history of regions in more depth. The emphasis is on both historical knowledge and on the skills required for historical research.

Students develop an understanding of the nature of cause and effect, continuity and change, similarity and difference and find out how to use and understand historical evidence as part of their studies. IGCSE History will stimulate any learner already interested in the past, providing a basis for further study, and also encouraging a lifelong interest in the subject.

## Main Aims of the Course and Skills Developed Throughout the Course

Students will develop their ability to:

- Recall, select, organise, and deploy knowledge of the course content and communicate it through description, explanation and analysis of the events, people, changes, and issues studied.
- Show that they understand and can analyse and interpret historical sources, in their context
- Show that they can comprehend, analyse, and evaluate how and why events, people, situations, and changes have been interpreted and represented in relation to the historical themes and periods studied.

## Areas of Study

**International relations since 1919.** This consists of seven key questions:

- What caused the First World War?
- 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?

**Depth study: Russia 1904-1941.** This consists of four key questions:

- Why did the Tsarist regime collapse in 1917?
- How did the Bolsheviks gain power, and how did they consolidate their rule?
- How did Stalin gain and hold on to power?
- What was the impact of Stalin's economic policies?

## Course Assessment

**73% Examination**

**27% Coursework**

**Paper 1 (2 hours, 40% of the mark) will consist of two sections:**

- Section A (Core Content) There will be four questions on the 20th century Core.
- Section B (Depth Studies) will contain two questions on the Depth Study: Russia 1904-1941
- All questions on Paper 1 will be structured into three parts and will be based on stimulus material.

**Paper 2 (2 hours, 33% of the mark)**

- In this paper students choose the 20th century option

- The topics will be prescribed each year and will be taken from the Core Content. Each option will include a collection of source material relating to the prescribed topic, and a series of questions based on the material.

### **Paper 3 Coursework (27% of the mark)**

Candidates produce one piece of extended writing based on the Russia 1904-1941 Depth Study. Which is internally assessed and then externally moderated

### **Further Opportunities**

IGCSE History enables you to embark on a career in a range of fields, including those in the education, commerce, industry, and public sectors. You will also develop many transferable skills, attracting employers from the business, law, and finance sectors. This IGCSE History course provides an excellent basis for students who wish to study the IB Diploma Program and most A-Levels.

### **Subject Contact**

Head of Humanities – Mr Liam Core [liam.core@rakacademy.org](mailto:liam.core@rakacademy.org)

# IGCSE Music\*\*

**Exam board and specification number** – Cambridge IGCSE (9-1) Music 0978

## Course Information

- This course is suitable for musical students who can play an instrument or sing.
- Allows students to be creative, to perform, compose and analyse music
- Students must commit to regular practice on their chosen instrument/voice
- Individual Music lessons are advised

## Main Aims of the Course and Skills Developed Throughout the Course

For GCSE Music students should:

- Give a solo performance on their chosen instrument/sing, in their preferred musical style
- Develop ensemble skills and perform an independent part in a group performance
- Study a wide range of music from different times, genres and cultures
- Develop analytical skills allowing them to compare and contrast musical features
- Develop composition skills
- Use Music software to produce their composition, or recording hardware
- Learn and use appropriate notation techniques
- Compose two pieces lasting a total of 4 minutes, one to a set brief issued by the exam board

## Areas of Study

There are three skills developed throughout the course these are:

- Understanding Music
- Performing
- Composing

These skills are taught and developed through the areas of study:

- Instrumental Music 1700-1820
- Vocal Music
- Music for Stage and Screen
- Fusions

## Course Assessment

### Coursework: Total 60%

- 30% Performance (15% Solo performance, 15% Ensemble performance)
- 30% Composition (15% for each of two compositions)

### Examination: 40%

- Understanding Music: a listening examination in May/June of Grade 10 based on the set works from the areas of study

## Further Opportunities

GCSE Music enables students to do more than simply develop as musicians. It develops communication and analytical skills; it allows expression and creativity and can be the launch pad for a lifelong love of Music or lead to further study at AS/A Level or at IB.

Music careers can be wide ranging encompassing the performing arts, media, music recording and engineering. The dedication and skills that musicians develop through practice and perseverance are highly regarded by universities and employers in all fields.

**Subject Contact**

Head of Creative Arts – Mrs Natasha Koka [Natasha.Koka@rakacademy.org](mailto:Natasha.Koka@rakacademy.org)

# IGCSE Physical Education\*\*

Exam Board and Specification: IGCSE Physical Education CIE (0995)

## Course Information

- Students who have an interest in Human biology and who are talented in a range of sports
- The course further develops students' physical skills and knowledge of the anatomical, physiological and sociology aspects of physical education
- There is an equal weighting for practical and theory elements of the course which are combined for the final grade.
- Students are expected to collate video footage evidence for at least four sports as evidence to award the appropriate grades.
- Students will have two lessons a week in a classroom and one practical lesson a week.

## Main Aims of the Course and Skills Developed Throughout the Course

Cambridge IGCSE Physical Education is accepted by universities and employers as proof of knowledge and understanding of Physical Education.

The Cambridge IGCSE Physical Education syllabus encourages students to develop:

- The knowledge and understanding of the theoretical principles that underpin performance in sport and physical activity
- Their knowledge, skills and understanding of a range of relevant physical activities
- An ability to plan, perform and evaluate physical activities
- An understanding of the role of sport and physical activity in society and in the wider world
- Excellent foundation for advanced study
- Enjoyment of physical activity.

## Areas of Study

Students will study all the following topics:

- 1: Anatomy and physiology
- 2: Health, fitness and training
- 3: Skill acquisition and psychology
- 4: Social, cultural and ethical influences

## Course Assessment

### Component 1 (50%)

- Exam Paper: Theory 1 hour 45 minutes

### Component 2 (50%)

- Coursework Students undertake four physical activities from at least two of the seven categories in PE.

## Further Opportunities

IGCSE Physical Education is an essential foundation for all career paths based around physical education, health, sport and leisure. It can lead to AS and A level in Physical Education, BTEC courses in Sport, Leisure and Tourism and Sports Leader or sports specific coaching awards. Students considering the field of Teaching, Leisure Industry, Sports Journalism, Physiotherapy, Sports Doctor and Sports Marketing will also find the course useful.

## Subject Contact

Subject Leader – Miss Rhiannon Lavin [Rhiannon.Lavin@rakacademy.org](mailto:Rhiannon.Lavin@rakacademy.org)

# IGCSE Spanish

Exam board and specification number – Edexcel (Pearson) (4SP1)

## Course Information

The course will allow students to gain a solid foundation of the Spanish language in four skills: Reading, Writing, Listening and Speaking. Students must have a keen interest in languages.

## Main Aims of the Course and Skills Developed Throughout the Course

In completing the IGCSE, Spanish students will be confident in their understanding of how the language works. They will understand and communicate in Spanish through a variety of contexts. Students will use acquired grammar skills correctly and punctuate and spell accurately.

## Areas of Study

- Home and abroad
- Education and employment
- Personal life and relationships
- The world around us
- Social activities, fitness and health

## Course assessment – how will I be assessed?

100% examination

Paper	Paper type	Final grade (%)	Time (min)
Paper 1	Listening	25	30 minutes + 5 minutes reading time
Paper 2	Reading & Writing	50	1hr 45 minutes
Paper 3	Speaking	25	8 – 10 minutes

## Further Opportunities

IGCSE Spanish develops a set of transferable skills for understanding and communicating in everyday situations in Spanish. Students begin to develop cultural awareness of countries and communities where Spanish is spoken. They acquire the essential linguistic skills required for progression to further studies or employment. Students can choose to study Spanish as part of the IB Diploma Programme.

## Subject Contact

Subject Leader - Ms. Annette Hull [Annette.Hull@rakacademy.org](mailto:Annette.Hull@rakacademy.org)