

# Measuring Progress in the UK National Curriculum

## Programmes of Study

For each UK National Curriculum subject taught at KIS, there is a Programme of Study which helps to guide our curriculum and planning. The Programmes of Study describe the subject knowledge, skills and understanding students are expected to develop during each Key Stage which are outlined below;

Key Stage	Classes at KIS
Foundation Stage	First Steps @ KIS / Foundation 1 / Foundation 2
Key Stage 1	Year 1 / Year 2
Key Stage 2	Year 3 / Year 4 / Year 5 / Year 6
Key Stage 3	Year 7 / Year 8 / Year 9
Key Stage 4	Year 10 / Year 11

## National Curriculum Levels

The Programmes of Study also map out a scale of attainment within the subject. In most Key Stage 1, 2, and 3 subjects, these “Attainment Targets” are split into eight levels, plus a description of “exceptional performance”. Students develop at different rates, but we use UK National Curriculum levels to provide information about student progress in relation to what is typical for their age. By the end of Key Stage 1 (Year 2) most students will have reached Level 2, by the end of Key Stage 2 (Year 6) most will be at Level 4 and by the end of Key Stage 3 (Year 9), most students will be at Level 5 or Level 6. The table below outlines this information.

Key Stage	School Year	Approx Student Age	National Curriculum Level
Key Stage 1	Year 2	7	Level 2
Key Stage 2	Year 6	11	Level 4
Key Stage 3	Year 9	14	Level 5 or 6

## Teacher Assessments

Teachers at KIS carry out regular checks on student progress in each subject as a normal part of their teaching. These assessments can take many forms including questioning, observation, discussion, informal testing and work sampling.

## 'End of Key Stage' Tests

At the end of Key Stage 1 (Year 2) we assess students formally in English and maths by using assessments designed to provide a “snapshot” of student progress which provides a Level in relation to how they performed in selected parts of a subject on a particular day. These results are reported to parents in the end of year reports and are used by the school to contribute to the bigger picture of how students are doing compared to standards in the UK and other British International Schools overseas. At the end of Key Stages 2, (Year 6) students also take formal national tests in English, maths and science. The UK has discontinued the formal requirement for students to sit national tests in English, maths and science at the end of Key Stage 3 (Year 9) although the test materials are still available to KIS and other schools following the UK National Curriculum. At KIS

we continue to use these materials to help assess student progress at the end of Year 9 alongside other formal means of assessment including the CLAit assessment in Computer Literacy and Information Technology and the on-line INSIGHT assessments developed by Durham University in the UK which also provide a snapshot of student progress and potential future grades in IGCSE exams at the end of Key Stage 4.

### **Optional tests**

In addition to the End of Key Stage formal assessments at KIS, we also use a suite of UK National Curriculum tests for the assessment of English and Mathematics at the end of Year 3, 4 and 5 during Key Stage 2 and in Year 7 and 8 during Key Stage 3. These tests are not statutory in the UK and therefore are known as Optional Tests, although like the end of Key Stage Tests, they provide a “snapshot” of student progress in selected parts of a subject on a particular day and also contribute to the bigger picture of how students are doing compared to standards in the UK and other British International Schools overseas.

An overview of the formal tests undertaken by KIS students is detailed below;

<b>Year</b>	<b>Key Stage</b>	<b>Assessment</b>
Year 2	Key Stage 1	End of Key Stage 1 Tests in English and maths
Year 3	Key Stage 2	Optional National Curriculum Tests
Year 4	Key Stage 2	Optional National Curriculum Tests
Year 5	Key Stage 2	Optional National Curriculum Tests
Year 6	Key Stage 2	End of Key Stage 2 Tests in English, maths and science
Year 7	Key Stage 3	Optional National Curriculum Tests
Year 8	Key Stage 3	Optional National Curriculum Tests
Year 9	Key Stage 3	End of Key Stage 3 Tests in English, maths and science, INSIGHT on-line assessments
Year 10	Key Stage 4	IGCSE Exams, CLAit on-line assessments
Year 11	Key Stage 4	IGCSE Exams, CLAit on-line assessments