



**KINABALU
INTERNATIONAL
SCHOOL**

NURTURING GLOBAL CITIZENS

SIXTH FORM

ADMISSIONS INFORMATION

2018– 2019

FOBISIA

**Member of the Federation of British International
Schools in Asia (FOBISIA)**



**Accredited by the
Council of International Schools (CIS)**

 **Cambridge Assessment
International Education**
Cambridge International School

Registered Cambridge International School

**NO. PERAKUAN
ENDAFTARAN:**

XUBF01

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Message to Parents and Guardians	Page 3
Introduction to the A Level Programme at KIS	Page 4
Life in the Sixth Form at KIS	Page 5
Sixth Form Enrolment Process	Page 6
Fee Structure and Policies	Pages 7 & 8
Sixth Form Uniform	Page 8
Scholarships	Page 9
A Level Subject Choices	Pages 11 - 21

A MESSAGE TO PARENTS AND GUARDIANS

Years 12 and 13 [the Sixth Form] are important years in a young person's life, as they develop the skills and attributes that are going to be so important for their futures. Independence is vital, but they need to be guided carefully towards this.

To this end, we aim to work in partnership with parents and guardians. If we all understand what the goals are, there is more chance that we will achieve them.

As well as the formal opportunities for meetings [on admission, at parent/open evenings] we are happy to **meet with you at any time to discuss your child's education at KIS**. When at all appropriate we will include your child in any meetings/discussions, in pursuit of our goal of developing independence and self-determination.

Your child will be placed in a tutor group and the tutor will get to know him/her very well. The role of the tutor is to support the student through the 2 years of study in the Sixth Form and to act as a mentor for your child. The team of tutor, Head of Secondary and Principal has many years of experience in guiding students through this interesting and important time in their lives.

If you have any questions or concerns about the Sixth Form at Kinabalu International School, please do not hesitate to contact us at any time. I will be more than happy to discuss the issue, either through email, phone, or face-to-face.

Margaret Renshaw



Assistant Principal and Head of Secondary
Kinabalu International School

CONTACT INFORMATION

KINABALU INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

Off Jalan Khidmat, Bukit Padang,
88300, Kota Kinabalu, Sabah

Tel: +6 088 224526|245 325 Fax: +6 088 244 203

E-mail: info@kis.edu.my

www.kis.edu.my

PRINCIPAL

Mr Alan Connah

Email: principal@kis.edu.my

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL / HEAD OF SECONDARY

Mrs Margaret Renshaw

Email: margaretrenshaw@kis.edu.my

AN INTRODUCTION TO THE A LEVEL PROGRAMME AT KIS

What subjects are KIS planning to offer from August 2018?

A Level students can select between two and four subject choices from the following list:

Art & Design	Biology	Business	Chemistry
English	Literature in English		Geography
History	ICT	Mathematics	Physics

Subjects will be blocked together on the timetable. So, for example, if Chemistry, Geography and History all happen at the same time, it means that students can only choose 1 of these subjects. Students who wish to take 4 subjects must choose 1 subject from each block. The blocks will be organised after students have made their decisions, so that we can give as many as possible their first choices. Students will also have the opportunity to experience community service projects and activities. All students will have private-study periods incorporated into their timetables.

Which Exam Board will KIS use to deliver the A Level programme?

KIS is a certified Examination Centre for Cambridge Assessment International Education and we continue to work with this respected provider of the International A and AS levels, part of Cambridge Assessment, a department of the University of Cambridge in the UK. Cambridge International A and AS Levels are taken in over 125 countries and CIE is the **world's largest provider of international qualifications for 14–19 year olds**. Cambridge International qualifications are widely recognised and valued by universities and employers alike, with some U.S. universities giving up to a year's credit for A Level passes. Every year, thousands of Cambridge International A Level students gain places at good universities worldwide - including the UK, USA, Canada, New Zealand and Australia. The International A and AS levels are also accepted as an entry qualification for universities in Europe alongside the French Baccalaureate and the German Abitur. Our graduates have moved on to prestigious universities worldwide, to study such subjects as Medicine, Engineering, Geography, and Law.

How long do the courses take?

Cambridge International A Levels take two years to complete.

What are AS Levels?

Most A Levels are divided into two sections with the Cambridge International AS Levels often representing the first half of an A Level course. Cambridge International AS Levels have half the content of the corresponding A Level and may be completed in one year. KIS offers the Cambridge International AS Level as a qualification in its own right or as a stage on the way to a Cambridge International A Level. KIS students can study for a Cambridge International AS Level alongside other subjects to increase the breadth of their curriculum and to further build their knowledge and understanding in addition to the subjects they are studying at A Level. AS Levels carry half the value of an A Level as an entry qualification for university.

How many students will be in each class?

KIS is committed to small class sizes to ensure that all students get the individual attention they need to fulfill their academic potential.

What do students need to be accepted into the programme?

In general terms students accepted into the programme will have a minimum of 5 IGCSE/GCSE/SPM passes (A*-C) or the equivalent. Individual subjects may require students to have successfully completed an IGCSE or the equivalent in that subject prior to entry, although all applications will be assessed on an individual basis. Potential applicants should refer to the entry requirements in the subject specific information for each course.

LIFE IN THE SIXTH FORM AT KIS

KIS aims to prepare Sixth Form students for life after school, and will provide opportunities for personal growth and development. All Sixth Formers will be expected to make clear and direct contributions within the school community, and to be excellent role models within the school as a whole. When applying to University students need to demonstrate that they have undertaken a range of activities.

The school will provide opportunities for service, which may include:

- Library Assistant
- Charity Committee
- Community Service Volunteers
- PTSA Representatives and helpers at Parent Teacher Student Association [PTSA] functions
- Student Council Representatives
- Prefects
- Peer Counsellors

All students will have private study periods. At these times students will be expected to take advantage of the facilities within the school to focus on their academic work.

The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award

We encourage all our Sixth Form students to participate in this highly regarded award, offering the opportunity to improve their life skills through a range of interesting and challenging practical experiences.

Personal, Social and Health Education [PSHE]

All students will follow a modular course in PSHE:

1. Careers

As part of the careers module, students will undertake a 2 week work experience placement in the third term of Year 12. Students are expected to research the placement for themselves, with guidance from the school. If possible, this work opportunity should reflect career aspirations. An important aspect of the Careers module will involve tertiary education choices and applications.

2. Teamwork/Leadership

We place an emphasis on transferable skills that will be beneficial to all aspects of adult life. All students have the potential to be leaders, and in this module opportunities will be given to develop the necessary skills. Learning how to be a good team player is also essential, both in the modern work place, and also within school.

3. Health

All students can choose to participate in weekly P.E. lessons. In addition, they will learn about health issues that affect many people and how to ensure good health for themselves now and into the future.

4. Study Skills

This module will develop and hone students' study skills, so that they can benefit as much as possible from the academic courses that they are following.

SIXTH FORM ENROLMENT PROCESS

Step 1: You should read through the contents of this booklet, and carry out your own research in order to gain more knowledge of the specific A Levels that you are interested in. If you decide to apply to the Sixth Form, you must complete the application form and return it to KIS together with:

- Certified copies of school reports for the previous 2 years [in English, translated if necessary]
- A cheque made out to Kinabalu International School for RM800 [admission fee]. There is no admission fee for those who are already students at KIS in Year 11.

Step 2: When we receive the application form and the school reports for the previous 2 years, we may contact your current school if you are applying from a school other than KIS and request a **confidential reference**. This will be sent directly to us.

Step 3: We will contact you to arrange a time for you to come into KIS for an interview with the Head of Sixth Form. All applicants must be able to communicate and learn in the medium of English, and must be able to prove that his/her language proficiency is of an appropriate level. If there is any doubt, the applicant may be required to take an additional language test at this stage. **We may also set test papers in the applicant's chosen subjects to ensure that he/she is capable of study at A Level.**

Step 4: Upon successful completion of Stage 1, 2 and 3 you may receive a **conditional offer** to enter the A level programme at KIS. The conditions of this offer will specify the grades that you will be expected to achieve in your IGCSE/GCSE/SPM/GCE O Level examinations.

Step 5: When you receive your examination results, you must immediately contact the Head of Sixth Form at KIS. If the results are satisfactory, the **conditional offer will be formalised into a firm offer**, which you must accept or refuse.

Step 6: You and your parents complete official school documentation, pay the school fees, purchase text books, acquire the school uniform, and **commence school at the start of the academic year**.

- Advanced level courses are rigorous and demanding and students must be committed if they are to be successful. For that reason the school will not accept any applicant who would not be able to meet the demands of the course. We will consider each application carefully and individually.
- On the application form you are asked to indicate the 4 subjects that you are interested in taking in Year 12. In Year 13 at A2 normally students take 3 A Levels and one AS Level. In some cases students may be allowed to take 4 A Levels. Universities normally require 3 A levels or the equivalent for entry to degree level courses. You are advised to carry out your own research on University Courses that you may be interested in, so as to ensure that you choose appropriate A Level courses.
- KIS will endeavour to accommodate subject choices. Should a course be oversubscribed or not be available for any reason, we will communicate this to applicants at an early stage in the admission procedure.

SIXTH FORM FEE STRUCTURES & POLICIES

ONE TIME ONLY FEES (FOR NEW STUDENTS) 2018-19	
Application Fee	RM 800 per student
Registration Fee	RM 1,000 per student
Capital Fee	RM 8,000 per student
Refundable Deposit	RM 2,500 per student

TERMLY SCHOOL FEES 2018-19	
Tuition Fee	RM 14,000 per term
School Development Fund Levy	RM 700 per term

OTHER FEES / COSTS

Text Books: Students are expected to purchase course text books, basic stationery and specialised equipment, such as calculators. Text books will be supplied by the school for purchase by students at the start of the course.

Laptop Computer: Sixth Form students must provide their own laptop computer. All other essential resources to support the curriculum will be provided by the school.

Annual Insurance Fee: RM 32 per student - Fees are due and payable before the date of admission or annually before the first day of term. The Insurance Fees are non-refundable. (Schedule of benefits available on request).

Examination Fees: The Cambridge Examination Board charges approximately 85 Pounds Sterling for each full A Level subject. This is payable when the school confirms the candidate for the examinations towards the end of the AS and A2 courses

Field / Residential / Social / Class Trips: All school trips must be self-financing. Fees are normally charged on an individual basis based on quoted costs incurred for the trip concerned.

FEE PAYMENT AND POLICIES

FEE POLICIES

Kinabalu International School reserves the right to revise the terms and conditions herein from time to time as it sees fit.

Late Payment

School fees are strictly due and payable in advance before the date of admission and/or the first day of each term. Unpaid fees will incur a late charge of RM10 per school day per student.

Students Excluded or Suspended from the School

No fees will be refunded to students who are excluded or suspended from the school.

Payment

- Cheque or bank draft in Ringgit Malaysia made payable to '**Kinabalu International School**'.
- Payment into Kinabalu International School account using cash or cheque, please inform the school by fax or email. Attach a copy of your bank-in slip so that your payment can be verified accordingly.
- Bank Transfer or Online Banking: Please quote the invoice number when paying via this method. The bank slip must be submitted to the school office in exchange for an official receipt.

Kinabalu International School
Account number: 560102107440
Malayan Banking Berhad, Kota Kinabalu, Sabah
Swift Code: MBBEMYKL

UNIFORM REQUIREMENTS:

Uniform	Available from	Cost
Blue, collared polo shirt with KIS logo	KIS Shop	RM 40
Girls beige skirt	Tailor*	Appox. RM 90+
Boys beige long trousers	Tailor*	Appox. RM 90+
KIS school hat	KIS Shop	RM 35
PE kit: PE T-shirt in School House colour with KIS logo	KIS Shop	RM 40
Navy blue PE shorts with KIS logo	KIS Shop	RM 40

All students should wear black or white shoes with white ankle socks. No coloured shoe laces are allowed. Other than a single pair of stud earrings for girls, jewellery is not to be worn. Nail polish and make-up are not permitted and haircolouring must be natural colours only.

Tailor: New Pyramid Fasion. Contact Peter Liew on 012 8334577. Lot A18, 1st Floor, Centre Point Shopping Mall, Kota Kinabalu or **New Fashion Tailor**, Ground Floor, Wisma Merdeka (Tel: 088 234376). Please allow at least 2 weeks for tailoring services.

KIS Shop Opening times: The KIS Shop is open **Monday, Tuesday and Thursdays 7.30am – 8.30am** during term time. It is also open a few days before the start of each term – please ask the School Office for details.

Payment: Please pay in cash. Any cheques should be made payable to: Kinabalu International School.

CONDITIONS FOR THE AWARD OF A SCHOLARSHIP AT KIS SIXTH FORM

Students applying for a place in the Sixth Form may also apply for a merit based academic scholarship. Such a scholarship provides for a discount in the normal tuition fees.

Students applying for a scholarship must be able to demonstrate that they have the capacity to excel in their A Level studies and have the necessary skills and qualities to make a positive contribution to the growth and development of the Sixth Form and the school as a whole.

Scholarships will be awarded based upon the quality of the application including:

- academic record
- the interview
- references from the current school

All candidates who wish to apply for a scholarship should also indicate as such by including a letter with their application form incorporating a clearly defined statement of need identifying relevant financial criteria that would support the decision to make such an award. KIS A Level Scholarships are intended to make our academic programme available to students from many different financial situations.

If a candidate fulfils all the necessary criteria, a provisional offer of a scholarship may be made at the same time as the offer of a conditional place in the Sixth Form, dependent on available school resources. KIS is not obliged to award scholarships, but will endeavour to accommodate applications as they are made. **The offer of the place and the scholarship will be confirmed upon receipt of the candidate's IGCSE (or equivalent) results.**

The award of a scholarship and its continuance is reliant upon the student maintaining the attendance, standards and expectations of the school in every context as per the Good Standing Policy. Failure to do so may result in the Scholarship Committee withdrawing the scholarship award.

AS AND A LEVEL INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

This is a new course that aims to enable candidates to develop a broad range of IT skills. Students will develop an understanding of the parts, use and applications of IT systems within a range of organisations, including the use of basic computer networks. The syllabus encourages an understanding of how IT systems affect society in general, develop an understanding of the main system life cycle and apply this understanding to workplace situations. Students will develop a broad knowledge of the use of IT in workplace situations, including project management skills. This course will bring an awareness of new and emerging technologies, and evaluate the potential of the interest but also its risks. Throughout the course, students will apply their knowledge and understanding of IT to solve problems.

Assessment objectives

Cambridge International AS and A Level Information Technology has three assessment objectives:

- AO1 Recall, select and communicate knowledge and understanding of IT
- AO2 Apply knowledge, understanding and skills to produce IT-based solutions
- AO3 Analyse, evaluate, make reasoned judgements and present conclusions

Assessment

There are 4 examinations. Candidates for AS Level take papers 1 and 2 only. Candidates for A level take all 4 papers:

1. Theory
2. Practical
3. Advanced Theory
4. Advanced Practical

Entry Requirements:

Candidates beginning this course should have previously completed a Cambridge IGCSE course, or the equivalent, in Information and Communication Technology or in Computer Science.

Progression

ICT specific careers include: computer games designer, computer games technical support, hardware engineer, computer programmer, web designer, network manager, systems analyst, technical support person, telecommunications technician.

AS AND A LEVEL ART AND DESIGN

The Art and Design syllabus considers expression and communication. Students learn about visual perception and aesthetic experience, and the ways in which art and design creates a language of its own. Most of the work for this syllabus is practical or studio based, so that students can develop their abilities of observation and analysis of the visual world, sensitivity, skill, personal expression and imagination. They also learn how to relate their skills to an enhanced knowledge of their own cultures, past and present, as well as an appreciation of practical design problems.

Assessment

Art Candidates for AS Level certification take Component 1 and 2 at year 12. Those taking A2 level proceed to take Component 3 and 4 at year 13.

- Component 1: Controlled test
- Component 2: Coursework A
- Component 3: Coursework B
- Component 4: Artist Study

Assessment Objectives

By the end of the course students should be able to show:

A) Personal Qualities

- an individual, sensitive and creative response to a stimulus; ability to develop an idea, theme or subject
- independence in concept and execution.

B) Manipulative, Artistic and Analytical Skills

- select and control materials, processes and techniques in an informed and disciplined way to meet an objective
- select and record analytically from direct observation and personal experience.

C) Aesthetic Qualities

- use and compose formal elements (contour, shape, colour/tone, texture, structure and the relationships between form and space) as appropriate.

D) Knowledge and Critical Understanding

- select and communicate information relevant to an idea, subject or theme and evaluate this in a systematic way
- make critical judgments and use personal ideas and images to show they are developing appreciation and cultural awareness.

Entry Requirements:

Pass with a C Grade in GCE O Level, IGCSE, GCSE, SPM or equivalent course in Art or Art and Design.

Progression

Students who go on to study Arts related courses at university or college will find A Level Art very useful. Future careers include advertising art director, visual designer, illustrator, fashion design, web based curator, game designer, motion graphic designer, architecture and interior design, movie special effects designer, product and industrial design, art museum/gallery curator and heritage conservation and teaching.

AS AND A LEVEL BIOLOGY

A and AS Level Biology builds on the skills acquired at IGCSE (or equivalent) level. The syllabus covers the fundamental concepts of the Biological Sciences as well as developing an understanding of some of the most modern techniques and issues relevant **in today's world**. **There is a strong emphasis on practical skills** which are assessed in a timetabled practical examination. The emphasis throughout is on the understanding of concepts and the application of biological ideas in novel contexts using real world examples. The course will foster creative thinking and problem-solving skills which are transferable to any future career path, and A and AS Level Biology is ideal for students who want to study a Biological Science or a wide variety of related subjects at university. Career paths are extremely varied and are not just limited to science but include industry, the media, government, medicine, pharmacology and many more.

Assessment:

There are 5 examinations. Candidates for AS Level take papers 1, 2 and 3 only. Candidates for A level take all 5 papers:

1. Multiple Choice
2. AS Structured Questions
3. Advanced Practical Skills
4. A2 Structured Questions
5. Planning, Analysis and Evaluation

Assessment objectives

A full list of assessment objectives is available in the syllabus on the Cambridge website. What follows is edited list:

A) Knowledge with understanding

Candidates should be able to demonstrate knowledge with understanding in relation to:

- scientific phenomena, facts, laws, definitions, concepts, theories
- scientific vocabulary, terminology, conventions (including symbols, quantities and units)
- scientific instruments and apparatus, including techniques of operation and aspects of safety

B) Handling, applying and evaluating information

Candidates should be able – in words or by using symbolic, graphical and numerical forms of presentation to:

- locate, select, organise and present information from a variety of sources
- handle information, distinguishing the relevant from the extraneous
- manipulate numerical and other data and translate information from one form to another

C) Experimental skills and investigations

Candidates should be able to:

- plan investigations
- use techniques, apparatus and materials

Entry Requirements:

Candidates accepted onto this course should have previously completed a GCE O Level, GCSE, IGCSE or SPM course, or the equivalent, in Biology or in Coordinated Science [Double Award], and should have achieved a minimum B grade.

Progression

Students who study A Level Biology sometimes opt to study medically related courses at university and progress into careers as doctors, dentists or vets, for example. Some move into science based careers such as genetics, biotechnology, environmental sciences and laboratory work. Many progress into non-biological courses and careers [e.g. Law] but find the skills developed in their biological studies are directly transferable.

AS AND A LEVEL BUSINESS

Course Content:

The Business course content is organised around six modules:

- 1) Business and its Environment
- 2) People in Organisation
- 3) Marketing
- 4) Operations and Project Management
- 5) Finance and Accounting
- 6) Strategic Management [at A2 level only]

Assessment objectives

AO1 Knowledge and understanding

Demonstrate knowledge and understanding.

AO2 Application

Apply knowledge and understanding to problems and issues in a variety of familiar and unfamiliar business situations and contexts.

AO3 Analysis

Analyse business problems, issues and situations by:

- using appropriate methods and techniques to make sense of qualitative and quantitative business information
- interpreting and unpacking complex issues and situations to their constituent parts and searching for causes, impact and consequences
- distinguishing between factual evidence and opinion or value judgement
- drawing valid inferences and making valid generalisations.

AO4 Evaluation

Evaluate business evidence, explanation, argument, discussion and analysis in order to make reasoned judgements, present measured conclusions and, where appropriate, make recommendations for action and implementation.

Entry Requirements:

Candidates beginning this course are not expected to have studied Business previously.

Progression

Cambridge International A Level Business provides a suitable foundation for the study of Business or related courses in higher education. Equally it is suitable for candidates intending to pursue careers or further study in business or management, or as part of a course of general education.

AS AND A LEVEL CHEMISTRY

A and AS Level Chemistry builds on the skills acquired at IGCSE (or equivalent) level. The syllabus includes the main theoretical concepts which are fundamental to the subject, a section on some current applications of chemistry, and a strong emphasis on advanced practical skills. Practical skills are assessed in a timetabled practical examination. The emphasis throughout is on the understanding of concepts and the application of chemistry ideas in novel contexts as well as on the acquisition of knowledge. The course will foster creative thinking and problem-solving skills which are transferable to any future career path, and A and AS Level Chemistry are ideal for students who want to study chemistry or a wide variety of related subjects at university or to follow a career in science.

Assessment

There are 5 examinations. Candidates for AS Level take papers 1, 2 and 3 only. Candidates for A level take all 5 papers:

6. Multiple Choice
7. AS Structured Questions
8. Advanced Practical Skills
9. A2 Structured Questions
10. Planning, Analysis and Evaluation

Assessment objectives

A full list of assessment objectives is available in the syllabus on the Cambridge website. What follows is edited list:

A) Knowledge with understanding

Candidates should be able to demonstrate knowledge with understanding in relation to:

- scientific phenomena, facts, laws, definitions, concepts, theories
- scientific vocabulary, terminology, conventions (including symbols, quantities and units)
- scientific instruments and apparatus, including techniques of operation and aspects of safety

B) Handling, applying and evaluating information

Candidates should be able – in words or by using symbolic, graphical and numerical forms of presentation to:

- locate, select, organise and present information from a variety of sources
- handle information, distinguishing the relevant from the extraneous
- manipulate numerical and other data and translate information from one form to another

C) Experimental skills and investigations

Candidates should be able to:

- plan investigations
- use techniques, apparatus and materials

Entry Requirements:

Candidates accepted onto this course should have previously completed a GCE O Level, GCSE, IGCSE or SPM course, or the equivalent, in Chemistry or in Coordinated Science [Double Award], and should have achieved a minimum B grade.

Progression

Those who have Pharmacy, Veterinary Science, Chemistry, Biochemistry, Food Science/Nutrition, Forensic Science, Biological or Engineering Careers in mind will find A level Chemistry essential. Students wishing to study Medicine must have studied Chemistry at A Level.

AS AND A LEVEL ENGLISH

A Level English is designed for students who can already communicate effectively in English whether it be their mother tongue or additional language. The syllabus enables students to achieve greater fluency, accuracy and confidence in the language as it is spoken and written, thereby also improving their communication skills. Students will learn how to improve their use of English in a variety of situations, understanding how to read texts and other source materials, and how to extract information, initiate discussions and respond to questions both orally and in writing.

Assessment:

Assessment objectives

By the end of the course candidates must be able to demonstrate:

- The ability to read written material in a variety of forms, and to comment on its effectiveness
- A knowledge and understanding of the features of English language
- The ability to write clearly, accurately and effectively for a particular purpose or audience.

There are 2 examination papers:

Paper 1 – Passages for Comment

Candidates answer two out of three questions. Questions carry equal marks.

Each question is based on a passage, or passages, of text printed in the question paper. These are taken from a balanced range of sources, and include informative and narrative writing in a wide variety of styles.

Paper 2 – Composition

The paper is divided into two sections:

Section A: Narrative/Descriptive/Imaginative Writing

Section B: Discursive/Argumentative Writing.

Entry Requirements:

Candidates who are beginning this course should have previously completed a GCE O Level, GCSE, IGCSE course or SPM [or equivalent] in English Language, and have gained a grade C or above.

Progression

AS Level in English provides evidence of advanced English language skills and will be a useful addition to 3 A Levels in any course of study and with any university or career in mind.

A Level Language

Features of spoken language underpin much of this course with a focus on the conventions which are used in various discourse types. The varieties of English as a Global Language are studied in unit 2 and the processes and theories of child language acquisition are learnt in unit 3. These are broad topics which require some reading of academic papers; they also lend themselves well to students' own research. These studies also require extended essay writing using informed, clearly validated viewpoints and case studies. As such, this course is excellent preparation for studying any course at degree level.

AS AND A LEVEL GEOGRAPHY

The Geography syllabus builds upon skills gained at IGCSE (or equivalent) level study. Students widen their knowledge and understanding of the subject, while developing their investigative abilities and their evaluation and decision-making skills. The syllabus is wide-ranging and comprises a variety of options. For example, students can learn more about topics such as hydrology and fluvial geomorphology, atmosphere and weather, rocks and weathering, population change and settlement dynamics. The syllabus considers a range of environments, from tropical to temperate, and students can also study subjects such as environmental management, global interdependence and hazard management. A Field trip to consolidate understanding for the Coasts A2 topic is an integral part of the course.

Assessment

By the end of the course students should be able to:

Knowledge

- give definitions and explanations of relevant geographical terms and concepts
- show working knowledge of relevant principles, theories and models
- recall accurately the location and character of chosen places and environments
- show knowledge of the physical and human processes at work.

Understanding and application

- understand the complex and interactive nature of physical and human environments
- understand how processes bring changes in systems, distributions and environments
- recognise the distinctiveness and the generality of places and environments
- recognise the significance of spatial scale and of time scale
- apply this geographical understanding to new contexts.

Skills and enquiry

- collect, record and interpret a variety of information from primary (fieldwork) sources and secondary sources (e.g. statistical data)
- interpret a range of map and diagram techniques displaying geographical information
- assess methods of enquiry and consider the limitations of evidence
- demonstrate skills of analysis and synthesis
- use geographical understanding to develop their own explanations and hypotheses.

Evaluation and decision-making

- assess the effects of geographical processes and change on physical and human environments
- consider the relative success or failure of initiatives and demonstrate a sense of judgement
- analyse the viewpoints of different groups of people and identify conflicts of interest
- assess the decision-making process in physical and human contexts
- recognise a number of possible outcomes from a given situation.

Students are examined in 4 papers. AS candidates take papers 1&2. A2 Level candidates take papers 3&4

Entry Requirements:

Candidates who are beginning this course should have previously completed a GCE O Level, GCSE, IGCSE or SPM course in Geography or the equivalent, and been awarded a grade C or above. Candidates who have not previously studied this subject may be permitted to take this course, depending upon their academic profile.

Progression

Cambridge International A Level Geography provides a suitable foundation for the study of Geography or related courses in higher education. It is also suitable for candidates intending to pursue careers or further study in Planning, Environmental Subjects and Development and Tourism.

AS AND A LEVEL HISTORY

The A and AS Level History syllabus builds upon skills gained at IGCSE (or equivalent) level study. The emphasis is again on both historical knowledge and on the skills required for historical research. Students learn about cause and effect, continuity and change, similarity and difference, and use historical evidence as part of their studies. The flexible and wide-ranging syllabus covers World History from 1870 - 1945. The school will decide which periods to focus on, allowing us to build a course that reflects student interest and staff specialisms, and one that is relevant to the local or regional context.

Assessment:

By the end of the course, successful students will gain lifelong skills including:

- Assessing different interpretations of an argument
- Formulating their own ideas about a subject
- Presenting clear and logical arguments
- Evaluating historical evidence

Syllabus Content:

The school will select ONE topic from each component listed below:

AS LEVEL	
Component 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Liberalism and Nationalism in Italy and Germany, 1815 – 1872• The Origins of the Civil War, 1846 – 1861• The search for International Peace and Security, 1919 - 1945
Component 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Modern Europe, 1789 – 1917• The History of the USA, 1840 – 1941• International Relations, 1871 - 1945
A LEVEL	
Component 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Causes and Impact of British Imperialism, c. 1850 – 1939• The Holocaust• The Origins and Development of the Cold War, 1941 - 1950
Component 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Europe of the Dictators, 1918 – 1941• The History of the USA, 1945 – 1991• African History, 1945 – 1991• Southeast Asian History, 1945 – 1990s

Assessment is in the form of written examinations.

At AS Level, candidates will sit two papers:

- Paper 1- Candidates will answer two source-based questions
- Paper 2 – Candidates will answer two questions from a choice of four

At A Level, candidates will sit two papers:

- Paper 3 – Candidates will answer one source-based question
- Paper 4 – Candidates will answer two question from a choice of four in extended essay form.

Assessment objectives:

At the conclusion of this course, students should be able to:

- Demonstrate an understanding of the complexity of issues and themes within a historical period
- Distinguish different approaches to, interpretations of, and opinions about the past
- Express awareness of historical concepts such as change and continuity, cause and effect
- Present a clear, concise, logical and argument
- Evaluate and interpret source materials as historical evidence and use them effectively.

Entry Requirements:

Candidates who are beginning this course should have previously completed a GCE O Level, IGCSE, GCSE or SPM course in History or the equivalent, and have achieved a B Grade or above.

Progression:

Cambridge International A Level History provides a suitable foundation for the study of History or related courses in higher education. It is also suitable for candidates intending to pursue careers or further study in Arts, Humanities and Social Science related areas such as Law.

AS AND A LEVEL LITERATURE IN ENGLISH

A Level English Literature is designed for students who can already communicate effectively in English whether it be their mother tongue or additional language. The syllabus aims to develop an appreciation of different texts from a range of periods and cultures. Students will practice and develop the interconnecting skills of reading, analysis and communication, and will develop wider reading which will contribute to personal development. Students of literature are exposed to important themes and ideas and develop confidence in dealing with these.

Assessment

AS Level candidates take 2 examinations: Poetry and Prose and Drama

A Level candidates take Poetry and Prose, Drama and Shakespeare **and** other pre-20th century texts **and either** 20th Century Writing **or** Comment and Appreciation **or** Coursework.

Assessment objectives

Candidates must demonstrate:

- The ability to respond to texts in the three main forms (Prose, Poetry and Drama) of different types and from different cultures
- An understanding of the ways in which writers' choices of form, structure and language shape meaning
- The ability to produce informed, independent opinions and judgments on literary texts.
- The ability to communicate clearly the knowledge, understanding and insight appropriate for literary study
- The ability to appreciate and discuss varying opinions of literary works [A Level only].

Entry Requirements:

Candidates who are beginning this course should have previously completed a GCE O Level, GCSE, IGCSE, SPM course [or equivalent] in English Literature, and have gained a grade B or above.

Progression

A Level Literature in English prepares students for a university course which may be in English Literature or may be paired with another arts subject, for example History. Students who take A Level Literature find that it is an excellent preparation for careers in the Media [publishing, journalism, advertising etc], business, administration and teaching. A Level Literature teaches indispensable skills that are recognised by employers who put a high value on people who can construct a clearly expressed argument, present ideas concisely, logically and clearly and who can make a critical analysis of a piece of writing.

AS AND A LEVEL MATHEMATICS

A strong working knowledge of mathematics is central to understanding many aspects of the physical sciences, and a host of other subjects that engage with pattern and data. Mathematics is often viewed as a challenging subject, but one that offers great rewards and satisfaction to those who persevere with it.

Successful students are generally those who have always enjoyed working in mathematics, and who are prepared to work hard at developing and improving their understanding.

Although there is very little technology embedded in the course, it definitely helps if students are comfortable with technology such as graphing programmes and the use of spreadsheets.

Assessment:

The final grade is awarded based on performance in exams. There are two papers to sit at the end of the AS course, and two to sit at the end of the A2 course.

During the course, students will study:

	Pure Mathematics	Applied Mathematics
AS Maths	Algebra Coordinate Geometry Sequences & Series Binomial Theorem Differentiation & Integration Trigonometry Vectors Functions	<u>Probability & Statistics 1</u> Representation of Data Probability Permutations & Combinations Discrete Random Variables The Normal Distribution
A2 Maths	Polynomials Modulus Function Logarithms Trigonometry Calculus Numerical Solutions Cartesian & Parametric equations Binomial Expansions Complex Numbers Partial Fractions Vectors	<u>Mechanics 1</u> Vectors Graphs Equations of Motion Forces Equilibrium & Friction Work, Energy & Power Variable Acceleration

Entry Requirements:

Candidates who are beginning this course should have previously completed a GCE O Level, IGCSE, GCSE or SPM course, or the equivalent, in Mathematics, and must have achieved a minimum of Grade B.

Progression

Mathematics A-level would be useful for courses and careers in Mathematics, Engineering and in most areas of Physics, Computing, Accountancy, Economics, Business, Banking, Air Traffic Control, Retail Management, Architecture, Surveying, and Psychology. Students hoping to study medicine will need Mathematics A Level.

AS AND A LEVEL PHYSICS

A and AS Level Physics builds on the skills acquired at IGCSE (or equivalent) level. The syllabus includes the main theoretical concepts which are fundamental to the subject, a section on some current applications of physics, and a strong emphasis on advanced practical skills. The emphasis throughout is on the understanding of concepts and the application of physics ideas in new situations as well as on the acquisition of knowledge.

Assessment:

There are 5 examinations. Candidates for AS Level take papers 1, 2 and 3 only. Candidates for A level take all 5 papers:

11. Multiple Choice
12. AS Structured Questions
13. Advanced Practical Skills
14. A2 Structured Questions
15. Planning, Analysis and Evaluation

Assessment objectives

A full list of assessment objectives is available in the syllabus on the Cambridge website. What follows is edited list:

A) Knowledge with understanding

Candidates should be able to demonstrate knowledge with understanding in relation to:

- scientific phenomena, facts, laws, definitions, concepts, theories
- scientific vocabulary, terminology, conventions (including symbols, quantities and units)
- scientific instruments and apparatus, including techniques of operation and aspects of safety

B) Handling, applying and evaluating information

Candidates should be able – in words or by using symbolic, graphical and numerical forms of presentation to:

- locate, select, organise and present information from a variety of sources
- handle information, distinguishing the relevant from the extraneous
- manipulate numerical and other data and translate information from one form to another

C) Experimental skills and investigations

Candidates should be able to:

- plan investigations
- use techniques, apparatus and materials

Entry Requirements:

Candidates accepted onto this course should have previously completed a GCE O Level, GCSE, IGCSE or SPM course, or the equivalent, in Physics or in Coordinated Science [Double Award], and should have achieved a minimum B grade.

Progression

The course will foster creative thinking and problem-solving skills which are transferable to any future career path, and A and AS Level Physics are ideal for students who want to study physics or a wide variety of related subjects at university or to follow a career in science. Examples of these are: clinical scientist, mechanical engineer, sound engineer and renewable energy manager.