



保良局蔡繼有學校
Po Leung Kuk Choi Kai Yau School

IGCSE Options 2012

*In this school,
every child is good at something.*



A guide to
IGCSE
choices

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FOREWORD

Dear Parents and Students,

While it has always been the aim of the school to provide students with an environment in which they can learn effectively and enthusiastically, we also encourage them to challenge themselves so that they can cope with a suitable amount of pressure and competitiveness.

Our Year 8 students are now approaching the end of their Key Stage 3 education. To prepare for their Key stage 4, students have to embark on a two-year course known as the International General Certificate of Education (IGCSE), at the end of which they will sit a series of examinations. Throughout the next two years, they also have to complete a number of coursework components. To be successful in this course, they have to work consistently hard throughout.

We adopt Cambridge International Examinations (CIE) as our examination board, which is the largest and the most established IGCSE provider in the world. In addition, the IGCSE is a subject-specific curriculum. This means that students have to choose a number of subjects to study in depth for the next two years. The types and number of subjects offered are based on the rationale that students should follow a fairly wide and balanced curriculum. This philosophy also ties in with the Diploma Programme of the International Baccalaureate, which students will follow after the completion of their IGCSE course.

This booklet serves to outline the subjects offered by the school and provide an overview of the examination requirements. We hope that you will find this booklet informative and, if you have any queries, please contact our subject teachers or the school administrators.



Dr LAU Siu-Ling
Head Principal
Po Leung Kuk Choi Kai Yau School

INTRODUCTION

Each student's IGCSE selection will comprise a number of compulsory (core) subjects, and a range of electives (optional subjects).

Core Subjects

The following IGCSE subjects will be offered as part of a core programme and are not optional. However, pupils with different skills will be entered for different examinations in English and Maths.

Core Subjects
English English As A Second Language or First Language English or First Language English + English Literature
Chinese First Language Chinese
Mathematics Mathematics or Mathematics + Additional Mathematics
Science Coordinated Sciences (Double Award)

Optional Subjects

In addition to the core subjects, students are asked to select 4 subjects from the options below. When choosing their options students are reminded that:

- Most students are expected to choose *four* out of the eleven subjects from the *Options*.
- Students should try to choose a balanced selection, specifically;
 - Pupils may not choose both Art & Design and Art & Design: Textiles
 - Pupils may not choose more than two from: Art & Design, Design & Technology, Food & Nutrition, and Art & Design: Textiles
 - Pupils should choose at least one subject from *Group 1* and one from *Group 2* below.
- Parents and students should note that the final choice of the subjects has to meet with the approval of the school. When making the final decision, the school will take into consideration the student's ability and attitude.

Group 1	Business Studies History	Geography
Group 2	Art & Design Drama ICT Physical Education	Design & Technology Food & Nutrition Music Art & Design: Textiles

We aim to ensure that every student gets his or her first choice; however, this cannot be guaranteed. It is also possible that subjects will not be run if they only attract a small number of students, in which case we will take the students' next preferred option.

The Option Choices Reply Slip

Students will be given the Option Choices Reply Slip with detailed instructions shortly, an example of which is shown below. If you are unsure about how to complete the form, please contact the Form Tutor or IGCSE Coordinator.

Y8 IGCSE Option Choices – Reply Slip			
If you expect to leave CKY before entering Year 9, tick this box: <input type="checkbox"/>			
Please complete the table below to indicate your option choices:			
Options	Please number the options subjects 1-11 below. 1 being your first choice, 11 being your last	For school use only	
		Teachers Comments	Final decision
Business studies			
Geography			
History			
Art & Design			
Design & Technology			
Drama			
Food & Nutrition			
ICT			
Music			
Physical Education			
Art & Design: Textiles			
Please indicate here how many optional subjects you would like to take (4 being the expected number).			
Extra Options	Would you accept the following extra options if they were offered to you? Yes or No		
Additional Maths			
English Literature			

Changing Subjects

It is normal for students to be unsure about some subjects, particularly those they have not studied before. As such, it is possible to request a change to your subject choices after the form has been submitted. Any request must take the form of a letter outlining the reasons for the proposed change signed by the parent/guardian. This should be handed to the IGCSE Coordinator as soon as possible. However, please bear in mind that some subjects may become full, and changing into a class may not be possible.

Examination Fees

The total cost of a student's IGCSE examinations will vary depending on the number of subjects they take and the exchange rate at the time of payment. As a guide, fees for nine IGCSEs were approximately HK\$5,000 in 2011.

IGCSE & IBDP

After completing their IGCSEs students will complete the final stage of their education with CKY; the International Baccalaureate Diploma Program (IBDP). For those wishing to go on to tertiary education in Hong Kong or abroad, it is important they make the right choices for their IBDP.

At IBDP students are asked to take six subjects: three at Higher Level (HL) and three at Standard Level (SL). For this reason, to gain a place on the IBDP students must achieve at least 6 A*-C grades at IGCSE, including a *minimum* of grade C in IGCSE English As A Second Language.

Students must choose one subject from each of the following groups, or, they may take two options from groups 3 or 4 at the expense of a group 6 subject. The subjects we expect to offer are listed below, however, please note that our IB program is constantly growing, and by the time our current Y8 students reach Y11 we hope to be able to offer an even greater range of subjects.

Group	Options
(1) Language A	English (Literature) English (Language and Literature) Chinese (Literature) Chinese (Language and Literature)
(2) Second Language	English B Chinese B
(3) Individuals and Societies	Business and Management Geography History
(4) Experimental Sciences	Biology Chemistry Physics Design and Technology
(5) Mathematics	Mathematics Mathematics Studies
(6) The Arts	Visual Arts Music

For further information on the IBDP please feel free to consult our IB Coordinator or subject teachers. Detailed information is also available on the IB website (<http://www.ibo.org/>).

FIRST LANGUAGE ENGLISH (0500)

Although English is a core subject at CKY, there are differences in the courses offered, depending on each pupil's competency in English. Students will be entered into either Cambridge First Language English IGCSE (Syllabus code 0500) or Cambridge English As A Second Language IGCSE (0511), based on their progress in the subject throughout years 6-8. Those students who are confident in their use of the English language will be entered for First Language and may also be offered the option to enter for English Literature IGCSE (see page 11). All other pupils will be entered for the Second Language exam. Both First and Second Language students will also complete a Speaking and Listening component, which is separately endorsed.

If you would like to know which IGCSE you are *likely* to be entered for, please consult your English teacher.

First Language English IGCSE (0500)

The First Language Syllabus is assessed on three components:

- Reading
- Writing
- Speaking and Listening

Students selected for the English First Language IGCSE are expected to show consistent competency in their use of English in each of the three main components.



The Syllabus will develop students' ability to communicate accurately, appropriately and effectively in speech and writing. Students will be encouraged to use relevant vocabulary, to employ correct grammar, spelling and punctuation, and to display a sense of style and audience.

In addition, it will complement their other studies by developing general skills such as the ability to analyse, synthesise, make inferences, order facts and present opinions.

Assessment: First Language English is assessed through both examination and coursework.

Examination	Length of Exam	Weighting
Reading and Writing (unseen)	2 hours	50%
Coursework – three essays of between 500 and 800 words each		50%

Students will also take an oral examination but these marks will not contribute to the overall grade. Instead, the achievement of grades 1 (high) to 5 (low) will be recorded on a separate certificate.

ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE (0511)

English As A Second Language IGCSE (0511)

The Cambridge English Second Language Syllabus is intended for students who are studying English in order to promote their educational or employment prospects. It reflects the widespread use of English as a medium for academic instruction, commercial activity and entertainment.

Students will learn to use English effectively as a means of practical communication. Work will be related to the kinds of situations students are likely to encounter later in life and the kinds of topics and interests about which they are likely to need to communicate. There is a strong emphasis on the ability to understand and impart information.

The course will prepare students to work or study in an English-speaking environment and will provide a sound basis for further development of English Language skills.

Assessment: English As A Second Language is assessed through means of examination, comprising two papers, and an oral coursework component. The majority of CKY candidates will take Papers 2 and 4 (the *Extended Curriculum*) detailed below, which is eligible for the award of grades A* to G, however a *Core Curriculum* (Papers 1 and 3) is available in which a reduced curriculum is covered in the exams with only grades C to G available. If the class teacher believes a student would benefit from completing the Core Curriculum the student and their parents will be informed as soon as possible.

Examination	Length of Exam	Weighting
Reading and Writing	2 hours	70%
Listening	45 minutes	15%
Oral Coursework	Coursework	15%

If you would like to know which IGCSE you are *likely* to be entered for, please consult your English teacher.

ENGLISH LITERATURE (0486)

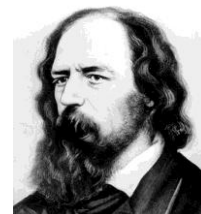
At CKY we will offer Cambridge English Literature (0486) as an *extra option*, in that it is intended only for high ability candidates who are likely to achieve Grade A* to C in the IGCSE English First Language examination. Candidates offered to enter for English Literature are expected to have 5 English lessons a week, combining both the First Language and Literature syllabi, compared to 4 lessons for students entering First Language only. One of the 5 lessons will take place outside of the normal timetable. English Literature should not replace another optional subject.

Assessment: The English Literature IGCSE (0486) comprises 75% examination and 25% coursework. The examination lasts for 2 hours and 15 minutes and students will have to answer 3 questions; one on a drama text, one on a poetry text and one on a prose text. Students will be given a choice of three questions for each text. The questions on poetry will consist of one question which is passage based and two essay style questions. The questions for the prose and the drama will be made up of a passage-based question, an essay question and an empathic question. Students will be expected to know the texts extremely well and be able to express their own opinions about them.

There are 2 pieces of coursework that must be completed, one of which will be based on one of the set texts. The other piece will be based on another piece of literature that students will study. That is not to say that students will only complete two pieces. They will complete about 6 pieces and will choose their best two to submit to the examiner. Furthermore, one piece of coursework can be counted as a cross-over piece with First Language.

Examination	Length of Exam	Weighting
Paper 1 Set texts – Open Book	2 hour 15 minutes	70%
Paper 2 Coursework		30%

Students should keep up their personal reading as it will help with their English levels and will give them a wider appreciation of literature. Students will also be expected to take part in classroom discussions, as they can only develop their ideas by discussing them with the class and having them questioned by others. This will enable students to formulate their ideas and become more certain of what they think. It will also help them in the English oral component.



Is Literature hard?

No. If you can think for yourself and have an opinion about what you have read then it will not be hard. It will, however, be time consuming. There is a lot of writing to be completed to practice for the coursework and the examinations, but with time it will get easier!!

If you have been selected but are not sure about whether you should take the Literature course find someone from the English Department and we will do our best to answer your questions.

“If you love reading you will love Literature!!!!”

FIRST LANGUAGE CHINESE (0509)

Aims: The Cambridge First Language Chinese IGCSE Syllabus (0509) is designed for candidates whose mother tongue is Chinese. Cambridge IGCSE First Language qualifications are accepted by universities and employers as proof of knowledge and understanding of a language. Successful candidates gain lifelong skills including:

- The ability to communicate clearly, accurately and effectively in writing;
- The ability to use a wide range of vocabulary, and correct grammar, spelling and punctuation;
- 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 the language can be used. Cambridge IGCSE First Language qualifications also develop more general analysis and communication skills such as synthesis, inference, and the ability to order facts and present opinions effectively.

Assessment: The course comprises two papers. All candidates take Papers 1 and 2 and are eligible for the award of grades A* to G.

<i>Paper 1: Reading</i>	<i>2 hours</i>	<i>Weighting</i>
Candidates answer two questions:		60%
Question 1 – 25 marks Candidates answer a series of comprehension questions based on Passage 1		
Question 2 – 25 marks Candidates write a summary based on Passages 1 and 2.		
<i>Paper 2: Writing</i>		
<i>1 hour 15 minutes</i>		<i>Weighting</i>
Candidates write one composition of 400-600 characters		40%

Cambridge Foreign Language Mandarin Chinese (0547) will also be available in special cases where Chinese is not used at home. Please speak to the Chinese IGCSE teachers or the IGCSE Coordinator for details.

MATHEMATICS (0580)

At CKY we follow the Cambridge IGCSE Mathematics (Without Coursework) Syllabus (0580).



Aims: Cambridge IGCSE Mathematics is accepted by universities and employers as proof of Mathematical knowledge and understanding. Successful IGCSE Mathematics candidates gain lifelong skills, including:

- the development of their mathematical knowledge;
- confidence by developing a feel for numbers, patterns and relationships;
- an ability to consider and solve problems and present and interpret results;
- communication and reason using mathematical concepts;
- a solid foundation for further study.

Assessment: The course comprises two papers. The majority of CKY candidates will take Papers 2 and 4 (the *Extended Curriculum*), which is eligible for the award of grades A* to G, however a *Core Curriculum* (Papers 1 and 3) is available in which a reduced curriculum is covered in the exams with only grades C to G available. If the class teacher believes a student would benefit from completing the Core Curriculum the student and their parents will be informed as soon as possible.

The assessment objectives include mathematical techniques and applying mathematical techniques to solve problems.

Examination	Paper 2	Paper 4
Length	1 hour 30 minutes	2 hours 30 minutes
Question type	Short answer questions	Structured questions
Weighting	35% of final mark	65%
Weighting of Assessment Objectives		
Assessment Objectives	Weighting	
Mathematical techniques	28-35 marks (75%-85%)	52-65 marks (40%-50%)
Applying mathematical techniques to resolve problems	35-42 marks (15%-25%)	65-78 marks (50%-60%)
Weighting of Contents		
Main topic areas	Weighting	
Number	15%-20%	
Algebra	35%-40%	
Space and shape	30%-35%	
Statistics and probability	10%-15%	

ADDITIONAL MATHEMATICS (0606)

At CKY we will offer “A-Maths” as an *extra option*, in that it is intended only for high ability candidates who are likely to achieve Grade A* or A in the IGCSE Mathematics examination. Candidates offered to enter for A-Maths are expected to have 6 Mathematics lessons a week, combining both the Mathematics and Additional Mathematics syllabi, compared to 4 lessons for students entering Mathematics only. Two of the 6 lessons will take place outside of the normal timetable. A-Maths should not replace another optional subject.

Aims: Cambridge IGCSE Additional Mathematics (0606) is accepted by universities and employers as proof of essential mathematical knowledge and ability. Successful IGCSE Additional Mathematics candidates gain lifelong skills, including:

- the further development of mathematical concepts and principles
- the extension of mathematical skills and their use in more advanced techniques
- an ability to solve problems, present solutions logically and interpret results
- a solid foundation for further study.

Assessment: All CKY Additional Mathematics candidates will take Papers 1 and 2, which is eligible for the award of grades A* to E.

Paper	Duration	Marks
Paper 1 10–12 questions of various lengths No choice of question except that the last question will consist of two alternatives, only one of which must be answered. The mark allocations for the last question will be in the range of 10–12 marks.	2 hours	80
Paper 2 10–12 questions of various lengths No choice of question except that the last question will consist of two alternatives, only one of which must be answered. The mark allocations for the last question will be in the range of 10–12 marks.	2 hours	80

Content: The topics included in Additional Mathematics are: set language and notation, functions and quadratic functions, indices and surds, factors of polynomials, simultaneous equations, logarithmic and exponential functions, straight line graphs, circular measure, trigonometry, permutations and combinations, binomial expansions, vectors in 2 dimensions and matrices.

CO-ORDINATED SCIENCES (DOUBLE AWARD) (0654)

Content: Science has long been viewed as an integral part of the core curriculum in education. At our school we follow the Cambridge IGCSE Co-ordinated Sciences (Double Award) curriculum (0654). Students learn about the basic principles of biology, chemistry and physics through a mix of theoretical and practical studies, during which time, they will develop an understanding of the scientific skills essential as a springboard for further study in the IB Diploma course in Years 11 and 12.

All Year 9 and 10 students will follow the scheme of study and the final exam will reward them with a Double Award at IGCSE that is the equivalent of two subjects. The syllabus is aimed at students across a wide range of attainments and will allow them to demonstrate their abilities and achieve success over a full range of grades from A* to G.

We feel that it is important to continue all branches of science learning until the end of Year 10 without specialization, not only to support students' science choices at Diploma level, but also to foster a well rounded and worthwhile science educational experience. Students may become confident citizens in an increasingly technological world and be able to take an interest in matters of scientific importance.

Assessment: Candidates expected to achieve Grades C, D, E, F and G will study the core curriculum only and are eligible for grades C to G. Candidates expected to achieve Grades C or higher should study the core and extended curriculum areas.

All candidates must enter for three papers.

Candidates should also have a familiarity and facility with mathematical skills to cope with the content of this syllabus.

Paper 1 45 minutes	40 Multiple choice questions	30% of total marks
Either Paper 2 2 hours Core theory – short answer or structured questions. Grades C to G available	Or Paper 3 2 hours Extended theory – short answer or structured questions. Grades A* to G available.	50 % of total marks
Paper 6 – Alternative to Practical 1 hour A written paper designed to test familiarity with laboratory based procedures.		20% of total marks



Vincent & Heron (Y10) self-portraits

ART & DESIGN (0400)

Content: Students studying for a Cambridge IGCSE in Art & Design (0400) will learn to use **painting, drawing, sculpture, printing, ICT** and **photography** to express themselves. We run a range of trips to interesting parts of Hong Kong and also work with local artists and visit exciting art galleries to inspire pupils in their own artwork.

With 3 hours of art a week pupils make very fast progress in their ability so pupils concerned about their current ability should not worry too much. Pupils with a positive attitude will always do well. Pupils learn to explore, analyse and create their own art work and to work independently. They learn to keep a sketchbook that shows their developing ideas.

Equipment: Pupils are generously supplied with materials in well equipped modern art studios, however all students should have a selection of art equipment such as acrylic paints, oil pastels, pencils etc. to help them complete home works to a high standard and also have access to internet for research purposes.

Assessment: IGCSE is assessed through a portfolio selection of their best work (50%) and a final exam (50%). Work is assessed both in school and externally.

<i>Component</i>	<i>Weighting</i>
Observational/Interpretive Assignment Exam: An 8 hour practical assignment creating an examination piece plus supporting studies	50%
Coursework Assignment One final outcome plus supporting material	50%

Progression: Students may go on to study art at a higher level. They could then go on to study at degree level in their chosen specialist Art subject. It is an excellent foundation for students wishing to eventually progress into the following career routes: product design, digital media, advertising, fashion, textiles, illustration, interior design, graphics, architecture, photography, and fine art to name just a few! Art IGCSE is well looked upon by universities and colleges as a subject that builds independent study skills and personal development.

BUSINESS STUDIES (0450)

Aims:

The Cambridge IGCSE in Business Studies (0450) develops students' understanding of a range of business organisations and functions as well as the wider environment in which firms operate. Students will learn how to use concepts and tools that enable them to analyse business problems, evaluate and recommend solutions. The course aims to develop students' practical skills in areas such as communication, presentations and team working, in addition to igniting their entrepreneurial spark.

Content:

IGCSE Business Studies is accepted by universities and employers as proof of an understanding of business concepts and techniques across a range of different types of businesses. Successful IGCSE Business Studies students gain lifelong skills and knowledge, including:

- Understanding different forms of business organisations, the environments in which businesses operate and business functions such as marketing, operations and finance
- An appreciation of the critical role of people in business success
- Confidence to calculate and interpret business data
- Communication skills including the need to support arguments with reasons
- Ability to analyse business situations and reach decisions or judgements.

Educational visits:

Business students will have regular opportunities to undertake field trips to organisations, which enable them to apply their learning to real-world companies and settings. Learning outside the school environment will extend students' awareness of the world of work and their understanding of how firms operate in practice.

Assessment: Candidates will take 2 exam papers (each worth 40% of total marks) plus an additional coursework component (worth 20% of total marks)



View from HSBC's Asia Headquarters

Progression:

The course provides students with an ideal foundation for further learning, preparing students for business education courses at IB Diploma level, as well as gainful future employment.

DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY (D.T.) (0445)

For most pupils the Cambridge IGCSE in Design & Technology (0445) provides a safe, exciting and challenging environment to apply knowledge and skills often different from their other subjects. D.T. has academic content and requires considerable time commitment. Computer Aided Design (CAD) and Computer Aided Manufacturing (CAM) are key elements of the course.

Following from Y8, the subject further develops creativity, practical skills, independence and specialist language usage, in a multi-discipline problem-solving environment, within a broad curriculum. The subject is not gender biased, so is equally suitable for girls and boys.

Background: D.T. is not as familiar to many parents as some subjects. Others may have an outdated perception based on their experiences of woodwork, metalwork, engineering drawing and home economics. D.T. is not a vocational subject and is certainly not an easy option.



Content: The full content of the course can be accessed at www.cie.org.uk together with all other relevant information, including past papers. Through the subject content pupils experience:

- Knowledge with Understanding
- Problem Solving
- Communication, and
- Realisation

These are also the Assessment Objectives.

Assessment: Candidates sit two examinations and submit a school assessed project.

Paper	Style of Paper	Duration	Weighting	Marks
1 Design	Design drawing	75 minutes	25%	50
3 Resistant Materials	Written	60 minutes	25%	50
5 School Assessed Project	Design and Manufacture	2 terms	50%	100

Progression: Students who select this subject at higher levels (Y11-12) may be looking to work in a related creative profession: architect, designer, etc. However, the broad range of skills in various categories strongly supports applications to most tertiary education courses.

DRAMA (0411)

Content: The Cambridge Drama IGCSE (0411) seeks to provide students with in-depth subject knowledge enabling them to both create and respond to meaningful theatre. In order to become an effective actor or director, students will learn about technical theatre as well as performance and communication skills. Drama students work closely together in groups with a common goal and deadline in mind, and thus learn valuable social skills which translate well into all career areas.

Aims: The aims of the Cambridge IGCSE in Drama (0411) are to:

- develop candidates' understanding of Drama through practical and theoretical study.
- enable candidates to realise the performance possibilities of text and other stimuli.
- encourage the use of dramatic forms and structures to communicate feelings and ideas to an audience.
- help candidates acquire and develop skills in Drama, both individually and in groups.
- develop understanding of the processes leading to performance and the elements involved in creating a performance; to be able to evaluate the various stages of performance work.
- encourage enjoyment of drama.

Assessment: All candidates take Paper 1 (Written Examination) and Paper 2 (Coursework) and are eligible for the award of grades A* to G.

Paper 1 Written examination 2 hours 30 minutes	Paper 2 Coursework
Candidates answer questions relating to a pre-released text and three stimuli.	Internally assessed and externally moderated. Candidates submit three pieces of practical work:
Section A (30 marks) 8 to 10 short-answer questions on all of the pre-release material. Answer all questions	One individual piece (max 5 mins): either original devised work or a performance of an extract from a piece of repertoire.
Section B (25 marks) Answer one from three longer-answer questions on the pre-release extract.	Two group pieces (max 15 minutes each): one original devised piece and one performance of an extract from a piece of repertoire.
Section C (25 marks) Answer one from three longer-answer questions on the three stimuli.	
Weighting : 40%	Weighting 60%

FOOD & NUTRITION (0648)

The Cambridge IGCSE Food and Nutrition (0648) syllabus introduces both the theoretical and practical aspects of buying and preparing food. Dealing with diet and health in everyday life, students study the nutritional value of basic foods and develop the skills required to produce a balanced family meal. Consumer awareness is encouraged, as are high standards of personal and kitchen hygiene, especially when students put their knowledge into practice in order to produce creative and enjoyable dishes.

Background: Food and Nutrition is not as familiar to many parents as some subjects. Our students would have already experienced a number of Food classes as part of our lower years (Y6-8) D.T. programme which should adequately prepare them for the IGCSE Food and Nutrition.

Content: The full content of the course can be accessed at www.cie.org.uk together with all other relevant information, including past papers. Through the subject content pupils experience:

- Knowledge with understanding
- Handling information and solving problems
- Experimental skills and investigations.

Assessment: Candidates sit one examination and attend a practical timed examination.



Paper 1 – Theory 2hrs	<i>Weighting</i>
Paper 1 (2hrs) Candidates answer short-answer questions, structured questions and open-ended essay questions, for a total of 100 marks.	50%
Paper 2 – Practical 2h30m with 1h30 preparation time	
<p>Paper 2 (1 hour 30 minutes) Candidates have a planning session of 1 hour 30 minutes one week before the practical examination of 2 hours and 30 minutes.</p> <p>At the start of the planning session candidates are given their allocated test question (as detailed in the Confidential Instructions) and three preparation sheets.</p> <p>At the end of the planning session all three preparation sheets are returned to the examiner. At the start of the practical exam the preparation sheets are returned to the candidate.</p>	50%

GEOGRAPHY (0460)

Content: The Cambridge Geography IGCSE (0460) course aims to develop students' values and attitudes towards global problems, with an emphasis on engaging students' by making topics relevant and interesting. The syllabus includes three broad units:

1. Population and Settlement;
2. The Natural Environment;
3. Economic Development and the Use of Resources.

Geography helps you to be more aware of the everyday life and problems of the people who live around you, in Hong Kong and across the world. When you see newspaper or TV reports about new shopping centres and factories, unemployment, arguments about new railways or increasing landfill size, exciting changes or disasters from Asia or Africa, your Geography course will help you make sense of what is going on.



Assessment: All candidates must enter for three papers.

<i>Paper</i>	<i>Weighting</i>
Paper 1 (1 hour 45 minutes) Candidates will be required to answer three questions (3x25 marks). Six questions will be set; two on each of the three themes. It will involve problem solving and free-response writing.	45%
Paper 2 (1 hour 30 minutes) candidates must answer all the questions. The paper will be mainly skills-based and will test a candidate's ability to handle various ways of depicting geographical information.	27.5%
Paper 3 Coursework (School-based assessment). One school-based assignment should consist of an average 2000 words.	27.5%

Progression: Students may go on to study Geography at a higher level. In addition to specific future job opportunities (Volcanologist anyone?), Geography will provide students with a broad range of skills that will enable them to work effectively in a variety of future careers.

HISTORY (0470)

Aims: The aims of Cambridge History IGCSE (0470) are multi-faceted; these include:

- Stimulating interest and enthusiasm about the past.
- Promoting the acquisition of knowledge and understanding of human activity.
- Developing the ability to evaluate pieces of information and evidence.
- Developing an understanding of key concepts like cause and consequence, continuity and change and similarities and differences.
- Encouraging international understanding.
- Encouraging the development of advanced linguistic and communication skills.
- Developing the ability to debate and form arguments with support



Assessment: The IGCSE consists of two exam papers and coursework on a variety of 20th Century topics. These include charting the causes of World War 2 from its very early beginnings of the Treaty of Versailles, through to the development of the Cold War and its impact on the world – namely specific incidents like the Cuban Missile Crisis and the Vietnam War. We will also study an in-depth core unit on Mao's China, allowing the students to deepen their knowledge of a very important cultural figure and assessing his impact on the world we live in today.



The coursework element will encourage students to research and conduct independent study of an element within the in-depth unit. The responsibility will be on the students to develop their interpretation skills and their written skills to answer complex historical questions with guidance from the teacher. This is perfect preparation for the skills required at IB, A level and for future university study.

<i>Examination</i>	<i>Length of Exam</i>	<i>Weighting</i>
Paper 1	2 hours	40%
Students will be required to answer three questions, two on the core 20th Century content and one on the depth study (China 1945-89). They will choose the questions they want to answer from a selection.		
Paper 2	2 hours	33%
Students answer a series of questions on one prescribed core topic. They will use historical sources to answer these questions.		
Coursework (minimum 1,500 words)		27%
Students will produce two pieces of coursework based on the depth study they have looked at. This requires a large amount of personal study and self-motivation. The depth study is based on Communist China 1945-1989.		

Does History matter to me?

Not only is History a well respected subject when it comes to IB, A-Level or Pre-University Cambridge preparation but it will help you in the wider world as well. It teaches you how to argue a point, how to arrange evidence in a convincing way and how to present your own point of view backed up with information. History develops independent study, thinking skills and offers a myriad of transferable skills. These are skills that can be used in the world of work – from lawyers to journalists; from managing directors of huge multi-conglomerates to humble teachers! The skills you learn in History will serve you well for the rest of your life, as well as developing a better idea of the journey humankind has taken and the reasons why we are the way we are today.

I.C.T. (0417)



The Cambridge IGCSE Information and Communication Technology (0417) syllabus encourages students to develop lifelong skills including:

- The ability to understand and implement new and emerging technologies within a business environment
- How to analyse, design, implement, test and evaluate Information and Communication Technology (ICT) systems
- Considering the impact which new technologies will have on ways of working and the social, economic and ethical issues associated with them
- An awareness of the ways ICT can help in practical and work-related scenarios.

Aims: The aims of the Cambridge ICT syllabus are wide ranging, which include:

1. For students to develop and consolidate their knowledge, skills and understanding in ICT and be aware of new and emerging technologies;
2. Students to develop further as autonomous users of ICT;
3. Students to continue to develop their ICT skills in order to enhance their work in a variety of subject areas;
4. Provide opportunities for candidates to analyse, design, implement, test and evaluate ICT systems;
5. Encourage candidates to consider the impact of new technologies on methods of working in the outside world and on social, economic, ethical and moral issues;
6. Help candidates to improve their skills and increase their awareness of the ways in which ICT is used in practical and work-related situations.

The practical skills contained in the syllabus are directly applicable to the study of other subjects; at CKY we encourage pupils to apply their ICT skills to a range of contexts.

Assessment: The ICT course is assessed through one theory-based exam and two practical tests.

<i>Paper</i>	<i>Weighting</i>
Paper 1 (2 hours) Written paper testing sections 1–8 of the curriculum content and assessing the skills in Assessment objective AO2 All questions compulsory: mostly multiple choice or short answer questions, but also some requiring longer responses	40%
Paper 2 (2 ½ hours) Practical test assessing knowledge, skills and understanding of sections 9–16 of the curriculum content	30%
Paper 3 (2 ½ hours) Practical test assessing knowledge, skills and understanding of sections 9–16 of the curriculum content	30%

Music (0410)

Aims: The aims of the Cambridge Music IGCSE (0410) are to:

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

With a good pass candidates are well prepared to follow courses leading to IB or A Level Music.

Assessment: The examination rewards candidates for positive achievement in the following areas:

A Listening

- Aural awareness, perception and discrimination in relation to Western music of the baroque, classical, romantic and 20th-century periods.
- Identifying and commenting on a range of music from cultures in different countries.
- Knowledge and understanding of one Western Prescribed Work and one Prescribed Focus from a non-Western culture.

B Performing

- Technical competence on one or more instruments.
- Interpretative understanding of the music performed.

C Composing

- Discrimination and imagination in free composition.
- Notation, using staff notation and, if appropriate, other suitable systems.

<i>Components and titles</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>Weighting</i>
A – Listening Questions test understanding and perception of music from a wide range of styles and traditions	Exam (1h15m)	40%
B – Performing Component 3 Individual – One piece or two short contrasting pieces & Ensemble – One piece or two short contrasting pieces	Coursework Assessment	30%
C – Composing Component 4 (Two compositions)	Coursework Assessment	30%

PHYSICAL EDUCATION (P.E.) (0413)



Aims: The Cambridge IGCSE Physical Education syllabus (0413) provides candidates with an opportunity to study both the practical and theoretical aspects of Physical Education. It is also designed to foster enjoyment in physical activity. The knowledge gained should enable candidates to develop an understanding of effective and safe physical performance.

Students will be encouraged to improve:

- their ability to plan, perform, analyse and evaluate physical activities;
- their knowledge, skills and understanding of a range of relevant physical activities.

The grades available are A*–G.

Assessment: All candidates take:

<i>Component 1</i>		<i>Component 2</i>
Paper 1	1 hour 45 minutes	Coursework (centre-based assessment)
Section A: Candidates answer short answer questions on the three units they have studied: Factors affecting performance, Health, safety and training, Reasons and opportunities for participation in physical activity.		Candidates choose to undertake four practical activities from at least two of the seven categories listed (50% of total marks). Candidates must show the ability to analyse and improve practical performance in one of their four chosen practical activities (10% of marks).
Section B: Candidates answer three structured questions, one from each of the three units they have studied.		
40% of total marks		60% of total marks

ART & DESIGN: TEXTILES (0400)

Although students completing this course will gain exactly the same qualification as students completing the Art & Design IGCSE (0400) (as described on pg16), the Textiles class will focus on the skills required to design and manufacture clothing. These art lessons are based in our dedicated Textiles studio, with a number of specific resources, such as sewing machines and mannequins.

Aims In the context of this specification, students are required to work in at least one of the following disciplines: printed and/or dyed, constructed textiles or fashion.

Printed and/or Dyed: Students will become aware of a variety of different media, such as commercial fabric paints, fabric painting inks and application methods. For the printed application, students are expected to show a range of techniques for transferring image to fabric, such as block, screen and discharge printing. Dyed application requires the student to be familiar with a range of processes such as batik, silk painting and tie and dye. Students should also become familiar with dipping and spraying.



An example of recent Y9 work

Constructed: Students will demonstrate an understanding of either natural and/or synthetic yarns, and how they can be used through stitching, knotting and looping. Students can use experimentation with alternative media such as plastic, paper and wire, and investigate the properties of these techniques such as folding, cutting and fusing. Students can also learn a variety of constructed techniques such as embroidery, weaving or appliqué.

Fashion: Students will demonstrate how fabric and fibres are used in a fashion context. Students will become familiar with a range of processes such as garment construction, accessories, and fashion design and body adornment. Students do not have to produce final made garments but should be mindful of the techniques appropriate to this specialism.

Assessment The Art & Design: Textiles class will complete a *Design Assignment* and are expected to interpret the examination theme within a Textiles context in terms of their designs and medium of production. It is assessed through a portfolio selection of their best work (50%) and a final exam (50%). Work is assessed both in school and externally.

Component	Weighting
Design Assignment Exam: An 8 hour practical assignment creating an examination piece plus supporting studies	50%
Coursework Assignment One final outcome plus supporting material	50%

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

How many optional subjects should I choose?

Every student is different and there is no guideline number set by CIE. However, those students who have proven to excel in a range of subjects over the course of Y6-8 and want to keep as many options open for their further study as possible should consider choosing four optional subjects. In addition to the 5 core IGCSEs on offer, this would allow students to study a total of 9 IGCSEs (rising to a maximum of 11 for those selected to take Additional Maths and English Literature). Those who enjoy only a few subjects but find some other subjects challenging, can consider taking fewer optional subjects.

Those students selected to take Additional Maths and English Literature are able to decline one or both of these IGCSEs, or reduce the number of optional IGCSE subjects, if they feel that the workload will be too great. However, we urge these students not to reduce their number of optional subjects as this may hinder their future choices.

How do I find out more about what the courses consist of?

Read this booklet carefully, as even familiar subjects can be very different at IGCSE. Your subject teachers will be able to tell you about the subject they teach and further information is available on the Cambridge IGCSE website (<http://www.cie.org.uk>).

Should I choose the subjects I like?

You are more likely to do well at IGCSE if you enjoy the subjects you are studying. So, as a general rule, choose the subjects that appeal to you. Do not choose a subject because you like the teacher or simply because your best friend has chosen it. Teachers change and so can friendships. You should choose because of the subject itself.

Do my options affect future career choices?

Like most students you are probably unsure what you want to do in the future and even if you have some ideas, they are likely to change in the next few years. You need to keep as many doors open as possible. Try to aim for a broad spread of subjects. Choose according to your own individual interests, abilities and career plans.

What if I already know what I want to do in my future career?

If you are more definite in your career ideas do some research to find out what subjects you need to study and to what level you need to study them.

Will I be able to get the grades I want?

Usually you can judge this for yourself, but ask your teachers if you are uncertain of your IGCSE prospects. The subject teachers should be able to give you an indication as to how well you will fare on the course, although result predictions are rarely 100% accurate.

Will I be able to take the courses of my choice?

We will do all we can to timetable so that you can, but sometimes timetabling difficulties may prevent it. For a minority of students a teacher may be reluctant to allow you on the course for your own benefit. If it is suggested that you should not choose a particular subject then you will be informed by the school. The school will make the final decision as to whether or not to enter you for each exam.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Please don't hesitate to contact the school should you have any questions about the information provided in this booklet, or any other queries relating to IGCSE options at CKY.

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