

2026-2027

# Curriculum Guide

Independence Middle School



 Cambridge Assessment  
International Education  
Cambridge International School

## Independence Middle School

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## Independence Middle School Course Sequence

	6th Grade	7th Grade	8th Grade
Language Arts	Language Arts 1, English 1 Cambridge Honors	Language Arts 2, English 2 Cambridge Honors	Language Arts 3, English 3 Cambridge Honors
Mathematics	Math Grade 6 Accelerated or Math Grade 7 Accelerated (AMP Students), Algebra 1 (previously taken pre-algebra), Geometry	Math Grade 7 Accelerated, Algebra 1 (previously taken pre-algebra), Geometry	Math Grade 8 (Pre-Algebra), Algebra 1 Combo (2 math blocks), Algebra 1, Geometry, Algebra 2
Science	Cambridge Science 1	Cambridge Science 2	Cambridge Science 3
Social Studies	US History Advanced	Civics Advanced	WorldHistory & Career Planning Advanced
Elective	PE & Student Choice	PE & Student Choice	PE & Student Choice
Elective	Student Choice	Student Choice	Student Choice

For more information on requirements, including a PE waiver, please review the [Student Progression Plan](#).

### Elective Options at IMS

	6th Grade Electives	7th Grade Electives	8th Grade Electives
Academies	Students will be scheduled into the appropriate elective after being accepted into an academy (requires Choice application).		
Arts	Band, Chorus, Cambridge Art	Band, Chorus, Cambridge Art , Keyboarding	Cambridge Art, Cambridge Pre-AICE Photography, Band, Chorus, Keyboarding
Exploration	Cambridge Computers Science, Fitness (PE), Spanish Beginning, Cambridge Global Perspectives 1	Cambridge Computers, Spanish Intermediate, Financial Literacy, Holocaust Education Honors (HS Credit), Team Sports (PE), HS Pre-AICE Spanish 1	Cambridge Computers, Financial Literacy, Pre-AICE Global Perspectives, Pre-AICE Art & Design (Photography), Individual/Dual Sports (PE), Spanish Intermediate, Pre-AICE Spanish 1
Electives based on specific needs	Intensive Reading, Learning Strategies, Developmental Language for ELL, MSCR	Intensive Reading, Learning Strategies, Developmental Language for ELL, MSCR	Intensive Reading, Learning Strategies, Developmental Language for ELL, MSCR

**High School Courses offered at IMS:** Algebra I Honors, Geometry Honors, Algebra 2 Honors, Child Development & Nutrition (Pre-Teaching Academy), Pre-AICE Global Perspectives (Pre-Law Academy and elective

option), Computer Fundamental (Business Academy), Medical Skills (Medical Academy), Pre-AICE Environmental Management (SciQuest), Pre-AICE Spanish 1, Pre-AICE Photography and Holocaust History.

**Industrial Certification Courses offered at IMS:** Computer Fundamental (Business Academy), Digital Discoveries in Society (Business Academy and Elective Option)

**Gifted Students:** Gifted services are provided in Language Arts, Science and/or Social Studies. Students will be enrolled in Advanced/Honors/Cambridge courses.

## Schedule Change Policy

Schedule changes will be made to correct misplacements, scheduling errors, and modifications due to courses completed over the summer. However, schedule changes are not made for preferences for teachers or friends. All schedule change requests must be sent to the appropriate school counselor.

*Note: Class Size Amendment requirements and budget changes may require class size balancing after the school year has begun.*



## 2026-2027 Course Options

### English Language Arts\*

**Language Arts 1 (Year):** The purpose of this course is to provide grade 6 students, using texts of appropriate complexity, integrated language arts study in reading, writing, speaking, listening, and language for college and career preparation and readiness.

Grade Level: 6th Grade Level 1 ELA Only

**Language Arts 2 (Year):** The purpose of this course is to provide grade 7 students, using texts of high complexity, integrated language arts study in reading, writing, speaking, listening, and language for college and career preparation and readiness.

Grade Level: 7th Grade Level 1 ELA Only

**Language Arts 3 (Year):** The purpose of this course is to provide grade 8 students, using texts of high complexity, integrated language arts study in reading, writing, speaking, listening, and language for college and career preparation and readiness.

Grade Level: 8th Grade Level 1 ELA Only

### Cambridge Advanced/Honors Language Arts Courses

**(Year):** Learners develop skills and understanding in four areas: reading, writing, speaking and listening. They will learn how to communicate effectively and respond to a range of information, media and texts to:

- become confident communicators, able to apply all four skills effectively in everyday situations
- see themselves as readers, engaging with a range of texts for information and for pleasure, including texts from different times and cultures
- see themselves as writers, using the written word clearly and creatively for a range of different audiences and purposes.

Grade Level: 6th, 7th, and 8th Grades

### Notes for Language Arts Courses:

The content should include, but not be limited to, the following:

- active reading of varied texts for what they say explicitly, as well as the logical inferences that can be drawn
- analysis of literature and informational texts from varied literary periods to examine:
  - text craft and structure
  - elements of literature
  - arguments and claims supported by textual evidence
  - power and impact of language

\*Source: Department of Education (cpalms.org)

- influence of history, culture, and setting on language
- personal critical and aesthetic response
- writing for varied purposes
- developing and supporting argumentative claims
- crafting coherent, supported informative/expository texts
- responding to literature for personal and analytical purposes
- writing narratives to develop real or imagined events
- writing to sources using text-based evidence and reasoning
- effective listening, speaking, and viewing strategies with emphasis on the use of evidence to support or refute a claim in multimedia presentations, class discussions, and extended text discussions
- collaboration amongst peers

## Mathematics\*

**Mathematics Grade 6 Accelerated (Year):** In this Grade 6 Mathematics course, instructional time should focus on six critical areas: (1) connecting ratio and rate to whole number multiplication and division and using concepts of ratio and rate to solve problems; (2) completing understanding of division of fractions and extending the notion of number to the system of rational numbers, which includes negative numbers; (3) writing, interpreting, and using expressions and equations; (4) developing understanding of statistical thinking; (5) developing understanding of and applying proportional relationships; and (6) developing understanding of operations with rational numbers and working with expressions and linear equations.  
Grade Level: 6th Grade

**Mathematics Grade 6 Accelerated/Foundation Math Skills Double Block (Year)**-This is a specially designed course for students scoring a level 1 or low level 2 on their Grade 5 PM3 Math Assessment. This will include all of the standards and expectations of the 6th Grade Accelerated Math course course (explained above) with an extra hour of foundational skills support.  
Grade Level: 6th Grade Level 1 Students

**Mathematics Grade 7 (Year):** In Grade 7, instructional time should focus on four critical areas: (1) developing understanding of and applying proportional relationships; (2) developing understanding of operations with rational numbers and working with expressions and linear equations; (3) solving problems involving scale drawings and informal geometric constructions, and working with two- and three-dimensional shapes to solve problems involving area, surface area, and volume; and (4) drawing inferences about populations based on samples.  
Grade Level: 7th Grade Level 1 Math Only

**Mathematics Grade 7 Accelerated/Foundation Math Skills Double Block (Year)**-This is a specially designed course for students scoring a level 2 or low level 3 on their Grade 6 PM3 Math Assessment. This will include all of the standards and expectations of the 7th Grade Accelerated Math course course

(explained above) with an extra hour of foundational skills support.

Grade Level: 7th Grade Level 2 Students

**Mathematics Grade 7 Accelerated (Year):** In this Grade 7 Advanced Mathematics course, instructional time should focus on five critical areas: (1) solving problems involving scale drawings and informal geometric constructions, and working with two- and three-dimensional shapes to solve problems involving area, surface area, and volume; (2) drawing inferences about populations based on samples; (3) formulating and reasoning about expressions and equations, including modeling an association in bivariate data with a linear equation, and solving linear equations and systems of linear equations; (4) grasping the concept of a function and using functions to describe quantitative relationships; and (5) analyzing two- and three-dimensional space and figures using distance, angle, similarity, and congruence, and understanding and applying the Pythagorean Theorem.

Grade Level: 6th Grade (AMP Students from Elementary School) & 7th Grade

**Pre-Algebra Grade 8 (Year):** The purpose of this course is to continue development of mathematical concepts and processes that can be used to solve real-world and mathematical problems. Students will study algebra concepts and skills needed for success in Algebra 1. The content will include, but is not limited to: algebraic thinking, which includes analyzing and expressing patterns and relationships in tables, graphs, number sequences, algebraic expressions, equations, and inequalities; operations and problem solving using rational and irrational numbers; statistics; ratios, proportions, and percents; probability; and algebraic problem-solving strategies.  
Grade Level: 8th Grade

**High School Algebra 1 Honors/Foundation Math Skills Double Block (Year)**-This is a specially designed course for students scoring a level 2 or low level 3 on their Grade 8 PM3 Math Assessment. This will include all of the standards and expectations of the High School Algebra 1 Honors course (explained below) with an extra hour of foundational skills support.  
Grade Level: 7th Grade and 8th Grade Level 2 Students

**High School Algebra I Honors (Year):** The fundamental purpose of this course is to formalize and extend the mathematics that students learned in the middle grades. The critical areas, called units, deepen and extend understanding of linear and exponential relationships by contrasting them with each other and by applying linear models to data that exhibit a linear trend, and students engage in methods for analyzing, solving, and using quadratic functions. The Standards for Mathematical Practice apply throughout each course and, together with the content standards, prescribe that students experience mathematics as a coherent, useful, and logical subject that makes use of their ability to make sense of problem situations.  
Prerequisite: Pre-Algebra

Grade Level: 7th & 8th Grade

**High School Geometry Honors (Year):** The fundamental purpose of the course in Geometry is to formalize and extend students' geometric experiences from the middle grades. Students explore more complex geometric situations and deepen their explanations of geometric relationships, moving towards formal mathematical arguments. Important differences exist between this Geometry course and the historical approach taken in Geometry classes. For example, transformations are emphasized early in this course. Close attention should be paid to the introductory content for the Geometry conceptual category found in the high school standards. The Standards for Mathematical Practice apply throughout each course and, together with the content standards, prescribe that students experience mathematics as a coherent, useful, and logical subject that makes use of their ability to make sense of problem situations.

Prerequisite: Algebra I

Grade Level: 7th and 8th Grade

**High School Algebra 2 Honors (Year):** Building on their work with linear, quadratic, and exponential functions, students extend their repertoire of functions to include polynomial, rational, and radical functions.<sup>2</sup> Students work closely with the expressions that define the functions, and continue to expand and hone their abilities to model situations and to solve equations, including solving quadratic equations over the set of complex numbers and solving exponential equations using the properties of logarithms. The Mathematical Practice Standards apply throughout each course and, together with the content standards, prescribe that students experience mathematics as a coherent, useful, and logical subject that makes use of their ability to make sense of problem situations.

Prerequisite: Algebra 1 and Geometry

Grade Level: 8th Grade

## Science\*

**Cambridge Advanced Science 1 (Year):** Laboratory investigations that include the use of scientific inquiry, research, measurement, problem solving, laboratory apparatus and technologies, experimental procedures, and safety procedures are an integral part of this course. This course focuses on:

- Nature of Science
- Energy, Force, & Motion
- Shaping Earth's Surface
- Earth's Systems
- Weather & Climate
- Cells
- Classifications of Living Things
- Human Body Systems
- Human Growth & Development

Grade Level: 6th Grade

**Cambridge Advanced Science 2 (Year):** Laboratory investigations that include the use of scientific inquiry,

\*Source: Department of Education ([cpalms.org](http://cpalms.org))

research, measurement, problem solving, laboratory apparatus and technologies, experimental procedures, and safety procedures are an integral part of this course. This course focuses on:

- Nature of Science
- Energy and Heat
- Waves and Light
- The Dynamic Earth
- The Rock Cycle
- History of the Earth
- Change Over Time (Evolution)
- Reproduction & Heredity
- The Everglades
- Interdependence
- Human Impact on Earth
- Human Growth & Development

Grade Level: 7th Grade

**Cambridge Advanced Science 3 (Year):** Laboratory investigations that include the use of scientific inquiry, research, measurement, problem solving, laboratory apparatus and technologies, experimental procedures, and safety procedures are an integral part of this course. This course focuses on:

- Nature of Science
- Structure & Properties of Matter
- Changes in Matter
- Matter & Energy Transformations
- The Earth-Sun-Moon System
- The Solar System
- The Universe
- Space Exploration
- Lake Worth Lagoon
- Human Growth & Development

Grade Level: 8th Grade

**High School Physical Science Honors (Year):** This is an honors, high school level science course that allows for students to participate in laboratory investigations that include the use of scientific inquiry, research, measurement, problem solving, laboratory apparatus and technologies, experimental procedures, and safety procedures. This course also aligns with the Grade 8 Science standards, which will assist students in their success of the Grade 8 state science assessment at the end of the school year.

Prerequisite: Level 4 or 5 on Grade 7 ELA FAST; 7th grade science teacher recommendation

Grade Level: 8

## Social Studies\*

**US History (Year):** Primary content emphasis for this course pertains to the study of American history from the Exploration and Colonization period to the Reconstruction Period following the Civil War. Students will be exposed to the historical, geographic, political, economic, and sociological events which influenced the development of the United States and the

resulting impact on world history. So that students can clearly see the relationship between cause and effect in historical events, students should have the opportunity to explore those fundamental ideas and events which occurred after Reconstruction.

Grade Level: 6th Grade

**Civics (Year):** The primary content for the course pertains to the principles, functions, and organization of government; the origins of the American political system; the roles, rights, responsibilities of United States citizens; and methods of active participation in our political system. The course is embedded with strong geographic and economic components to support civic education instruction.

Grade Level: 7th Grade

**US History and Career Planning (Year):** Primary content emphasis for this course pertains to the study of American history from the Exploration and Colonization period to the Reconstruction Period following the Civil War. Students will be exposed to the historical, geographic, political, economic, and sociological events which influenced the development of the United States and the resulting impact on world history. So that students can clearly see the relationship between cause and effect in historical events, students should have the opportunity to explore those fundamental ideas and events which occurred after Reconstruction. This course also includes a career planning component through Xello where students examine their interests and research career paths that correlate to those interests.

Grade Level: 8th Grade

## **Academies** - Requires Choice Application & Acceptance

### **Business Academy**

Prerequisite: Choice academy that requires a Choice Application

#### **Information & Communications Technology (ICT)**

**Essentials (Year):** Sixth grade students entering the academy are introduced to the field of business and related careers through the use of information technology.

Students may earn a certificate/ award from the CTSO co-curricular student organization, Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA), for their completed portfolios in the Middle Level LEAD program. This program is designed to provide instruction in keyboarding, word processing, electronic presentation, computer hardware, Internet, introductory spreadsheet, and soft skills for business applications. The purpose of this program is to provide students with the computer, digital, and information technology skills necessary for success in their future academic and occupational goals. In addition to fundamental computer information, the content includes but is not limited to digital technologies associated with web development, multimedia, word processing, spreadsheet, database, Internet communications, and cybersecurity.

Grade Level: 6th Grade

\*Source: Department of Education (cpalms.org)

**Digital Discoveries in Society (Year):** Seventh grade students in the Academy will continue to build intermediate skills to advanced levels of business leadership and technology skills. In addition, students will earn a Site Development Associate Industry Certification Credential from Certified Internet Web Professionals as well as the opportunity to earn a second year certificate/ award from the CTSO co-curricular student organization, FBLA, for their completed student portfolios in the LEAD program. The purpose of this program is to assist students in making informed decisions regarding their future academic and occupational goals and to provide information regarding careers in the Information Technology career cluster. The content includes but is not limited to foundational knowledge and skills related to web and software development in the information technology industry. Instruction and learning activities are provided in a laboratory setting using hands-on experiences with the equipment, materials and technology appropriate to the course content and in accordance with current practices.

Students will be provided with opportunities to acquire and demonstrate leadership skills and may have the opportunity to earn a Site Development Associate Industry Certification credential from Certified Internet Web Professionals.

\*Earning this certification will fulfill the online course high school graduation requirement for students\*

Grade Level: 7th Grade

#### **Computer Fundamental, High School Credit Course (Year):**

Eighth grade students in the Academy, continue through advanced levels in business leadership and technology skills; with potential to earn the highest level of awards from CTSO co-curricular student organization, FBLA for their completed student portfolios in LEAD program. Students may also earn an Internet Business Associate Industry Certification Credential from Certified Internet Web Professionals in the final year of the Pre-Business IT Academy. The purpose of this program is to give students an opportunity to apply knowledge and skills related to the area of Emerging Technology in Business. The content includes but is not limited to electronic research methods; business communications including speaking, listening, writing, and telecommunication; multimedia presentation skills; ethical considerations related to technology; and emerging technologies affecting business environments. Instruction is designed to provide an understanding of the advances being made in technology today and in the future.

\*Students successfully completing this course receive high school credit and 1 Occupational Completion Point\*

Grade Level: 8th Grade

### **Law Academy**

Prerequisite: Choice academy that requires a Choice Application

**Speech and Debate 1 (Year):** The purpose of this course is to enable students to develop fundamental knowledge and skills in formal and informal oral communication and in debate.

Grade Level: 6th Grade

**Speech and Debate 2 (Year):** The purpose of this course is to enable students to develop intermediate-level knowledge and skills in formal and informal oral communication and in debate.  
Grade Level: 7th Grade

**Cambridge Pre-AICE Global Perspectives (Full Year, HS Credit):** This high school credit, Cambridge IGCSE Global Perspectives course encourages learners to think about and explore solutions to significant global issues and develops learners' ability to consider significant global issues from different perspectives, encourages learners to work collaboratively and individually and to apply their knowledge in different contexts.  
Grade Level: 8th Grade

## Medical Science Academy

Prerequisite: In-house academy that requires a Choice Application

**Orientation to Health Science Professions Honors Level (Year):** Students will learn medical concepts relating to anatomy and physiology, medical terminology, skeletal, muscular and nervous systems, physical therapy, radiology, safety and related careers. Skills will be taught in the medical lab using stretchers, wheelchairs, crutches, mammalian eyes for dissection, hearing and vision assessment tools, scales, x-ray viewers and CPR manikins for "hands-only" CPR.  
Grade Level - 6th Grade

**Exploration of Health Science Professions Honors Level (Year):** Students will be exposed to a variety of careers and skills using critical thinking and hands-on laboratory activities. Medical/health careers, medical terminology, anatomy and physiology, health skills, surgical techniques and medical procedures will be emphasized. Skills will be taught in the medical lab using kidneys and digestive organs for dissection, stethoscopes, microscopes, specialized surgical manikins and simulated blood and urine to analyze and study disease conditions.  
Grade Level: 7th Grade

**Medical Skills and Services High School Credit Honors Level (Year):** Training and certifications involving a wide range of topics and skills will be offered. Emphasis will be on vital signs and cardiology so students will be able to use our patient simulator named "Juno". Students will practice physical assessment and emergency medical scenarios. Medical equipment will be used to evaluate blood pressure, temperature, pulse, oxygen and breathing as well as studying and dissecting the mammalian heart. Specialized CPR manikins for American Heart Association CPR/AED/First Aid certification and "Casper" the CPR dog will be used in the medical lab. A community service skills project is part of the curriculum. Students will be invited to participate in SAM (Students Against Melanoma) and SWAT (Students Working Against Tobacco) activities as well as other community

agencies of their choice. Participation in job-shadowing and clinical observations will be encouraged.  
Grade Level: 8th Grade

## Pre-Teacher Academy

Prerequisite: Choice academy that requires a Choice Application

**Introduction to Education and Training (Year):** This full year course introduces students to child development and career options available in the early childhood field.  
Grade Level: 6th Grade

**Fundamentals of Careers in Education (Year):** This full year course exposes students to in-depth research-based and hands-on activities related to all areas of child development.  
Grade Level: 7th Grade

**Child Development, High School (Semester, HS Credit) and Nutrition and Wellness, High School (Semester, HS Credit):** These 8th grade classes are high school credit classes and each class is a semester long. These semester courses prepare the student to solve complex problems, make difficult decisions, and assess the ethical implications as they relate to the area of child development and nutrition and wellness.  
Grade Level: 8th Grade

## SciQuest

Prerequisite: In-house academy that requires a Choice Application

**Introduction to the Fields of Science and STEM, Research 1 (Year):** This course is an integrated Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) course for middle school students. M/J STEM Physical Science includes an integration of standards from science, mathematics, and english/language arts (ELA) through the application to STEM problem solving using physical science knowledge and science and engineering practices. Physical sciences through applications such as aeronautics, robotics, rocketry, mechanical, electrical, and civil engineering, are emphasized in this course. Students will have the opportunity to explore the many fields and careers that science has to offer. Students will investigate real world science using inquiry based activities to build a deeper understanding of scientific concepts such as physics, chemistry, biology, Earth science, space, and computer technology.  
Grade Level: 6th Grade

**The Florida Sciences/STEM Environmental Science, Research 2 (Year):** This course is an integrated Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) course for middle school students. Students will continue exploring the fields of science by focusing on the "Florida Sciences" of Marine and Environmental. Students can expect to research, design, model and complete projects that are applicable to the real world. Taking their ideas through the complete inquiry or engineering process. Laboratory investigations that include the

use of scientific inquiry, research, measurement, problem solving, laboratory apparatus and technologies, experimental procedures, and safety procedures are an integral part of this course.

Grade Level: 7th Grade

**Cambridge Pre-AICE Environmental Management (Year, HS Credit):** This high school honors credit class aimed to enable students to acquire knowledge of natural systems which make life possible on Earth, and understanding that humans are part of these systems and depend on them, an appreciation of the diverse influences of human activity on natural systems, an awareness of the need to manage natural systems, an understanding of sustainable development to meet the needs of the present, without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs, a sense of responsibility and concern for the welfare of the environment and all organisms, an awareness of their own values concerning environmental issues, an awareness of the values of others, a willingness to review their own attitudes in the light of new knowledge and experiences, a sound basis for further study, personal development and participation in local and global environmental concerns

Grade Level: 8th Grade

## Electives\*

**Art: Cambridge Art 1 (Semester):** This wide ranging discipline enables learners to explore their creativity and to express themselves through a range of artistic forms. They will experiment with artistic media, seek their own artistic experiences, consider the artistic process that all artists follow and will use these to express their creative ideas and their experiments, through both personal and collaborative pieces of art. Throughout their artistic journey, learners will also learn the benefits of reflecting on their own experiences, the work of other artists, the experiences of other learners and from the diverse contexts from which art has evolved.

Grade Level: 6th Grade

**Art: Cambridge Art 2 (semester):** This wide ranging discipline enables learners to explore their creativity and to express themselves through a range of artistic forms. They will experiment with artistic media, seek their own artistic experiences, consider the artistic process that all artists follow and will use these to express their creative ideas and their experiments, through both personal and collaborative pieces of art. Throughout their artistic journey, learners will also learn the benefits of reflecting on their own experiences, the work of other artists, the experiences of other learners and from the diverse contexts from which art has evolved.

Grade Level: 7th and 8th Grade

**Art: Pre-AICE Art and Design- Photography (Full Year):** The Cambridge IGCSE Art & Design syllabus aims to

\*Source: Department of Education ([cpalms.org](http://cpalms.org))

encourage a personal response by stimulating imagination, sensitivity, conceptual thinking, powers of observation and analytical ability. Learners gain confidence and enthusiasm as they develop technical skills in two and three dimensional form and composition, and are able to identify and solve problems in visual and tactile forms. They also learn how to develop ideas from initial attempts to final solutions. An ideal foundation for further study, Cambridge IGCSE Art & Design also develops a greater awareness of the role played by the visual arts in society and in history, broadening cultural horizons and individual experience.

Grade Level: 8th Grade

**Band 1: Beginning (Year):** Students with little or no instrumental experience develop foundational instrumental technique, foundational music literacy, and aesthetic musical awareness through rehearsal, performance, and study of high-quality band literature. Instrumentalists work on the fundamentals of music notation, sound production, instrument care and maintenance, and personal and group rehearsal strategies. Public performances may serve as a culmination of specific instructional goals. Students may be required to attend and/or participate in rehearsals and performances outside the school day to support, extend, and assess learning in the classroom. This course may also require students to obtain a musical instrument (e.g., borrow, rent, purchase) from an outside source.

Grade Level: 6th & 7th Grade

**Band 2: Concert Band (Year):** Students with previous band experience build on instrumental technique, music literacy, and aesthetic response through rehearsal, performance, and study of a variety of high-quality band literature. Instrumentalists expand their knowledge of music notation, music theory, sound production, and personal and group rehearsal strategies. Public performances may serve as a culmination of specific instructional goals. Students may be required to attend and/or participate in rehearsals and performances outside the school day to support, extend, and assess learning in the classroom. This course may also require students to obtain a musical instrument (e.g., borrow, rent, purchase) from an outside source.

*Grade Level: 7th & 8th Grade (6th graders with experience may audition into this group)*

**Band 3: Symphonic Band (Year):** Students with previous band experience expand on their instrumental technique, music literacy, and aesthetic response through rehearsal, performance, and study of a variety of intermediate-level, high-quality band literature. Instrumentalists extend their knowledge of music notation and theory, sound production, and personal and group rehearsal strategies. Public performances may serve as a culmination of specific instructional goals. Students may be required to attend and/or participate in rehearsals and performances outside the school day to support, extend, and assess learning in the classroom. This course may also require students to obtain a musical

instrument (e.g., borrow, rent, purchase) from an outside source.

Grade Level: 7th Grade & 8th Grade (Audition/Director Approval Required)

**Band 4: Wind Ensemble (Year):** Students with considerable band experience strengthen their instrumental technique, music literacy, and aesthetic response through rehearsal, performance, and study of a variety of advanced, high-quality band literature. Instrumentalists refine their knowledge of music notation and theory, sound production, and personal and group rehearsal strategies. Public performances may serve as a culmination of specific instructional goals. Students may be required to attend and/or participate in rehearsals and performances outside the school day to support, extend, and assess learning in the classroom. This course may also require students to obtain a musical instrument (e.g., borrow, rent, purchase) from an outside source.

Grade Level: 8th Grade (Audition/Director Approval Required)

**Chorus 1: Freedom Singers (Year):** *This is the beginning chorus for 6th graders treble voices (soprano & alto).* No recommendation or audition is required. This course provides students with experiences in basic vocal production techniques and group singing. The content includes, but is not limited to, enabling students to develop basic skills in vocal tone production, choral performance techniques, musical literacy and music appreciation. This chorus performs at all major concert programs during the school year with extra performances beyond the school day to be expected.

Special note: This is a performance-oriented course and may require 2-4 extra rehearsals and 2-4 performances beyond the school day as announced by the teacher. Performance attire is required.

Grade Level: 6th Grade

**Chorus 2: Singing Eagles (Year):** *This is the IMS boys chorus group, all 3 grade levels.* No recommendation or audition is required. The content includes, but is not limited to, enabling students to develop basic skills in vocal tone production, choral performance techniques, musical literacy and music appreciation. Emphasis will be placed on healthy vocal production, basic musicianship skills, music reading and notation, teamwork, leadership, and exposure to a wide variety of high-quality choral literature. This chorus performs at all major concert programs during the school year with extra performances beyond the school day to be expected.

Special note: This is a performance-oriented course and may require 2-3 extra rehearsals and 3-4 performances beyond the school day as announced by the teacher. Performance attire is required.

Grade Level: 6th, 7th, & 8th Grades

**Chorus 3: (Year):** *This is the beginning & intermediate chorus for 7th & 8th grade treble (soprano/alto) singers.*

No recommendation or audition is required. This course provides students with instruction in the development of vocal production techniques and large and small group singing of like-voices. The content includes, but is not limited to, enabling students to demonstrate skills in vocal tone production, choral performance techniques, music literacy, and music appreciation. This chorus performs at all major concert programs during the school year with extra performances beyond the school day to be expected.

Special note: This is a performance-oriented course and may require 3-4 extra rehearsals and 3-4 performances beyond the school day as announced by the teacher. Performance attire is required.

Grade Level: 7th & 8th Grade

**Chorus 4: Americana (Year):** *This is the advanced chorus for 7th and 8th grade treble (soprano/alto) singers who have been in chorus for at least one year at IMS.* An audition and director's recommendation is required, as well as a cumulative 3.0 GPA and all "3s" and "4s" in conduct. This course refines students' basic musicianship through the performance of varied chorus literature. Content includes, but is not limited to, the extended study of characteristic tone production, style, form, musical literacy, and technical proficiency as related to choral performance. This chorus performs at all major concert programs during the school year with extra performances beyond the school day to be expected.

Special note: This is a performance-oriented course and may require 3-4 extra rehearsals and 5-8 performances beyond the school day as announced by the teacher. Performance attire is also required.

Grade Level: 7th Grade & 8th Grade

**Cambridge Global Perspectives 1 (Semester):** Cambridge Global Perspectives 1 allows learners to develop skills through age-appropriate and engaging activities that are based on a broad range of topics. They explore personal, local and global perspectives to make sense of, and feel connected to, the world around them. Learners make informed decisions about the information they read, hear and see on global issues, identifying different perspectives and arguments.

Grade Level: 6th Grade

**Holocaust: Holocaust Education Honors (HS Credit, Year):** This High School credit Holocaust course consists of the following content area strands: American History, World History, Geography, Humanities, Civics and Government. The primary content emphasis for this course pertains to the examination of the events of the Holocaust (1933-1945), the systemic, planned annihilation of European Jews and other groups by Nazi Germany. Content will include, but is not limited to, the examination of twentieth century programs and of twentieth century and twenty-first century genocides, investigation of human behavior during this period, and an understanding of the ramifications of prejudice, racism and stereotyping.

Grade Level: 7th Grade

**Cambridge Pre-AICE Global Perspectives (Full Year):** This high school credit, Cambridge IGCSE Global Perspectives course encourages learners to think about and explore solutions to significant global issues and develops learners' ability to consider significant global issues from different perspectives, encourages learners to work collaboratively and individually and to apply their knowledge in different contexts.

**Grade Level: 8th Grade**

**Music Theory: Keyboarding (Semester):** Students with little or no prior experience develop fundamental piano techniques, learn to read music, apply basic music theory, and explore the role of keyboard music in history and culture. Beginning pianists explore musical creativity in the form of basic arranging and improvisation, and develop analytical listening and problem-solving skills.

Grade Level: 7th Grade & 8th Grade

**Physical Education: Cambridge Lower Secondary PE (Semester):** This fitness course is designed for 6th grade students and intended to be 18 weeks in length. The purpose of this course is to help learners develop skills through a wide variety of age appropriate physical activities, including games, team sports, and dance. Students will learn increased confidence in moving, moving with increased control, fluency and variety. Students will improve their understanding of concepts, rules, tactics, strategies and compositional ideas.

Grade Level: 6th Grade

**Physical Education: Team Sports (Semester):** This course is designed for 7th grade students and is intended to be 18 weeks in length. The purpose of this course is to develop the physical skills necessary to be competent in many forms of movement, knowledge of team sports concepts such as offensive and defensive strategies and tactics, and appropriate social behaviors within a team or group setting. The integration of fitness concepts throughout the content is critical to the success of this course.

Grade Level: 7th Grade

**Physical Education: Individual/Dual Sports (Semester):** This course is designed for 8th grade students and is intended to be 18 weeks in length. The purpose of this course is to develop the physical skills necessary to be competent in many forms of movement, knowledge of team sports concepts such as offensive and defensive strategies and tactics, and appropriate social behaviors within a team or group setting. The integration of fitness concepts throughout the content is critical to the success of this course.

Grade Level: 8th Grade

**Spanish: Beginning (Semester):** M/J Exploratory Spanish introduces students to the target language and its culture. Students will learn beginning skills of listening and speaking and be introduced to basic skills in reading and writing in

Spanish. Also, culture and comparisons are included in this one-semester course.

Grade Level: 6th Grade

**Spanish: Intermediate (Semester):** M/J Exploratory Spanish, Intermediate, is a continuation of M/J Exploratory Spanish, Beginning, and expands on students' knowledge of the target language and its culture. Students will be able to engage in basic skills in listening and speaking activities. Students will also continue learning basic skills in reading and writing. Also, culture, connections, comparisons, and communities are included in this semester course.

Grade Level: 7th Grade & 8th Grade

**Spanish: Pre-AICE Spanish 1 (Year):** develops a set of transferable skills for understanding and communicating in everyday situations in Spanish. Learners begin to develop cultural awareness of countries and communities where Spanish is spoken. They acquire the essential linguistic skills required for progression to further studies or employment.

Grade Level: 7th and 8th Grade

**Spanish: Pre-AICE Spanish 2 (Year):** this course is intended to be taken after the successful completion of the Pre-AICE Spanish 1 course.

Grade Level: 8th Graders that have previously taken Pre-AICE Spanish 1

**Technology: Cambridge Computing (semester):** This program is designed for students to develop their understanding of how computer devices work and how they combine to create outputs, including those that learners may not yet be familiar with. Learners have the opportunity to investigate how individual components are joined together to form functioning systems and networks, understand how data is processed and is transferred effectively and securely across networks, use computational thinking to create precise sets of instruction and to break down complex problems into smaller, simpler steps, write short computer programs that solve problems across a range of contexts, and investigate how computers are used to gather, store, sort and model data within spreadsheets and other databases.

Grade Level: 7th Grade, 8th Grade

**Technology: Coding Fundamentals- Info Tech(Semester):** The purpose of this course is to assist Information Technology students in making informed decisions regarding their future academic and occupational goals and to provide information regarding careers in the career cluster. The content includes but is not limited to foundational knowledge and skills related to computer coding and software development. Instruction and learning activities are provided in a laboratory setting using hands-on experiences with equipment, materials and technology appropriate to the course content and in accordance with current practices.

Grade Level: 6th Grade

**Technology: Digital Discoveries in Society (Year):** In this course, students are introduced to computer science as a vehicle for problem-solving, communication, and personal expression. The course focuses on the visible aspects of computing and computer science and encourages students to see where computer science exists around them and how they can engage with it as a tool for exploration and expression. Active learning experiences are relevant to students' lives, and provide students with authentic choices. Students are encouraged to be curious, solve personally relevant problems and express themselves through creation. Learning is an inherently social activity, so the course is designed to interweave lessons with discussions, presentations, peer feedback, and shared reflections. As students proceed through the pathway, the structures increasingly shift responsibility to students to formulate their own questions, develop their own solutions, and critique their work. Students in this course will have the opportunity to take an Industry Certification exam. Grade Level: 7th Grade, 8th Grade

## Academic Intervention Courses\*

**Intervention: English Language Development for ELL Student (Year):** The purpose of this course is to enable middle school students who are native speakers of languages other than English to accelerate the development of communication and literacy skills that will promote English proficiency. Grade Level: 6th, 7th, & 8th Grades

**Intervention: Intensive Reading (Year):** The purpose of this course is to provide instruction that enables students to accelerate the development of reading and writing skills and to strengthen those skills so they are able to successfully read and write middle grade level text independently. Grade Level: 6th, 7th, & 8th Grades

**Intervention: Foundational Math Skills (Year):** The purpose of this course is to provide instruction and support for students as they continue down an accelerated math track. This extra class period of support will allow students to review and practice skills previously taught, as well as support in standards being taught in the students current year math class to ensure success. Grade Level: 6th, 7th, & 8th Grades

**Intervention: Middle School Course Recovery/ Critical Thinking (Semester/Year):** The Middle School Course Recovery (MSCR) program utilizes a competency-based computer curriculum, Edgenuity to remediate middle school courses. Middle school students who have failed one, or more of the core courses (Mathematics, Language Arts, Science, and Social Studies), or conditionally promoted students may attend the MSCR program at their school. Grade Level: 6th, 7th, & 8th Grades

**Intervention: Learning Strategies for ESE Students (Semester/Year):** The purpose of this course is to enable

students with disabilities to acquire and generalize strategies and skills across academic and community settings to achieve annual goals based on assessed needs and the student's individual educational plan (IEP).

Grade Level: 6th, 7th, and 8th Grades

## Other Important School District Resources

### Student Progression Plan -

[www.palmbeachschools.org/students\\_parents/student\\_progression\\_plan](http://www.palmbeachschools.org/students_parents/student_progression_plan)

### Student and Family Handbook -

[www.palmbeachschools.org/Students\\_Parents/student\\_family\\_handbook](http://www.palmbeachschools.org/Students_Parents/student_family_handbook)

### Exceptional Student Education (ESE) -

[www.palmbeachschools.org/students\\_parents/ese](http://www.palmbeachschools.org/students_parents/ese)

### English Speakers of Other Language (ESOL) -

[www.palmbeachschools.org/students\\_parents/esol](http://www.palmbeachschools.org/students_parents/esol)

### School Choice -

[www.palmbeachschools.org/students\\_parents/school\\_choice](http://www.palmbeachschools.org/students_parents/school_choice)

### Virtual School -

[www.palmbeachschools.org/students\\_parents/palm\\_beach\\_virtual\\_school](http://www.palmbeachschools.org/students_parents/palm_beach_virtual_school)

\*Source: Department of Education ([cpalms.org](http://cpalms.org))