



Nobel Algarve

BRITISH
INTERNATIONAL
SCHOOL

IGCSE Options Booklet 2026/27





Introduction

Dear Year 9 Students,

As you approach an exciting milestone in your academic journey, it's time to begin selecting your IGCSE options. At Nobel Algarve British International School Lagoa, we understand how important this decision is, as it lays the foundation for your future studies and career paths. Selecting the right subjects can open doors to opportunities, inspire your passions, and help you achieve your best potential.

Why Balance Matters

When choosing your IGCSE options, it's essential to maintain a balanced selection of subjects. This means including a mix of disciplines such as sciences, humanities, languages, and creative subjects. A good balance ensures you keep your options open for future studies while developing a wide range of skills.

Choose Wisely for Success

Select subjects where you are confident you can achieve your best grades. These are often the subjects you enjoy and feel passionate about, as enthusiasm and interest play a significant role in success. Avoid choosing a subject simply because your friend is taking it - it's your journey, and your choices should reflect your strengths and goals.

Seek Advice and Collaborate

You don't need to make this decision on your own. Talk to your parents, teachers, and even your friends to gain different perspectives. Your parents know you well and can provide guidance based on your interests and aspirations. Your teachers can help you understand your strengths and the demands of each subject.

Think About Your Future

Your IGCSE choices play a key role in shaping your future opportunities. Selecting subjects you enjoy and excel in can open pathways into exciting fields - from medicine, engineering, and technology through the sciences and mathematics, to creative industries, law, and education through the arts and humanities. This is an ideal moment to reflect on your strengths, explore your interests, and choose a combination of subjects that aligns with your ambitions.

At Nobel Algarve British International School Lagoa, our IGCSE programme forms the foundation of an exceptional academic journey, providing a smooth and expertly structured transition into Sixth Form. Whether students continue with the academic rigour of A Levels or the applied, career-focused BTEC pathway, our programme from Year 10 to Year 13 builds the skills, confidence, and subject mastery needed for success. With expert teaching, personalised mentoring, and a comprehensive university guidance programme, students receive tailored support for applications, personal statements, and entry requirements - empowering them to progress to top universities worldwide with clarity, purpose, and ambition.

Ian Walker
Head of School

A middle-aged man with short, light brown hair is smiling at the camera. He is wearing a dark blue suit jacket over a light blue dress shirt and a dark blue tie with a small, colorful geometric pattern. The background is out of focus, showing several flags on poles and some greenery, suggesting an outdoor setting like a school courtyard or a public square.

“All students are challenged
to be the best they can be.”



IGCSE Grading

Grading



New grading structure	Current grading structure
9	A*
8	
7	
6	A
5	
4	
3	B
2	
1	
U	U

Depending on which format you choose, you will receive grades in either grading system. The traditional A* - G or the newer 9 – 1. Don’ t worry, Sixth Forms, universities, and employers value them both equally.



Please follow the link below should you need further information:

<https://ofqual.blog.gov.uk/2018/03/02/gcse-9-to-1-grades-a-brief-guide-for-parents/>



Choosing subjects



Choosing subjects

As a starting point, we would suggest students ask themselves the following questions and use the answers to guide their thinking...

Do I enjoy this subject?

For example, when sitting down to work in this lesson, or when completing homework at home, you might feel more motivated than you do with other subjects.

Am I doing well in this subject?

For example, you might find that you consistently get good feedback from your teacher in this subject and have consistently achieved good marks.

What do I want to do after GCSE?

Does this subject directly, or indirectly feed in to a course at A Level? For example, if you want to study History A Level then you will need to have done History iGCSE. This is not the case with everything. For example, if you want to study Psychology at A-Level then you don't need to (and cannot) do Psychology iGCSE.

Does my preferred way of working fit with the demands of this subject?

For example, if you like writing essays and are confident drafting and re-drafting pieces of work, then more literacy-based subjects (such as History) are probably well suited to you. If you like completing practical work and are happy planning larger projects, then DT is probably well suited to you. If you like performing then Drama might be a good choice for you.

What do I want to study University? Making sure you have a broad range of subjects that feed into lots of A-Levels and degree subjects is probably advisable.

University Expectations

Although university requirements vary around the world, there is an overwhelming expectation that students need to achieve at least six (i)GCSE's at Grade C (or grade 4 in the new grading system) or above. This is the case for anyone wishing to apply to Portuguese universities. UK universities will also expect students to have achieved at least a grade C or above in English, Mathematics and a Science (i)GCSE.



IGCSE Options



List of subjects and option groups

All pupils will study English Language, Literature, Mathematics and Biology as part of their core curriculum.

Students are encouraged to also study a Language (French or Portuguese) and a humanity (history or geography) as part of their 4 option subjects.

Can I change my mind?

It may, in special circumstances, be possible to change your mind after consultation with the Key Stage 4 Coordinator but this is strongly discouraged. Joining a course late is difficult! It would be much better to spend time now wisely and make an informed choice now.

Will I get the subjects I ask for?

Whilst we will endeavour to accommodate your combination of subjects, some combinations cannot be met due to timetabling constraints. Subjects where demand is very small (less than 5 students) may be withdrawn. In these cases the students affected will be advised and asked to re-opt.



Sixth Form curriculum / IGCSE Options

IGCSE

English First Language
English Literature
Mathematics Modular
(Specification A)
Biology
Art & Design
Business Studies
Chemistry
Computer Science
Design Technology
Drama
Economics
French
Geography
Global Perspectives
History
Physical Education
Physics
Portuguese
Travel and Tourism





IGCSE First Language English

IGCSE First Language English



Exam Board: Cambridge **Subject Code Number:** 0500 **Assessment:** Exams in May/June of Year 11

Extended (for grades A*- E)

Paper 1: Reading

- Written paper
- 2hrs
- worth 50% of total marks
- External assessment

Paper 2: Directed Writing and Composition

- Written paper
- 2hrs
- worth 50% of total marks
- External assessment

Course content:

- Comprehension Questions and Imagery Analysis Question
- Extended Response (various writing forms learned: letters, reports, journals, speeches...)
- Summary Writing
- Directed Writing – Discursive or argumentative letters or articles
- Composition Writing – Descriptive and Narrative

Link to course

<https://www.cambridgeinternational.org/programmes-and-qualifications/cambridge-igcse-english-first-language-0500/>



IGCSE Literature

IGCSE English Literature*



Exam Board: Cambridge **Subject Code Number:** 0475 **Assessment:** Exams in May/June of Year 11

Paper 1	Poetry and Prose	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1h30m• 50% of total marks
Paper 2	Drama	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1h30m• 50% of total marks
Paper 3	Unseen	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1h15m• 25% of total marks

Course Content

The Cambridge International IGCSE Literature course covers the following topics:

- Poetry
- Prose
- Drama

*** Please note:**

This is a selective subject. Pupils are only entered onto the course according to their ability in accordance with the Literature teacher.

Link to course

<https://www.cambridgeinternational.org/programmes-and-qualifications/english-literature-0475/>



$$+ b(w) \cdot \sin(wt)$$

$$a(w) = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(t) \cdot \cos$$

$$C_n = \frac{1}{2L} \int_{-L}^L f(t) e^{-\frac{jn\pi t}{L}} dt \quad b(w) = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(t) \cdot \sin$$

$$f(t) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} C_n \cdot e^{\frac{jn\pi t}{L}}$$

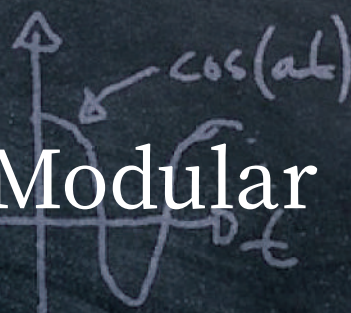
$$C(w) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(t) \cdot e^{-\frac{jn\pi t}{L}} dt$$

$$\sin\left(\frac{n\pi t}{L}\right)$$



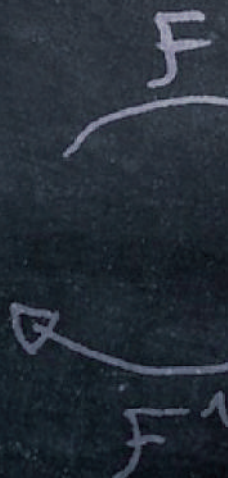
$$f(t) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} C(w) \cdot e^{j\omega t}$$

$$f(t) = \begin{cases} 1, & t \geq 0 \\ 0, & t < 0 \end{cases}$$



IGCSE Mathematics Modular (Specification A)

$$\cos(wt) + b(w) \cdot \sin(wt) dw$$





IGCSE Mathematics Modular (Specification A)

Exam Board: Pearson Edexcel **Subject Code Number:** 4MA1 **Assessment:** Exams in May/June of Year 10 and Year 11

Foundation and Higher Tier

- Two written papers
- Each paper is 2 hours
- Each paper out of 100 marks
- Each paper 50% of weighting
- Externally assessed

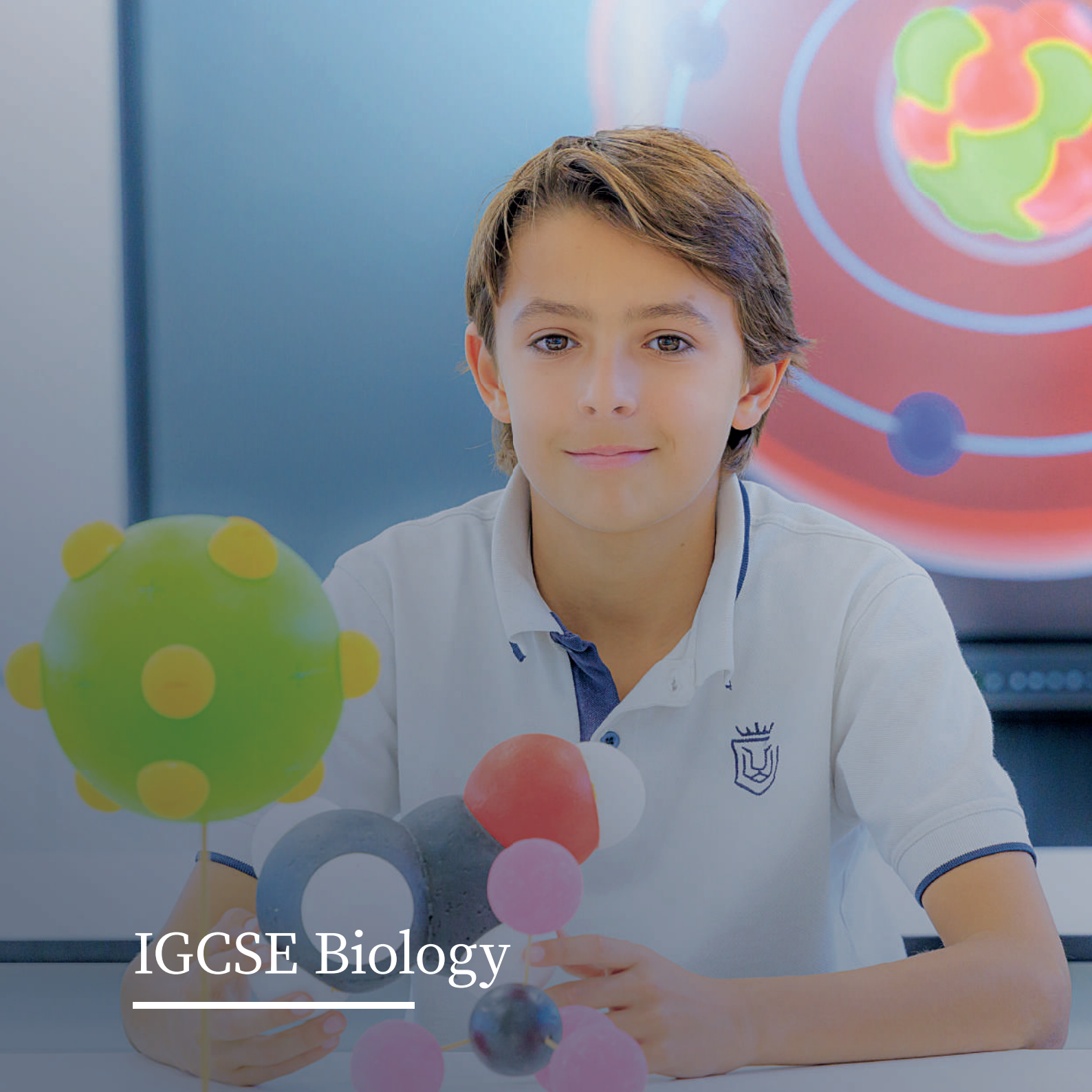
Course Content

The Edexcel International IGCSE Mathematics course is arranged into four large National Curriculum topic areas:

- **Number**
Integers, Fractions, Decimals, Powers and Roots, Set Language and Notation, Percentages, Ratio and Proportion, Degree of Accuracy, Standard Form.
- **Algebra**
Algebraic Manipulation, Expressions and Formulae, Linear Equations, Proportion, Simultaneous Equations, Quadratic Equations, Inequalities, Sequences, Function Notation, Graphs, Calculus.
- **Geometry**
Angles, lines and triangles, Polygons, Symmetry, Constructions, Circle Theorems, Trigonometry and Pythagoras Theorem, Area and Volume, Similarity, Vectors, Transformations.
- **Statistics**
Graphical Representation of Data, Statistical Measures and Probability.

Link to course

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-international-gcses/mathematics-a-2024-modular.html>



IGCSE Biology

IGCSE Biology

Exam Board: Cambridge **Subject Code Number:** 0610 **Assessment:** Exams in May/June of Year 11



Extended Groups (for grades A - G)			
Paper 1	40 multiple choice questions	45m	30% of total exam grade
Paper 3	Theory paper Short and structured questions	1h15m	50% of total exam grade
Paper 5	Alternative to Practical	1h	20% of total exam grade

Extended Groups (for grades A - G)			
Paper 2	40 multiple choice questions	45m	30% of total exam grade
Paper 4	Theory paper Short and structured questions	1h15m	50% of total exam grade
Paper 6	Alternative to Practical	1h	20% of total exam grade

Course Content

The Cambridge International IGCSE Biology course covers the following topics:

- Characteristics and classification of living organisms
- Organisation of the organism
- Movement into and out of cells
- Biological molecules
- Enzymes
- Plant nutrition
- Human nutrition
- Transport in plants
- Transport in animals
- Diseases and immunity
- Gas exchange in humans
- Respiration
- Excretion in humans
- Coordination and response
- Reproduction
- Inheritance
- Variation and selection
- Organisms and their environment
- Human influences on ecosystems
- Biotechnology and genetic modification

Link to course

<https://www.cambridgeinternational.org/programmes-and-qualifications/cambridge-igcse-biology-0610/>



IGCSE Art & Design

IGCSE Art & Design



Exam Board: Pearson Edexcel **Subject Code Number:** 0989 **Assessment:** Exams in May/June of Year 11

Option C:	Component	Weighting	Assessment	Requirements
Paper 1	Broad-based Assignment	50%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Teacher set Externally moderated objectives 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coursework Portfolio Evidence of all assessment Sketchbook
Paper 2	Coursework assignment	50%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8 hour controlled exam Externally Set Externally Moderated 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supporting Portfolio Evidence of all assessment objectives All work is set to Cambridge digitally

Course Content

Candidates are offered a broad choice of media and approaches so that they can produce a personal response and schools can play to their strengths The broad areas of study are:

- painting and related media
- graphic communication
- three-dimensional design
- textiles
- photography

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

Component 1

Coursework Candidates research, develop and a project from one or more of the areas of study. This part is worth 50%.

Component 2

Externally Set Assignment with an 8 hour controlled exam Candidates respond to one starting point set by Cambridge International. Candidates may produce work from the same areas of study as Component 1, but they do not have to.



Course Content

There are two parts to the assignment:

- supporting studies and
- a final outcome, produced during a supervised test of 8 hours' total duration.

Externally assessed and should explore a theme.

There are two parts to the coursework:

- a portfolio and
- a final outcome

Externally assessed this section is worth 50%. Candidates can submit work in any of the media outlined below, for any of the four components:

- artefacts
- abstract notions or feelings
- personal experiences
- textiles
- visual ideas inspired by literary source, landscapes, the natural or man-made, environment still-life, people and places.

All work is digitally sent off to “Cambridge”.

Link to course

<https://www.cambridgeinternational.org/programmes-and-qualifications/cambridge-igcse-art-and-design-9-1-0989/>

A photograph of a business meeting in a modern office. In the foreground, a person's hand is pointing at a tablet displaying various business charts, including a bar chart and a line graph. Another person's hand is visible in the background, also interacting with the tablet. The scene is dimly lit, with light coming from a window in the background, creating a professional and focused atmosphere. The overall color palette is cool, with blues and greys.

IGCSE Business Studies

IGCSE Business Studies



Exam Board: Cambridge **Subject Code Number:** 0986 **Assessment:** Exams in May/June of Year 11

Paper 1	Short answers and structured questions	1hr30m
Paper 2	Data Response questions based on a case study	1hr30m

Course Content

The Cambridge IGCSE Business Course covers the following topics:

- Understanding Business Activity
- People in Business
- Marketing
- Operations Management
- Financial Information and Decisions
- External influences on business activity

Link to course

<https://www.cambridgeinternational.org/Images/597113-2023-2025-syllabus.pdf>

A female student with long dark hair, wearing a white lab coat and blue safety goggles, is holding a test tube containing a blue liquid. She is looking at the test tube with a focused expression. In the foreground, there is a beaker with yellow liquid, a smaller beaker with blue liquid, and a graduated cylinder with a red, green, and blue liquid mixture. The background shows a laboratory setting with shelves and equipment.

IGCSE Chemistry

IGCSE Chemistry



Exam Board: Cambridge **Subject Code Number:** 0620 **Assessment:** Exams in May/June of Year 11

Core Groups (for grades C - G)

Paper 1	40 multiple choice questions	45m	30% of total exam grade
Paper 3	80 marks theory	1h15m	50% of total exam grade
Paper 5	(Alternative to Practical) 40 marks	1h	20% of total exam grade

Extended Groups (for grades A* - E)

Paper 2	40 multiple choice questions	45m	30% of total exam grade
Paper 4	80 marks theory	1h15m	50% of total exam grade
Paper 6	(Alternative to Practical) 40 marks	1h	20% of total exam grade

Course Content

The Cambridge IGCSE Chemistry course covers the following topics:

- States of matter
- Atoms, elements and compounds
- Stoichiometry
- Electrochemistry
- Chemical energetics
- Chemical reactions
- Acids, bases and salts
- The Periodic Table
- Metals
- Chemistry of the environment
- Organic chemistry
- Experimental techniques and chemical analysis

Link to course

<https://www.cambridgeinternational.org/programmes-and-qualifications/cambridge-igcse-chemistry-0620/>

A person's hands are shown typing on a laptop keyboard. The image has a strong blue tint. In the background, there are faint, semi-transparent snippets of code, including file paths like "/assets/icons/arrow", "/assets/icons/bolt", and "/assets/icons/right-arrow", as well as code blocks for "react-scripts start" and "react-scripts".

Computer Science

IGCSE Computer Science

Exam Board: Cambridge **Subject Code Number:** 0478 **Assessment:** Exams in May/June of Year 11



All candidates take two components. C

Candidates will be eligible for grades A* to G. All candidates take:

Paper 1: Computer Systems

- 1h45m
- 50% of overall grade
- 75 marks
- Short-answer and structured questions
- Questions will be based on Topics 1–6 of the subject content
- All questions are compulsory
- No calculators are permitted

Paper 2

- 1h45m
- 50% of overall grade
- 75 marks
- Algorithms, Programming and Logic
- Short-answer and structured questions and a scenario-based question
- Questions will be based on Topics 7–10 of the subject content
- All questions are compulsory
- No calculators are permitted
- Externally assessed

Course Content

Candidates study the following topics:

- **Theory of Computer Science**
This module covers the essential theory of how computers work. Students learn about data representation (binary, hexadecimal), computer components (CPU, memory, input/output devices), data storage, and networks. It also explores modern topics such as cybersecurity, ethical computing, and emerging technologies.
- **Algorithms and Problem Solving**
Students develop skills in computational thinking and learn to break down complex problems into simpler, manageable parts. They are introduced to the concept of algorithms, flowcharts, and pseudocode as tools for designing and visualizing problem solutions.

IGCSE Computer Science

Exam Board: Cambridge **Subject Code Number:** 0478 **Assessment:** Exams in May/June of Year 11



Course Content

- **Programming**
In this module, students learn programming languages and syntax, focusing on creating, testing, and debugging programs. They'll gain hands-on experience with programming constructs like loops, conditionals, data structures (arrays), and subroutines, learning how to write effective code for a variety of tasks.
- **Databases**
Students are introduced to the fundamentals of databases, including how to design, create, and manage databases. They learn to use databases to organize and retrieve data efficiently, which is essential for managing information in various applications.
- **Practical Problem-Solving and Programming Skills**
This area focuses on applying theoretical and practical knowledge to real-world scenarios. Students tackle computational challenges, enhancing their analytical skills and ability to develop working solutions using their programming and problem-solving abilities.

Link to course

<https://www.cambridgeinternational.org/programmes-and-qualifications/cambridge-igcse-computer-science-0478/>



IGCSE Design Technology

IGCSE Design Technology



Exam Board: Pearson Edexcel **Subject Code Number:** 1DT0 **Assessment:** Exams in May/June of Year 11

	Weighting	Assessment	Requirements
Component 1	50%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Externally Set Written Examination. Externally Moderated 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Written Examination. 1hr45m Core section plus one specialist material.
Component 2	50%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contextual externally set tasks. Teacher marked Externally moderated 	Portfolio which comprises of four sections: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investigate Design Make Evaluate Evidence of outlined assessment objectives

Course Content

- Impact of new and emerging technologies
- Ethics and environment
- Energy and power systems
- Modern and smart materials
- Functions of mechanical devices, magnitude and forces
- Electronic systems
- Performance and functionality of products
- Properties and structures of natural and man-made materials etc.

Students will have to demonstrate their ability to:

- Take design risks in the contextual challenge, which is externally set each year.
- Be resourceful, innovative and enterprising citizens in producing a portfolio.
- Consider creativity, culture, sustainability and well-being of the nation and global community.
- To prepare confidently and successfully in an increasing technological world, designs and made products representing contemporary issues and concerns.

Link to course

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-gcses/design-and-technology-2017.html>



IGCSE Drama



Exam Board: Cambridge **Subject Code Number:** 0411 **Assessment:** Exams in May/June of Year 11

Course content and assessment

Section A:

Exam students answer short and extended response questions. This section is worth 30 marks.

Section B:

Exam students answer the second extract from a different published play. They complete two extended response questions. This section is worth 25 marks.

Section C:

Exam is based on a students devised piece of coursework performance. This section is worth 25 marks.

Students will work on individual pieces and group pieces to build up their coursework. However, they will be assessed individually for each performance.

Course Content (Course is split in two parts)

Section A:

First is Coursework worth 60% this is performance based followed by 2hour 30 minute exam in Year 11 based on material released by Cambridge Section A Exam. Students answer short and extended response questions. This section is worth 30 marks.

Section B:

Students answer the second extract from a different published play. They complete two extended response questions. This section is worth 25 marks and Section C Exam is based on a students devised piece of coursework performance. This section is worth 25 marks.

Link to course

<https://www.cambridgeinternational.org/programmes-and-qualifications/cambridge-igcse-drama-0411/>

The background is a blue-tinted night photograph of a city skyline, featuring prominent skyscrapers like the Taipei 101. A white grid pattern is overlaid on the image, with several glowing white arcs and lines intersecting it. Numerous numbers are scattered across the scene, appearing to float in the air. These numbers include 1198, 1199, 1197, 1196, 1195, 1194, 1193, 1192, 1191, 1190, 1189, 1188, 1187, 1186, 1185, 1184, 1183, 1182, 1181, 1180, 1179, 1178, 1177, 1176, 1175, 1174, 1173, 1172, 1171, 1170, 1169, 1168, 1167, 1166, 1165, 1164, 1163, 1162, 1161, 1160, 1159, 1158, 1157, 1156, 1155, 1154, 1153, 1152, 1151, 1150, 1149, 1148, 1147, 1146, 1145, 1144, 1143, 1142, 1141, 1140, 1139, 1138, 1137, 1136, 1135, 1134, 1133, 1132, 1131, 1130, 1129, 1128, 1127, 1126, 1125, 1124, 1123, 1122, 1121, 1120, 1119, 1118, 1117, 1116, 1115, 1114, 1113, 1112, 1111, 1110, 1109, 1108, 1107, 1106, 1105, 1104, 1103, 1102, 1101, 1100, 1099, 1098, 1097, 1096, 1095, 1094, 1093, 1092, 1091, 1090, 1089, 1088, 1087, 1086, 1085, 1084, 1083, 1082, 1081, 1080, 1079, 1078, 1077, 1076, 1075, 1074, 1073, 1072, 1071, 1070, 1069, 1068, 1067, 1066, 1065, 1064, 1063, 1062, 1061, 1060, 1059, 1058, 1057, 1056, 1055, 1054, 1053, 1052, 1051, 1050, 1049, 1048, 1047, 1046, 1045, 1044, 1043, 1042, 1041, 1040, 1039, 1038, 1037, 1036, 1035, 1034, 1033, 1032, 1031, 1030, 1029, 1028, 1027, 1026, 1025, 1024, 1023, 1022, 1021, 1020, 1019, 1018, 1017, 1016, 1015, 1014, 1013, 1012, 1011, 1010, 1009, 1008, 1007, 1006, 1005, 1004, 1003, 1002, 1001, 1000, 999, 998, 997, 996, 995, 994, 993, 992, 991, 990, 989, 988, 987, 986, 985, 984, 983, 982, 981, 980, 979, 978, 977, 976, 975, 974, 973, 972, 971, 970, 969, 968, 967, 966, 965, 964, 963, 962, 961, 960, 959, 958, 957, 956, 955, 954, 953, 952, 951, 950, 949, 948, 947, 946, 945, 944, 943, 942, 941, 940, 939, 938, 937, 936, 935, 934, 933, 932, 931, 930, 929, 928, 927, 926, 925, 924, 923, 922, 921, 920, 919, 918, 917, 916, 915, 914, 913, 912, 911, 910, 909, 908, 907, 906, 905, 904, 903, 902, 901, 900, 899, 898, 897, 896, 895, 894, 893, 892, 891, 890, 889, 888, 887, 886, 885, 884, 883, 882, 881, 880, 879, 878, 877, 876, 875, 874, 873, 872, 871, 870, 869, 868, 867, 866, 865, 864, 863, 862, 861, 860, 859, 858, 857, 856, 855, 854, 853, 852, 851, 850, 849, 848, 847, 846, 845, 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30, 29, 28, 27, 26, 25, 24, 23, 22, 21, 20, 19, 18, 17, 16, 15, 14, 13, 12, 11, 10, 9, 8, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1, 0.

IGCSE Economics

IGCSE Economics



Exam Board: Cambridge **Subject Code Number:** 0455 **Assessment:** Exams in May/June of Year 11

Course Content

This IGCSE Economics course is a foundation course covering the whole range of topics from supply and demand and economic systems to global economics and development. It is very demanding, containing a significant amount of detail. A strong grasp of arithmetic is a distinct advantage. This course assessment will involve extended written responses as well as detailed short answer questions.

The aims are to enable students to:

- explore the purpose and role of economists in investigating economic issues and problems
- build a confident working knowledge of key economic terms, concepts and theories
- use the tools of economic analysis to interpret different types of data and information
- analyse possible outcomes for economic problems and express ideas logically
- consider how issues such as population change, globalisation and environmental sustainability can impact economic policy-making
- discover the impact and importance of economics, inspiring an interest that could lead to further study or employment

Themes

There are 6 themes:

- The basic economic problem
- The allocation of resources (including supply and demand)
- Microeconomic decision makers (including firms and workers)
- Government and the macroeconomy (including policy)
- Economic development (including poverty and living standards)
- International trade and globalisation (including Balance of payments and exchange rates)

The examination is at the end of the second year

IGCSE Economics



Exam Board: Cambridge **Subject Code Number:** 0455 **Assessment:** Exams in May/June of Year 11

All candidates take two papers.

Candidates will be eligible for grades A* to G

Paper 1: 1 hour

- Multiple Choice 30%
- 40 marks
- Candidates answer 40 multiple choice questions.
- Externally assessed

Paper 2 2 hours

- Structured Questions 70%
- 80 marks
- Candidates answer one compulsory question with six parts in Section A and three questions from a choice of four in Section B.
- Externally assessed

Students who study at this level are encouraged to take an interest in world events – many will have an Economics flavour. In addition, an open mind and excellent study skills will be critical for success in the final examinations.

Economics pairs well with other humanities subjects, such as social and economic History, Geography and Global Perspectives. Equally, an aptitude and talent for Mathematics is needed for higher study for example of economic data (Econometrics). Many Economics students become writers, such as Journalist, where the ability to write coherent, logical argument based on data is required. Therefore, a good grasp of English is a distinct advantage.

Career paths for Economics students are very wide ranging, from Economist at a Bank, to teaching, marketing, management, entrepreneurship or government and Politics. For many students, Economics provides a useful cultural platform for their job.

Link to course

<https://www.cambridgeinternational.org/Images/718148-2027-2029-syllabus.pdf>

A close-up, low-angle shot of the French flag (tricolor of blue, white, and red) waving vigorously against a clear blue sky with some light, wispy clouds. The flag is attached to a metal pole on the left side of the frame.

IGCSE French

IGCSE French



Exam Board: Cambridge **Subject Code Number:** 0520 **Assessment:** Exams in May/June of Year 11

Paper 1	· Listening	· 50m	· worth 25%
Paper 2	· Reading	· 1h	· worth 25%
Paper 3	· Speaking	· 10m	· worth 25%
Paper 4	· Writing	· 1h	· worth 25%

Course Content

The Cambridge International IGCSE French course covers the following topics:

- Everyday Activities;
- Personal and Social Life;
- The World Around Us;
- The World of Work;
- The International World

Link to course

<https://www.cambridgeinternational.org/programmes-and-qualifications/cambridge-igcse-french-foreign-language-0520/>



IGCSE Geography

IGCSE Geography



Exam Board: Pearson Edexcel **Subject Code Number:** 4GE1 **Assessment:** Exams in May/June of Year 11

Paper 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Written exam • 1h10m 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paper out of 70 marks • 40% of final mark 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Externally assessed
Paper 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Written exam • 1h45m 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paper out of 105 marks • 60% of final mark 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Externally assessed

Course Content – The International GCSE has two sections.

Paper 1 – Physical Geography – 1 hour 10 minutes

- Coastal environments
- Hazardous environments
- The development of practical geographical enquiry skills related to the investigation of the above topics.

Paper 2 – Human Geography – 1 hour 45 minutes

- Economic activity and energy
- Urban Environments only
- Global issues (fragile environments)
- Including FIELDWORK from one of the above topics

Link to course

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-international-gcses/international-gcse-geography-2017.html>



IGCSE Global Perspectives

IGCSE Global Perspectives



Examination Board: Cambridge **Subject Code Number:** 0457 **Assessment:** Exams in May/June of Year 11

Component 1 – Written Examination

- 1h25m
- Worth 35% of final grade
- 70 marks

Component 2 – Individual Report

- Worth 30% of final grade
- 60 marks

Component 3 – Team Project

- Worth 35% of final grade
- 70 marks

Course Content

The topics in the list are intentionally broad. Students, with their teachers, choose topics that are most relevant to them. Students are not expected to have experience of each topic:

- | | | |
|--|---|---------------------------------------|
| • Change in culture and communities | • Environment, pollution and conservation | • Poverty and inequality |
| • Climate change, energy and resources | • Globalisation | • Social identity and inclusion |
| • Conflict and peace | • Health and wellbeing | • Sport and recreation |
| • Development, trade and aid | • Law and criminality | • Technology, industry and innovation |
| • Digital world | • Media and communication | • Transport, travel and tourism |
| • Education for all Employment | • Migration and urbanisation | • Values and beliefs |
| | • Political power and action | • Water, food and agriculture |

Link to course

<https://www.cambridgeinternational.org/programmes-and-qualifications/cambridge-igcse-global-perspectives-0457/>



IGCSE History

IGCSE History



Exam Board: Pearson Edexcel **Subject Code Number:** 4HI1 **Assessment:** Exams in May/June of Year 11

Paper 1	Depth Studies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • External assessment • 1hr30m 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mark out of 60 • 50% of overall grade
Paper 2	Historical Investigation and breadth study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • External assessment • 1hr30m 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mark out of 60 • 50% of overall grade

Course Content

Paper 1: Two in-depth studies based on the following topics:

- Development of a Dictatorship: Germany, 1918 – 45
- A Divided Union: Civil Rights in the USA, 1945 – 74

Paper 2: Historical Investigation and Breadth Study based on the following topics:

- Russia and the Soviet Union, 1905-24
- Changes in Medicine, c1848 – c1948

Link to course

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-international-gcses/international-gcse-history-2017.coursematerials.html#%2FfilterQuery=category:Pearson-UK:Category%2FSpecification-and-sample-assessments>



IGCSE Physical Education

IGCSE Physical Education



Exam Board: Cambridge **Subject Code Number:** 0995 (9-1) **Assessment:** Exams in May/June of Year 11

Course Content

Paper 1 (Written theory Exam)

- 1h45m and 50% of final mark
- External Assessment
- Candidates answer questions on each of the four units:

Coursework

Centre-based assessment and external moderation, 50% of final mark

Candidates choose to undertake four practical activities from at least two of the seven categories listed (50% of total marks);

- **Games Activities Association football**
- **Gymnastic activities**
- **Dance activities**
- **Athletic activities**
- **Outdoor and adventurous activities**
- **Swimming**
- **Combat activities**

Link to course

<https://www.cambridgeinternational.org/programmes-and-qualifications/cambridge-igcse-physical-education-0995/>

$$f \quad \beta = \frac{\Delta I_c}{\Delta I_B} \quad v = c/\lambda$$

$$\frac{v_2}{v_1} = \frac{w_2}{w_1} \quad v = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\epsilon \cdot \mu}} = \frac{c}{\sqrt{\epsilon_r \mu_r}}$$

$$E = mc^2$$

$$F_v = \left\{ \frac{F_n}{R} \right.$$

$$X^* T =$$

IGCSE Physics

$$F_g = \frac{m_1 m_2}{r^2}$$

$$W$$

$$E = \frac{E_c}{g}$$

IGCSE Physics



Exam Board: Cambridge **Subject Code Number:** 0625 **Assessment:** Exams in May/June of Year 11

Core Groups (for grades C - G)

Paper 1	40 multiple choice questions	45m	30% of total exam grade
Paper 3	80 marks theory	1h15m	50% of total exam grade
Paper 5	(Alternative to Practical) 40 marks	1h	20% of total exam grade

Extended Groups (for grades A* - E)

Paper 2	40 multiple choice questions	45m	30% of total exam grade
Paper 4	80 marks theory	1h15m	50% of total exam grade
Paper 6	(Alternative to Practical) 40 marks	1h	20% of total exam grade

Course Content

The Cambridge International IGCSE Physics course covers the following topics:

- General Physics
- Thermal Physics
- Property of Waves (including light & sound)
- Electricity & Magnetism
- Atomic Physics

Link to course

<https://www.cambridgeinternational.org/programmes-and-qualifications/cambridge-igcse-physics-0625/>



IGCSE Portuguese

IGCSE Portuguese



Exam Board: Pearson Edexcel Level 1/Level **Subject Code Number:** IPG0 **Assessment:** Exams in April/ May/June

Paper 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Listening and understanding Portuguese 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 45 minutes including 5 minutes' reading time 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Multiple response and short answer open-response questions
Paper 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Speaking in Portuguese 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10 - 12 minutes (plus 12 minutes' preparation time) 70 marks 25% 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Role play; Questions based on a picture; Conversation
Paper 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reading and understanding in Portuguese 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 hour 50 marks 25 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Multiple-response and short-answer open-response questions and one translation into English
Paper 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Writing in Portuguese 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 hour and 20 minutes 60 marks 25 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two open-response questions and one translation into Portuguese

Course Content

The Pearson Edexcel Portuguese course covers the following content:

- 1. Identity and Culture
- 2. Local area, holiday and travel
- 3. School
- 4. Future aspirations, study and work
- 5. International and global dimension

Link to course

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/GCSE/Portuguese/2018/Specification-and-sample-assessments/specification-gcse-portuguese-2018.pdf>



Travel and Tourism

IGCSE Travel and Tourism

Exam Board: Cambridge **Subject Code Number:** 0471 **Assessment:** Exams in May/June of Year 11



Course Content

- **Understanding Travel and Tourism**
This module covers the basics of the industry, including the importance of tourism, types of tourism (such as leisure, business, and adventure), and an introduction to the key organizations involved in global tourism.
- **Tourism Destinations and Attractions**
Students explore various destinations and the factors that make locations appealing to tourists. They'll learn about the natural and cultural attractions of specific destinations and examine the positive and negative impacts tourism can have on those areas.
- **Customer Care and Working Procedures**
This part of the course focuses on the skills necessary to provide excellent customer service and manage the operations within travel services. Topics include managing customer expectations, communication skills, and understanding the needs of diverse client groups.
- **Marketing and Promotion**
Students study marketing principles and how they apply to the travel and tourism industry. This includes promotional strategies, understanding target markets, and the impact of branding in attracting customers.
- **The Tourism Environment**
This module looks at the broader environment of the travel and tourism industry, including the economic, social, and environmental factors influencing tourism development and management.
- **Travel and Tourism Operations and Services**
This covers the day-to-day operations of tourism businesses, such as tour operators, airlines, hotels, and event planning, giving students insight into how these sectors interconnect to form a complete travel experience.

IGCSE Travel and Tourism



Exam Board: Cambridge **Subject Code Number:** 0471 **Assessment:** Exams in May/June of Year 11

Assessment overview

The course is assessed through a combination of written examinations and project-based work. Students develop critical skills in research, analysis, and problem-solving, providing a comprehensive overview of the travel and tourism industry.

All candidates take two components. Candidates will be eligible for grades A* to G.

Paper 1 Key Terms and Concepts

- 1h30m
- 80 Marks
- Short-answer and question paper
- **Four scenario-based questions** - covering the introductory key concepts, customer service and impacts of tourism at destinations
- worth 50% of total marks
- External assessment

Paper 2: Managing and Marketing Destinations

- 2h
- 80 Marks
- Short-answer and question paper
- **Four scenario-based questions** - focusing on the management and marketing of destinations
- worth 50% of total marks
- External assessment

Link to course

<https://www.cambridgeinternational.org/programmes-and-qualifications/cambridge-igcse-travel-and-tourism-0471/>



FAQs (Frequently Asked Questions)



FAQs (Frequently Asked Questions)

Below are some questions that you may have about our i(GCSE) offering..

1. How many IGCSE courses makes a full timetable?

The minimum number of subjects is eight. However, if you take (i)GCSE English Literature, you ´ll take nine exams. All students take both English courses at the start of Year 10 and complete an assessment. Those who do not continue with the English Literature (i)GCSE will focus on English Language.

2. Are there any non-examination subjects on the timetable for Year 10 and 11?

Yes, everyone also has non-exam PE and Form Time

3. If my child wants to take a subject that the school doesn´t offer, and studies it online, can they sit the examination at Nobel Algarve British International School?

No, they can only sit examinations that are offered here at the school.

4. Are there any external examinations in Year 10 or only in Year 11?

There are only external examinations in the summer of Year 11. Students will take mock examinations in the January of the same year, to prepare them.



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