



Baleares International College
Sa Porrassa
an Orbital Education School



IGCSE OPTIONS GUIDE 2023 - 2024

EXCELLENCE · RESPECT · RESPONSIBILITY · INTEGRITY · COMPASSION

Overview

Our Vision

At BIC, we challenge and nurture our students to become responsible, respectful and resolute global citizens. Within our caring and diverse international community, they evolve into independent and inquisitive lifelong learners, happily striving for excellence in everything they do.

Academic Achievement

Our Results

In recent years our public examination scores have been above the UK national average and our students' excellent grades have given them access to many prestigious universities, both in Spain and overseas. Our school is a registered Cambridge Assessment International Education Examinations Centre, an accredited Pearson Edexcel International Exam Centre, a member of the Council of British International Schools and part of the National Association of British Schools in Spain.

Years 10 - 11

Key Stage 4

In Key Stage 4, at the start of Year 10, students begin their IGCSE studies and will take their external International General Certificate of Secondary Education (IGCSE) examinations at the end of Year 11.

Compulsory subjects:

- English Language and English Literature
- Mathematics
- Double Science (double award)
- Spanish

Students choose 3 options on top of their compulsory subjects. Flexible option groupings change annually depending on the interests of the given cohort.

Optional subjects:

- | | |
|--------------------|---------------------------|
| • Triple Science | • Catalan |
| • Art & Design | • Geography |
| • Business Studies | • History |
| • Computer Science | • Music |
| • German | • Physical Education GCSE |
| • French | • Drama |

Catalan is compulsory for students who hold a Spanish passport. All Year 10 and Year 11 students have to take sports twice a week. PE GCSE is a different subject and counts as an Option.

Welcome

A word from our Head of Secondary

Dear Parents and Students,

Entering Key Stage 4 is an extremely important point in every student's educational journey.

Please read through the information held within this booklet, listen carefully to the information from our heads of subject, and above all, do your research and ask questions.

Students, this is a time to reflect on your strength, your passions and interests as well as current academic achievements. Take advantage of the wealth of specialist knowledge and experience here at BIC. We have been through the options process many times and are here to help you make the best choices for your future academic success.

Parents, you have a key role to play in talking to your children and helping them make the right choices. Encourage them and support them but I would ask that you do not make the choices for them! They are more likely to engage and make progress in subjects that they have decided to choose and commit to.

I am sure that the school, its staff and our secondary leadership team will fully support you in providing everything that you need but if there is anything you feel is missing, please do not hesitate to contact me directly.

We believe that we have an extremely talented and able set of Year 9 students and wish them all the best as they move into Key Stage 4.

Kind regards,

Philip Brown

Head of Secondary

IGCSE 2022 Results

34%

% of students passing
with grades A*/A

86%

% of students achieving
at least 5 passes at
IGCSE including English
and maths

72%

% of students passing
Spanish GCSE with
grade A*

Introduction

Key Stage 4 - the IGCSE Options Process

Dear Year 9 Students,

This is the beginning of an important new phase in your education. It is the first time when you can actually make choices about the subjects you wish to study at IGCSE.

You have now reached a very important time in your education. You have to think carefully and make decisions about what courses you wish to study. We would like to take this opportunity to give you some advice that you may find useful. When you are choosing, please bear the following in mind:

Reasons for choosing a subject

Do choose a subject because:

- You will enjoy it.
- You have a strong interest in it.
- You are good at it.
- It will help you in your future career aspirations and plans.
- You believe that you will succeed in it.

Do not choose a subject because:

- Your friends have chosen it.
- You think it will be easy.
- You have been told it involves less work.
- Relatives or friends tell you to do it without a good reason.
- You just like your current teacher.
- You want to do something new for the sake of it.

It is very important to talk to relatives, teachers and friends to discuss your views.

Find out about different careers from your teachers about choices you are considering and discuss them with your family. Friends are very important to you but be very careful not to opt for subjects just to be with them.

Some of you may already have clear career ambitions and some of you may be worried because you do not. As you talk to adults about their careers so far you will find out that most are now doing a job that they did not really consider when they were 14 years old. As you go through life, you will follow many different paths as different opportunities arise.

Bearing this in mind it is important to make decisions now that offer a broad and balanced curriculum that will not limit your future career path too much, but you do have to make decisions and that means talking to lots of people and then being strong and bold.

The transition to Key Stage 4 is an exciting and memorable moment in your education. This is a time to shape your own education by selecting subjects that you enjoy or that will help you progress in your desired career path.

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Expectations

As a Key Stage 4 student, you will become senior members of the school, so it is important that you now consider yourselves as mature students that need to model positive behaviour, exemplary appearance and an outstanding attitude to learning.

Please think very carefully about all the information and advice which is given to you in the coming weeks and do not be afraid to ask about anything you need further help with. We want you to make the best possible choices so that you can go on to achieve your potential in both your studies and career.

The best advice I can give is simply, 'Do your homework' and listen to the advice of your teachers and the senior members of staff who will guide this process. Talk to your parents, talk to your teachers. Remember, though, that the real experts in this process are those who were faced with the same options last year or the year before; talk to students in Years 10 and 11. Ask them if they made the right choices. This is especially important if you are thinking of studying a 'new' subject such as Business Studies or PE – do you really know what it's all about, or do you just think you know? Remember, in every choice you make to be the best possible version of yourself, an open minded, courageous and aware young person. We are here for you to achieve that.

Mr. Brown

Head of Secondary



External Examinations

IGCSE Grades Explained

Grading has recently moved to a 9-1 scale instead of the A*-G scaling. The highest grade is 9, while 1 is the lowest, not including a U (ungraded).

In the 9-1 grading system:

- 9 is higher than a current A*
- 8 is between A* and A
- 7 is equal to an A
- 6 is equivalent to a high B
- 5 is between a B and C (*strong pass*)
- 4 is equal to a grade C (*standard pass*)
- 3 is in between a D and E
- 2 is between an E and F
- 1 is a G
- U refers to an ungraded paper

The table below compares the 9-1 grade scale to the A*-G grading structure:

9	A*
8	A
7	A
6	B
5 (<i>strong pass</i>)	B
4 (<i>standard pass</i>)	C
3	D
2	E
1	F
1	G
U	U

* Please note, languages GCSE still use the old A* - U scale.

Attendance



DID YOU KNOW?

An attendance level of 90% means you are missing **1 day of learning every two weeks...**

At BIC, our expectation is that attendance will not fall below 95% in order for you to take full advantage of the educational opportunities available to you.

For any requests regarding holidays during term time, parents should refer to the school's Attendance Policy.

Requests for absence during term time should only be made *if absolutely necessary* and are not automatically authorised. Permission should be sought in writing from the Principal.

The Examination Boards

Cambridge Assessment International Education (CAIE) Pearson Edexcel International

At BIC, we predominantly work with **Cambridge Assessment International Education (CAIE)** and **Pearson Edexcel International**, the world's largest providers of international education programmes and qualifications. CAIE and Edexcel examinations are sat by students at schools in over 160 countries around the world.

Five elements lie at the heart of these boards:

1. INTERNATIONAL CURRICULUM

They offer a wide range of subjects and give schools flexibility in how to offer them. They support schools in developing a curriculum that suits their context, culture and ethos, and that we can tailor to our students' particular needs.

3. ASSESSMENT

They design their assessments to be fair, valid, reliable and practicable. They assess what they know to be of value: deep subject knowledge, conceptual understanding, and higher level thinking skills.

5. GLOBAL COMMUNITY

Cambridge and Edexcel schools belong to a worldwide education community - professional learning communities which connect teachers around the world so that they can share views, information and resources, and learn from one another.



**Cambridge Assessment
International Education**



**Pearson
Edexcel**

2. TEACHING AND LEARNING

They provide professional development for teachers, to help them improve their performance and practice throughout their careers, encouraging teaching practices that develop the ability of students to reflect on their learning.

4. INTERNATIONAL RECOGNITION

Their qualifications are widely recognised by universities and employers. You can be confident that your qualifications will be understood and valued throughout their education and career, across the globe.

International Award



Engaging our students beyond the curriculum, we also offer the Duke of Edinburgh's International Award for Young People.

Further information is available from our DoE coordinator.

Pearson Edexcel International

Art & Design (4FA1)

Course Overview

During your two years studying Art & Design at IGCSE level, you will learn a range of fine arts techniques, emphasising drawing, painting, photography and Photoshop. You will learn to develop your ideas by learning from other artists and being inspired by the world around you. Students can progress from this qualification to A Levels in Art and Design and other creative subjects.

The IGCSE syllabus provides the opportunity to explore some of the following:

Component 1 (coursework) This component gives students opportunities to:

- Develop and explore ideas
- Research primary and contextual resources
- Experiment with media, materials, techniques and processes
- Present personal response(s) to theme(s) set by the centre.

Component 2 (exam) This component allows students opportunities to:

- Develop and explore ideas
- Research primary and contextual resources
- Experiment with media, materials, techniques and processes
- Present personal response(s) to the externally-set theme.

Assessment Details

For assessment, you will complete two components: Coursework (50%) and Exam (50%). Both components will be externally assessed.

Careers

Interior design, Animation, Fashion, Film, Game Design, Graphic Design, illustration, Professional Artist, Photography, Art teacher, University Lecturer, Art Curator.

Teacher

The Art Team

Link to Syllabus

[Click here](#)



Pearson Edexcel International Business Studies (4BS1)

Course Overview

Business studies is a very exciting subject to study as it helps prepare students for their futures in the world of work. All the topics that are covered in business relate to the real world and issues that impact on all of us. Edexcel IGCSE Business Studies 9-1 is accepted by universities, colleges and employers as evidence of a foundation knowledge of the world of business and everything connected with commercial activity.

Students will gain an insight into the workings of the modern world and how resources and materials are converted into the consumer products and services that make up our society.

The IGCSE syllabus is split into the following units:

- business basics, how they are set up, the different types of business and how they can grow into successful multinational companies
- the people in business and the importance of having good people in a business. How to organise the people within a business, motivate them and communicate with them in order to make a business successful
- basic business finance of how and where businesses source money from and how they keep track of all the money flowing in and out of a business and ensuring that they are a profitable business
- how businesses decide what to produce, how they develop these products and then sell to their customers. Should they charge a high or low price, where should they sell their products and how should they inform their customers about their product.
- production methods that businesses undertake in order to produce a high quality product in an efficient way and distribute it to their customers. How technology impacts on their production and what they are producing and how they are producing their products.

Students will also be encouraged to develop skills of analysis and evaluation rather than just learn lists of facts, so that they can assess and explain situations from evidence provided and arrive at their own conclusions using reason and advanced thinking skills. Students will be challenged to think for themselves and be able to discuss what they would want in a business and how they would handle different business situations.

Assessment Details

You will be assessed at the end of each unit with assessments taken from past IGCSE exam papers.

In Year 10 you will have internal examinations in November and June.

In Year 11 you will have 'mock' examinations in January. You will sit the final, external exams in the summer. You will have 2 written examination papers including multiple choice, data and essays.

Careers

The IGCSE course is an excellent foundation for studying Business Studies or Economics at A level and continuing further studies at University. Business Studies is often combined with other areas of study from Law to Politics and Fashion to Hotel or Sports Management. Studying business can lead students into a job in pretty much anything. The subject covers so much that it will prepare students for any future career.

Teacher

Mr Drumm

Link to Syllabus

[Click here](#)

Pearson Edexcel International English Literature (4ET1)

Course Overview

The IGCSE in English Literature exposes students to a range of literary texts from around the world. The course enables students to develop the ability to read, understand and respond to these texts with an appreciation of the ways in which writers achieve their literary effects. Students will develop the skills needed for literary study while exploring the relationships between literature and different cultures and societies.

The IGCSE specification

4ET1 (Pearson Edexcel International GCSE in English Literature)

Assessment Details

All candidates take two papers: Component 1 (Poetry and Modern Prose) and Component 2 (Modern Drama and Literary Heritage Texts). All students will be eligible for grades 9 to 1.

Careers

The IGCSE in English Literature is an excellent foundation for further study in any essay-based subject, and there are many careers open to students who take traditional subjects such as English Literature. Careers include those in publishing, journalism, writing, editing, learning resource management, and education.

Teacher

Ms Austin, Ms Bernie and Dr Cruttenden

Link to Syllabus

[Click here](#)



Pearson Edexcel International English Language (4EA1)



Course Overview

The IGCSE in English Language enables students to read fluently and critically a wide range of texts while using the knowledge gained from reading to inform and improve their own writing. Students will develop their skills to write appropriately to text type, audience and purpose, using Standard English and correct spelling, punctuation and grammar. In addition, students will acquire and apply a wide vocabulary and demonstrate knowledge and understanding of how writers use language to affect readers.

The IGCSE specification

4EA1 (Pearson Edexcel International GCSE in English Language: Specification A)

Assessment Details

All candidates take two papers: Component 1 (Non-fiction Texts and Transactional Writing) and Component 2 (Poetry and Prose Texts and Imaginative Writing). All students will be eligible for grades 9 to 1.

Careers

A qualification in English is necessary for most careers where English is spoken, and the GCSE or IGCSE in English Language is necessary to study most A Levels. The Pearson Edexcel IGCSE is internationally recognised as an English Language qualification.

Teacher

Ms Austin, Ms Bernie and Dr Cruttenden

Link to Syllabus

[Click here](#)

Pearson Edexcel International Geography (4GE1)

Course Overview

Geography is not just memorising countries' names. We are living at a very exciting time in human history. Geography offers us a unique way to make connections between coasts, exploding volcanoes and urban areas; how flooding and natural disasters affect food and transportation systems. Are you capable of making decisions in a global world? Are you current with the events that matter most? Come and explore in IGCSE geography!

The IGCSE syllabus and content:

In this class you learn about the awesome power of wind and waves; the crisis of climate change and extreme weather, how our cities get the power they need; and the realities of globalisation. If you want to gain a better sense of place and a stronger sense of self, geography is a good subject to start with.

Assessment Details

You will undertake 6 topics of study covering two themes: Physical Geography and Human Geography. The final exam is 2 papers in May/June of Year 11. Along the way you will have various chances to assess your progress and skills through short answer questions, group work, fieldwork in the outdoors, and of course smaller tests.

Careers

Storm chasing, disaster awareness, travel and tourism, marketing, river rafting guide, urban planner, climatologist.

Teacher

Mr Walsh

Link to Syllabus

[Click here](#)



Pearson Edexcel International History (4HI1)



Course Overview

Studying history at IGCSE helps to develop an enquiring mind and gives you a much better understanding about how your world evolved. The subject helps to develop the skills to look beyond the headlines, to ask questions properly, and to express your own opinions. History students are rounded individuals who develop an understanding of both past and present. The pursuit of historical events and people is fun - a form of time travel.

The IGCSE syllabus and course content:

Students follow a modern world history course, looking at these major events that shaped the 20th century:

- A world divided: superpower relations, 1943-1972
- Germany: development of dictatorship, 1918-45
- The USA 1918-1943
- China: conflict, crisis and change 1900-89

Assessment Details

You will be assessed during and after each topic, usually every 4 to 5 weeks. All assessments are taken from past IGCSE exam papers.

The final exam consists of two papers in May/June at the end of Year 11.

Careers

Professions which look for a history qualification include politics, the law, journalism, the Civil Service and local government, teaching and heritage-related careers. A history qualification is also widely respected in the world of business, marketing and human resource management and increasingly in medicine and other scientific fields. Previous students have gone on to study Law, Politics, Business Studies, Journalism and International Relations.

Teacher

Ms. Coutts

Link to Syllabus

[Click here](#)

Pearson Edexcel International Mathematics (4MA1)

Course Overview

IGCSE mathematics is a wide ranging and interesting course that is taught over three years at Balears International College. Students can study the foundation tier or higher tier course. Concepts will appear in both courses; however, the maximum grade in the foundation tier is a 5 so on this course students do not study the more complex content. In the foundation tier, students develop essential number and problem-solving skills that they will use on a daily basis in their future lives. The higher tier course challenges and stretches the students' mathematical understanding with higher level algebra and trigonometry. This course is the perfect preparation for A Level mathematics.

The IGCSE syllabus and course content

IGCSE mathematics covers the four key strands of mathematics – number, algebra, geometry, and statistics in detail. There is a focus on application and problem-solving questions throughout the four strands.

Assessment Details

Both tiers are assessed in the same manner. Students sit two written examinations at the end of Year 11. Each is worth 50% of the overall grade. Both papers allow the use of a calculator.

Careers

Achieving a grade 5 or higher in your GCSE mathematics is a prerequisite for many courses in Sixth Form and University. One of the top grades in mathematics can lead to high level jobs in finance, data analytics, engineering, education, management, and computer science. Highly qualified mathematicians are known for their ability to solve problems and their attention to detail; this ensures that they are a very sought-after commodity in the working world.

Teacher

Miss Dunn and Mr Tatham

Link to Syllabus

[Click here](#)



Pearson Edexcel

Physical Education (1PE0)

Course Overview

Students will learn about the human body and how it works to aid sports performance. They will also learn about how to train to develop components of fitness to improve sports performance. Finally, they will also learn about health, conditions that can arise from a sedentary lifestyle, psychological aspects of performance, coaching methods and contemporary issues in sport. They will also participate in three sports practically and undertake a personal exercise programme.

It is highly recommended that students taking this qualification should take part in at least one sport from the exam board approved list (contact Mr Fitzpatrick for details) outside of school in order to achieve a higher grade in this subject.

Assessment Details

- Two externally marked exam papers.
- One written coursework piece about their personal exercise programme.
- Three sporting performances, assessed and filmed, which are both internally and externally marked and moderated.

Careers

This qualification gives an excellent grounding in the key foundations of sport and therefore is a good introduction to prepare students for further learning linked to any future profession in sport. This could include sports science and sports coaching.

Teacher

The PE Team

Link to Syllabus

[Click here](#)



Pearson Edexcel International Double Award Science (4SD0)

Course Overview

Double Award Science is where students study all three sciences (biology, chemistry and physics) which ultimately lead to two IGCSEs based on their overall performance across all three science subjects. This is a wonderful opportunity for everyone to leave school with an excellent level of scientific literacy. You will build the skills to truly understand (and question) the world around you. This route would mean that you had the opportunity to pursue other options in KS4 should you want to. If you decide you want to follow science at KS5, that will be open to you if you meet the entry requirements. If you study Double Award Science and then decide you want to follow a career in medicine, engineering or any STEM subject for that matter, Double Award will not mean you have closed any doors! If anything, Double Award will allow you to have a broad and balanced curriculum at KS4 whilst also keeping all doors open for you at KS5.

Assessment Details

Double Award will be examined with one exam in each science (a total of three examinations).

Careers

You will develop so many skills that you will be able to go on and study anything with this qualification. Maybe you want to be a doctor, a geologist, an astrophysicist, a marine biologist or an ecologist. This qualification keeps all doors open!

Teacher

The Science Team

Link to Syllabus

[Click here](#)



Pearson Edexcel International

Physics - Triple Science (4PH1)



About Triple Science

Triple Science will give you an opportunity to delve deeper into fascinating aspects of biology, chemistry, and physics. This route is for students who are also passionate about the sciences and want to have the chance to study a broader range of topics in more detail. Whether students want to be marine biologists, veterinary scientists, chemical engineers, astrophysicists or aeronautical engineers, this is possibly the route for you! **Triple Science is worth 3 GCSEs and counts as one of your options.**

Course Overview

If you really want to get under the skin of how the universe works, this subject is for you. With a strong mathematical foundation, you will be able to enjoy learning about how and why our world works as it does.

The IGCSE syllabus. You will study the following topics:

- | | |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| 1. Forces and motion | 5. Solids, liquids and gases |
| 2. Electricity | 6. Magnetism and electromagnetism |
| 3. Waves | 7. Radioactivity and particles |
| 4. Energy resources and energy transfers | 8. Astrophysics |

Assessment Details

Paper 1: Core physics content

Paper 2: Additional content

Careers

Physics is especially helpful for jobs that involve building things and developing new technologies, including: engineering (flight, buildings, space, you name it...), astronomy, robotics, renewable energies, computer science, communications, space exploration, science writing, sports and games technology, research and nanotechnology (that's engineering on a seriously tiny molecular scale).

Teacher

Ms Wilson

Link to Syllabus

[Click here](#)

Reception: +34 971 133 167 | Email: secondary@admissions.balearesint.net

Pearson Edexcel International Biology - Triple Science (4BI1)

Course Overview

During year 10 and 11 you will be able to delve deeper into the world in which we live. You will learn about ecological systems, stem cells, genetic engineering and food security just to name a few.

The IGCSE. You will study the following topics:

1. The nature and variety of living organism
2. Structures and functions in living organism
3. Reproduction and inheritance
4. Ecology and the environment
5. Use of biological resources

Assessment Details

Paper 1: Core biology Content

Paper 2: Additional Content

Careers

Biology is a key subject for many STEM careers, particularly in healthcare, medicine and jobs involving plants or animals. The list is pretty long and includes: nursing, dentistry, forensic science, psychology, physiotherapy, botany, environmental science, zoology, geology, oceanography, pharmaceuticals, energy, teaching, science writing, genetics and research.

Teacher

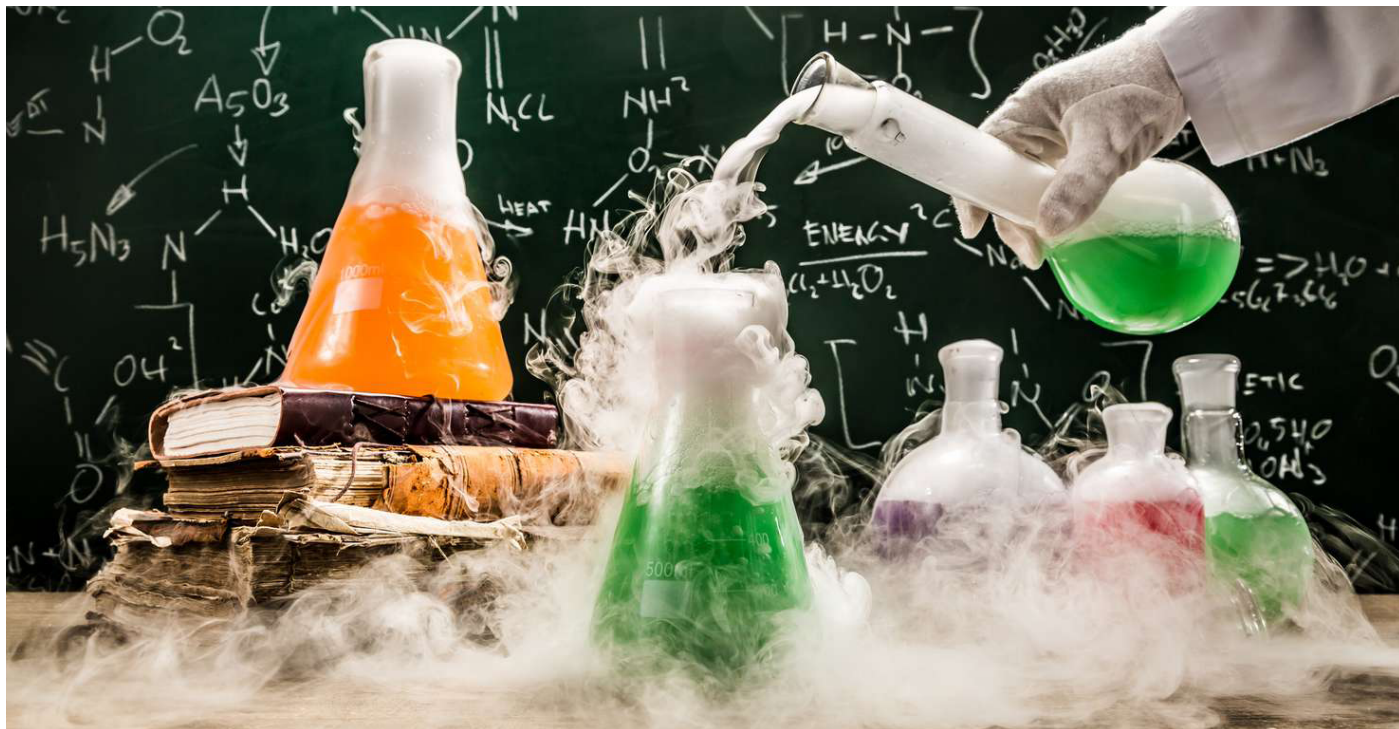
Ms Turley and Mr Wolfenden

Link to Syllabus

[Click here](#)



Pearson Edexcel International Chemistry - Triple Science (4CH1)



Course Overview

During Year 10 and 11 you will have the opportunity to carry out many different laboratory practicals in the contexts of the different topics. You will learn about the science of explosions as well as how to electroplate objects and organic chemistry.

The IGCSE syllabus. You will study the following topics:

1. Principles of Chemistry
2. Inorganic Chemistry
3. Physical Chemistry
4. Organic Chemistry

Assessment Details

Paper 1: Core chemistry content

Paper 2: Additional content

Careers

Chemistry is an important subject for careers in medicine, environmental science, engineering, toxicology, developing consumer products, metallurgy (studying how metals behave), space exploration, developing perfumes and cosmetics, pharmaceuticals, energy, teaching, science writing, software development and research.

Teacher

Mr Cadman

Link to Syllabus

[Click here](#)

Reception: +34 971 133 167 | Email: secondary@admissions.balearesint.net

Pearson Edexcel International Computer Science (4CP0)

Course Overview

Edexcel IGCSE Computer Science helps students develop an interest in computational thinking and an understanding of the principles of problem-solving using computers. They apply this understanding to create computer-based solutions to problems using algorithms and a high-level programming language. Learners also develop a range of technical skills, and the ability to effectively test and evaluate computing solutions.

Studying Edexcel IGCSE Computer Science helps learners appreciate current and emerging computing technologies, the benefits of their use and recognise their potential risks.

The IGCSE syllabus is split into the following topics:

1. Problem solving
2. Programming
3. Data
4. Computers
5. Communication and the internet
6. The bigger picture

Assessment Details

Paper 1 Principles of Computer Science

Paper 2 Application of Computational Thinking

IGCSE Computer Science will be examined through two written papers

Careers

The constant development of new technologies also means that there's a constant demand for brilliant tech minds who can create, maintain, and fix both gadgets and code.

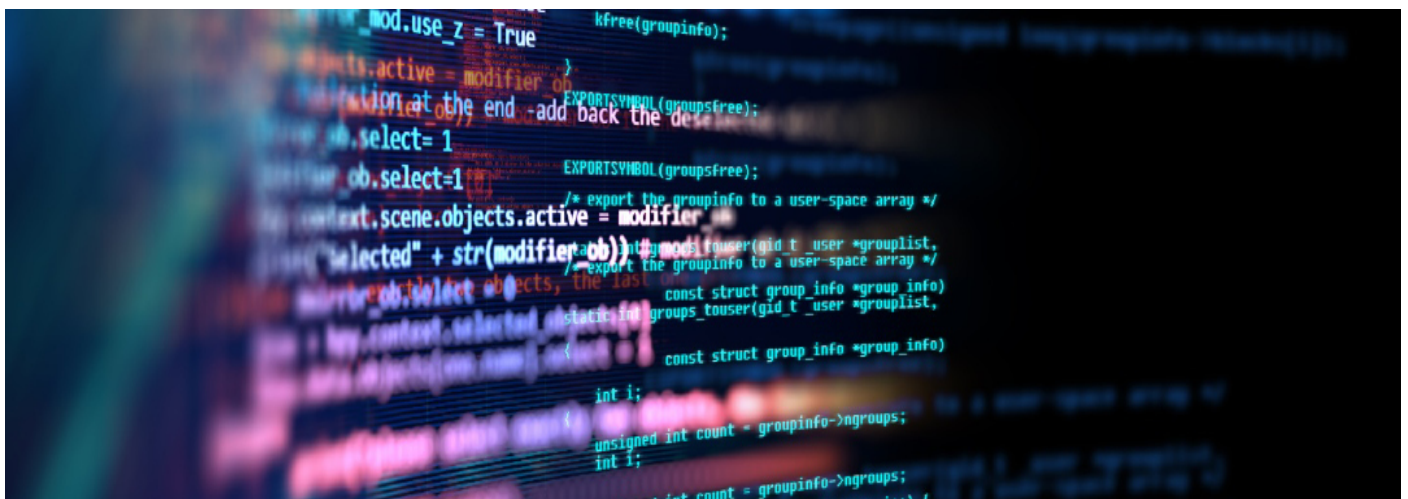
According to the US Bureau of Labour Statistics, there will be a 13% increase in Computer Science jobs by 2026. You can notice a similar trend in the EU, where the number of ICT (Information and Communications Technology) specialists grew by 36.1% over 10 years (2007–2017).

Teacher

The Computer Science Team

Link to Syllabus

[Click here](#)



Cambridge IGCSE

Spanish First Language (0502)



Course Overview

The IGCSE First Language Spanish course is designed for learners whose first language is Spanish. The course enables learners to develop the ability to communicate clearly, accurately and effectively when speaking and writing, use a wide range of vocabulary, and the correct grammar, spelling and punctuation, and to develop a personal style and an awareness of the audience being addressed.

Learners are also encouraged to read widely, both for their own enjoyment and to further their awareness of the ways in which Spanish can be used. Cambridge IGCSE First Language Spanish also develops more general analysis and communication skills such as inference, and the ability to order facts and present opinions effectively.

Assessment Details

All candidates take four papers: Reading, Listening, Speaking and Writing. All students will be eligible for grades A* to G.

Careers

A qualification in Spanish is necessary for most careers where Spanish is spoken. Spanish is the second most spoken language in the world, and holding an IGCSE qualification in this language is a mark of distinction highly valued by colleges, universities, and employers alike.

Teacher

Ms Montes

Link to Syllabus

[Click here](#)

Cambridge IGCSE

Spanish Foreign Language (0530)

Course Overview

The IGCSE course in Spanish as a Foreign Language allows the students to develop an ability to use the language effectively for practical communication. The course is based on the linked language skills of listening, reading, speaking and writing, and these are built on as learners progress through their studies.

The course also aims to offer insights into the culture of countries where Spanish is spoken, thus encouraging positive attitudes towards language learning and towards speakers of other languages.

Assessment Details

All candidates take four papers: Reading, Listening, Speaking and Writing. All students will be eligible for grades A* to G.

Careers

A qualification in Spanish is necessary for most careers where Spanish is spoken. Spanish is the second most spoken language in the world, and holding an IGCSE qualification in this language is a mark of distinction highly valued by colleges, universities, and employers alike.

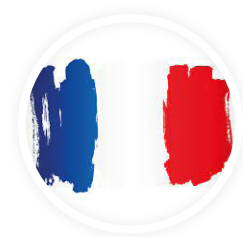
Teacher

Ms Luengo, Ms Rodríguez, Ms Montes

Link to Syllabus

[Click here](#)

Pearson Edexcel International French First Language (0501)



Course Overview

The IGCSE Foreign Language French course is designed for students who are learning French as a foreign language. The aim is to develop an ability to use the language effectively for practical communication. The course is based on the linked language skills of listening, reading, speaking and writing, and these are built on as learners progress through their studies.

The course also aims to offer insights into the culture of countries where French is spoken, thus encouraging positive attitudes towards language learning and towards speakers of other languages.

Assessment Details

All candidates take four papers: Reading, Listening, Speaking and Writing. All students will be eligible for grades A* to G.

Careers

As well as being a working language, French is an official language of the United Nations, the European Union, UNESCO, NATO, the International Olympic Committee, the International Red Cross and international courts. More than 300 million people speak French across 29 countries and five continents, holding an IGCSE qualification in this language is a mark of distinction highly valued by colleges, universities, and employers alike.

Teacher

Mme Etienne

Link to Syllabus

[Click here](#)



Cambridge IGCSE

German First Language (0505)



Course Overview

Cambridge IGCSE First Language German is designed for learners whose first language is German. The course develops learners' ability to communicate clearly, accurately and effectively. They learn how to employ a wide-ranging vocabulary, use correct grammar, spelling and punctuation, and develop a personal style and awareness of the audience being addressed.

Learners are also encouraged to read widely, both for their own enjoyment and to develop an appreciation of how writers achieve their effects. The course also complements other areas of study by encouraging skills of more general application.

Assessment Details

All candidates take four papers: Reading, Listening, Speaking and Writing. All students will be eligible for grades A* to G.

Careers

With 120 million native speakers, German is Europe's most widely spoken mother tongue. Add to that the fact that it is the second most spoken second language in Europe (behind English). Holding an IGCSE qualification in this language is a mark of distinction highly valued by colleges, universities, and employers alike.

Teacher

Ms Dittard, Ms Glock

Link to Syllabus

[Click here](#)

Cambridge IGCSE

German Foreign Language (0525)

Course Overview

This course is designed for students who are learning German as a foreign language. The aim is to develop an ability to use the language effectively for practical communication. The course is based on the linked language skills of listening, reading, speaking and writing, and these are built on as learners progress through their studies.

The course also aims to offer insights into the culture of countries where German is spoken, thus encouraging positive attitudes towards language learning and towards speakers of other languages.

Assessment Details

All candidates take four papers: Reading, Listening, Speaking and Writing. All students will be eligible for grades A* to G.

Careers

With 120 million native speakers, German is Europe's most widely spoken mother tongue. Add to that the fact that it is the second most spoken second language in Europe (behind English). Holding an IGCSE qualification in this language is a mark of distinction highly valued by colleges, universities, and employers alike.

Teacher

Ms Dittard, Ms Glock

Link to Syllabus

[Click here](#)

Pearson Edexcel

Drama (1DR0)



Course Overview

Over the course of two years students will develop skills in performance, devising original pieces of theatre as well as theatre appreciation. They will study play texts, learn about different theatre practitioners and the influence they have had over the development of performance styles and genres. Students will develop several cross curricular skills through their study, including communication, teamwork, presentation, problem solving, creativity, research and leadership.

The IGCSE syllabus and course content:

The course is split into 3 areas of study

- Devising, where students create their own original piece of drama and accompanying written portfolio.
- Performing, where students perform 2 extracts from a play.
- Theatre makers in practice, where students study 'An Inspector Calls' as well as reviewing live theatre.

Assessment Details

There are 3 elements to assessment:

Component 1: 40% of overall course. Students must submit a video of their final performance and accompanying portfolio, this is marked by the teacher and moderated by EdExcel.

Component 2: 20% of overall course. Students will perform their play extracts to an audience (which will be filmed) and must submit a short written explanation of their performance. This is sent off to be marked by an examiner.

Component 3: 40% of overall course. One written exam in 2 sections - 'An Inspector Calls' and live theatre review. Exam is 1 hour 45 and consists of short and long answer questions.

The IGCSE syllabus and course content:

There are a range of careers within theatre, including, but not limited to, performer, designer, stage manager, director, front of house and technician. Drama promotes the development of relevant transferable skills, useful in several areas of a student's academic life and beyond. Some professions that largely benefit from the skills built in drama include teaching, law, project management, first responders, hospitality, media and politics. According to a study of Russell Group universities, 100% of students who applied for a law degree at three of their universities who studied Drama and Theatre at A Level were successful in their application, which demonstrates the cross curricular value of the subject.

Teacher

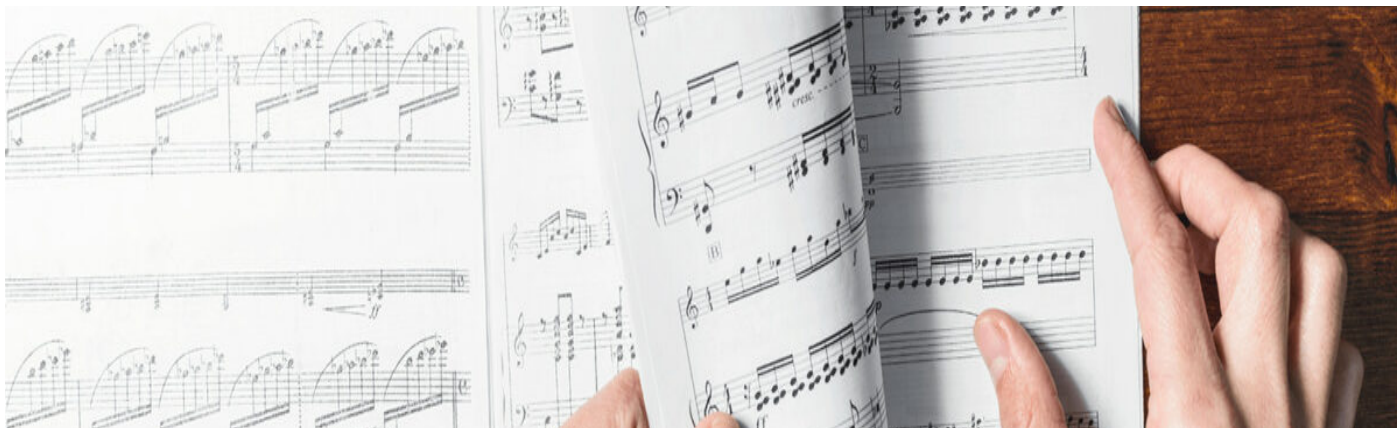
Miss Mayes

Link to Syllabus

[Click here](#)

Pearson Edexcel

Music (1DR0)



Course Overview

When studying GCSE music, students listen to, perform and compose music, encouraging aesthetic and emotional development, self-discipline and, importantly, creativity. As a result, they enhance their appreciation and enjoyment of music, an achievement that forms an ideal foundation for future study and enhances life-long musical enjoyment. They study music of all styles; each style is placed in its historical and cultural context, and they are encouraged to be perceptive, sensitive and critical when listening. Although the majority of the specification examines Western European music, the music of other cultures is always represented.

The IGCSE syllabus and course content:

Performance: Students will develop skills on their chosen instrument(s) and also practise playing as part of a group.

Composition: Students will learn to compose in different styles, both by following instructions given by the exam board and by developing their own ideas in a free composition.

Appraising: This is based on the study of eight fairly short set works. Students will also learn to appreciate an unfamiliar piece of music and practise writing down a simple melody which has been played several times.

Assessment Details

Performance and Composition are internally assessed and externally moderated: Performance (30%)

At least four minutes in all, of which one minute or more must be as part of a group.

Composing (30%)

Two compositions; one free choice and one to a brief set by the exam board. At least three minutes long in all

Appraising (40%)

One written exam (1 hour 45 minutes)

Careers

Musician, sound technician, community musician, music therapist, teacher, private tutor, or a range of careers in the music industry, in a concert hall or music venue. Music also opens doors to professions like medicine, law or accountancy because it is a highly regarded academic subject which complements other choices well.

Teacher

Miss Mayes, Dr Cruttenden

Link to Syllabus

[Click here](#)

Reception: +34 971 133 167 | Email: secondary@admissions.balearesint.net

Cambridge IGCSE

Latin (0480)



Course Overview

We are delighted to be able to offer Latin this year as a GCSE option. You will learn the language and read some extracts from literary texts. It is a highly respected subject which has been appreciated by many for its intellectual challenge and its strong development of logical skills. It never fails to impress on application forms and in resumés! It has traditionally appealed in particular to those who enjoy other languages and Maths. You are only tested on reading the language and literary appreciation: all answers are in English and there are no speaking, listening or writing elements.

As it is a challenging subject to be taken in a two year course you should have either a prior knowledge of the language or be consistently achieving higher grades in Lengua Castellana (and Llengua Catalana if you take it - fluent knowledge of either makes learning Latin easier). Beginners would also be asked to attend preparation sessions during the summer term of Year 9.

Course Content

Language: the prescribed grammar from the Cambridge specification and a set word list (any word not on the list will be given in the examination). One translation from Latin into English and one comprehension, answered in English.

Literature: questions on two set texts, one by Virgil and one by Cicero.

Assessment Details

Two written examinations of 1 hour 30 minutes each: Language (50%) and Literature (50%)

Careers

Almost anything! Classicists have gone on to be accountants, business people, lawyers, bankers, civil servants, journalists, writers and a vast range of other jobs.

Teacher

Dr Cruttenden

Link to Syllabus

[Click here](#)

ESO - CAIB Catalan Curriculum

Certificació ESO en Llengua Catalana



Course Overview

This course is designed for students who hold a Spanish passport and are, therefore, required to study Catalan. This course is also for those students who, having studied the language in previous years, would like to obtain an official certification (homologació) from the Spanish Department for Education.

The course is designed for learners with a near-native command of the language. The course develops learners' ability to communicate clearly, accurately and effectively. They learn how to employ a wide-ranging vocabulary, use correct grammar, spelling and punctuation, and develop a personal style and awareness of the audience being addressed. Learners are also encouraged to read widely, both for their own enjoyment and to develop an appreciation of how writers achieve their effects.

Assessment Details

All candidates will be evaluated on Reading, Listening, Speaking and Writing skills. All students will be eligible for grades EX (Excel-lent) to IN (Insuficient).

Careers

Catalan is an official language in the Balearic Islands and other Catalan speaking regions of Spain (Catalunya, Valencia). Catalan is required to access all state universities in the Catalan-speaking regions and is necessary to access employment opportunities in the public sector (health, politics, education, among others). Holding a qualification in this language is highly valued by employees in the private sector on the Balearic Islands.

Teacher

The Catalan Team

Link to Syllabus

[Click here](#)

Optional subjects

Some Possible Pathways

Pathway 1	Lessons
English and English Literature	8
Mathematics	8
Core (Double) Science	9
Spanish	9
Core PE	4
Global Citizenship	2
Activities	2
History	6
German	6
Triple Science	6
	60

Pathway 2	Lessons
English and English Literature	8
Mathematics	8
Core (Double) Science	9
Spanish	9
Core PE	4
Global Citizenship	2
Activities	2
Art	6
Geography	6
Computer Science	6
	60

Pathway 3	Lessons
English and English Literature	8
Mathematics	8
Core (Double) Science	9
Spanish	9
Core PE	4
Global Citizenship	2
Activities	2
Music	6
French	6
Business	6
	60

Pathway 4	Lessons
English and English Literature	8
Mathematics	8
Core (Double) Science	9
Spanish (Lengua Castellana)	9
Core PE	4
Activities	2
PE GCSE	6
Catalana (Llengua Catalana)	6
Ciències Socials	2
Triple Science	6
	60

Catalan is compulsory for all students who hold a Spanish passport.

All Year 10 and Year 11 students have to take sports twice a week. PE GCSE is a different subject and counts as an option.

Double Science is worth 2 GCSEs. Triple Science is worth 3 GCSEs and counts as one of your options.



Baleares International College

Sa Porrassa

an Orbital Education School



IGCSE Subject Preference Form

PLEASE SUBMIT THE ONLINE FORM

Dear Year 9 families,

We are asking you to complete this form by the **20th February**, so that we can make a blocking pattern for next year's Year 10 that best suits all the applicants. Our aim is to:

- Put the subjects in teaching blocks. All the subjects in a block are taught at the same time.
- Ensure that there will be no clashes (in other words, to ensure that the subjects that you want to do are in separate blocks).
- Ensure that if clashes do arise, you are made aware of them well in advance, so that you have plenty of time to think about a possible remedy.

Please indicate your top five subject choices (you will finally choose 3 from the list) by filling the form below. We will use this information to construct the timetable blocks.

To access the form, please click here: [**BIC iGCSE Subject Preferences.**](#)

Please see below the currently offered IGCSE subject:

- | | | |
|--------------------|---------------------------|-------------|
| • Triple Science | • French | • Geography |
| • Art & Design | • Catalan | • Music |
| • Business Studies | • Physical Education GCSE | • Drama |
| • Computer Science | • History | • Latin |
| • German | | |

Compulsory GCSE subjects for all students include: English Language, English Literature, Mathematics, Double Science and Spanish. All students will study three additional subjects from the list above.



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