

IGCSE Options Booklet



St Andrew's School,
Turi

IGCSE & GCSE
Courses starting in September 2019

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Introduction

This is an exciting stage of your child's education. For the first time they are offered significant choice in the subjects they are going to be studying. At St Andrew's students will be able to choose six subjects from a list of twenty different IGCSE subjects.

The General Certificate of Education (GCSE) is the national age-16 school exam certification taken by English students at the end of Year 11. The International GCSE (IGCSE) is a qualification of equivalent status and is generally offered by British curriculum schools outside the UK, as well as by some schools within England. Both the IGCSE and the GCSE have equal value as entry requirements to the next stage of education – the GCE Advanced level exams, commonly called A level, which our College students will take in Years 12 & 13.

At St Andrew's the vast majority of our students will take 9 GCSE subjects, although we may recommend that a few students select the non-examined Learning Success Course, leaving a total of 8 GCSEs. We will recommend this option directly to a number of students and parents, but if you have not been contacted but feel this would be a better academic option for your child, please do contact Mrs Carol Heath-Smith (Head of the Learning Success Centre) in the first instance. All students also follow non-examined courses in PSHE, PE and Character Education.

St Andrew's School prepares students for the Edexcel and CIE (Cambridge International Examinations) Board examinations at IGCSE. Where suitable specifications are not available from the IGCSE curriculum, we offer Edexcel GCSE courses. Details of the exam board for each subject can be found on each subject page.

English Literature, English Language and Mathematics are taken by all students and students make a further seven choices which should include a minimum of two science subjects (Biology, Chemistry and Physics) bringing the total number of subjects taken to ten. Students who may wish to take a science at A level are strongly advised to take all three sciences at IGCSE.

When choosing your child's optional subjects you should consider:

- whether you enjoy the subject and find it interesting
- whether you are good at it
- whether you need it for a particular career
- whether you would like to keep your options open to study this subject at A level

These are important life choices that will affect **your child's** future, so do **not** select a subject on the grounds that:

- your friends are doing it
- you like the teacher
- you think it is an easy option

GCSE Grading

There has been a new GCSE grading system being introduced in England with A* - G being replaced by a new 9-1 scale. All IGCSEs and GCSEs, with the exception of IGCSE ICT and Sociology will grade using the newer 9-1 grading system whilst ICT and Sociology only will grade using the A* - G scale.

These GCSEs are of equal value to A* - G GCSEs or IGCSE that parents with older children may well be familiar with. A grade 8 on the new scale is equivalent to an A* on the previous scale. In the new system the top A* grade is split into two new grades – 8 and 9. Both grade systems will be understood and accepted by universities worldwide.

A grade 4 on the 9-1 scale is the equivalent of the grade C in the current A*- G scale and is the minimum grade for a good pass in the subject. The table below allows comparisons to be made between the two grading systems.

Edexcel IGCSEs and GCSEs	Cambridge International IGCSEs
9-1 Grade	A* - G Grade
9	A*
8	
7	A
6	B
5	
4	C
3	D
2	E
	F
1	G

Timescale

At this stage we are asking for student preferences for subjects. The School will then plan for next year and organise the subjects into a number of option blocks, from which students will need to select one from each block. It may not be possible to accommodate all students' first preferences, but we will plan the option blocks to allow the most number of students to have their first seven preferences.

Monday 21 st January	Option booklet sent to parents
VISO 1 Easter Term	VISO: Information talk for parents and Year 9 students - Dining Room, 1.30 p.m. VISO: Options Fair – an opportunity to discuss choices with Heads of Department in each subject - Sayer Hall, 2.15 pm – 3.45 pm.
Sunday 24 th February	Provisional Option Forms – may be handed in at VISO or returned to Mr. Draper, Deputy Head Academic on Sunday 24 th February. It will not be possible to use the information on forms submitted later than this date to help inform the final option blocks
VISO 2 Easter Term	Year 9 Parent Teacher Consultations
VISO 2 Easter Term	Final Option Form issued. You will be allocated six subjects – based on your provisional choices
Sunday 28 th April	Final date for notifying changes (subject to space in the groups)
VISO 1 Summer Term	Confirmation of subject allocation sent to parents and students
September 2019	Start of GCSE + IGCSE courses
VISO 1 Christmas Term	Occasionally students feel that they have made a wrong choice or change their mind after they have submitted their final option choices. The School will consider requests for a change of option only if the request is confirmed by parents as acceptable and only if there is space in the group that the student wishes to change into. It is important for students to think carefully about their choices at all stages of the process to give them the best chance of being able to study the subjects they most prefer.

Parents and students should take time to read through this booklet and discuss it together prior to making their choices.

The form on the last page of this booklet must be returned to Mr. Draper by Sunday 24th February. Alternatively you can email your choices directly to Mr. Draper (deputysenioracademic@turimail.co.ke), also by Sunday 24th February.

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English Language

Specification: Edexcel IGCSE in English Language (4EB1)

Why study English Language?

The importance of being able to communicate effectively goes without saying. Our words, whether spoken or written, help to make us who we are. Using language effectively enables us to understand and communicate with each other and to make sense of our world. By developing our skills in English, we can become better equipped to make the most of our lives. A majority of employers and universities pay close attention to the grade achieved in English. Most universities require a grade 'C' or above in IGCSE for entry. Consequently, English Language remains a compulsory subject at all English-medium schools.

Course Content

The course focuses on developing students' reading and writing skills. Students are taught to read and analyse fiction and non-fiction texts. To this end, it is vital that students who take English enjoy, and are committed to, an extensive personal reading programme. Reading is not a passive activity, but one where the student interacts with what is read, by thinking about language and style and the writer's purpose and meaning. This is a very important component of the English course in both Language and Literature.

The ability to understand, summarise and synthesise a variety of texts is of central importance.

Writing techniques are taught for a range of different purposes: to inform, explain, describe; to argue, persuade, advise; to imagine, explore, and entertain. Writing to analyse, review and comment is an important focus of the course.

Further information: <https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-international-gcse-and-edexcel-certificates/international-gcse-english-language-b-2016.html>

Breakdown of the Examination Paper

The students will sit one examination paper in the January of Year 11. This is a 3 hour examination, and consists of both reading and writing components.

Section A (1 hour 15 minutes – 40 marks): Two unseen extracts provided. Students have to answer comprehension questions and analytical essays regarding these two extracts

Section B (45 minutes – 30 marks): Students have to write a creative piece, using the information provided in the unseen extracts in Section 1 as guidance.

Section C (45 minutes – 30 marks): Students have to write a creative writing piece. They have a choice of: a narrative, an argument, a description.



English Literature

Specification: Edexcel IGCSE in English Literature (4ET1)

Why study English Literature?

The main aim of this subject is for students to develop their enjoyment and appreciation of different forms of literature. In doing so, they will come into contact with the work of authors from different cultures and from different periods in history.

Students learn to recognise the techniques used by authors to create characters, plot and setting, as well as exploring and interpreting themes, issues and ideas.

As students learn to recognise the qualities of good writing, they develop as writers themselves. The ability to analyse writing in this way is a vital skill, which is why all students study English Literature.

Course Content

The course is based around the study of prose, drama and poetry. Students are encouraged to develop critical and creative responses to a set novel, a play and a collection of poems.

As well as studying set texts, students are encouraged to research the social and historical contexts in which they are set and to develop wider reading skills.

The set texts for the academic year 2019-2020 are likely to be:

- 'Of Mice and Men' by John Steinbeck (Modern Prose)
- 'A View from the Bridge' by Arthur Miller (Modern Drama)
- 'Romeo and Juliet' by William Shakespeare (Literary Heritage)
- An Anthology of poetry made for the International GCSE (see below link)

Further information: <https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/demo/en/qualifications/edexcel-international-gcses-and-edexcel-certificates/international-gcse-english-literature-2016.html>

Breakdown of the Examination Paper

The students will sit two examination papers in the May of Year 11.

Paper 1: Poetry and Modern Prose
2 hours

Section A (20 marks): Unseen Poetry
Section B (30 marks): Anthology Poetry
Section C (40 marks): Modern Prose

Paper 2: Modern Drama and Literary Heritage
1 hour 30 minutes

Section A (30 marks): Modern Drama
Section B (30 marks): Literary Heritage

Mathematics

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Specification: Edexcel IGCSE Mathematics (Specification A) (4MA1)

Students are 'set' according to ability, with sets in Year 9 initially determined by Common Entrance results and information received from previous schools. Set changes are made throughout the course, based on a student's routine work through the year, their performance in tests and as a result of their end of year examination.

Mathematics at IGCSE level is characterised by the development of reasoning, analysis, the ability to think logically and present solutions to problems clearly. It builds on the understanding of patterns, structures, core numeracy and geometrical visualisation skills gained during a student's earlier mathematical education. The study of Mathematics encourages the development of a logical and intelligent approach to problem-solving so that students can apply their knowledge and understanding in increasingly complex situations. The higher sets will not only target the highest grades, but will prioritise a complete understanding of the principles behind the techniques they master, in order to establish a strong foundation for taking Mathematics on into the Sixth Form.

Mathematics is a vital subject and a C grade or better is essential for most career paths. A sound grasp and mastery of the skills, logical processes and specification content provides a student with the crucial qualifications for their continued education and, later, for the workplace. Whatever career appeals to you, Mathematics will be of value as you progress towards your future goals.

Further information: <http://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-international-gcses-and-edexcel-certificates/international-gcse-mathematics-a-2016.html>



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Art and Design

Specification: Edexcel GCSE Art and Design (1ADO)

Art & Design GCSE is an exciting subject that provides a broad-spectrum education and helps to develop visual language, creative skills and knowledge of the arts. Pursuing Art and Design gives you the opportunity to make work that is unique and original while exploring materials in an imaginative way. There are many ways of visually expressing yourself and responding to initial starting points such as drawing, painting, printing, digital media, photography, textiles and in three dimensional media such as clay and sculptural materials.

The two year course is divided into two coursework units which make up a portfolio worth 60% of the overall mark. The remaining 40% is a controlled test which takes place at the end of course. During Year 10 you will be introduced to the two coursework themes and will create work using different materials and artistic styles, and will be offered the opportunity to develop painting, drawing and printmaking skills. Discussion on the work of other artists will feature throughout and will support your ideas. In Year 11 you will refine and develop your coursework presenting your portfolio with evidence of your individual creativity and independence. The timed, controlled test of ten hours, for which you have preparation time, is set across the Easter term.

Art and Design can lead to many career possibilities including:- architecture, product design, interior design, photographic journalism, museum curation, graphic design and illustration, web design, animation, theatre and stage design, film, fashion and textiles, ceramics, fine art painting and sculpture, public art and commissions. Although these examples are specific careers in the Art and Design industry; choosing this subject can also form a part of a well-balanced and interesting application to any university course.

Successful Art and Design students gain life-long skills including:

- Confidence and enthusiasm as they develop technical skills in a wide variety of media.
- Problem solving abilities as they show skill in communication visually.
- The ability to develop ideas from initial concept to final outcome.
- Understanding of Art, Design, Culture and Society as they explore an extensive range of practitioners, both contemporary and from history.

Further information: <http://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-gcses/art-and-design-2016.html>

Biology

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Specification: Cambridge IGCSE Biology (9-1) (0970)

The IGCSE biology course enables students to:

- Learn about the unifying patterns and themes in biology
- Acquire knowledge and understanding of biological facts, concepts and principles and the skills needed to use them in new and changing situations
- Appreciate the practical nature of biology, developing experimental and investigative skills based on correct and safe laboratory techniques
- Appreciate the importance of accurate experimental work and reporting scientific methods
- Sustain and develop an enjoyment of, and interest in, the study of living organisms
- Select, organise and present information clearly and logically, using appropriate scientific terms and conventions
- Prepare for more advanced courses in biology and for other courses that require knowledge of biology



Course Overview:

As well as a focus on biology, and with an emphasis on human biology, the IGCSE biology syllabus enables students to better understand the technological world in which they live, and take an informed interest in science and scientific developments. Students learn about the basic principles of biology through a mix of theoretical and practical studies.

If you have any intention of progressing to A Level biology, it is advised that you study all three sciences at GCSE.

Course Assessment:

Paper 2	Paper 4	Paper 5
<p>Extended Multiple Choice 45 minutes Weighted at 30% of total available marks</p>	<p>Extended Theory Paper 1 hour 15 minutes Weighted at 50% of total available marks</p>	<p>Practical Test 1 hour 15 minutes Weighted at 20% of total available marks</p>

Further information: www.cambridgeinternational.org/programmes-and-qualifications/cambridge-igcse-biology-9-1-0970/



Business Studies

Specification: CIE IGCSE Business Studies (0450)

The Cambridge IGCSE Business Studies syllabus develops learners' understanding of business activity in the public and private sectors, and the importance of innovation and change. Learners find out how the major types of business organisation are established, financed and run, and how their activities are regulated. Factors influencing business decision-making are also considered, as are the essential values of cooperation and interdependence. Whether you want to start your own business or work for a major international company, the study of how businesses operate, make decisions and affect our welfare, will provide the knowledge, understanding and critical skills you will need to succeed.

By studying for the Cambridge IGCSE Business Studies learners will develop lifelong skills including:

- understanding different types of business organizations, the environments in which they operate and different business functions such as marketing, production and finance
- appreciation of the critical role people play in making a business a success
- confidence in using, calculating and interpreting business data including cost and revenue data
- skills in business problem solving and the communications you need to present and support your ideas and arguments
- the ability to analyse different business situations and reach sound decisions or judgements

Learners not only study business concepts and techniques but also enhance related skills such as numeracy and enquiry. The syllabus provides both a foundation for further study of the subject at A Level and an ideal preparation for the world of work.

Students will take two examination papers:

Paper 1 (short answer, structured questions and data response questions), 50% of total marks

Paper 2 (questions arising from a case study). 50% of total marks

Further information: www.cambridgeinternational.org/programmes-and-qualifications/cambridge-igcse-business-studies-9-1-0986/



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Specification: Cambridge IGCSE Chemistry (9-1) 0971

Choose Chemistry, for a path into medicine, engineering, material science, sport science, forensic science and many other exciting careers. Also **choose Chemistry** for a greater understanding of the materials you encounter in your life every day and so that you have a greater understanding of the science reported in the news each day. It is encouraged to study all three science in combination. All three are essential for any science related career.

The Chemistry IGCSE course enables students to:

- Better understand the technological world, with an informed interest in scientific matters
- Recognise the usefulness (and limitations) of scientific method, and how to apply this to other disciplines and in everyday life
- Develop relevant attitudes, such as a concern for accuracy and precision, objectivity, integrity, enquiry, initiative and inventiveness
- Develop an interest in, and care for, the environment
- Better understand the influence and limitations placed on scientific study by society, economy, technology, ethics, the community and the environment
- Develop an understanding of the scientific skills essential for both further study and everyday life.



Course Assessment:

Paper 2	Paper 4	Paper 5
Extended Multiple choice 45 minutes. Weighted at 30% of total available marks.	Extended theory paper. 1 hour 15 minutes. Weighted at 50% of total available marks.	Practical Test. 1 hour 15 minutes. Weighted at 20% of total available marks.

Further information:

<https://www.cambridgeinternational.org/programmes-and-qualifications/cambridge-igcse-chemistry-9-1-0971/>

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Computer Science

Specification: CIE IGCSE Computer Science (9-1) (0984)



IGCSE Computer Science learners study the principles and practices of computing and gain confidence in computational thinking and programming. They learn to programme by writing computer code and they develop their understanding of the main principles of problem solving using computers. Learners apply their understanding to develop computer-based solutions to problems using algorithms and a high-level programming language. They also develop a range of technical skills, as well as the ability to test effectively and to evaluate computing solutions. This qualification helps learners appreciate current and emerging computing technologies and the benefits of their use. They learn to recognise the ethical issues and potential risks when using computers. IGCSE Computer Science is an ideal foundation for further study in Computer Science. Understanding the principles of Computer Science provides learners with the underpinning knowledge required for many other subjects in science and engineering, and the skills learnt can also be used in everyday life.

Assessment:

Paper 1 1 hour 45 minutes, Theory 60%

Paper 2 1 hour 45 minutes, Problem-solving and Programming 40%

Progression

The combination of knowledge and skills in IGCSE Computer Science gives learners a solid foundation for further study. Candidates who achieve grades 4 to 9 are well prepared to follow a wide range of courses including AS & A Level Computer Science, or the equivalent.

Further information:

<https://www.cambridgeinternational.org/programmes-and-qualifications/cambridge-igcse-9-1-computer-science-0984/>

Design and Technology (D & T)



Design is a way of life, a point of view. It involves the whole complex of visual communications: talent, creative ability, manual skill, and technical knowledge. Aesthetics and economics, technology and psychology are intrinsically related to the process.

Paul Rand- American Modernist (1914-1996)

Specification: Cambridge IGCSE Design and Technology (9-1) (0979)

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Do you love solving problems and being creative? Or perhaps you just keep coming up with great ideas but don't know what to do with them? If that's the case, studying design and technology could be for you and it can introduce you to many career choices, anything from Architecture to Engineering.

What is Design and Technology?

Design and Technology is an inspiring, rigorous and practical subject. Using creativity and imagination, pupils design and make products that solve real and relevant problems within a variety of contexts, considering their own and others' needs, wants and values. They acquire a broad range of subject knowledge and draw on disciplines such as mathematics, science, engineering, computing and art.

What does the course involve?

Students will study a variety of units including:

- The impact of new and emerging technologies on manufacturing and society.
- Detailed understanding of a wide range of materials, their properties and the specific processes associated with each material including the development of new and smart materials.
- The study of mechanisms; control systems; methods and scales of production; computer aided design and manufacturing.
- The environmental and social impact of design.

How is the course assessed?

The syllabus requires learners to take three components:

Component 1 & 2 are external examinations which assess (1) product design capability and (2) resistant materials knowledge.

Component 3 is a substantial design and make project of the students' own choosing. The assessment weighting is 50% examination and 50% coursework project.

What subjects does Design and Technology go with?

Design and Technology is a STEM subject and goes well with Science, Maths and ICT. When it comes to the sciences, having knowledge of how physical and chemical processes work can come in useful when designing different products; the subject also supports the study of Art.

Further information:

<https://www.cambridgeinternational.org/programmes-and-qualifications/cambridge-igcse-design-and-technology-9-1-0979/>



Drama

Specification: Edexcel GCSE Drama (1DR0)

Drama is not only for you if you are interested in performance and wish to pursue a career in an arts-related field, it also enables you to develop the confidence and communication skills necessary to be successful in your future social and working life. The skills gained from drama are valued by employers.

This is a demanding and exciting subject that requires students to devise, act, design and direct pieces of drama. It remains highly regarded as an academic subject when a student is applying to study 'A' levels, particularly since many of the skills developed in Drama complement much of the work in English, as well other subject disciplines.

In Drama, a student learns to explore issues, events and relationships. If you want to use your imaginative, creative and expressive abilities then this is the subject for you.

The course aims to develop:

- ❖ an understanding and response to a wide range of play texts and an ability to communicate the authors' intentions to an audience.
- ❖ an awareness of social, historical and cultural contexts of play texts.
- ❖ increased self and group awareness and the ability to appreciate and evaluate the work of others.
- ❖ skills of creativity, self-confidence, concentration, self-discipline and communication.

Course Outline:

The course is divided into three components, one of which is coursework, one of which is a practical examination and a final written examination.

Component 1: Devising (40%)

Candidates work in a group to plan and devise a piece of performance based on a stimulus they are given. Each candidate submits a written portfolio based on practical work s/he has done and is also assessed on their performance.

Component 2: Practical exam (20%)

Students will interpret, explore and either perform in and/or design for two key extracts from a published performance text (up to 6 students). Students will also write approx. 100 words detailing their artistic intention for the piece.

Component 3: Written exam (40%)

Students will sit a written examination (1hr 30mins). This exam will consist of two sections:

Section A – this requires students to answer short and extended questions on a text (DNA by Dennis Kelly) that has been explored practically

Section B – this requires students to write about a live theatre performance.

GCSE Drama improves your ability to:

- Explore ideas and issues
- Experiment creatively
- Develop a role
- Concentrate
- Work well with others
- Develop leadership skills
- Communicate with an audience
- Perform with confidence, technical accuracy and believability
- Develop a portfolio that contains a range of styles of presentation
- Develop public speaking skills

Results History

GCSE Drama at St Andrew's School results have been high and well above the national average. This is mainly because students who opt for Drama have the desire to succeed and, quite simply, commit to and enjoy the course.

Homework/Prep

You must commit to attending theatre visits, making time for after-school rehearsals each week during assessment phases, as well as completing essays and written responses that will be set to extend your written and performance skills.

Entry requirements

You must have an interest in Drama and Theatre and have a desire to perform. You must be able to commit to extra rehearsals outside of lesson time to enhance your performance skills.

Further information: Contact Ms Moodley in the Drama Studio

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-gcses/drama-2016.html>

Economics

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Specification: CIE IGCSE Economics (9-1) (0987)

“Learning about Economics will provide you with the knowledge, understanding and skills you will need to succeed”.

Whether you want to one day start your own business, work for a major international company or a government, become a teacher or doctor, or run a charity, the study of Economics will provide you with the knowledge, understanding, critical thinking and skills you will need to succeed. The newspapers often describe complicated economic problems such as inflation, unemployment, balance of trade deficits, anti-competitive behaviour, changes in exchange rates, recessions, speculative bubbles in stock market prices and supply shortages. It is sometimes difficult to understand all these and what impact they could have on our daily lives without an understanding of economics. People who have studied Economics are good at problem solving because they learn to identify problems, to suggest alternative solutions, to determine what information is relevant, and to weigh up different costs and benefits in decision making. Knowledge of economics helps us understand what determines the prices of different products, why people earn different amounts in different jobs and why these can change over time, why some countries are poor and others rich and how and why governments influence the behaviours of different groups of consumers and producers. But above all, the study of Economics makes us realise that we are all dependent on one another and that the decisions we make will affect others.

The specific aims of a course in economics for the Cambridge IGCSE exam are to:

- Develop knowledge and understanding of economic terminology, principles and theories.
- Develop basic economic numeracy and
- Develop ability to use the tools of economic analysis in particular situations.
- Identify and discriminate between differing sources of information and how to distinguish between facts and value judgements in economic issues.
- Use economic skills to understand better the world in which they live.
- Develop understanding of the economies of developed and developing nations and of the relationships between them

Students will take two examination papers

Paper 1: Multiple choice (45 minutes)

Paper 2: Structured questions. (2 hours 15 minutes)

Further information:

www.cambridgeinternational.org/programmes-and-qualifications/cambridge-igcse-economics-9-1-0987/

Geography

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Specification: Edexcel IGCSE Geography 4GE1

Geography at St Andrew's is a popular and successful subject with 100% of students gaining A*-B in 2017. Geography aims to foster an understanding of the world on a variety of scales, from local to global. This includes examining contemporary environmental and developmental issues currently faced by the global population. Alongside the development of key geographical concepts, pupils also learn independent enquiry skills and are challenged to become critical and reflective thinkers. They become problem-solvers, good team-players, highly analytical and good decision makers. These transferable skills are vital as pupils prepare to enter the workplace and are highly sought after in many different professions.



Geographers work in many different fields, some directly related to Geography and others utilising the skills that they have gained from their studies. These wide-ranging careers include work in landscape architecture, environmental consultancy, management, planning, business, finance, teaching, surveying, flood control, tourism, marketing and the media, amongst a myriad of others including politics. The current British Prime Minister is a Geographer. Teachers aim to make lessons varied, stimulating and enjoyable through a wide range of learning activities. We hope to enthuse the pupils about Geography throughout the course and expect them to be active learners in the classroom and beyond.

Curriculum

We continue to follow the Edexcel IGCSE started in Year 9, as we believe that it provides pupils with a well-rounded education in Geography. The topics in Year 10 comprise river, urban and fragile environments. In Year 11 we look at rural and hazardous environments. Essential to gaining this knowledge and understanding are a variety of skills, including analysis of sources and exploration of contentious issues. Geography is highly regarded by universities due to the range of skills students develop while they gain understanding of both local and global contemporary issues; the subject is studied in both Arts and Science faculties and is referred to as a "facilitating subject" i.e. one that helps students prepare for university.

Fieldwork

Fieldwork is a vital and integral element of Geography as it allows the students to appreciate and investigate concepts in real-life settings, bringing the subject alive. The region around the school is very diverse and provides opportunities to undertake fieldwork to support the specification. We currently take students to the Turi river, Kakamega rainforest, Nakuru town, Kiplombe and Londiani extinct volcanoes.

Further information:

<http://qualifications.pearson.com/content/demo/en/qualifications/edexcel-international-gcses-and-edexcel-certificates/international-gcse-geography-2017.html>

Information and Communication Technology (ICT)

Specification: CIE IGCSE Information and Communication Technology (9-1) (0983)



Why study ICT?

The study of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) provides an insight into the significance and relevance of computers, applications and communications in the work environment and everyday life. ICT is used in areas as diverse as manufacturing, education and medicine and ICT skills are valued in virtually all areas of business and society.

The Information Communication Technology syllabus encourages learners to develop lifelong skills, which will be useful to them in their work across the curriculum and prepare them for future employment. They will develop understanding of the implications of technology in society, including social, economic and ethical uses and awareness of the ways ICT can help in home, learning and work environments.

The syllabus combines theoretical and practical studies focusing on the ability to use common software applications to solve problems, including word processors, spreadsheets, databases, interactive presentation software, web browsers and website design. Learners analyse, design, implement, test and evaluate ICT systems, ensuring that they are fit for purpose.

Assessment of the practical tests is hardware and software independent. Students take examination papers: a theory exam contributing **40%** and two practical papers each contributing **30%**. This gives them an opportunity to demonstrate the full range of skills covered in the syllabus.

Further information:

<https://www.cambridgeinternational.org/programmes-and-qualifications/cambridge-igcse-information-and-communication-technology-9-1-0983/>

Modern Foreign Languages

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French

Specification: Edexcel IGCSE French (4FR1)

Why learn French:

- Being able to speak a second international language looks great on your CV and is proof of your ability to learn other languages in the future.
- Learning French will open up a whole new francophone world in Africa and in Europe and will help you to communicate on a worldwide scale. Not only will you be able to travel confidently from Madagascar to West Africa via Rwanda or from Tahiti to Quebec via Switzerland, Belgium and France, you will also be able to read French magazines and watch French films on the way!
- 1/3 of English words come from French, so, by learning French, you understand better the English vocabulary.

French in Africa:

- 1st foreign language taught in Kenya (1 = French, 2 = Arabic)
- 17 countries where French is an official language
- 14 million speakers (11 million of them in sub-Saharan Africa)
- By 2050, 80% of French speakers will be in Africa

The IGCSE course

The course builds on your existing knowledge and improves your speaking, listening, reading and writing skills. The classes will be taught in French to give you maximum exposure to the language and you will also have the chance to do the DELF Diploma External exam in June.

Assessment overview (100% externally assessed):

	Paper 1	Paper 2	Paper 3
Skills tested	Listening	Reading and Writing	Speaking
%	25%	Reading 25% Writing 25%	25%
Length of paper	30 minutes	1h45	8-10 minutes

Further information: <http://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-international-gcses-and-edexcel-certificates/international-gcse-french-2017.html>

Modern Foreign Languages

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Spanish

Specification: Edexcel IGCSE Spanish (4SP1)

If you have already studied Spanish and would like to broaden your knowledge of international languages, you may choose to study Spanish for IGCSE. This will enable you to visit, work and study in a wide variety of countries from Spain in Europe, Equatorial Guinea in Africa to 16 countries in Latin America, from the North, Central to South America.

Imagine the many opportunities for work experience and variety of options to study abroad; decide to study in one of the best medical schools in the beautiful Caribbean Island of Cuba, explore amazing and diverse tours and cultures not forgetting wide access to Spanish-language films, magazines and websites.

Being able to speak a second or third international language opens up new opportunities and gives you perspectives that you might never have encountered and understanding a foreign language is proof of your ability to learn other languages in the future.

The IGCSE course builds on your existing knowledge and improves your speaking, listening, reading and writing skills, with emphasis on communication. The majority of classes will be taught in Spanish to give you maximum exposure to the language.

You will be encouraged to visit a Hispanic country during the course and will have the opportunity to participate in activities which simulate a Spanish-speaking environment.

Assessment overview (100% externally assessed):

	Paper 1	Paper 2	Paper 3
Skills tested	Listening	Reading and Writing	Speaking
%	25%	Reading 25% Writing 25%	25%
Length of paper	30 minutes	1h45	8-10 minutes

Further information: <https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/demo/en/qualifications/edexcel-international-gcses-and-edexcel-certificates/international-gcse-spanish-2017.html>

Modern Foreign Languages



German

“One language sets you in a corridor for life. Two languages open every door along the way.”

Examination Board: Edexcel IGCSE German (4GN1)

What do I need before starting this course?

Before starting the course it is essential that you have at least acquired some basic knowledge in Year 9 and you are willing to work hard and persevere.

Why should I continue learning German?

Continuing to learn German will equip you with another language, enabling you to compete in the global world of work today. Germany is a thriving economy that is known for its excellence in engineering, business and motor industries and when rail operators across Europe were asked which skill they need most, 37% reported languages; the most frequently missing skill amongst their employees was said to be languages. Finally many English terminologies and words derive from or are similar to German, making learning the language easier.

What will I learn?

In Years 10 and 11, students will learn to express themselves in German. They will be encouraged to speak the language at all times in class and there is a great emphasis on class participation. Grammar is an important part of the course, alongside developing reading, writing, speaking and listening skills.

How is the course structured and assessed?

In Year 10, pupils will study media today, travel, school life, family and friends as well as health.

In Year 11, pupils will study the world of work, my environment, the environment and its future and a bit more about hobbies.

The Speaking exam is a ten-minute oral exam. (25% of the total mark.)

The Reading and Writing exam is a 1hour 30 minute. (50% of the total mark)

The Listening exam is 40 minutes and 5 minutes of reading time. (25% of the total mark).

Further information: <https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/demo/en/qualifications/edexcel-international-gcses-and-edexcel-certificates/international-gcse-german-2017.html>



Music

Specification: Cambridge IGCSE Music (9-1) (0978)

Music is a specialist IGCSE and, for those who have some musical skill, it is an enjoyable course. There are three parts to the examination - listening, composing and performing.

Assessment objectives

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

Listening

- Aural awareness, perception and discrimination in relation to Western music
- Identifying and commenting on a range of music from cultures in different countries
- Knowledge and understanding of one world focus from a non-Western culture and one Western focus

Performing

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

Composing

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

Assessment at a glance

Cambridge IGCSE Music candidates take **three** compulsory components:

Listening (Examination)

Written examination based on CD recordings supplied by Cambridge, 70 marks, 40%

Performing (Coursework)

Two prepared performances, one individual and one ensemble, 50 marks, 30%

Composing (Coursework)

Two contrasting compositions, 50 marks, 30%

During the course you will be expected to take part in extra-curricular music activities and contribute to choir, band and/or orchestra performances.

If you enjoy making music and want to develop your musical talent, this is the course for you.

Further information: www.cambridgeinternational.org/programmes-and-qualifications/cambridge-igcse-music-9-1-0978/

Physical Education

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Specification: Edexcel GCSE Physical Education (1PE0)

This GCSE in Physical Education will equip students with the knowledge, understanding, skills and values they need to develop and maintain their performance in physical activities. Students will also gain understanding of how physical activities benefit health, fitness and well-being.

GCSE PE provides a unique opportunity for students to undertake a rigorous qualification that will test them mentally and physically, and will be looked upon favourably by future employers and further education establishments.

Simply being good at various sports does not mean that a student will achieve a high grade. 60% of the qualification is assessed via a written examination covering a diverse range of topics (see below). However, an ability to perform to a good standard across both individual and team sports is essential, making up 30% of the qualification.

Component 1: Fitness and Body Systems – externally assessed via written examination (36% of qualification)

- Topic 1: Applied anatomy and physiology
- Topic 2: Movement analysis
- Topic 3: Physical training
- Topic 4: Use of data

Component 2: Health and Performance - externally assessed via written examination (24% of qualification)

- Topic 1: Health, fitness and well-being
- Topic 2: Sport psychology
- Topic 3: Socio-cultural influences
- Topic 4: Use of data

Component 3: Practical Performance – internally assessed (30% of qualification)

- The assessment consists of students performing **three** physical activities from a set list.
- One must be a **team** activity.
- One must be an **individual** activity.
- The final activity can be a **free** choice.

Component 4: Personal Exercise Programme - internally assessed (10% of qualification)

- Students must plan, perform and evaluate a personal exercise programme

Further information: <http://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-gcses/physical-education-2016.html>



Psychology

Specification: Edexcel GCSE Psychology (1PS0)

Why study Psychology?

The importance of being able to understand human behaviour is beneficial in every aspect of life. Psychology is an ever increasingly popular subject with students as it prepares us for understanding ourselves and others. The subject material is fascinating; the methodological process – scientific. Psychology is therefore beneficial for all who desire to understand human behaviour better and for all those who want to work with people in whatever capacity. The opportunities for those who study psychology are endless. There are very rewarding careers relating specifically to psychology such as clinical psychology; educational psychology; occupational psychology and sport psychology. An understanding of psychology is also beneficial in careers such as teaching; management; the caring professions; government in fact any career that involves working with people.

Paper One

Topic 1: How do we develop? This topic focuses on developmental psychology.

Topic 2: How does your memory work? This topic focuses on cognitive psychology.

Topic 3: How would psychological problems affect you? This topic focuses on mental health issues.

Topic 4: How does your brain affect you? This topic focuses on biological psychology.

Topic 5: How do others affect you? This topic focuses on social psychology.

Paper one constitutes 55% of the GCSE course. Assessment is through an external written exam and lasts 1 hour and 45 minutes.

Paper Two

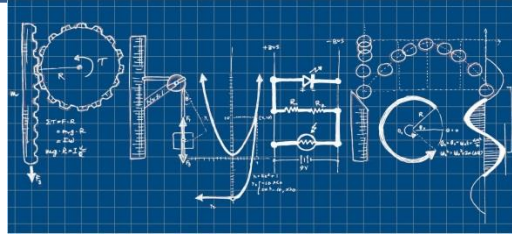
Topic 6: Why do people become criminals? This topic focuses on criminal psychology.

Topic 7: Sleep and Dreaming. This topic looks at the reasons why we sleep and dream.

Topic 8: How do you carry out psychological research? This topic focuses on the research methods and maths skills needed in psychology.

Paper two constitutes 45% of the GCSE course. Assessment is through an external written exam and lasts 1 hour and 20 minutes.

Further information: <http://qualifications.pearson.com/content/demo/en/qualifications/edexcel-gcses/psychology-2017.html>

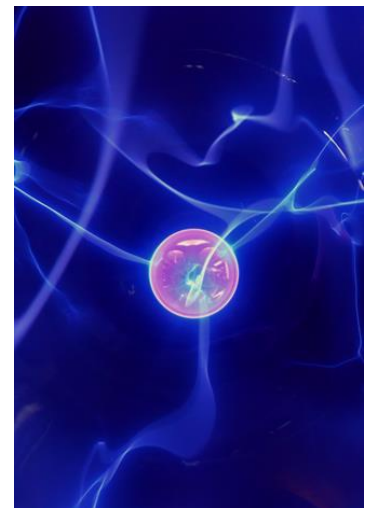


Specification: Cambridge IGCSE Physics (9-1) (0972)

Course Aims:

The Physics IGCSE course enables students to:

- better understand the technological world, with an informed interest in scientific matters
- acquire knowledge and understanding of the concepts, principles and skills needed in Physics and how to use them in new and changing situations
- better understand the influence and limitations placed on scientific study by society, economy, technology, ethics, the community and the environment
- appreciate the importance of accurate experimental work and the scientific method.
- develop relevant attitudes, such as a concern for accuracy and precision, objectivity, integrity, enquiry, initiative and inventiveness
- Select, organise and present information clearly and logically, using appropriate scientific terms and conventions
- Prepare for more advanced courses in Physics and for other courses which require them to have knowledge of Physics



Course Overview:

As well as a focus on Physics, the IGCSE Physics syllabus enables students to better understand the technological world in which they live, and take an informed interest in science and scientific developments. Students learn about the basic principles of Physics through a mix of theoretical and practical studies. Students also develop an understanding of the scientific skills essential for further study at A Level and which are also useful in everyday life.

Course Assessment:

Paper 2	Paper 4	Paper 5
<p>Extended Multiple choice 45 minutes. Weighted at 30% of total available marks.</p>	<p>Extended theory paper. 1 hour 15 minutes. Weighted at 50% of total available marks.</p>	<p>Practical Test. 1 hour 15 minutes. Weighted at 20% of total available marks.</p>

Further Information:

www.cambridgeinternational.org/programmes-and-qualifications/cambridge-igcse-physics-9-1-0972/

Religious Studies (RS)

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Specification: AQA GCSE Religious Studies A (8062)

Religious Studies is an attractive option if you are interested in studying the fundamental questions which all human beings ask: “What is the point of being alive?”, “Who is God?”, “Why do we suffer?”, “What makes something right or wrong?” and “What rights do animals and humans have?”

The subject gets to grips with people’s real lives, what they believe and what makes them act as they do. Religious Studies will appeal to you if you enjoy asking questions and are thoughtful enough to want to understand the deeply held convictions of others and to examine your own prejudices, assumptions and beliefs.

At St. Andrew’s we study the AQA GCSE Religious Studies course which was remodelled for first teaching in September 2016. You will consider the main Christian teachings on key philosophical and ethical questions and then compare and contrast them with Islamic belief. You will be encouraged to form your own opinion and critically evaluate it in the light of historic religious teachings.

Religious Studies will be assessed by two examinations at the end of Year 11. The examinations will involve a range of questions, including opportunities for extended answers to essay questions. There will be no coursework. Through studying the course you will acquire essential skills of debate, analysis and communication which will serve you well in the future.

This course provides a solid foundation for a range of future career options. Students studying Religious Studies are equipped to go on to study a wide range of disciplines including medicine, journalism and teaching, through to personnel, administration, law or commercial options.

Further Information:

<https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/religious-studies/gcse/religious-studies-a-8062/specification-at-a-glance>





Specification: CIE IGCSE Sociology (0495)

Sociology is the scientific study of society. If you have ever wondered why a problem in society is caused then studying sociology will be the answer. By looking at different groups of people within a society a sociologist will learn how to analyse and evaluate why some groups are privileged and others disadvantaged. Looking at sociology in a global context is attractive in a consistently developing multicultural world.

Modules studied in Year 10 (Paper 1)	Modules Studied in Year 11 (Paper 2)
<p>Unit 1: Theory and methods How do different sociologists interpret society? How do sociologists study society? What types of information and data do sociologists use? Which is the most effective way to discover the 'truth' behind society?</p> <p>Unit 3: Social inequality What is social stratification? What are the main features of social inequality and how are these created? What is poverty? Why is the world so unequal?</p>	<p>Unit 5: Education What is the function of education? Which is the best education system? Do schools have any hidden priorities? What factors help to explain differences in educational achievement?</p> <p>Unit 6: Crime Does crime have a function in society? Why do people commit crime? How do we measure and control crime? Are we born criminal or are we socialised into it?</p>

Students will be required to conduct their own research and report findings, question the statistics they find in the media and constantly question the phenomena they find in society.

Further information: <http://www.cie.org.uk/programmes-and-qualifications/cambridge-igcse-sociology-0495/>



Learning Success

Please note that this is a non-examined subject and does not lead to a IGCSE qualification, but is designed to support performance in the student's other subjects.

Some students with specific learning challenges may benefit from doing one fewer IGCSE and attending the Learning Success Course, run by the Learning Success Centre for three lessons a week. We will be operating a support programme which will include:

- Additional subject support (English, Maths and Science)
- Revision strategies
- Training in note taking, skim/ scan reading, academic essay writing, grammar
- Help with organisation and planning
- Working Memory skills
- Study skills
- Exam technique
- Use of Assistive Technology to support learning

If you think this may be a good option for your child, then please discuss this with Mrs. Carol Heath-Smith, the Head of the Learning Success Centre.

Options Form: Preliminary Choices Easter Term 2019

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Name of Student		Boarding House	
Parent/guardian signature		Date	

Please note at this stage you are being asked for your **preferred subjects** to help inform option blocks for next year. You will be given the option blocks and asked to make confirmed choices from these option blocks at the end of the Easter Term.

All students will study English Language, English Literature and Mathematics and then need to make **six option choices plus three reserves** from the following subjects:

Art & Design, Biology, Business Studies, Chemistry, Computing, Design & Technology, Drama, Economics, Geography, History, ICT, MFL: French, MFL: German, MFL: Spanish, Music, Physical Education, Physics, Psychology, Religious Studies, Sociology and Learning Success (non-examined subject).

You should list your choices in order of preference. If it is not possible to offer all six of the main choices the first possible reserve choices will be substituted instead.

1		6	
2			
3		Reserve 1	
4		Reserve 2	
5		Reserve 3	

I have chosen at least two of Biology, Chemistry and Physics (All three science GCSEs are required if you wish to study any science subject at A level)	
I have not chosen both Computer Science and ICT (there is no requirement to choose either, but both cannot be chosen together)	
I have not chosen both Business Studies and Economics (there is no requirement to choose either but both cannot be chosen together)	

- This form should be returned to Mr. Draper by Sunday 24th February. Alternatively you can email your choices directly to Mr. Draper (deputysenioracademic@turimail.co.ke)
- Paper returns should be signed by a parent/guardian. Electronic returns should be sent from the parent/guardian's e-mail address.