



KS4 SUBJECT CHOICES

Park House English School
2019-2020

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Examination board: EdExcel
Syllabus: English First Language



The Edexcel IGCSE in English Language (Specification A) is designed for use in schools and colleges as a two-year course. This specification includes a wide range of reading and writing. The reading requirements of the course are covered in the Edexcel Anthology for IGCSE English Language (A) and IGCSE English Literature, for use throughout the course and in the examination.

AIMS

- To develop students' understanding of the spoken word and the capacity to participate effectively in a variety of speaking and listening activities
 - To develop the ability to read, understand and respond to material from a variety of sources; to recognise and appreciate themes and attitudes and the ways in which writers achieve their effects
- To develop the ability to construct and convey meaning in written language, matching style to audience and purpose.

ASSESSMENT

- Single tier
 - 100% examination option
 - Grading 9 to 1
- Assessment opportunities in both January and June examination series
- Provides a sound foundation for progression to AS and Advanced GCE in English Language, English Literature or English Literature and Language, or equivalent qualifications.

PREREQUISITE

English Language is compulsory, but students should be prepared to do the necessary extra work, including reading, required to reach the highest standards.



Park House
English School

ENGLISH LITERATURE

Examination board: EdExcel
Syllabus: English Literature



The Edexcel IGCSE in English Literature is designed for use in schools and colleges as a two-year course. A selection of prose, drama and poetry from around the world allows teachers a wide choice of set texts. The examination questions have been designed to allow all students to make a personal, informed response to the texts studied.

AIMS

- To engage with and develop the ability to read, understand and respond to a wide range of literary texts from around the world
- To develop an appreciation of the ways in which authors achieve their effects and develop the skills necessary for literary study
- To explore through literature the cultures of their own and other societies
- To find enjoyment in reading literature and understand its influence on individuals and societies.

ASSESSMENT

- Single tier
- 100% examination
- Grading 9 to 1
- Assessment opportunities in both January and June examination series
- Provides progression to AS and Advanced GCE in English Literature, or equivalent qualifications.

PREREQUISITE

English Literature is compulsory for all students in Year 11.



Park House
English School

ENGLISH 2ND LANGUAGE

Examination board: EdExcel
Syllabus: English as a 2nd Language



AIMS

To develop the ability to use written and spoken English effectively for the purpose of practical communication.

CONTENT

Students will study a range of English techniques, both written and oral. The written assessment will require students to be proficient in a range of writing skills, including summary, comprehension, articles and letters.

Students will also be required to have highly developed speed reading skills and listening skills.

There is a compulsory oral examination, which tests the ability to talk about a topic clearly and concisely, under examination conditions.

ASSESSMENT

Assessment takes place over 3 papers. The written examination is a 2-hour examination, testing writing skills such as comprehension, summary and extended writing skills. The listening examination, which lasts approximately 45 minutes, requires highly developed listening and understanding. There is also a test of the ability to speak clearly in the oral examination.



Park House
English School

MATHEMATICS

Examination board: CIE
Syllabus: Mathematics, Year 9 to 11



AIMS

The main aims of the IGCSE Mathematics course are to develop the students' mathematical knowledge in a way which encourages confidence and provides satisfaction and enjoyment; and also to create a foundation appropriate to their further study of Mathematics and of other disciplines.

CONTENT

The course focuses on three main areas:

1. Number & Algebra
2. Shape, Space and Measure
3. Handling Data & Probability

The course is split into two levels: Extended and Core.

BRIDGING COURSE

Once students complete their GCSE we then run the A-Level bridging course. This is to assist students taking the Cambridge IGCSE Extended mathematics course to further strengthen and consolidate their IGCSE mathematics. To provide a bridge in order to help students with the transition from IGCSE to A level mathematics.

There is no examination in the bridging course.

ASSESSMENT

Core Curriculum Candidates sit two papers:

Paper 1 is a 1 hour paper consisting of short-answer questions and has a weighting of 35%.

Paper 3 is a 2 hour paper consisting of structured questions and has a weighting of 65%.

(Candidates who have followed the Core curriculum are eligible for the award of grades C to G only.)

Extended Curriculum Candidates also sit two papers: Paper 2 is a 1 hour 30 minute paper consisting of short-answer questions and has a weighting of 35%.

Paper 4 is a 2 hour 30 minute paper consisting of structured questions and has a weighting of 65%.

ADDITIONAL MATHEMATICS

Examination board: CIE
Syllabus: Mathematics, Year 10 to 11



AIMS

To build upon IGCSE mathematics and provide the most able students with an additional level of challenge and a second IGCSE in mathematics. The Additional Mathematics syllabus is intended for high ability candidates who are likely to achieve Grade A* in the Cambridge IGCSE Mathematics examination.

CONTENT

The course focuses on a selection of A level mathematics topics including functions, polynomials, sets, matrices, surds and indices, logarithmic and exponential functions, trigonometry, circular functions, simultaneous equations, permutations and combinations and trigonometry.

ASSESSMENT

Curriculum Candidates sit two papers.

Paper 1 is a 2 hour paper consisting of 10–12 questions of various lengths and has a weighting of 50%.

Paper 2 is a 2 hour paper consisting of 10–12 questions of various lengths and has a weighting of 50%.

The curriculum objectives are assessed at one level only (Extended). As for Extended level syllabuses in other subjects, Grades A* to E will be available.

SCIENCE

Examination board: EdExcel
Syllabus: IGCSE Biology, Chemistry, Physics



AIMS

- Acquire a systematic body of scientific knowledge and facts, and an understanding of scientific concepts, principles, themes and patterns
- Appreciate the practical nature of science, acquiring experimental skills based on correct and safe laboratory techniques
- Appreciate the importance of accurate experimental work to scientific method and reporting
- Sustain and develop an enjoyment of, and interest in, the scientific world
- Appreciate the significance of science in wider personal, social, environmental, economic and technological contexts, and consider ethical issues

CONTENT

Physics content:
Forces and motion; Electricity; Waves; Energy resources and energy transfers; Solids, liquids and gases; Magnetism and electromagnetism; Radioactivity and particles; Astrophysics

Biology content:
The nature and variety of living organisms; Structure and functions in living organisms; Reproduction and inheritance; Ecology and the environment; Use of biological resources

Chemistry content:
Principles of chemistry; Inorganic chemistry; Physical chemistry; Organic chemistry

ASSESSMENT

For each subject:

Paper 1: 2-hour paper; core material – 61.1% 110 marks available

Paper 2: 1 hour 10-minute paper; extended material – 38.9% 70 marks available



Park House
English School

SCIENCE

Examination board: EdExcel
Syllabus: IGCSE Science (Double Award)



Students will study the three sciences, biology, chemistry and physics in Years 10 and 11. At the end of Year 11 the students will sit three papers, one in each of the disciplines. They will then receive a double IGCSE award which reflects their average performance in these subject areas. This route is suitable for pupils who are not sure they want to study A level science however, want to leave the option for doing so open.

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- Learn about unifying patterns and themes in science and use them in new and changing situations
- Acquire knowledge and understanding of scientific facts, terminology, concepts, principles and practical techniques
 - Apply the principles and concepts of science, including those related to the applications of science, to different contexts
- Evaluate scientific information, making judgements on the basis of this information
- Appreciate the practical nature of science, developing experimental and investigative skills based on correct and safe laboratory techniques
- Analyse, interpret and evaluate data and experimental methods, drawing conclusions that are consistent with evidence from experimental activities and suggesting possible improvements and further investigations
- Prepare for more advanced courses in science and for other courses that require knowledge of science.

ASSESSMENT

For each subject:

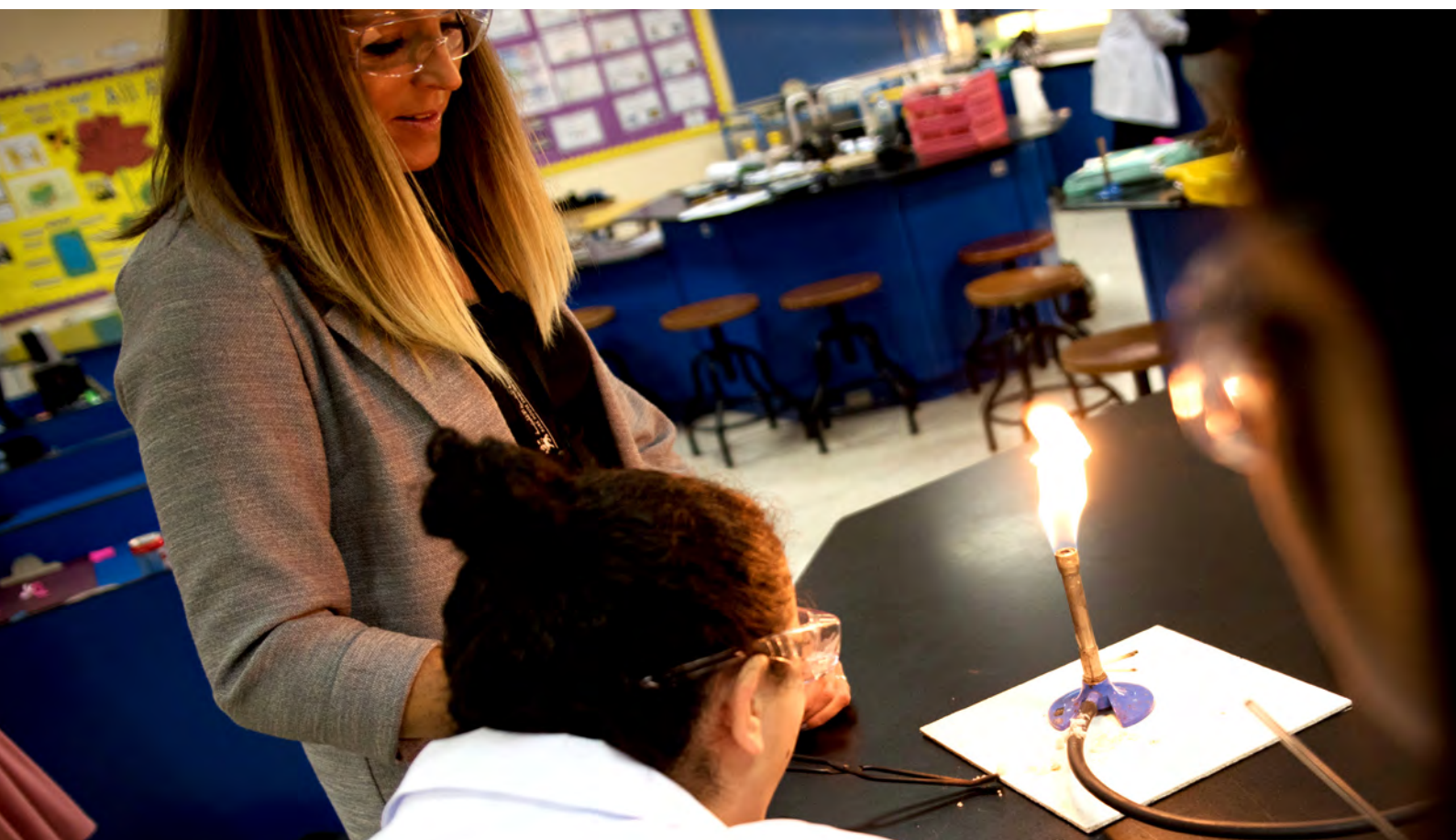
Paper 1: 2-hour paper;
core material – 33.3% 110
marks available



Park House
English School

SCIENCE

Examination board: EdExcel
Syllabus: IGCSE Science (Single Award)



Students will study the three sciences, biology, chemistry and physics in Years 10 and 11. At the end of year 11 the students will sit three papers, one in each of the disciplines. They will then receive a single IGCSE award which reflects their average performance in these three subject areas. The amount of content studied will be approximately half that required for the Double Award Science course. This course is aimed at students who do not wish to study A level science and want to spend more time learning basic science. The examination is not as long and reflects the content learnt.

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- Learn about unifying patterns and themes in science and use them in new and changing situations
- acquire knowledge and understanding of scientific facts, terminology, concepts, principles and practical techniques
- Apply the principles and concepts of science, including those related to the applications of science, to different contexts
- Recognise the importance of accurate experimental work and reporting as scientific methods in science
- Analyse, interpret and evaluate data and experimental methods, drawing conclusions that are consistent with evidence from experiments
- Select, organise and present relevant information clearly and logically using appropriate vocabulary, definitions and conventions
- Develop a logical approach to problem solving in a wider context
- Select and apply appropriate areas of mathematics relevant to science as set out under each topic.

ASSESSMENT

For each subject:

Paper 1: 1 hour 10-minute paper; core material
– 33.3% 60 marks



Park House
English School

ARABIC 1ST LANGUAGE

Examination board: CIE
Syllabus: Arabic First Language



Candidates should be first language Arabic speakers.

AIMS

The main aims of the syllabus are to enable students to communicate accurately, appropriately and effectively in writing Arabic; to enable students to understand and respond appropriately to what they read; to encourage students to enjoy and appreciate the variety of language.

CONTENT

In the Reading section, candidates will be assessed on their ability to understand and collate explicit meanings; select, analyse and evaluate what is relevant to specific purposes and understand how writers achieve effects.

In the Writing section, candidates will be assessed on their ability to order and present facts, ideas and opinions; and also to make accurate and effective use of paragraphs, grammatical structures, sentences, punctuation and spelling.

ASSESSMENT

All candidates take Components 1 and 2 and are eligible for the award of A* to G.

Component 1 is a 2 hour Reading exam with a weighting of 50%.

Component 2 is a 2 hour Writing exam with a weighting of 50%.



Park House
English School

ARABIC 2ND LANGUAGE

Examination board: CIE
Syllabus: Arabic Second Language



AIMS

The main aims of the syllabus are to enable students to use the language effectively for purposes of practical communication within the country of residence, where appropriate, and in all the countries where Arabic is spoken; to offer insights into the culture and civilisation of the countries where Arabic is spoken; and to develop a fuller awareness of the nature of language and language learning.

CONTENT

The course is divided into 3 main sections: reading and directed writing; speaking, and continuous writing.

The reading and directed writing section focuses on the candidate's comprehension skills.

The speaking section focuses on the candidate's oral skills.

The continuous writing section tests the candidate's ability to use a wider variety of idiom, vocabulary, structure and appropriate tense.

ASSESSMENT

All candidates take 3 papers and are eligible for grades A* to G.

- Reading and directed writing is a 1 hour paper with a weighting of 33%. 45 marks
- Speaking is a 15 minute oral exam with a weighting of 33%. 100 marks
- Continuous writing is a 1 hour paper with a weighting of 33%. 50 marks



Park House
English School

ART

Examination board: EdExcel
Syllabus: Art (9 to 1)



The GCSE in Art, Craft and Design is a broad and flexible course that requires students to develop an appreciation of the creative process through a practical response, using a variety of two-dimensional and three-dimensional media, materials, techniques and processes. When undertaking work in Art, Craft and Design, students are expected to develop the knowledge, understanding and skills outlined. All knowledge, understanding and skills will be assessed in both components.

AIMS

The course is primarily concerned with the development of a visual language, emphasising the skills rooted in the senses of sight, touch, feeling and intellect. It encourages the ability to observe, select and interpret with imagination and understanding.

CONTENT

The course content will pay particular attention to drawing and painting but may also include media such as sculpture, printmaking, digital photography, textiles, ceramics and more. Elements of Art History, Culture and Theory will be developed.

ASSESSMENT

The Pearson Edexcel Level 1/ Level 2 GCSE (9–1) in Art and Design consists of two internally assessed and externally moderated components

Component 1:
Personal Portfolio (internally set)

Component 2:
Externally Set Assignment.

Students must complete all assessment in April/May in any single year.

BUSINESS STUDIES

Examination board: CIE
Syllabus: Business Studies



AIMS

- To develop and apply knowledge and understanding of the main types of business and current business issues.
- To understand the organisation, finance and operation of different types of business.
- Distinguish between facts and opinions and be able to make judgements.

CONTENT

- Understanding Business Activity
 - People in Business
 - Marketing
 - Operations Management
 - Financial Information and Decisions
 - External Influences on Business Activity

ASSESSMENT

Paper 1: Short Answer/Data Response Questions
(1 hour, 30 minutes)

Paper 2: Case Study
(1 hour, 30 minutes)

There is no choice of questions.



Park House
English School

COMPUTER SCIENCE

Examination board: CIE
Syllabus: Computer Science



AIMS

1. Computational thinking, that is thinking about what can be computed and how, and includes consideration of the data required
2. Understanding of the main principles of solving problems by using computers
3. Understanding that every computer system is made up of sub-systems, which in turn consist of further sub-systems
4. Understanding of the component parts of computer systems and how they interrelate, including software, data, hardware, communications and people
5. Skills necessary to apply understanding to solve computer-based problems using a high-level programming language.

CONTENT

Theory of Computer Science

1. Data representation
2. Communication and Internet Technologies
3. Hardware and Software
4. Security
5. Ethics

Practical Problem Solving and Programming

1. Algorithm Design and Problem Solving
2. Programming
3. Databases

ASSESSMENT

Paper 1:

Theory – (60%) Short answers and structured questions (1.45hrs)

Paper 2:

Problem Solving and Programming – (40%) Short answers and structured questions based on pre-release material (1.45hrs)



Park House
English School

DRAMA

Examination board: CIE
Syllabus: Drama



AIMS

To develop candidates' understanding and enjoyment of drama through practical and theoretical study

CONTENT

Students work with:

- extended extracts from published plays
- stimuli (short titles, poems, pictures, songs, historical events, stories) for devising dramatic pieces their own choice of dramatic repertoire
- dramatic material of their own devising

Students develop their individual and group performance skills, the demonstration of which forms part of the final assessment.

ASSESSMENT

Exam (40%) 2hrs 30 mins

A range of short and long answers on an extract from a play and on a drama devised and performed by the students.

Coursework (60%)

- 1 individual performance based on an extract from a play
- 1 group performance based on an extract from a play
- 1 group performance based on an original devised piece



Park House
English School

ECONOMICS

Examination board: CIE
Syllabus: Economics



AIMS

- To develop a knowledge and understanding of Economic terminology and principles and basic economic theory.
- To develop basic Economic numeracy and literacy and simple data handling.
- To distinguish between facts and opinions in Economic issues.
- To employ Economic skills to better understand the world in which we live.
- To develop an understanding of both developed and developing countries and the relationships between them.

CONTENT

- The Basic Economic Problem
- The Allocation of Resources
- The Individual as Producer, Consumer and Borrower
- The Private Firm as Producer and Employer.
- The Role of Government in an Economy
 - Economic Indicators
- Developed and Developing Economies
 - International Trade

ASSESSMENT

Paper 1:
Multiple Choice (45 minutes)

Paper 2:
Structured Questions
(2 hours 15 minutes)

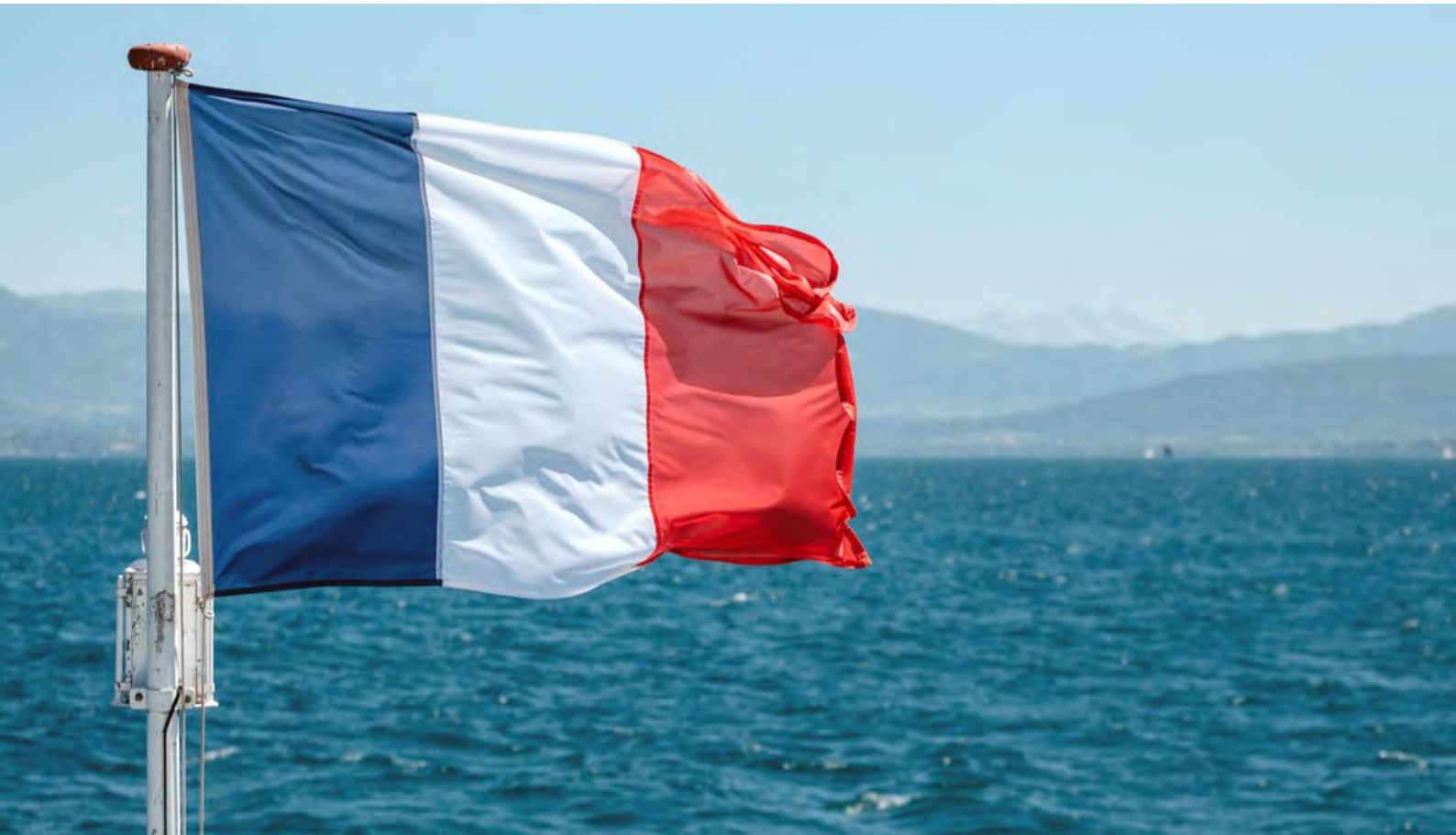


Park House
English School

FRENCH

Examination board: CIE

Syllabus: French



AIMS

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

The syllabus also aims to offer insights into the culture and civilisation of countries where the language is spoken. Students who achieve grades A* to C are well prepared to follow Cambridge International AS and A level in the same language.

CONTENT

The course follows a two years programme using a text book called "Dynamique".

All students will study the following units:

Unit 1: Personal information, relationships, sports and hobbies

Unit 2: House, home life and towns
Unit 3: School life and daily routine

Unit 4: Holidays and travel
Unit 5: Meals, health and fitness, illness and addictions

Unit 6: Home town, local environment and public transport
Unit 7: Future plans: study and work

Unit 8: Going out, leisure activities, cafes and restaurants

Unit 9: Shopping fashion

Unit 10: Media and entertainment

ASSESSMENT

Paper 1: Listening (45 minutes) with a weighting of 25%.

Externally assessed

Paper 2: Reading (1 hour) with a weighting of 25%.

Externally assessed

Paper 3: Speaking (15 minutes) with a weighting of 25%.

Internally assessed/Externally moderated.

Paper 4: Writing (1 hour) with a weighting of 25%.

Externally assessed



Park House
English School

GEOGRAPHY

Examination board: CIE
Syllabus: Geography



AIMS

The aims are to encourage candidates to develop:

- an understanding of location on a local, regional and global scale
- an awareness of the characteristics, distribution and processes affecting physical and human environments
 - an understanding of why and how people interact with each other and with their environment
 - an awareness of the contrasting opportunities and constraints presented by different environments and an appreciation of and concern for the environment
- an appreciation of the earth including its people, places, landscapes and natural processes

CONTENT

Theme 1: Population and Settlement (including Migration and Urbanisation)

Theme 2: The Natural Environment (Tectonics, Rivers, Coasts, Weather, Climate)

Theme 3: Economic Development (Development, Food Production, Industry, Tourism, Energy, Water, and Environmental Issues)

Included within some themes: Geographical Skills, Fieldwork Investigation and Fieldtrips

ASSESSMENT

Paper 1 is worth 45% of the IGCSE.

Pupils answer three questions. The paper has three sections and each section is based on Themes 1, 2 or 3. Candidates must answer one question from each section.

Paper 2: is worth 27.5% of the IGCSE. Pupils answer all the questions. The paper is based on interpretation and analysis of geographical information, decision making and the application of graphical and other techniques as appropriate. This paper is skills based and includes map skills.

Paper 4 is an Alternative to Coursework and is worth 27.5% of the IGCSE. Pupils answer two compulsory questions. Field work scenarios used for the two questions will be taken from different aspects of the Syllabus. The questions involve an appreciation of a range of techniques used in fieldwork studies.

HISTORY

Examination board: CIE
Syllabus: History



AIMS

The History IGCSE syllabus looks at some of the major international issues of the twentieth century, as well as covering the history of particular regions in more depth. The emphasis is on both historical knowledge and on the skills required for historical research. Students learn about the nature of cause and effect, continuity and change, similarity and difference and find out how to use and understand historical evidence as part of their studies. IGCSE History will stimulate any student already interested in the past providing a basis for further studies and also encouraging a lifelong interest in the subject.

CONTENT

- The Origins and Course of WWI, 1905-1918
- Changes in Medicine, c1848-1948
 - Germany, 1918-1945
 - A World Divided: Superpower Relations, 1943-1972

ASSESSMENT

Paper 1:
1.5 hours (50% of total mark)
One question on Germany and one question on Superpower Relations

Paper 2:
1.5 hours (50% of total mark)
One question on WWI and one question on Medicine



Park House
English School



AIMS

The aims of this curriculum are to develop:

1. Knowledge of ICT including new and emerging technologies
2. Autonomous and discerning use of ICT
3. Skills to enhance work produced in a range of contexts
4. Skills to analyse, design, implement, test and evaluate ICT systems
5. Skills to consider the impact of current and new technologies on methods of working in the outside world and on social, economic, ethical and moral issues
6. ICT-based solutions to solve problems
7. The ability to recognise potential risks when using ICT, and use safe, secure and responsible practice.

CONTENT

Theory:

1. Types and components of computer systems
2. Input and output devices
3. Storage devices and media
4. Networks and the effects of using them
5. The effects of using IT
6. ICT applications
7. The system life cycle
8. Safety and security

Practical Skills:

1. Document Production
2. Data Manipulation
3. Presentations
4. Data Analysis
5. Web Authoring

ASSESSMENT

Paper 1: Theory - 40%
2 hour written paper

Paper 2: Practical – 30%
Document Production, Data Manipulation and Presentations (2.5 hrs)

Paper 3: Practical – 30%
Data Analysis and Website Authoring (2.5hrs)



MUSIC

Examination board: CIE
Syllabus: Music



AIMS

The aim of this course is to listen to, perform and compose music, encouraging aesthetic and emotional development, self-discipline and most importantly, creativity. As a result, learners enhance their appreciation and enjoyment of music, an achievement that forms an ideal foundation for future study and enhances life-long musical enjoyment.

CONTENT

- Musical elements
- Structures and terminology
 - Themes and their transformations
- Key centres and modulations
 - Score markings, performance directions, instrumental effects
- General background information about contexts and genres
- Identification of chords
 - Performance studies
 - Instruments
 - Composition
 - Transposition

ASSESSMENT

The assessment is divided into three components:

Listening: 40%
(1 hour 15 minute exam)

Performance: 30%
(course work)

Composing: 30%
(course work)



Park House
English School



AIMS

An IGCSE is offered for pupils with a desire to develop their practical and theoretical knowledge of sports, health-related fitness and sport within society.

CONTENT

- Football
- Softball
- Basketball
- Cross Country
- Volleyball
- Personal Survival
 - Netball
- Track & Field
- Badminton
- Swimming

ASSESSMENT

Written Paper (Paper 1) - 40%
Component 1 is a written paper, in two sections:

Section A consists of short answer questions,

Section B has three structured questions, covering the three topic areas of:

- Factors affecting performance
- Health, Safety and training
- Reasons and opportunities for participation in Physical Education.

Practical Work (Paper 2)
Planning, Performing and Evaluating - 50%
Analysing and Improving - 10%

The objectives of these exams are to test the skills and abilities:

- Necessary for effective participation in a selected range of physical activities.
- To assess, interpret and evaluate situations related to a selected range of activities.



SOCIOLOGY

Examination board: CIE
Syllabus: Sociology



AIMS

The aims of IGCSE Sociology are for students to develop:

1. An awareness, knowledge and understanding of human societies.
2. An understanding of sociological method, including the collection, analysis and interpretation of data.
3. An introduction to sociological concepts, theories and research findings.
4. An awareness of the range and limitations of sociological theory and research.
5. An understanding of continuity and change in social life.
6. A critical awareness of social, economic and political processes, and their effects.
7. A capacity for the critical evaluation of different forms of information and evidence.

CONTENT

All students will study the following units;

Year 10

Unit 1 – Theory and Methods

Unit 2 – Culture, Identity and Socialisation

Unit 3 – Social Inequality

Year 11

Unit 4 – Family

Unit 5 – Education

Unit 6 – Crime and Deviance

ASSESSMENT

Paper 1 (2 hours)

Students answer one compulsory question on Unit 1 – Theory and Methods and one other question from Units 2-3.

Paper 1 is worth 60%.

Paper 2 (1¾ hours) – Students answer two optional questions from Units 4-6.

Paper 2 is worth 40%.



Park House
English School



IGCSE OPTIONS

You must choose four subjects, each in a different option block.
You will be emailed the form to be completed no later than
Thursday 7th March 2019.

OPTION A

Sociology
Economics
Geography
Art

OPTION B

French
Geography
Arabic
Business Studies
Music
Spanish

OPTION C

ICT
Computer Science
Business Studies
Sociology
Drama

OPTION D

ICT
Business Studies
History
P.E.
Computer Science



CONTACT DETAILS

If you would like to discuss any of the information in this booklet further, then please contact us using the information below:

General Enquires: info@parkhouseschool.com

Key Stage 4 Leader: Sophia Sheridan – sophia.sheridan@parkhouseschool.com

Tel: +974 4468 3800

Web: <https://parkhouseschool.com/>