
GCSE

HANDBOOK

FINE ART GCSE

(AQA 8202)

Exam Paper codes: Component 1: 8202/1 and **Component 2:** 8202/2

Percentage in examinations / coursework:

The GCSE in Art is a two year course with 60% of the marks going to **coursework** and 40% for the final examination.

Exam structure:

The Coursework, (Component 1) is called the PORTFOLIO, and consists of:

One Sustained Project, a creative journey from initial idea to final outcome plus

A Selection of Further Work undertaken during the student's course of study.

This work is marked as a whole and needs to satisfy AQA's four assessment objectives which broadly cover the following: drawing from observation, developing ideas, experimenting with different media, making critical judgements, analyzing the work of other artists, and bringing work to a conclusion.

These criteria are assessed on quality and quantity. The Art Department aims to meet these objectives at the same time as encouraging an individual and creative response in all pupils. Art at this level can be a rewarding and creative activity that complements other subjects in the curriculum as well as adding to and balancing the list of qualifications for further study.

The Exam (Component 2) is called the EXTERNALLY SET ASSIGNMENT and consists of a choice of questions set by AQA, given out from the 1st January to allow a sketchbook of preparatory work in answer to one chosen question. The preparatory work must meet the assessment criteria. The exam is spread over ten hours, usually on two or three sessions/days in May. The preparation and the ten hour examination are marked as a whole. Although skill is rewarded and some pupils have more natural talent than others in Art, there is still room to enjoy and be creative whatever the level of ability as well as getting good results.

Topics taught: Fine art, drawing and painting.

Skills taught: observation, analysis, perspective, tone, colour, history of painting and sculpture. We also extend into monotype, 3D work, mixed media, and photography and video are also welcome additions in a student's portfolio.

Textbook:

'Story of Art' by E.H. Gombrich, *'The Art Book'* PHAIDON, *'ISMS' Understanding Modern Art* by Sam Phillip, *'50 Modern Artists you should know'* by Thomas Koster Ed. PRESTEL.

Useful websites:

www.tate.org.uk

www.nationalgallery.org.uk

www.vam.ac.uk

Other information:

Art Documentaries BBC, Channel 4.

Workshops in local galleries: Wallace Collection, V & A, Life model workshop in school.

BIOLOGY IGCSE

(Edexcel 4BI1)

Exam codes and exam papers:

- Paper 1 4BI1/1B untiered 2hrs 61.1% of total
- Paper2 4BI1/2B untiered 1hr 15m 38.9% of total

Percentage in examinations: 100%

Exam structure: The course has a straightforward linear, single tier assessment, and the assessment of investigate skills is done through the examinations. There are two externally assessed examinations, taken at the end of the two year course.

Course summary:

- *Structure:* the Edexcel International GCSE in Biology is a linear qualification. Two written examinations must be taken in the same series at the end of the course of study.
- *Content:* relevant, engaging, up to date and of equivalent standard to the GCSE in Biology.
- *Assessment:* untiered, written examinations with questions designed to be accessible to students of all abilities.
- *Approach:* a solid basis for students wishing to progress to the AS and Advanced GCE level or equivalent qualifications, focusing on key biology theory.

Topics taught:

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

Skills taught:

The Biology IGCSE enables students to:

acquire knowledge and understanding of biological facts, concepts and principles • develop an appreciation of the significance of biological facts, concepts and principles and the skills needed for their use in new and changing situations • appreciate the importance of accurate experimental work to scientific method and reporting • form hypotheses and design experiments to test them • sustain and develop an enjoyment of, and interest in, the study of living organisms • evaluate, in terms of their biological knowledge and understanding, the benefits and drawbacks of scientific and technological developments, including those related to social, environmental and economic issues.

Textbook:

Edexcel International GCSE: Biology – ISBN9780435185084

Useful websites: <https://qualifications.pearson.com>

Other information:

Biology is essential for Medicine, Biochemistry and a wide variety of Life Science courses.

CHEMISTRY IGCSE

(Edexcel 4CH1)

Exam codes and exam papers:

- Paper 1 4CH1/1C untiered 2hrs 61.1% of total
- Paper2 4CH1/2C untiered 1hr and 15 min 38.9% of total

Percentage in examinations /coursework

100% in examinations, no coursework.

Exam structure:

The IGCSE in Chemistry comprises TWO externally assessed papers at the end of the class of Seconde. There is no coursework in this specification.

Course summary:

• Learn about the unifying patterns and themes in Chemistry and use them in new and changing situations. • Acquire knowledge and understanding of chemical facts, terminology, concepts, principal and practical techniques. • Apply the principles and concepts of Chemistry, including those related to the applications of Chemistry, to different contexts. • Evaluate chemical information, making judgements on the basis of this information. • Appreciate the practical nature of Chemistry, developing experimental and investigative skills based on the correct and safe laboratory techniques.

Topics taught:

1 Principles of chemistry, 2 Inorganic chemistry, 3 Physical chemistry, 4 Organic chemistry

Skills taught: • 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. • Recognise the importance of accurate experimental work and reporting scientific methods in Chemistry. • 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 chemistry as set out under each topic.

Textbook:

Edexcel international GCSE (9-1) chemistry isbn: 9780435185169

Useful websites:

<https://qualifications.pearson.com>

Other information:

Chemistry is essential and compulsory if students want to undertake Medicine, Dentistry or Veterinary studies.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE GCSE

(AQA 8702 and 8700)

Exam codes and exam papers:

- 8702/1 Shakespeare and the 19th Century novel
- 8702/2 Modern Texts and Poetry
- 8700/1 Explorations in Creative Reading and Writing

- 8700/2 Writer's Viewpoints and Perspectives

Percentage in examinations /coursework:

- 100% examinations - one separate grade each (Levels 9 to 1) for **Language** and **Literature**
- One additional grade (Distinction, Merit or Pass) for a **Spoken Language** assessment

Exam structure:

2 year course

2 x 2 hour examination papers on **Language** and 2 x 2 hour examination papers on **Literature**

Course summary:

- **English Language** at GCSE teaches students skills in critical reading and comprehension, writing and spoken language. Students practice analysing and responding to a range of fiction and non-fiction texts, exploring writers' effects. They also learn how to produce clear, engaging and coherent text themselves.
- **English Literature** at GCSE teaches critical reading skills on a range of literature. Students are expected to effectively explore and compare and contrast themes, characters, style and literary quality in their texts, using accurate Standard English.

Topics taught: Shakespeare, Poetry, 19th century novel, modern text and a range of fiction and non-fiction extracts from 19th, 20th and 21st century.

Skills taught: Assessment objectives (AO) 1 to 8 inclusive.

Textbooks:

- 'OCR English Language' Books 1 and 2
- Heinemann 'An Inspector Calls' by J. B. Priestley
- Scholastic *A Christmas Carol* Charles Dickens
- Cambridge Schools Shakespeare *Macbeth*
- Recommended reading list on school website

Useful websites:

- https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/254498/GCSE_English_literature.pdf
- www.bbc.com/bitesize/subjects/zckw2hv / <https://www.bbc.com/bitesize/subjects/zr9d7ty>

FRENCH IN 3GCSE/YEAR 10 **IGCSE French Foreign Language** **(CIE 0520)**

Exam codes and exam papers:

- Paper 1 - Listening 0520/01
- Paper 2 - Reading 0520/ 02
- Paper 3 - Speaking 0520/ 03
- Paper 4 - Writing 0520/ 04

Topics taught: Topic areas Examination topics:

- A. Everyday activities Home life and school Food, health and fitness

- B. Personal and social life Self, family and personal relationships Holidays and special occasions C
- C. The world around us Home town and local area Natural and made environment People, places and customs
- D. The world of work Continuing education Careers and employment Language and communication in the work place
- E. The international world Tourism at home and abroad Life in other countries and communities World events and issues.

Skills taught: The assessment objectives (AOs) are:

- AO1 Listening
- AO2 Reading
- AO3 Speaking
- AO4 Writing
- AO1 Listening Understand and respond to spoken language
- AO2 Reading Understand and respond to written language
- AO3 Speaking Communicate in speech, showing knowledge of a range and variety of vocabulary, and applying the grammar and structures of the target language accurately
- AO4 Writing Communicate in writing, showing knowledge of a range and variety of vocabulary, and applying the grammar and structures of the target language accurately

Text book/Resources:

Cambridge IGCSE® French Student Book Second Edition - Jayn Witt, Jean-Claude Gilles, Kirsty Thathapudi, Wendy O'Mahony, Virginia March

ISBN: 9781471888793

Published: 31/03/2017

Extent: 256 pages

Websites/Secondary reading:

www.cambridgeinternational.org/programmes-and-qualifications/cambridge-igcse-french-foreign-language-0520

FRENCH IN 2GCSE/YEAR 11

IGCSE French First Language (CIE 0501)

Exam codes and exam papers:

Paper 1: Reading (2 hours), code: 0501/01, 50% of total.

Paper 2: Writing (2 hours), code: 0501/02, 50% of total.

Percentage in examinations /coursework:

100% in examinations, no coursework.

Exam structure:

The IGCSE in French comprises TWO externally assessed papers toward the end of the class of Première. There is no coursework in this specification.

Course summary:

- Learn about the different kind of texts in French, themes and the use of them
- Evaluate their capacities to use French as a first language
- Acquire an excellent knowledge and understanding of French as a first language
- Learn how to analyse two passages and answer two questions on them : a series of comprehension questions based on Passage 1 and a summary to write based on Passage 1 and Passage 2
- Learn how to write two compositions: an argumentative / discursive one and a descriptive or narrative one.

Topics taught:

- Methodology of the comprehension questions and summary
- Methodology of the essays.

Skills taught:

- Analyse and interpret all kind of texts in French
- Select and organise the relevant information in a text and then transform it into their own words, using appropriate vocabulary
- Develop their written skills in French by exercises such as creative writing, study of texts and vocabulary learning.

Textbook:

No textbook.

Useful websites:

<https://education.francetv.fr/matiere/actualite/ce1/marque/1-jour-1-question>
<http://apprendre.tv5monde.com/en>

Other information:

French is compulsory in the British Section of the Lycée Français.

GEOGRAPHY GCSE (AQA 8035)

Exam codes and exam papers:

- Paper 1 - Living with the physical environment (35%)
- Paper 2 - Challenges in the human environment (35%)
- Paper 3 - Geographical Applications (30%)

Percentage in examinations: 100%

Exam structure: Assessment is at the end of 2 years in 3 exams.

Course summary: Course includes both traditional physical and human geography topics and includes 2 practical fieldwork investigations which will be examined in Paper 3 together with a pre-released issue evaluation.

Topics taught: In the first year students will study the Challenge of Natural Hazards, including volcanoes, earthquakes, weather and climate change, the Living World, including ecosystems, tropical rainforests and hot deserts and finally Physical landscapes in the UK.

In the second year we will concentrate on Urban issues and Challenges, the Changing Economic World and

Resource Management.

Skills taught: Practical mapwork skills, using and interpreting different types of maps, graphical skills, investigative skills, numerical and ICT skills.

Textbook: GCSE Geography AQA published by Oxford University Press, series editor: Simon Ross, Nicholas Rowles, David Holmes, Bob Digby ISBN: 978-0-19-836661-4

Students also have access to a digital version of the textbook via Kerboodle.

Useful websites:

- Exam board: www.aqa.org.uk
- BBC News: www.bbc.co.uk/news

GERMAN IGCSE (CIE 7159)

Exams and exams structure: All candidates take four papers.

- Paper 1 - Approximately 45 minutes, Listening 25%, 45 marks - Externally assessed
- Paper 2 - 1 hour, Reading 25%, 45 marks - Externally assessed
- Paper 3 - Approximately 15 minutes, Speaking* 25%, 100 marks, Internally assessed/externally moderated
- Paper 4 - 1 hour, Writing 25%, 50 marks - Externally assessed.

Course summary:

- Develop the ability to communicate effectively using the target language
- Offer insights into the culture and society of countries where the language is spoken
- Develop awareness of the nature of language and language learning
- Encourage positive attitudes towards speakers of other languages and a sympathetic approach to other cultures and civilisations
- Provide enjoyment and intellectual stimulation
- Develop transferable skills (e.g. analysis, memorising, drawing of inferences) to complement other

Topic taught:

The subject content is organised around five broad Topic areas which provide contexts for the acquisition of vocabulary and the study of grammar and structures. Through the study of these Topic areas, candidates gain insight into target language countries and communities. The Topic areas are:

- Everyday activities
- Personal and social life
- The world around us
- The world of work
- The international world.

Skills taught:

Transferable skills e.g. analysis, memorising, drawing of inferences

The Defined Content Booklet

A language-specific *Defined Content Booklet* is provided to guide candidates preparing for the exam

www.cie.org.uk

It includes the following sections:

- *Topic areas*: the list of topic areas from which all textual material used in the examination will be drawn.
- *Minimum Core Vocabulary*: the list of vocabulary to be tested in Sections 1 and 2 of Papers 1 and 2, Role Plays A of Paper 3 and Section 1 of Paper 4.
- *Grammar and structures*: the list of grammar and structures that candidates aiming at grades 1 to 4 are expected to learn, and a supplementary list for those aiming at grades 5 to 9.

Useful website:

www.cie.org.uk/igcse

HISTORY IGCSE (Edexcel 4HI1)

Exam codes and exam papers:

4HI1/01 (Options 3 and 6) and 4HI1/02 (Options A1 and B2)

Percentage in examinations:

100% across two 90 minute exams, externally assessed Each exam paper is worth 60 marks.

Exam structure:

*In 3GCSE students are prepared for Paper 2, Investigation and Breadth Studies: A1- The Origins and Course of the First World War, 1905-18
B2 – Changes in Medicine, c1848 - c1948*

In the second year students will be prepared for Paper 1, Depth Studies: 3 – Germany:

Development of Dictatorship, 1918-45

6 – A World Divided: Superpower Relations, 1943-72

Course summary and skills taught:

Focus of History Teaching:

Teaching relies on discussion and evaluation. Documentaries and film footage are used to embed and embellish knowledge whilst lessons seek to develop students' writing and argumentation skills. Students will gain a broad overview of the twentieth century and, crucially be able to recognise both trends and factors affecting the whole globe. Students will soon grasp ideas like Communism, Nazism and Imperialism; they will further explore developments like Post-Colonialism and regime change. Students will gain an invaluable overview of international social and political dynamics. They will be considerably better informed for having

studied this course and better able to understand the world around them, if not current affairs. This subject sharpens a useful range of skills which are not only useful in Higher Education but are highly prized by employers.

Required Textbooks:

- **3GCSE**

1. [Edexcel International GCSE \(9-1\) History The Origins and Course of the First World War, 1905–18 Student Book](#) (043518542)
2. [Edexcel International GCSE \(9-1\) History Changes in Medicine, c1848–c1948 Student Book](#) (0435185403)

- **2GCSE**

1. [Edexcel International GCSE \(9-1\) History Development of Dictatorship: Germany 1918– 45 Student Book](#) (0435185381)
2. [Edexcel International GCSE \(9-1\) History A World Divided: Superpower Relations, 1943– 72 Student Book](#) (0435185446)

Useful websites:

BBC GCSE Bitesize (Modern World History select topics), Spartacus Schoolnet (History), Johndclare.net, Stuff You Missed in History Class Podcast.

Other information: Potential for day trips, ie Imperial War Museum, Old Operating Theatre.

ITALIAN IGCSE (CIE 7164)

Exam codes and exam papers:

- Paper 1 - Listening (25%) - 7164/01
- Paper 2 - Reading and directed writing (25%) - 7164/02
- Paper 3 - Speaking (25%) - 7164/03
- Paper 4 - Continuous writing (25%) - 7164/04

Percentage in examinations: 100%

Course summary:

The course is designed for those learning Italian as a foreign language and use the language effectively for purposes of practical communication; it is based on the linked languages skills of listening, reading, writing, and speaking. The combination of knowledge and skills in Cambridge IGCSE foreign language syllabuses gives learners a solid foundation for further study. Candidates who achieve grades 9 to 4 are well prepared to follow a wide range of courses including A level EDEXCEL Italian.

Topics taught:

- Everyday activities
- Personal and social life
- The world around us
- The world of work
- The international world

Skills taught:

- Understanding of spoken and written Italian.
- Ability to communicate effectively using the target language
- Knowledge of grammar and how to apply it.
- Offer insights into the culture and society of countries where the language is spoken

- Develop awareness of the nature of language and language learning
- Form a sound base of the skills, language and attitudes required for progression to work or further study.
- Develop some knowledge of, and feel for Italy through relevant articles, documentaries, films, and visiting the country.

This course provides a suitable foundation for further study at AS and A2.

Text book:

Amici – Students Book by Carole Shepherd and Derek Aust *Amici* – Workbook by Carole Shepherd and Derek Aust Various handouts are distributed during the year.

Useful websites:

- www.bbc.co.uk/languages/italia
- www.languagesonline.org.uk
- www.edexcel.org.uk

LATIN GCSE (OCR J282)

Exam codes and exam papers:

01 Language External Assessment, 03 Prose Literature B External Assessment, 05 Verse Literature B External Assessment

Percentage in examinations: 100%

Exam structure:

- J282/01 Language - 1 hour 30mn 50% of the grade

This paper consists of a linked set of Latin Passages for translation and comprehension.

- J282/03 Prose Literature - 1 hour 25% of the grade

This paper consists of questions on a prepared prose text. Students will answer comprehension, critical, and translation questions.

- J282/05 Verse Literature - 1 hour 25% of the grade

This paper consists of questions on a prepared verse text. Students will answer comprehension, critical, and translation questions.

Course summary:

The course covers Latin's Language and Literature. The language paper requires knowledge of grammar and an ability to approach every clause correctly. Grammar and approach are therefore our primary focus.

The literature papers include a book of Virgil's great Aeneid and a selection of prose texts, typically from Caesar or Tacitus. We read, translate, and learn how to analyse the text in preparation for the literary criticism questions that will be asked.

Topics taught:

How to translate a sentence from Latin to English and vice versa; how to comment intelligently and intuitively on ancient texts and to enjoy reading them and the cultures they reflect.

Skills taught:

Important skills the students will acquire are the ability to give a close reading of a text and to pick up on linguistic details. This will stand any pupil in good stead for a career, let's say, in Law or Medicine. They will also learn how to enjoy and reap the rewards of literature that may, at first glance, seem too esoteric and require

too much work.

Textbook: Essential GCSE Latin by John Taylor.

Useful websites: OCR Latin GCSE Web page.

Other information: The majority of pupils have, over the years, achieved the very top grade and 100% in at least one paper, sometimes in all papers.

MATHS IGCSE

(Edexcel 4MA1)

Exam codes and exam papers: 4MA1-1H and 4MA1-2H

Percentage in examinations: 100%

Course summary:

The course aims to provide the skills and knowledge required to achieve the highest possible IGCSE grade for each individual student, while also laying firm foundations for those likely to study Maths at AS or A2 level.

Topics taught: The course covers 4 areas of study.

1. Number
2. Geometry
3. Algebra
4. Probability and Statistics

Skills taught:

In Year 1, students are taught in 3 mixed ability groups of approximately 20 pupils.

In Year 2, students are streamed according to ability and attainment. There is a 'fast' stream of approximately 25 pupils and two parallel slower streams of approximately 18-20 students each.

Exams are available at 'Higher Tier' for all of our students (and the grades awarded are 9 to 4).

Textbook:

- Edexcel International GCSE (9-1) Mathematics A Student Book 1 by D Turner, I Potts ISBN-139780435181444
- Edexcel International GCSE (9-1) Mathematics A Student Book 2 by D Turner, I Potts ISBN-139780435183059

Calculator:

Casio fx-991EX Classwiz

Useful websites:

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

- www.mymaths.co.uk

Other information:

We take pride in developing an in-depth knowledge of each student's strengths and weaknesses in order to guide them towards achieving their full potential. Approximately three-quarters (or more) achieve top grades at IGCSE and a similar proportion opts to continue to study Maths or Further Maths at higher level – clear evidence that the course is enjoyable and that we are successful in achieving our aims.

PHYSICS IGCSE (EDEXCEL 4PH1)

Exam codes and exam papers:

- | | | | |
|---------------|----------|-----------|----------------|
| • Pap 4PH1/1P | untiered | 2hrs | 61.1% of total |
| • Pap 4PH1/2P | untiered | 1hr 15min | 38.9% of total |

Percentage in examination: 100% (no coursework)

Examination Structure: Two written papers (see above) taken in May at the end of 2nde

Course Summary: see Skills and Topics taught (below)

Skills taught:

- Learn about concepts, principles, unifying patterns and themes in physics and use them in new and changing situations
- Appreciate the practical nature of physics, developing experimental and investigative skills based on correct and safe laboratory techniques
- 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 physics
- Achieve a good grounding for A-level Physics which is essential for a degree in Engineering (as well as obviously a degree in Physics!)

Topics taught:

- Forces and motion
- Electricity
- Waves
- Energy resources and energy transfer
- Solids, liquids and gases
- Magnetism and electromagnetism
- Radioactivity and particles
- Astrophysics

Textbook:

Edexcel International GCSE (9-1) Physics Student Book ISBN 9780435185275

Useful websites:

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

Other information:

Physics is valued by virtually all employers as a logical and practical problem solving discipline. It is essential for careers in engineering and advisable for medical careers.

RUSSIAN GCSE **(EDEXCEL 2RU0)**

Exam Codes and exam papers:

- Paper 1 - Listening and Understanding in Russian (25%)
- Paper 2 - Speaking in Russian (25%)
- Paper 3 - Reading and Understanding in Russian (25%)
- Paper 4 - Writing in Russian (25%)

Course Summary:

The assessment consists of four units based on the following skills: **speaking, listening, reading and writing**. It is also divided into two levels according to students' competence: **Foundation tier** and **Higher tier**. The course is designed for those learning Russian as a foreign language and allows students to develop their ability to communicate with Russian native speakers in both speech and writing. Students will study across a variety of contexts relevant to their age and interests and also develop a greater awareness of the culture of Russian-speaking communities and countries.

Topics taught:

- Identity and culture
- Local area, holiday, travel
- School
- Future aspirations, study and work
- International and global dimension.

Skills taught:

- Develop the ability to listen to and understand spoken Russian in a range of contexts and a variety of styles
- Communicate in speech for a variety of purposes
- Read and respond to different types of written language
- Communicate in writing for a variety of purposes
- Understand and apply a range of vocabulary and structures
- Develop language learning and communication skills which can be applied broadly
- Insight into the culture and society of countries where the language is spoken.

Textbooks:

Russian resource КОМЕТА (3 parts), textbook Диалог level A2 and B1

Websites/Secondary reading:

- <https://ru.islcollective.com/resources>
- www.audio-lingua.eu

SPANISH IGCSE

(CIE 7160)

Exam codes and exam papers:

- **Paper 1, Listening (7160/12)** - Three sections of basic, medium and higher difficulty, 45 minutes, 45 marks, 25% of iGCSE. Wednesday 22nd May 2019.
- **Paper 2, Reading (7160/22)** - Three sections of basic, medium and higher difficulty, 1 hour, 45 marks, 25% of iGCSE. Wednesday 5th June 2019.
- **Paper 3, Speaking (7160/32)** - Two role plays, a two-minute presentation followed by a three minute conversation on a topic area and a five-minute general conversation, 12'-15' in total, 100 marks, 25% of iGCSE. Saturday 30th March 2019.
- **Paper 4, Writing (7160/42)** - Vocabulary, basic writing (80-90 words) and an extended piece of writing (130-140 words), 1 hour, 50 marks, 25% of iGCSE. Wednesday 22nd May 2019.

Grading system: 9-1 (new).

Exam structure:

The Cambridge iGCSE in Spanish comprises THREE externally assessed papers (Listening, Reading and Writing) at the end of Y11 and ONE Speaking exam, internally assessed but externally moderated.

Why Cambridge?

- Cambridge's international qualifications are recognised by the world's best universities and employers.
- Their programmes and qualifications set the global standard for international education.
- Every year, nearly 1.000.000 Cambridge students from 10.000 schools in 160 countries sit the Cambridge International exams.

Course summary:

Cambridge has designed a stimulating two-year programme around five broad Topic Areas which provide contexts for the acquisition of vocabulary and the study of grammatical structures. Through the study of these topic areas, students gain insight into target language countries and communities.

Topics taught:

1. Everyday Activities.
2. Personal and Social Life.
3. The World around Us.
4. The World of Work.
5. The International World.

Skills taught:

This syllabus aims to:

- Develop students' ability to communicate effectively using the target language.
- Offer pupils insights into the culture and society of countries where Spanish is spoken.
- Develop awareness of the nature of language and language learning.
- Provide enjoyment and intellectual stimulation.
- Develop transferable skills such as critical and analytical thinking, problem-solving, memorizing or drawing of inferences in order to complement other areas of the curriculum.

Textbook:

Cambridge IGCSE Spanish (ISBN: 978-1471888830), Hodder Education, 2017.

Useful websites:

ARABIC GCSE

(Edexcel 1AA0)

Exam codes and papers:

- Paper 1 – Listening and Understanding – 1AA0/1F or 1H
- Paper 2 – Speaking - 1AA0/2F or 2H
- Paper 3 – Reading and Understanding– 1AA0/3F or 3H
- Paper 4 – Writing– 1AA0/4F or 4H

Percentage in examinations: 100% internally conducted and externally assessed.

All papers are equally weighted in the examination final marks (25% each).

Tiered papers (Higher or Foundation) but no mixed tier entry. Higher tier is for students who speak Arabic as first language and Foundation tier is for students who speak Arabic as second or third language. The tutor will decide which level the student is to take as GCSE.

Course summary:

The Arabic GCSE course is designed and awarded by Edexcel, the UK's largest awarding body offering academic and vocational qualifications that are globally recognised and benchmarked. The course is tailored to those learning Arabic as a foreign language and using the language effectively for purposes of practical communication. All four skills are assessed separately. Topics and questions stimulate the teaching and learning of the culture of the target language. Speaking assessments encourage and reward spontaneity and interaction. Reading and Writing papers are also designed to help students progress through the assessments confidently.

Topic taught:

- Everyday activities
- Personal and social life
- The world around us
- The world of work
- The international world

Skills taught:

- Learn many skills, which are useful in a wide range of careers, such as the ability to communicate clearly, be confident about speaking in public, use problem-solving strategies and write coherently.
- Develop vocabulary and grammar aspects, which help to master the language.
- Translations from and into the target language.
- Authentic stimuli in the reading, including literary texts.
- Ability to confidently discuss Identity and culture and engage in Local, national, international and global areas of interest.
- Learn widely about history, culture and tradition of countries where the Arabic language is spoken.

This course provides a suitable foundation for further study at AS and A Level.

Text book:

Students book by Gassan Nehman Maher, The Writing Guide, Arabic GCSE & AS,
Practice sample papers from EDEXCEL website: www.edexcel.org.uk

Other Information:

Arabic is an optional extra subject and is only available for students who have studied this subject in Year 9.