

Cambridge IGCSE Programme Brief

Updated on 10 August, 2024

Curriculum Framework

For detailed information, please refer to [BIS Curriculum in Grades 9 & 10 - 2023/24](#).

IGCSE Curriculum

We aim to provide a wide variety of subject choices to our students that enables them to express their individual strengths and develop their knowledge and skills in a supporting, challenging and enriching classroom environment. Four subjects (English, International Mathematics, Co-ordinated Sciences and Computer Science) and one additional language as well as one of the Individuals and Societies subjects are compulsory at BIS. Students select a minimum of one additional subject from our available selection.

Our students also participate in an annual project in each of their respective subjects which is used to develop skills that are not directly assessed by the written IGCSE examinations. These skills include research, collaboration, critical thinking, presentation and reflection.

Cambridge ICE and subject groups

The Cambridge International Certificate of Education (ICE) is a group award for Cambridge IGCSE, and is very popular in the USA and South America. It allows schools to offer a broad and balanced curriculum by recognising the achievements of learners who pass examinations in at least seven Cambridge IGCSE subjects from five different subject groups, including two different languages.

The Cambridge IGCSE subjects at BIS are grouped into five curriculum areas:

Group I: Languages	Group II: Humanities and Social Sciences	Group III: Sciences	Group IV: Mathematics	Group V: Creative and professional
-English*	-Economics -Geography -History	-Coordinated Sciences (Double award)*	-International Mathematics*	-Computer Science*
-Mandarin -Spanish -German -French			-Additional Mathematics	-Art and Design -Business Studies -Music -Drama

*Compulsory subjects

Learners must take two different languages from Group I, and one subject from each of Groups II, III, IV and V. The seventh subject can be taken from any of the five subject groups.

Non-IGCSE Curriculum

Local Curriculum

The local curriculum follows the programme determined by the Ministry of Education of the Kyrgyz Republic in order to prepare students for Kyrgyz state examinations in addition to IGCSE courses. It is offered in the following subjects:

- Kyrgyz Language
- Kyrgyz Geography and History
- Russian Language and Literature

This programme is provided for all Kyrgyz citizens and open to any other students who have the required language fluency and/or wish to participate. Kyrgyz citizens are free to opt out of Kyrgyz language studies on the provision of written confirmation of this decision from their parents.

Service Learning

We highly value and promote our contributions to Kyrgyzstan through Service Learning activities. Students have a 40-hour commitment to Service Learning during the two-year IGCSE programme. The aim of the Service Learning module is to encourage a meaningful and long lasting impact that will benefit the local community. The Service Learning module can be done individually or in a group and is done outside of school hours, with a maximum of 20 hours conducted within the territory of BIS. Students should consult their Form Teacher for further guidance.

IGCSE Assessments

Cambridge IGCSE assessment takes place at the end of the course and can include written, oral and practical assessment.

Academic Grades

Grades for IGCSE range from A* down to U. Grade descriptors are subject specific and can be found in the Subject Syllabus. The percentage uniform mark boundaries for each grade are also subject specific and may be changed each year by Cambridge Assessment International Education based on worldwide performance of students in IGCSE examinations.

Student Life

Form Time

IGCSE students are assigned to Form classes according to their grade level. Form Teachers work with subject teachers to have overall oversight of their form group's wellbeing and academic progress. Form Teachers are available to meet with their Form groups daily 07:50-8:00 in their Form classroom, and after assembly on Friday afternoons. Form Teachers are also responsible for teaching one lesson of Life Skills per week to their form group.

Absence and Lateness Notifications

Notify by either way:

- Option 1 - Phone call by parents
 - Parents inform the school before 08:00 on the first day of absence.
- Option 2 - Email (Grade 9: lag9@bis.kg / Grade 10: lag10@bis.kg) by parents or students
 - Parents send an email having their child CCed.
 - Students send an email having their parents CCed.

ManageBac

All students and parents have access to [ManageBac \(https://bishkek.managebac.com/\)](https://bishkek.managebac.com/), the online platform for IB world schools. All information about each subject, assignment deadlines, assessments, grades, report cards, attendance records and teacher email addresses can be found there.

Study Periods

Some students in the IGCSE have study periods in their weekly timetable. These study periods take place in the secondary library. Students are responsible for themselves and are expected to use these periods effectively.

Mock Examinations

Traditionally IGCSE Mock Examinations start from the fourth week after the winter break in Grade 10. The procedure and conditions follow the same IGCSE regulations for official examinations.

Student Mental Support

Students are encouraged to turn to their Form Teachers for support with any issues they may have in relation to their academic, social or emotional wellbeing. In addition to their Form Teachers, students can also approach the School Counselor for help at any time. Initial contact can be made by the student themselves or as a referral by teachers or parents. Form Teachers, subject teachers and the School Counselor work together and communicate regularly to monitor the wellbeing of all students.

Timetable

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1st 08:00-08:45					
2nd 08:45-09:30					
Break 09:30-09:45					
3rd 09:45-10:30					
4th 10:35-11:20					
5th 11:20-12:05					
Lunch 12:05-12:50					
7th 12:50-13:35					
8th 13:40-14:25					
9th 14:30-15:15					
Break 15:15-15:30					
ECA 15:30-16:30					