



مدارس مسك  
Misk Schools

Key Stage 4 Options Booklet  
2023/24 Cohort

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Misk  
Schools

# Key Stage 4 Options



## GLOSSARY

**Key Stages** are specific periods of the educational journey, referring to skills and knowledge students typically attain at certain ages, along with the assessments/examinations they undertake. Key Stage 4 refers to students who are typically 14 to 16 years old. This is followed by Key Stage 5, which covers the last two years of school, typically ages 16 to 18 years.

Standing for International General Certificate of Secondary Education, **IGCSEs** are internationally recognised public examinations and qualifications for 14- to 16-year-old students (Key Stage 4), that prepare them for further study no matter where they are in the world. IGCSEs are offered by several exam boards including Cambridge Assessment International Education, Pearson Edexcel and Oxford AQA. They are based on the British GCSE qualifications but have been adapted to include a more international focus.

**A-level** stands for the General Certificate of Education (GCE) Advanced Level and refers to a final qualification students complete before leaving school. Like IGCSEs, A-levels are internationally recognised and respected by universities all over the world.

**BTEC** stands for the Business and Technology Education Council, part of publishing, education and global assessment company Pearson plc. BTECs are rigorous, career-focused qualifications grounded in the real world of work. BTEC Levels 1 and 2 are equivalent to IGCSEs; a BTEC Level 3 is equivalent to an A-level, and BTEC Levels 4 and 5 are equivalent to the first and second year of undergraduate degrees respectively.

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# Welcome

## Dear parents/carers

The options process is an exceptionally important phase in our students' school life. For the first time, they will have an opportunity to influence their own destiny and choose subjects that will shape the remainder of their educational lives.

We recognise that making these decisions, whilst thinking about further education and future career paths, can be difficult. However, students and their parents/carers should rest assured that they will receive the guidance and advice they need, as they work through their choices.

Please read through this booklet and talk to the relevant Heads of Department and Form Tutors, together with Mr Shen and the team who will be able to help with questions about any aspect of the process.

Please remember that all forms must be handed back into the school by the deadline.

I wish all students success, whichever set of exciting challenges they choose for themselves.

**Jeremy Newton**  
Senior Principal

## Dear student

This booklet gives you information about the two-year, Key Stage 4 (KS4) curriculum, which you will start in September, when you enter Grade 9.

It is important that the subjects you choose are the right ones for you – the ones you will be happy and successful doing.

This booklet gives details about these subjects and guidance about how to make the right choices.

My advice to you is very simple; focus on the areas that you have already been told you are doing well in. Don't make choices just because you want to be with your friends – think about your future plans.

There is a pull-out Options Form included in this booklet, (page 29). Please remove, complete and return this form to the Vice Principal on or before the **31<sup>st</sup> January 2023**.

Finally, when students ask me what the key to success is, my first answer is attendance. If you are here, virtually or in person, we can work with you to maximise your achievement. If you are regularly absent or late you will not achieve the best you are capable of.

Good luck everyone and remember, I am here to help you through this process.

**Shen Megalaa**  
Middle/Senior School Vice Principal

# Introduction

## The Core Curriculum

All students study a core offering in the following subjects:

- IGCSE Mathematics
- IGCSE English Language
- IGCSE Science\* (minimum of two IGCSEs covering Biology, Chemistry and Physics)
- IGCSE Arabic Language
- Islamic Studies (MoE)
- Social Studies (MoE)

## Open Pool Option Choices

Misk offers you a further choice of three options from the range of subjects listed below:

- IGCSE Computer Science
- IGCSE ICT
- IGCSE Design and Technology
- IGCSE Business Studies
- IGCSE Economics
- IGCSE Global Perspectives
- IGCSE Art and Design
- IGCSE Music
- IGCSE PE
- IGCSE Chinese

Subjects such as Computer Science, Economics and Separate Sciences are restricted to the highest performing students in the year group.

The majority of students at Misk will study eight IGCSE subjects.

## Higher Project Qualification

Our Higher Project Qualification (HPQ) course has been carefully structured to cultivate the skills young people need to produce their personal best across all their endeavours. At its heart sits Pearson Edexcel's Project Qualification, a challenging form of independent study that requires students (with the support of a teacher-mentor), to research and produce a piece of work on a subject of their choosing.

This programme would constitute additional study outside the required and open pool options, and is self managed by students, with the aid of a teacher-mentor.

# Acceleration Policy

**At Misk, we recognise that all students learn and progress at different rates, and that academic standards vary. The goals of acceleration are to provide and adjust an appropriately challenging curriculum, depending on the needs of the individual.**

This policy outlines specific criteria for consideration in determining appropriate student placement. Students who wish to apply for acceleration in a specific subject must:

- be high achievers in the area(s) in which they wish to accelerate
- show reasonable performance in Maths, Science and English
- have achieved above average internal assessment and diagnostic assessment results
- demonstrate social and emotional maturity.

Determining social and emotional readiness will be based on:

- observation of interactions with peers over a reasonable time period
- the student's level of motivation
- anecdotal evidence from teachers and parents.

If you wish to apply for an accelerated pathway, please speak to **Mr Shen**.

# College & Career Readiness

**Preparing students for life after school is a priority for us at Misk Schools.** To that end, we build college and career readiness sessions into our KS4 curriculum in the form of support from personal tutors and regular one-to-one meetings with the school's professional careers counsellor, as well as through specialist assemblies. It is also an inherent strength of the Misk Higher Project Qualification course which forms part of our Core Curriculum. Furthermore, students will be provided access to Unifrog, our university destinations online platform, to explore courses, log skills developed and prepare for future applications.

For further information, please contact Mr Abdulrehman Barok - [abarok@miskschools.edu.sa](mailto:abarok@miskschools.edu.sa)

# Mawhiba

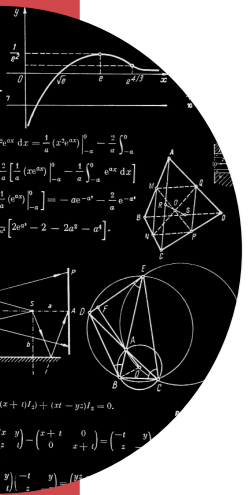
**In addition to our engaging internal curriculum, we also strive to support students in their pursuits of extra-curricular programmes and activities.** To that end, we actively seek out partnerships with high calibre organisations across multiple disciplines. One such organisation is Mawhiba, a national foundation set up to foster giftedness and creativity in the scientific and technical fields. Students wishing to participate in Mawhiba programmes are advised to make contact with the foundation directly. For more information, please speak to **Mr Shen**.

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We are ready and keen to ensure you are well supported throughout this important process. Please email [smegalaa@miskschools.edu.sa](mailto:smegalaa@miskschools.edu.sa) with any questions or concerns. Many thanks.

# The Core Curriculum

All students will follow these courses throughout KS4



# IGCSE in Mathematics

## Description of Course

To succeed in Mathematics IGCSE, students need strong problem-solving skills. They will be required to develop confidence in using and applying the skills necessary to work mathematically, building on the content covered in KS3. Students will need to show they can think through more complex problems and break them into smaller tasks.

The course covers the following six strands:

- Number
- Algebra
- Ratio, Proportion & Rates of Change
- Geometry & Measure
- Statistics
- Probability

## Assessment

All the assessment of IGCSE Mathematics is via external examinations through two papers, each equally weighted.

There is a choice between Foundation and Higher tier papers. Each student will be entered for the level that best suits their ability.

## After Grade 10, try...

- A Level Mathematics
- A Level Further Mathematics

## Career Ideas

All employers and most universities require a minimum level of a grade 5 in Mathematics. Success in Mathematics opens the most doors in chosen career paths. It is used daily in all careers.



# IGCSEs in English Language (Second and First Language)

## Description of Course

**Reading:** Students should read a wide range of texts fluently and with good understanding, enjoying and appreciating a variety of language. They should also read critically and use knowledge gained from wide reading to inform and improve their own writing.

**Writing:** Students should write accurately and effectively, using Standard English appropriately; work with information and with ideas in language, by developing skills of evaluation, analysis, use and inference. They should also listen to, understand and use spoken language effectively, and acquire and apply a wide vocabulary, alongside a knowledge and understanding of grammatical terminology and linguistic conventions.

**Spoken Language:** Students will be able to formulate, clarify and express ideas; adapt speech to a widening range of circumstances and demands; listen, understand and respond appropriately to others; use the vocabulary and grammar of spoken Standard English. This will not count towards the overall qualification.

## Assessment: Overview

All students will sit either IGCSE English As A Second Language or IGCSE English First Language. Each student will be entered for exams most suited to their proficiency in English.

## Assessment: English As A Second Language

IGCSE English As A Second Language is 100% externally examined. All candidates take the following two papers:

Paper 1

- two hours
- Reading and Writing
- 70%
- 60 marks

Candidates respond to six exercises: four reading and two writing. The exam will contain structured and essay style questions, and the exam is externally assessed

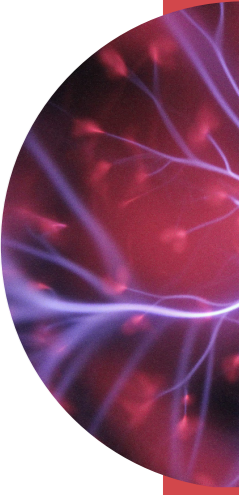
AND

Paper 2

- Approximately 50 minutes
- Listening
- 30%
- 40 marks

Candidates listen to five exercises of short and longer texts, then complete multiple choice style questions. This exam is externally assessed.





# IGCSE in Double Science\*

Double Science counts for two IGCSEs and is a compulsory subject.

## Description of Course

Students will study content from Biology, Chemistry and Physics across their two years of IGCSE. Alongside the content, students will complete a variety of mandatory practical investigations that they will be assessed on as part of their final exam. A summary of the content covered can be found below.

BIOLOGY	CHEMISTRY	PHYSICS
Cell Biology Organisation Infection and Response Bioenergetics Homeostasis and response Inheritance, variation and evolution Ecology	Atomic Structure and the periodic table Bonding, structure the properties of matter Quantitative Chemistry Chemical changes Energy changes The rate and extent of chemical change Organic Chemistry Chemical analysis Chemistry of the atmosphere Using resources	Forces Energy Waves Electricity Magnetism and electromagnetism Particle mode of matter Atomic structure

## Assessment

Students will write three papers at the end of Grade 10: one Biology, one Chemistry and one Physics.

Each paper is two hours, is out of 100 marks and is worth 33.33% of the overall IGCSE Double Science qualification.

Students will achieve two combined grades from grade 1 to 9.

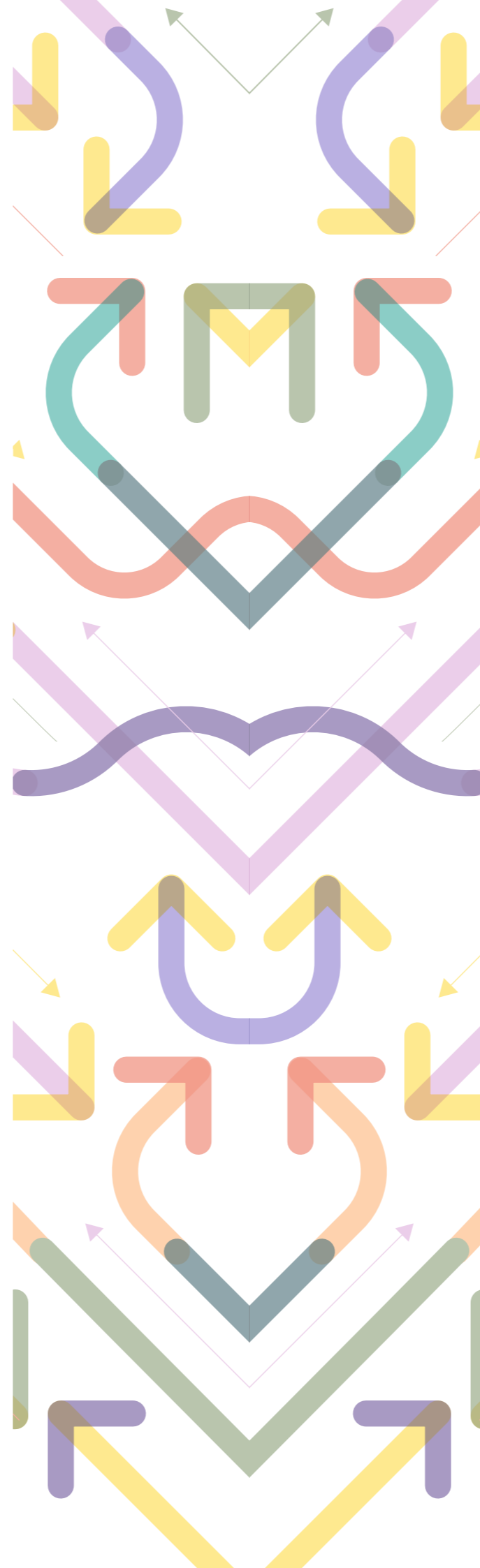
## After Grade 10, try...

- A-levels in any of the Sciences

## Career Ideas

Medicine, Veterinary Medicine, Nursing, Veterinary Nursing, Social care, Physiotherapy, Forensics, Ecology, Zoology, Science Technician, Lawyer, Business Management, Accountancy, Consultant, Teaching, Research.

\* Students who demonstrate a high aptitude in science and scientific enquiry will have the option of Triple Science as part of our accelerated programme.



## Assessment: English First Language

Students who are more capable will also have the opportunity to sit the IGCSE English First Language exams. IGCSE English First Language can be a 100 percent externally marked exam, or 50 percent externally marked exam and 50 percent internally written, externally moderated coursework.

All candidates take Paper 1

- two hours
- Writing
- 50%
- 80 marks

Candidates complete structured and extended writing questions. Questions will be based on three reading texts and the exam is externally assessed.

AND EITHER

Paper 2

- two hours
- Directed Writing and Composition
- 50%
- 80 marks

Candidates complete an extended writing question and a composition task. This exam is externally assessed.

OR

Component 3

- Coursework Portfolio
- 50%
- 80 marks

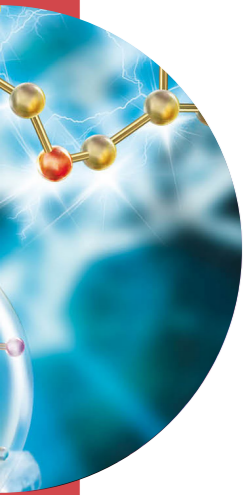
Candidates complete three extended writing assignments. This component is internally assessed and externally moderated.

## After Grade 10, try...

- A-level English Language
- A-level English Language and Literature
- A-level Media
- Any other Level 3 course

## Career Ideas

English IGCSE is an essential qualification for any job or further education course. All employers and most universities require a minimum level of a grade 5 in English.



## IGCSE in Triple Science

Triple Science counts for three IGCSEs. Physics, Biology and Chemistry will be taught as separate sciences

### Description of Course

Taken over two years this course awards students with three separate science IGCSEs. Two thirds of the course is identical to the Double Science content. The final third of the course adds depth and knowledge to each science and facilitates a wider appreciation of the scientific issues that touch our lives.

This course is designed for those students with a real love of science and an eagerness to explore fundamental principles and concepts in greater detail. This is a demanding course requiring mathematical, evaluative analytical and skill. **Students will be invited to take this science course.**

Additional topics covered in this option are: medical applications of Physics, electromagnetism, humans and the environment, homeostasis, organic chemistry and chemical kinetics.

This course is ideal for students who may wish to pursue a career in science. It is an excellent foundation for those hoping to continue their Science studies in Grades 11 and 12, as it provides an insight into some of the topics covered at A-level such as Organic Chemistry, Mechanics and Ecology. Often students wanting to study engineering and biological sciences at university take this option.

### Assessment

Students will write six papers at the end of Grade 10: two Biology, two Chemistry and two Physics.

Paper 1 of each science is two hours, and is out of 110 marks. Paper 2 is one hour 15 minutes, and is out of 70 marks.

Students will achieve a grade of 1 to 9 for each Science.

### After Grade 10, try...

- A-levels in any of the Sciences

### Career Ideas

Medicine, Veterinary Medicine, Nursing, Veterinary Nursing, Social care, Physiotherapy, Forensics, Ecology, Zoology, Science Technician, Lawyer, Business Management, Accountancy, Consultant, Teaching, Research.



## IGCSEs in Arabic Language



### Description of Course

**Arabic Foreign Language:** The subject content is organised in five broad topic areas (A–E below). These provide contexts for the acquisition of vocabulary and the study of grammar and structures. The study of these topic areas enables students to gain an insight into countries and communities where Arabic is spoken. The five topic areas are:

- A. Everyday activities
- B. Personal and social life
- C. The world around us
- D. The world of work
- E. The international world

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

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

### Assessment

IGCSE Arabic Foreign Language is 75% externally examined and 25% internally assessed:

- Paper 1 – Candidates listen to a number of recordings and answer multiple-choice and matching questions. Listening exam: 50 minutes (25% of IGCSE)
- Paper 2 – Candidates read a number of texts and answer multiple-choice and matching questions as well as questions requiring short answers. Reading/Writing exam: one hour (25% of IGCSE)
- Paper 3 – Candidates complete one role play and conversations on two topics. Internally assessed speaking exam: 10 minutes (25% of IGCSE)
- Paper 4 – Candidates complete one form-filling task, one directed writing task and one task in the format of an email/letter or an article/blog. Writing exam: one hour (25% of IGCSE)

IGCSE Arabic First Language is 100% externally examined:

- Paper 1 – Structured and extended writing questions. Questions will be based on Arabic passages. Reading/Writing exam: two hours (50% of IGCSE)
- Paper 2 – Two composition tasks. Written exam: two hours (50% of IGCSE)

### After Grade 10, try...

- A-level Arabic

### Career Ideas

Arabic IGCSE is an essential qualification for any job or further education course within the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.



# Higher Project Qualification

## Description of Course

Our Higher Project Qualification (HPQ) course has been carefully structured to cultivate the skills young people need to produce their personal best across all their endeavours. Whether it is on the sports field or in the classroom, HPQ builds their capacity to critically evaluate, self-direct with confidence, make value-based decisions and inspire those around them. With a focus on independent thinking, creative problem-solving, collaboration, time management and public speaking, the Misk HPQ is a bespoke programme, personalised for each student.

At its heart sits Pearson Edexcel's Project Qualification, a challenging form of independent study that requires students (with the support of a tutor-mentor), to research and produce a piece of work on a subject of their choosing – usually one that relates to their career aspirations or to a personal interest. Projects can be presented as a report, an artefact, a design or a performance. Divided into Level 1 Foundation and Level 2 Higher, the Project Qualification has IGCSE equivalence.

In addition, students can apply to study for a **Level 2 professional qualification in Team Leading from the Chartered Management Institute (CMI)**. This award develops a host of invaluable competencies from strategic decision-making to how to motivate, manage and lead a team. It presents proven capabilities to university admissions officers, for whom the ability to show potential as a future leader is frequently an important consideration.

## Assessment

Higher Project Qualification courses are 100% internally assessed and externally moderated.

There are four assessment objectives for the Pearson Edexcel Project Qualification. These detail the knowledge, skills and understanding that the learner is required to demonstrate. They are as detailed below, along with the weighting that they are given:

Assessment objective	Marks available	Weighting
<b>AO1 Manage</b> Select, plan and carry out a project, applying skills and methods to achieve objectives.	7	17.5%
<b>AO2 Use resources</b> Obtain, select and use information and select and use resources.	9	22.5%
<b>AO3 Develop and realise</b> Use a range of skills, including, where appropriate, new technologies to achieve planned objectives.	17	42.5%
<b>AO4 Review</b> Identify and consider project outcomes and own learning and performance. Use communication skills to present evidence in an appropriate format.	7	17.5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>100%</b>

Typical units and assessments for the CMI Level 2 Team Leading include:

- being a team leader
- providing customer service
- monitoring team performance
- building work relationships
- developing team needs.

## After Grade 10, try...

- Extended Project Qualification (EPQ)



The following National Identity Subjects are statutory requirements from the Saudi Ministry of Education (MoE)

# Islamic Studies

## Description of Course

The Islamic Studies MoE curriculum focuses on Tafseer, Hadith, Fiqh and al Tawhid.

The Pedagogy of teaching Islamic Studies is project-based learning which helps students understand how their faith both supports and encourages creativity, exploration and innovation.

By adopting an interdisciplinary approach, we encourage students to connect their learning with other subjects, resulting in a more comprehensive, contextualised understanding and a broader perspective.

Finally, by making Islamic values and ethics the foundation for exploring and developing solutions for global issues in the 21st century, we equip learners with the skills they need to make ethical evaluations of challenges, opportunities and endeavours.

## Assessment

The Islamic Studies course is 100% internally assessed.

This includes a range of internal formative and summative assessments to measure students' understanding of Islamic content studied in this course.



# Social Studies

## Description of Course

The Social Studies MoE curriculum aims to strengthen the national character of students, helping them to acquire civic competencies represented in knowledge and skills, and to learn the values and principles of Saudi Arabia so they can become effective citizens.

## Assessment

The Social Studies course is 100% internally assessed.

This includes a range of internal formative and summative assessments to measure students' understanding of the history, law and customs of Saudi Arabia.





# Open Pool Option Choices

All students will have three further option choices from the option pool

## IGCSE in Computer Science

### Description of Course

This exciting IGCSE provides an excellent opportunity to investigate how computers work, how they are used and to develop computer programming skills. Students also do some fascinating in-depth research, learn about computers from their core components and write computer code in languages such as Python. The course develops critical thinking, analysis and problem solving skills, covering the following:

- Understand and apply the fundamental principles and concepts of Computer Science, including abstraction, decomposition, logic, algorithms, and data representation.
- Analyse problems in computational terms through practical experience of solving such problems including designing, writing and debugging programs.
- Think creatively, innovatively, analytically, logically and critically.
- Understand the components that make up digital systems, and how they communicate with one another and with other systems.
- Understand the impacts of digital technology to the individual and to wider society.
- Apply mathematical skills relevant to Computer Science.

### Entry Requirement

Maths grade 6, English grade 5. Class size will be limited so only the highest performing applicants will be accepted onto the course.

### Assessment

There are two main components to the IGCSE Computer science qualification:

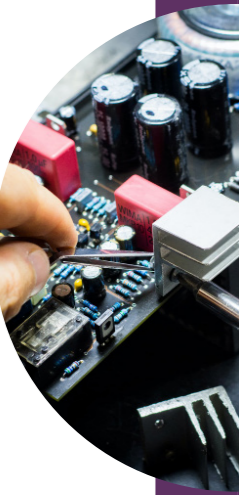
- Computer systems: Systems architecture; memory, storage; wired and wireless networks; network topologies, protocols and layers; system security; system software; ethical, legal, cultural and environmental concerns. One hour 30 minutes, written paper (50% of the total IGCSE)
- Computational thinking, algorithms and programming: Algorithms; programming techniques; producing robust programs; computational logic; translators and facilities of languages; data representation.

One hour 30 minutes, written paper (50% of the total IGCSE)

The course is 100% exam based.

### After Grade 10, try...

The course provides excellent preparation for higher study and employment in the field of Computer Science. The increasing importance of information technologies means there will be a growing demand for professionals who are qualified in this area. Students who have taken an IGCSE in Computing and who then progress to study the subject at A-level or university will have an advantage over their colleagues who are picking up the subject at these levels.





# IGCSE in Information and Communications Technology ICT

## Description of Course

The ICT course is designed to allow students to still learn about software and technology, without the explicit technicalities of the Computer Science course. As such, it is accessible to all students.

Students will learn about topics ranging from digital devices and connectivity, safe and responsible practice, and understand the impact of the internet on the way that organisations do business. They will also be encouraged to practise using software applications effectively.

## Assessment

IGCSE ICT is 100% externally examined.

- Paper 1 – The examination comprises a mixture of multiple-choice, short and long answer questions. One hour 30 minutes (50% of IGCSE)
- Paper 2 – The examination comprises one practical assignment. Three hours (50% of IGCSE)

## After Grade 10, try...

Students who complete a IGCSE in ICT and wish to continue on to an A-level course in computing may wish to do so, depending on their level of success in ICT.

## Career Ideas

Computer Games Tester, E-learning Developer, Forensic Computer Analyst, IT Service Engineer, Software Developer.



# IGCSE in Design and Technology

## Description of Course

The IGCSE in Design Technology is High Performance Learning (HPL) at its finest and a real world subject that achieves a high level of design literacy by **enabling students to develop critical-thinking, linking innovation and creativity** skills which they can then apply in a practical context. While designing may take various forms, it will involve the selective application of knowledge within an ethical framework. Design and Technology enables students to understand and apply iterative design processes through which they explore, create and evaluate a range of outcomes.

By studying Design and Technology, Students will be able to **build up their creativity, critical thinking, problem solving, planning, and evaluation skills**. Since many projects are done via group work, students will also gain **communication and teamwork skills**. Design and technology goes well with art, but also science and technology subjects, including physics, mathematics, chemistry and IT. When it comes to the sciences, having knowledge of how physical and chemical processes work can come in handy when designing different products, including food!

As students progress through this course, they may be given the opportunity to focus on specific aspects of the subject such as product design, food technology, engineering, systems and control, electronics, textiles and graphics. However, at its core **is creativity and imagination**. Students learn to design and make products that solve genuine, relevant problems within different contexts whilst considering their own and others' needs, wants and values.

## Assessment

IGCSE Design and Technology is 50% externally examined and 50% internally assessed.

- Component 1: Written Examinations – The exam paper consists of two written exam sections. Section A is assessed on the core content Product Design and Section B is assessed on the material category the students have chosen: One hour 45 minutes combined time (50% of IGCSE mark)
- Component 2: Non-examined project – Students will undertake a project based on a solution to a contextual design problem or need (50% of IGCSE). This folderwork is externally moderated and is a comprehensive document that reflects their Design and Make journey while creating their product solution

## After Grade 10, try...

Students can progress from this qualification to:

- A-level in Design and Technology
- employment, eg in a design- or technology-based, or engineering industry where an Apprenticeship may be available.

## Career Ideas

Mechanical, Industrial, Civil, Robotics, or Systems Engineer. Graphics, Product, Sound, Interior, Video Game Designer. Architect or Draftsman/woman.



# IGCSE in Business Studies

## Description of Course

After studying this IGCSE, students will have an insight into how businesses operate, including how to set up one of their own. It is a very diverse and broad options choice as it enables students to explore a wide range of different topics including:

- marketing, advertising, development of products, setting the best price etc
- recruitment, how businesses get the right staff and keep them working well
- business structures, including the different ways to set up a business
- finance, how businesses get the money to set up and operate and how they make a profit
- business operations, how businesses produce the things we buy
- influences on businesses, including the economy.

As a result of this, Business Studies students develop a number of different skills such as critical thinking, creativity, financial awareness and team building.

This subject is incredibly popular and students really appreciate how they can make immediate links between theory and the real world.

## Assessment

IGCSE Business Studies is 100% externally examined:

- Paper 1: Investigating Small Business – The paper consists of multiple-choice, short-answer, data response, and open-ended questions: One hour 30 minutes (50% of IGCSE)
- Paper 2: Investigating Large Business – This paper consists of a mixture of multiple-choice, short-answer, data response, and open-ended questions (50% of IGCSE)

## After Grade 10, try...

The skills learnt through Business Studies will equip students to take on a number of A-level courses including Business, Maths, Accounting, Economics, ICT and Politics.

## Career Ideas

There are a huge number of careers options open to Business students, such as:

- project management
- human resource management
- accountancy
- entrepreneurship - starting and running a business
- marketing
- law.



# IGCSE in Economics

## Description of Course

IGCSE Economics is not just a theory-based subject; it is about real life. Economics equips students with the skills and confidence to explore how consumers, producers and governments interact in markets nationally and internationally.

It provides a well-rounded introduction to this subject and an excellent foundation for advanced study in Economics. The subject is highly respected and well suited to students with an inquisitive mindset.

By learning how to use economic data from a range of sources, such as tables, charts and graphs, students acquire the skills to make informed judgements and to communicate in a clear and concise way. By learning how to explain and evaluate economic problems and possible solutions, students acquire a way of thinking as economists. They develop a sharper understanding of how governments and businesses make decisions.

## Entry Requirement

Maths grade 5, English grade 5. Class size is limited so only the highest performing applicants will be accepted onto the Economics course.

This is a two-year course which is divided into two modules:

- In Unit 1 students will start by learning about the basic economic problem – the idea that resources are scarce meaning consumers, firms and governments have to make choices. Making these choices creates the issue of opportunity cost. Microeconomics is the study of individual markets. Students will learn about the supply and demand model and how changes in the economy will affect supply, demand, price and quantity. The model will help to explain why prices rise and fall.

- In Unit 2 students explore macroeconomics, looking at all the markets combined in a country. Students will look at their own country and other countries' economies. Students will look at the different objectives that governments are concerned about. These include trying to achieve:

- low inflation
- low unemployment
- increases in economic growth
- surpluses or equilibrium on the current account of the balance of payments
- redistribution of income
- environmental protection.

## Assessment

- Unit 1: Written Examination – one hour 30 minutes (50% of IGCSE)
- Unit 2: Written Examination – one hour 30 minutes (50% of IGCSE)



### After Grade 10, try...

A-level Business Studies, Maths, Accounting, Economics, Geography, Politics.

### Career Ideas

Students can choose from a wide variety of degree courses including Business, Economics, Marketing, Law, Politics, Events Management and Finance.

Economics graduates have gone on to successful careers in areas including accountancy and professional services, finance and banking, and government. Other popular avenues include journalism and the media, charities, consultancy, the civil service, finance, marketing and PR, social work, teaching, and the law.

## IGCSE in Global Perspectives

### Description of Course

Meeting government ministers, organising a local river clean-up project and writing to the United Nations about climate change are just some of the activities learners are pursuing through the IGCSE Global Perspectives course.

IGCSE Global Perspectives is a groundbreaking and stimulating course that stretches across traditional subject boundaries and develops transferable skills. It is both cross-curricular and skills-based and taps into the way learners of today enjoy learning, including teamwork, presentations, projects, and working with other learners around the world. The emphasis is on developing the ability to think critically about a range of global issues where there is always more than one point of view.

### Assessment

IGCSE Global Perspectives is 65% externally examined and 35% internally assessed:

- Component 1 – Candidates answer four compulsory questions based on a range of sources. Sources will present a global issue from a range of perspectives, personal, local and/or national, global, and will be drawn from a list of eight topics. Written exam: One hour 15 minutes (35% of IGCSE)
- Component 2 – Candidates research one topic area of personal, local and/or national and global significance and submit a report based on their research. The title is devised by candidates themselves. The report must be 1500 to 2000 words and written in continuous prose. Internally set and externally marked individual report (30% of IGCSE)



• Component 3 – Candidates devise and develop a collaborative project into an aspect of one topic. The Team Project comprises two elements:

- Team Element: Working in a team, candidates produce one **Outcome** and one **Explanation as a Collaboration**. The **Explanation** must be 200 to 300 words
- Personal Element: Candidates each write a **Reflective Paper** on their research, contribution and personal learning. The paper must be 750 to 1000 words and is an internally assessed project (35% of IGCSE)

### After Grade 10, try...

• A-level Global Perspectives

### Career Ideas

Students who study Global Perspectives will have the opportunity to enter into a variety of exciting employment opportunities later in life, including ministerial work, public service and public health.

# IGCSE in Art and Design

## Description of Course

The Cambridge IGCSE in Art and Design has been designed to offer a broad choice of media and approaches so that candidates can produce a personal response and schools can play to their strengths in terms of staff expertise and interests.

The broad areas of study are:

- painting and related media
- printmaking
- three-dimensional design
- photography, digital and lens-based media
- graphic communication
- textiles and fashion.

Candidates can respond to either of the two components using any of the media above.

The aims are to enable students to develop:

- an ability to record from direct observation and personal experience
- an ability to identify and solve problems in visual and/or other forms
- creativity, visual awareness, critical and cultural understanding
- an imaginative, creative and personal response
- confidence, enthusiasm, and a sense of achievement in the practice of art and design
- growing independence in the refinement and development of ideas and personal outcomes
- engagement and experimentation with a range of media, materials and techniques, including new media and technologies, where appropriate
- experience of working in relevant frameworks and exploration of manipulative skills necessary to form, compose and communicate in two and/or three dimensions
- a working vocabulary relevant to the subject and an interest in, and a critical awareness of, other practitioners, environments and cultures
- investigative, analytical, experimental, interpretative, practical, technical and expressive skills which aid effective and independent learning.

Learners may use either traditional media or new media or a combination of both, providing all assessment objectives are met. Candidates are encouraged to produce a variety of creative responses through exploration with a range of materials, processes, and techniques. They are expected to identify and research a particular aspect of art and design, carry out relevant exploration of media, materials, techniques and appropriate processes, document and evaluate ideas and concepts against intentions as the work progresses and develop these into a cohesive final outcome.

## Assessment

Component 1 – **Coursework** is 50% of the course and worth 100 marks. Candidates research, develop and realise a project from one area of study in the subject content from a theme set by the teacher.



There are two parts to the coursework:

- a portfolio and
- a final outcome.

The portfolio can be up to four sheets of A2. Candidates may use both sides of the paper. The portfolio is externally assessed.

Component 2 – **Externally Set Assignment** is 50% of the IGCSE, worth 100 marks. It is completed with an eight-hour exam. Candidates respond to one starting point set by Cambridge International. Candidates may produce work from the same area of study as Component 1, but they do not have to.

There are two parts to the assignment:

1. supporting studies, and
2. a final outcome, produced during a supervised test of eight hours' total duration.

The supporting studies can be up to two sheets of A2. Candidates may use both sides of the paper. The exam-based component is externally assessed.

There are four assessment objectives (AOs) for both components:

- AO1 Record:** Record ideas, observations, and insights relevant to intentions as work progresses.
- AO2 Explore:** Explore and select appropriate resources, media, materials, techniques, and processes.
- AO3 Develop:** Develop ideas through investigation, demonstrating critical understanding.
- AO4 Present:** Present a personal and coherent response that realises intentions and demonstrates an understanding of visual language.

Each objective has a weighting of 25%.

## After Grade 10, try...

- A-level Art and Design
- Art School/College portfolio course

## Career Ideas

Depending on the areas of study focused on, students can continue into further education at an Art College/School, or secure employment at an internship level in the creative industries. Examples of pathways are Advertising, Animation, Architecture, Beauty and Make-up, Brand Management, Costume and Theatre Design, Exhibition and Events Design, Fashion Design and Textiles, Fine Arts, Games Design, Graphic Design, Interior Design, Jewellery Design, Marketing and Communication, Merchandising, Multimedia Design, Painting and Illustration, Print and Production, Product and Industrial Design, Retail and Display, TV and Film-Making, Web and App design.



# IGCSE in Physical Education

## Description of Course

The Physical Education (PE) IGCSE syllabus provides candidates with an opportunity to study both the practical and theoretical aspects of Physical Education.

It is designed to foster enjoyment in physical activity. The knowledge gained should enable candidates to develop an appreciation of the principles, practices and training that underpin improved performance, better health and well-being.

Candidates will study all of the following four topics:

1. Anatomy and Physiology
2. Health, Fitness and Training
3. Skills Acquisition and Psychology
4. Social, Cultural and Ethical Influences.

## Assessment

All candidates take two components:

- **Paper 1:** Theory exam – one hour 45 minutes. Combination of short and structured questions. Externally assessed (50% of IGCSE)
- **Component 2:** Coursework – Candidates undertake four physical activities from at least two different categories. Internally assessed and externally moderated (50% of IGCSE)

## After Grade 10, try...

- BTEC in Sport
- A-level PE

It may also be useful to those studying qualifications in Sport, Nutrition and Exercise.

## Career Ideas

Aerobics Instructor, Fitness Instructor, Personal Trainer, Strength and Conditioning Coach, Teacher.



# IGCSE in Chinese

## Description of Course

IGCSE Chinese is a challenging two-year course aimed at developing language skills in a variety of contexts. It prepares students for further language study at A-level and beyond.

The content is relevant, engaging and up to date. It covers five topics:

1. Home and Abroad
2. Education and Employment
3. Personal Life and Relationships
4. The World Around Us
5. Social Activities, Fitness and Health.

Each topic has a number of sub-topic areas.

## Assessment

The IGCSE in Chinese consists of three externally-examined papers. All papers are taken at the end of the course of study.

- **Paper 1: Listening**  
Seven questions, which are a combination of multiple-choice, multiple-matching, note-taking and gap-fill questions. All five topic areas are assessed (30 minutes plus 5 minutes reading time, 25% of IGCSE)
- **Paper 2: Reading and Writing**  
Section A, Reading: Five questions, which are a combination of multiple-choice, note-taking, gap-fill and short-answer questions.  
Section B, Writing: There are two open-response writing tasks, each linked to a topic area. There is also a question involving translation of four sentences into Chinese. All four sentences are linked to one topic area (one hour 45 minutes, 50% of IGCSE)
- **Paper 3: Speaking**  
The examination is made up of three tasks. Students will present and answer questions on a picture that is related to one of the topic areas. They will also discuss two different topics, chosen at random (8 to 10 minutes, 25% of IGCSE)

## After Grade 10, try...

Students will develop the skills they need to progress successfully onto further study at Level 3, for example A-level Chinese.

# Key Stage 4 Options Form Guide 2023/24

At Misk Schools, Key Stage 4 commences in Grade 9, so all students have the opportunity to choose subjects based on a broad and balanced curriculum provision.

## What IGCSE subjects are compulsory?

All students initially study English Language, Mathematics, Sciences (a minimum of two IGCSEs covering the three science components of Biology, Physics and Chemistry), and Arabic Language. The National Identity Subjects are also compulsory, however they are not offered at IGCSE level.

## What IGCSE subjects may I choose?

We offer a further choice of three subjects from a pool of ten at IGCSE level. However, subjects such as Computer Science, Economics, and Triple Science are restricted to the highest performing students in the year group. The majority of students at Misk will study eight IGCSE subjects in total.

## How many subjects can I choose?

All students will be able to select six choices, but only three options out of the subjects of interest will be offered in addition to the compulsory subjects.

## How do I choose my IGCSE subjects?

All students are advised to choose their options carefully. Choices should be informed by the following factors:

- your plans for higher education and future career
- interest and enthusiasm for the subjects
- aptitude and/or ability for chosen subjects
- assessment and skills requirements
- choices must not be dependent on friends or relationship with class teachers.

## Do I get support to choose the best subject for me?

All students should seek guidance from their tutors and subject teachers. Furthermore, the Assistant Principal at Misk will be available to give specific advice on subject requirements and qualifications needed for future careers.

We are ready and keen to ensure you are well supported throughout this important process. Please email [smegalaa@miskschools.edu.sa](mailto:smegalaa@miskschools.edu.sa) with any questions or concerns.

## What about co-curricular choices?

Our Co-Curricular Activities Programme (CCAP) at Misk Schools forms a very important part of every student's holistic education. Our offering is substantial and specifically designed to bolster individual pathways.

For example, if you have your eye on a career in technology, and have chosen ICT or Computer Science as an option, then consider signing up for an activity that focuses on digital futures such as e-sports, virtual reality or gaming. If you dream of becoming a business leader, and have selected an Economics or Business Studies IGCSE, something that focuses on entrepreneurship would make a strong choice.

Co-curricular activities can add significantly to your knowledge, understanding and experience, adding real weight as part of university applications. When you receive confirmation of your IGCSE options, an important next step will be to consider what to pursue from the school's CCAP. More information on this will be forthcoming in the near future.

## Can I change my option choices later?

It may be possible to change your option choices after the option process has been completed, but this will be limited to a few subjects and must conform to the option blocks in place. Changes cannot be made after the end of October 2023 due to the amount of work missed.

Option forms must be returned to Mr Shen by **Tuesday, 31<sup>st</sup> January 2023.**

IGCSE Computer Science	IGCSE PE	IGCSE Triple Science*	IGCSE Design and Technology	IGCSE Business Studies	IGCSE Economics*	IGCSE Global Perspectives
IGCSE Art and Design		IGCSE ICT			IGCSE Chinese	

\* These subjects are restricted to the highest performing students in the year group

## Key Stage 4 Options Form 2023/24 G9 Cohort

### Compulsory Core Subjects

All students will study a core curriculum leading to at least five IGCSE qualifications:

English Language	Arabic Language	Mathematics	Double Science*
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\*Students will study a minimum of two Science IGCSEs covering Biology, Chemistry and Physics. Students can opt for Triple Science IGCSEs depending on their personalised pathway.

### Open Pool Options

All students have three further option choices from the range of subjects listed overleaf. In order that students are offered their preferred subjects, we ask that you express your interest in the subjects you would like to study at Key Stage 4 by listing six subjects in PRIORITY ORDER, with your top choice first.

1st Choice _____	2nd Choice _____
3rd Choice _____	4th Choice _____
5th Choice _____	6th Choice _____

### Higher Project Qualification (HPQ)

Please indicate if you would like to undergo an Higher Project Qualification:

YES	NO
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### Declaration

It is not always possible to allocate a student to all of their choices. If you are not allocated to all of your primary choices, you will be allocated to one of your reserve choices. The number of students expressing an interest in some subjects will determine if the subject is taught at KS4. Where some combinations of subjects, like Business Studies and Commerce or ICT and Computer Science, are not allowed, you will be allocated your higher preference.

Signature of Parent/Carer _____	Signature of student _____
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**Return form to Mr Shen by Tuesday, 31<sup>st</sup> January 2023.**

Please email [smegalaa@miskschools.edu.sa](mailto:smegalaa@miskschools.edu.sa) with any questions or concerns.

PLEASE PULL OUT FORM HERE



# Building a bold new future for education

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