

IGCSE Programme BISJ 2019-21

Students' Options Booklet



Learning to live Learning to learn Learning to lead



NAME: _____

TUTOR GROUP: _____

Message from the Deputy Head – Academic

Dear Students and Parents,

Over the next few weeks, you will undertake the selection of the courses that you desire to study at IGCSE level in Year 10 and 11. The aim of this booklet is to guide you through the options process, by providing you with the following important information:

- ⇒ The option process and key important dates
- ⇒ Advice on how to make the right subject choices
- ⇒ An overview of the IGCSE/ programme at BISJ
- ⇒ Option Choice Selection Forms

You will receive further information about course content from your subject teachers and Heads of Department during class time. Form Tutors will support you through the IGCSE option process during Tutor time and help you to make the right option choices. While important, the process should not be a daunting or stressful time. You will have plenty of support from me, your parents, Form Tutor and teachers. We will endeavour to provide you with any further advice or details about any aspect of the IGCSE courses you need to help in your decision making. Don't be afraid to just ask!

Good luck and enjoy discovering what courses are available and selecting your Year 10 and 11 IGCSE options.

Yours sincerely,

Mr. Michael Shields
Deputy Head – Academic
shieldsm@conti.sch.sa

IGCSE Options Procedures and Processes: Key Dates

Task	Day	Date
Year 9 Options week	Week beginning	20/01/19
Options morning	Wednesday	22/01/19
Options Evening	Tuesday	22/01/19
Yr9 SPTC	Tuesday	22/01/19
University Guidance Service available for consultation (Optional)	Wednesday until Monday	23/01/19 4/02/19
IG Options Booklet Submission Deadline	Wednesday	05/02/19
Contact parents regarding any selections issues	Week beginning	17/02/19

Stage by Stage Process of Completing this Booklet

1. You should complete this booklet in order as indicated below and on the following pages.

Section 1

2. Read through the introduction and Section 1a on '**Subject Preferences** and complete the task in this section.
3. Read 1b the **IGCSE/GCSE Subject Options Grid** to ensure you know the possible choices.
4. Complete Section 1c. You could discuss this at home with the help of your parents, or older brothers or sisters.
5. Complete Section 1d. You could speak to your teachers in class, or ask them to give a comment at the SPTC on 22nd Jan.
6. If you are not staying next year complete the sheet at the end of section 1.

Section 2

7. Complete **2a - Personal Details**
8. Complete **2b – Other Languages Studied**
9. Then study **2c – IGCSE/GCSE Subject Options Grid** to ensure you know the possible choices
10. Complete **3 – IGCSE/GCSE Options Form**
11. Submit your **fully completed** options booklet to your tutor on Tuesday 5th February.

Well done you have finished selecting your IGCSE/GCSE Options!

SECTION 1: Making Choices: Exploring your interests, skills, performance and preferences

Introduction

You should complete the following pages with the assistance of your Form Tutor if necessary. You should review your own answers every now and then: your circumstances and thoughts change!

It is vital to remember that when selecting your subjects:

- Select the subjects that you most enjoy.
- Select the subjects that may be challenging but in which you will achieve success.
- Ensure that they enable you to follow the career path you may wish to take.
- If you don't know what your career path is yet that is okay – select subjects that keep your options open for the future!
- Ensure you are able to take the subjects at IB level that will allow you to apply to the university and university course of your choice. If you are unsure, keep your subject choices broad.
- Talk to everyone you can – parents, subject teachers, Heads of Department, Form Tutors.

Do not select subjects because:

- Your friend is taking them – it is unlikely you will be in the same class.
- You like the teacher. Teachers change every year and there is no guarantee they will be teaching you.
- You feel pressured by your parents. However, it is vital to listen to their advice and communicate what your dreams are for your future.

Thinking Ahead- University Pre requisites:

- Students and parents often become concerned that there are very specific requirements at iGCSE level for many university courses.
- This is generally not the case. In fact the only pre requisites worldwide are as follows;
- For medicine students need to have studied Biology and Chemistry. This is covered by the Co-ordinated science qualification.
- For Architecture students need to have studied Art
- For Engineering students need to have studied Physics. This is covered by the Co-ordinated science qualification.
- If you have any questions please email the Head of University Guidance Service at Shieldss@conti.sch.sa and you will receive further guidance.

1a - Exploring your Subject Preferences

Which subjects have I enjoyed in the past (irrespective of grades)? Why do I enjoy them?



In the table below, place a tick under the face that most represents your feelings towards that subject. Then write one reason why you like or dislike that subject.

Subject	Rating				One reason for enjoying or disliking
English	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
French/Spanish	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Arabic	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Geography	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
History	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Science	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Mathematics	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Drama	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Music	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Art & Design	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Computer Sci/ICT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Physical Education (PE)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Task Completion Deadline Date:

Form Tutor Signature

1b - IGCSE/GCSE Subject Options Grid

Compulsory Subjects:

English

All students will be assigned to English First Language & World Literature at the start of the iGCSE.

Mathematics

All students will be entered for Cambridge International Maths iGCSE. Students in the first maths group will have the opportunity to be entered for IGCSE Additional Math. This will only be possible if the Maths department consider the student ready to sit the CIE Maths IGCSE, and perform at a high level, at the end of year 10. Students who are in danger of not achieving a C grade in CIE maths will also be entered for EdExcel Maths iGCSE.

Co-Ordinated Science

All students will be entered for Cambridge International Co-Ordinated Science Double Award iGCSE. They will receive two iGCSE grades on successful completion of the course.

iGCSE Physical Education

All students will be entered for Cambridge International Physical Education. Students will have four lessons in PE per week as preparation for this.

An Arts Subject

All students will be entered for a Cambridge International Creative Arts subject. Students will choose from Art, Drama, or Music.

Optional Subjects

Languages	Humanities	Humanities/Computing	Arts
Choose 1	Choose 1	Choose 1	Choose 1
First Language Arabic	Business Studies	Business Studies	Art & Design
Foreign Language Arabic	Geography	Geography	Drama
Foreign Language Spanish	History	History	Music
Foreign Language French		Computer Science	
		ICT	

IN ADDITION: LLL, Core Arabic/History and Geography of Saudi Arabia/Islamic Civilisation are compulsory for all students.

IMPORTANT: Some courses may not be offered due to insufficient student enrolment. In addition, it is not always possible to accommodate all course selections due to scheduling conflicts. Every effort will be made to accommodate student preferences but on occasions it may be necessary for students to modify their option choices. This is very much the exception rather than the rule.

1c - Focus your thinking about possible subjects

Using the table below, make a list of the possible option choices that you are considering and weigh up the advantages (pros) and disadvantages (cons). **Remember you only need to complete this for your optional choices not the Core subjects that you are required to take.**

Subject	Subject choice	Reasons for this choice	Reasons against this choice
Group 1: English	This is a compulsory subject.		
Group 2: Languages choice			
Group 3: Humanities choice			
Group 3: Humanities/Computing choice:			
Group 4: Co-Ordinated Science	This is a compulsory subject.		
Group 5: Mathematics	This will be pre-determined based on your sets in Year 9		
Group 6: Arts Choice			
Group 6: Arts Reserve			
Group 3: Humanities Reserve			
Group 3: Humanities/Computing Reserve:			

Task Completion Deadline Date:

Form Tutor Signature:

Date:

1d – Get your teacher’s thoughts about your possible subjects

Now you have considered your choices it is time to see what your teachers think. In the table below, write the choices you are considering and then for each choice write your current class teacher and the Level / Grade you achieved in your Term 1 report. Then during your class discussions with your teachers or the Student Parent Teacher Conference, ask them to complete the columns to show whether they recommend that you should take the subject at IGCSE/GCSE.

Subject	Subject Choice	Current Teacher Name	Term 1 Level / Grade	Subject Teacher Comments on Suitability	Subject Teacher signature
Group 1: English		This is a compulsory subject.			
Group 2: Languages choice					
Group 3: Humanities choice					
Group 3: Humanities/Computing choice:					
Group 4: Co-Ordinated Science		This is a compulsory subject.			
Group 5: Mathematics		This will be pre-determined based on your sets in Year 9			
Group 6: Arts Choice					
Group 6: Arts Reserve					
Group 3: Humanities Reserve					
Group 3: Humanities/Computing Reserve:					

Task Completion Deadline Date:

Form Tutor Signature:

Date:

Students Who Are Definitely Leaving BISJ at the end of June 2019

This Page is relevant only for students who are confirmed to be leaving at the end of Year 9.

As part of the IGCSE 2019-21 options process for current Year 9 students, it is expected that all students complete and submit the options booklet in full. The only exception to this should be students who are definitely not returning next year to BISJ.

For those who will definitely not be returning in Year 10 they will be expected to complete the booklet up to this point as it will assist their future decision making in any school they may move to. However the sections after this page are only for students who are a possibility of returning for Year 10 or definitely returning.

If a student is unsure if they will be returning to BISJ next year then they must complete this booklet in full. This will ensure that the options preferences are considered.

Confirmation of Non-submission of Options for the I/GCSE at BISJ in 2019-21

Student Name: _____ Tutor Group: _____

I hereby confirm that my child will not be completing the full options booklet as they are not returning to BISJ next year.

I confirm that admissions have been notified of our intent to leave.

Parents Name: _____

Parents Signature: _____

Date: _____

SECTION 2: IGCSE/GCSE Options Formal Document

2a - Personal Details

FULL PASSPORT NAME:

TUTOR GROUP:

Date of Birth:

Nationality on Passport/s:

Passport 1:

Passport 2: (For those students who have dual citizenship)

2b – Language Profile

You must complete the language profile in detail. Do not leave any spaces blank. Please be aware that if you stop a language in KS3 you will not be able to pick that language up again in the IB years at a lower level than your current level of study.

Strongest Language (read, write, speak):

Years of Study & Level

_____ *For example: English*

_____ *14 Years up to IGCSE*

Second Language:

Years of Study & Level:

Native 'Mother Tongue' Language (if different from 'Strongest Language'):

Second Language

Foreign Language

You must list all the languages you have studied and the level you reached in each language, starting with your most recent.

Language	Number of Years studied	Level	When Studied
<i>Example: French</i>	3	Yr.7-9	<i>August 2008 – June 2011</i>

By signing below you attest that the above information is true and accurate.

Student Signature: _____ **Parent Signature:** _____

2c - IGCSE/GCSE Subject Options Grid

Compulsory Subjects:

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All students will be assigned to English First Language & World Literature at the start of the iGCSE.

Mathematics

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3 - IGCSE / GCSE OPTIONS FORM

Name: _____

Tutor Group: _____

Once you have made your final selection, complete the IGCSE/GCSE Options table below. Be very specific with the name of the Subject so there is no confusion. You must fill in all rows (including reserves). No subject may appear more than once.

Option Groups	Subject Choice
Group 1: English	This is a compulsory Subject
Group 2: Languages (Select one)	
Group 3: Humanities (Select one)	
Group 3: Humanities/Computing choice:	
Group 4: Co-Ordinated Science	This is a compulsory Subject
Group 5: Mathematics	This will be pre-determined based on your sets in Year 9
Group 6: Arts (first choice)	
Group 6: Arts Reserve	
Group 3: Humanities Reserve	
Group 3: Humanities/Computing Reserve:	

Student's signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent's signature: _____ Date: _____

Tutor's signature: _____ Date: _____

Now hand your completed booklet into your Form Tutor. Remember the deadline is Tuesday 5th February 2019.

Administration Only – Once the booklet has been submitted

Reviewed:

Form Tutor Comments (if applicable):

Form Tutor signature that booklet is complete:

Date:

Head of Year Comments (if applicable):

Head of Year signature:

Date:

Deputy Head of Senior School - Academic Comments (if applicable):

Deputy Head of Senior School - Academic signature:

Date:

Notes Page

Notes Page