

An Overview of English and Social Studies

English Language

Designed for students for whom English is their mother tongue, IGCSE First Language English develops the ability to communicate clearly, accurately and effectively in both **speech and writing**. Students learn how to **employ a wide-ranging vocabulary, use correct grammar, spelling and punctuation, and develop a personal style and an awareness of the audience being addressed**. Students are also encouraged to **read widely**, both for their own enjoyment and to further their awareness of the ways in which English can be used. IGCSE First Language English also **develops more general analysis and communication skills such as synthesis, inference, and the ability to order facts and present opinions effectively**.

English Literature

The syllabus enables students to **read, interpret and evaluate texts** through the study of literature in English. They develop an **understanding of literal meaning, relevant contexts and of the deeper themes or attitudes that may be expressed**. Through their studies, students learn to recognise and appreciate the ways in which **writers use English to achieve a range of effects**, and will be able to **present an informed, personal response to the material they have studied**. The syllabus also encourages the exploration of wider and universal issues, promoting students' better understanding of themselves and of the world around them.

History

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

Geography

Through the IGCSE Geography syllabus, students will **develop a 'sense of place' by looking at the world around them on a local, regional and global scale**. Students will examine a range of **natural and man-made environments**, and **learn about some of the processes which affected their development**. They will also look at the **ways in which people interact with their environment, and the opportunities and challenges an environment can present, thereby gaining a deeper insight into the different communities and cultures that exist around the world**.