

Today's Learners, Tomorrow's Leaders



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“
*Hartland is an outstanding school and provides an
outstanding quality of education for pupils.*”

- British Schools Overseas Inspection November 2021

A photograph of a modern school building at sunset. The building's facade is composed of large, light-colored rectangular panels. The sky is filled with soft, golden clouds, and the sun is low on the horizon, casting a warm glow over the scene. In the foreground, there is a dark, corrugated metal wall and a tall, thin light pole. To the right, a large, dark metal structure, possibly a sports court or playground enclosure, is visible. The overall atmosphere is serene and peaceful.

 **Hartland**
International School

Welcome to Hartland



Fiona Cottam
Principal

As students come to the end of the Key Stage 3 journey, they embark on a new and exciting phase of learning as they start the more formal examinable stages of education. Key Stage 4, which covers the years of Year 10 and Year 11 in our school, sees the introduction of GCSE courses. Though this can seem quite daunting for families, we will guide you as always and you will find full explanations and details about this new phase of learning in the pages that follow.

Entering Year 10, students have the opportunity to focus at a higher level on the core subjects that they have always studied, but for the first time, it also allows them to make choices about their learning and their specialist subject choices. New opportunities are available as the range of new subjects adds a breadth and dynamic that opens new doors for all, and activities such as the International Duke of Edinburgh Award add further richness to the Key Stage 4 curriculum.

Hartland is a unique and vibrant place filled with the energy of inquisitive minds and the dynamics of individual characters. We care passionately about excellent learning and teaching, about learning for life, about education - but most of all we care passionately about the children in our care. So, as we move into the GCSE exam years, we remain committed to supporting each and every student in a personalised way that will ultimately help them to achieve their goals. We know that children have an array of differing needs, both educational and emotional, but they also have an exciting assortment of dreams, hopes and aspirations. Your children and their successes are at the heart of all that I and my staff commit to and we look forward to continuing on our learning journey with you as your child enters this new phase of learning.



Paul Ryan
Head of Secondary

It gives me great pleasure to introduce the GCSE Options Booklet for Hartland International School.

As a Year 9 student, you have now reached the stage at which you must start to make decisions which will affect your further study and career opportunities. It is important that choosing your GCSE courses should be part of the process of finding a longer individual learning route. Your choices will also affect the A level options available to you at the end of Year 11.

In Key Stage 4 you will be developing the skills to help you become an effective learner and to prepare you for further study at A level, University and in your chosen careers. All students have particular strengths and abilities and yours may be quite different from your friends or older siblings.

At Hartland, we aim to ensure that each student achieves their own personal best. Helping you to plan your KS4 programme is part of helping you to succeed and achieve your true potential in later life. The transition from Key Stage 3 to GCSE is an important one and the expectation on students rises accordingly. Alongside the additional demands of the rigorous GCSE programme, students are expected to become more independent and demonstrate greater maturity and responsibility.

This options booklet outlines the courses offered for further study in Key Stage 4. If you would like to discuss this in more detail, please contact any member of the team and we would be delighted to arrange an individual discussion. I wish you the very best in your choices and future studies.

Why Hartland?

Our Hartland community is a warm and vibrant place where every individual is known and valued and where the energy of youth and their inquisitive minds really matters. We have created a safe, secure and happy environment where students are challenged and supported in all they do and where humanity and transparency are central to our ethos.

With a strong and experienced staff and leadership team, we understand that an outstanding education is not merely characterised by achieving good grades. It is defined by a combination of high-quality academic provision

and an expansive enrichment programme designed to provide multiple pathways to success.

Hartland International School prides itself on delivering a traditional values led British education combined with the richness of international approaches to learning. Structured to meet the needs of the 21st Century learner, we aim to inspire, challenge and empower young people on their journey to excellence. This is balanced with rigorous academic challenge and the holistic development of all aspects of young people.

Our high-quality pastoral care in a safe and approachable environment will help shape students to become well-rounded, fulfilled and successful individuals.

Introduction

As our students come to the end of Key Stage 3, they have the opportunity to take some ownership of the courses and subjects that they study. Until Year 10, students have followed a broad curriculum but as they progress into the examination years of the curriculum, they now have greater flexibility and choice.

The purpose of this booklet is to:

- Present to parents and students the courses that are available for the GCSE programme from September 2024 .
- Outline the content, course structure and assessment criteria of each subject.
- Help guide students through the decision making process.

What are GCSEs?

GCSE is an acronym, which stands for the General Certificate of Secondary Education. GCSEs are designed to examine all ability ranges, with grades ranging from 1-9 with grade 9 being the highest grade that can be awarded. Students at Hartland International School typically study between 9 and 11 GCSEs from a range of UK Examination Boards. In some subjects, Heads of Department have chosen to opt for GCSEs that are examined by International Examination Boards, as their content is less UK centric. These are referred to as IGCSEs.

GCSE Compulsory Curriculum

The GCSE curriculum is made up of a set of compulsory and core subjects which all students study. Students can then tailor their remaining GCSE choices to fit their interests from a diverse range of optional subjects

All students study the following core subjects:

- English Language and English Literature (2 GCSEs)
- Mathematics
- Science (there are two pathways of study for Science which will be explained in greater detail)
- Arabic for all Arab passport holders -Arabic A - MOE
- Arabic for all other nationalities which is compulsory to the end of Year 10 -Arabic B
- Islamic Studies for all Muslim students - Ministry of Education Curriculum
- Physical Education
- Moral, Social and Cultural Studies



Option Choices

Students then have the choice from the following broad range of subjects:

- Art and Design: Fine Art
- Arabic
- Business Studies
- Computer Science
- Design & Technology
- Drama
- French
- Geography
- German
- History
- Italian
- Mandarin
- Media Studies
- Music
- Physical Education as a full GCSE award
- Psychology
- Separate Triple Science **
- Spanish

How Will I Choose?

In choosing option subjects to study at GCSE, students should think carefully about the following points:

- Which subjects do I enjoy the most?
- What am I good at?
- Do I need a particular subject for a specific pathway / A level or career?
- Does the course specification look interesting?
- If I intend to return to my home country, are there subject specific requirements that I will need even at GCSE level – e.g. a language

Implications for Post-16 Subject Choices

Whilst it is the case with some subjects that entry on to Post-16 courses is dependent upon having studied that subject in Years 10 and 11, this is not always true. This may be relevant if students are struggling to narrow their choice of GCSE subjects down at this stage. It would be advisable for students to discuss their situation with the teachers of the relevant subjects indicated in this booklet.

“ The quality of teaching and assessment is outstanding in all phases and pupils make excellent progress in all subjects.

Teachers have excellent subject knowledge and pedagogical and have high expectations which they share with their pupils.”

- British Schools Overseas Inspection November 2021



GCSE Options process

To support students through this process, a series of opportunities and information sessions will take place.

These include:

- Focused subject specific assemblies and presentations
- Taster lessons in option subjects
- Peer guidance and support from our current Year 11 students
- A one-to-one careers appointment with Mrs Sheedy and / or a member of the Senior Leadership Team
- An Information Options Evening for parents and students

Following all of this, students will submit their options form and will be asked to electronically select their GCSE option choices, as well as an additional reserve option. This will allow us to get a full idea of the subjects that can be made available and have further discussions if needed.



“In Secondary, pupils continue to make outstanding progress and reach high standards in GCSE examinations.”

- British Schools Overseas Inspection November 2021



Work experience opportunity

At the end of Year 10, students will be required to undertake one week of work experience. This is crucial for developing an understanding of the world of work and is an opportunity to develop confidence in a work place environment. It is also a fantastic chance to find out if students actually enjoy a specific job whilst developing skills and knowledge that they can sell in the future.

Should you require any further information on the options process or the content of the GCSE curriculum and pathways, please do not hesitate to speak with any member of the secondary team or the Year 9 tutor team. Some key people who can support you are:

Mr Ryan	Head of Secondary	pryan@hartlandinternational.com
Ms Penn	Assistant Head of Secondary: Academic	epenn@hartlandinternational.com
Mrs Herbert	Assistant Head of Secondary: Pastoral	nherbert@hartlandinternational.com
Mr Brown	Assistant Head of Secondary and Head of Sixth Form	gbrown@hartlandinternational.com
Mr McLaren	Head of Year 9	rmclaren@hartlandinternational.com
Ms Hopwood	Head of Year 10	lhopwood@hartlandinternational.com
Mr Lappin	Head of Year 11	tlappin@hartlandinternational.com
Mrs Sheedy	Careers Advisor and Co-ordinator	msheedy@hartlandinternational.com

“ The overall impact of the curriculum on pupils' holistic development is excellent and results from its breadth and balance across all subjects. ”

- British Schools Overseas Inspection November 2021



CORE SUBJECTS

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ENGLISH LANGUAGE _____	31
ENGLISH LITERATURE _____	32
MATHEMATICS _____	33
SCIENCE COMBINED _____	34
SEPARATE SCIENCE (TRIPLE) _____	35

ARABIC A

Arabic A (Arabic as a first language) MOE compulsory until Year 13.

SUBJECT LEADER: Mrs Gamal - E: sgamal@hartlandinternational.com

DIRECTOR OF ARABIC AND ISLAMIC: Mrs Ramadan (E: nramadan@hartlandinternational.com)

WHY STUDY THIS COURSE?

Studying Arabic as a first language can offer various personal, academic, and professional benefits. Arabic language is one of the richest languages in the world. Its history and effect on other languages stands as a key aspect in the history. Arabic is spoken in 22 countries, including economically significant nations in the Middle East.

Here are several points highlighting the advantages of learning Arabic as a first language:

- As a native Arabic speaker, one is inherently connected to the cultural nuances, traditions, and social dynamics of the Arab world, providing a deep cultural fluency.
- Native speakers possess an intuitive understanding of the language's grammar, syntax, and idiomatic expressions, making communication more natural and nuanced.
- Native Arabic speakers can be instrumental in international diplomacy, representing their countries and communities with authenticity and linguistic accuracy.
- Native speakers are well-positioned to contribute to the rich tradition of Arabic literature, poetry, music, and art, adding to the cultural tapestry of the Arab world.
- Being a native Arabic speaker instills a sense of pride and identity, contributing to a strong connection to one's roots and a deeper appreciation for the linguistic and cultural heritage.

WHAT DOES THIS COURSE INVOLVE?

We follow the MOE curriculum and standards.

HOW IS THE COURSE ASSESSED?

Based on the Ministry of Education Assessment Policy the scale of marks is as follows:

Exam skill	Mode of assessment	Weighting	Time
Reading	50 marks	50%	55 minutes
Writing	30 marks	30%	55 minutes
Listening	10 marks	10%	55 minutes
Speaking	10 marks	10%	8-10 minutes

WHY IS THIS A USEFUL QUALIFICATION?

Studying Arabic will benefit you in many ways. It will increase your competitiveness in future job career. In summary, being a native Arabic speaker brings a unique set of advantages, including cultural fluency, career opportunities, and the ability to contribute meaningfully to the preservation and promotion of the Arabic language and culture.

ARABIC B

Arabic B (Arabic as a second language) MOE compulsory until Year 10.

SUBJECT LEADER: Mrs Ouda - E: souda@hartlandinternational.com

DIRECTOR OF ARABIC AND ISLAMIC: Mrs Ramadan (E: nramadan@hartlandinternational.com)

WHY STUDY THIS COURSE?

Studying Arabic as a second language can offer various personal, academic, and professional benefits. Arabic is spoken in 22 countries, including economically significant nations in the Middle East.

Here are several points highlighting the advantages of learning Arabic:

- Gaining insights into the rich history, traditions, and cultural nuances of the Arab world.
- Developing a deeper appreciation for Arabic literature, art, music, and cinema.
- Opening up opportunities to communicate with over 310 million native Arabic speakers worldwide.
- Enhancing your ability to engage in cross-cultural dialogue and foster international connections.

WHAT DOES THIS COURSE INVOLVE?

We follow the MOE curriculum and standards.

Term	Topics
Term 1	Dream Job
	Dream House
	My role model
Term 2	The Arabic World
	Arabic famous landmarks and icons.
	The Arabic countries culture.
Term 3	Technology and Media
	New and old Technology
	New and old Media
	Positives and negatives of internet usage.
	Favourite Films and Movies

HOW IS THE COURSE ASSESSED?

Exam skill	Mode of assessment	Weighting	Time
Reading	25 marks	25%	55 minutes
Writing	25 marks	25%	55 minutes
Listening	25 marks	25%	55 minutes
Speaking	25 marks	25%	8-10 minutes

WHY IS THIS A USEFUL QUALIFICATION?

Studying Arabic will benefit you in many ways. It will increase your competitiveness in future job career. Studying Arabic will foster your knowledge of the Arabic culture and values. Navigating and appreciating the beauty of Arab countries more confidently. You will be able to interact with Arabic speakers, making travel experiences more enriching and immersive.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

EXAM BOARD: Edexcel IGCSE (4EA1)

SUBJECT LEADER: Mrs Naylor (E: mnaylor@hartlandinternational.com)

WHY STUDY THIS COURSE?

The International GCSE courses are designed for teaching in international schools but are also the preferred choice for many of the UK's top independent schools. The courses are a continuation of students' work at Key Stage 3. Students will write creatively and analytically, discuss prose, poems and plays and they will evaluate, debate and respond to a variety of literary and media texts.

Studying English will develop students' understanding of the spoken word, their ability to convey meaning through written language and their skills in reading, interpreting and responding to material from a variety of sources.

The qualifications will equip students for A Level study and for entry to university, but also for a successful life: The development of English skills relate to our interactions with others and with the world around us.

WHAT DOES THIS COURSE INVOLVE?

The analysis of how writers create meaning in literary and non-literary genres such as autobiographies and newspapers, the study of how language is used to shape readers' understanding of the world and how we interpret it. The composition of written texts for analytical, discursive, creative and descriptive purposes. The study of English Language will develop students' ability to: demonstrate skills in speaking, listening, reading and writing necessary to communicate with others confidently, effectively, precisely and appropriately; express themselves creatively and imaginatively; understand the patterns, structures and conventions of written and spoken English; select and adapt speech and writing to different situations and audiences and become critical readers of a range of texts.

HOW IS THE COURSE ASSESSED?

Exam Title	Mode of Assessment	Weighting	Time
Paper 1: Reading and writing Non-fiction texts and transactional writing	Examination 90 marks	60%	2 hours 15 minutes
Poetry and imaginative writing	Internally assessed coursework	40%	N/A

WHY IS THIS A USEFUL QUALIFICATION?

English Language is the study of oral and written communication. It teaches literacy skills using a wide range of sources to allow students to develop their ability to read for meaning and to communicate with clarity, coherence and flair both in speech and in writing. English Language is vital for study in all areas of the curriculum, so achieving highly will prove beneficial for students, as the skills taught are integral to any further higher-level study.

ENGLISH LITERATURE

EXAM BOARD: Edexcel IGCSE (4ET1)

SUBJECT LEADER: Mrs Naylor (E: mnaylor@hartlandinternational.com)

WHY STUDY THIS COURSE?

This specification offers the freedom of choice in approaches to teaching and learning, whilst providing a rigorous summative assessment of candidates' skills and abilities. The Edexcel International GCSE in English Literature specification gives the option of assessment by coursework in lesson combined with an external examination.

The specification is based on substantial study of at least three complete texts in depth, with breadth of study across a range of modern and heritage literature. This course has a skills-based approach to the assessment of responses to literature, rewarding freshness and individuality. This specification complements the Edexcel IGCSE in English Language specification and each develops and builds upon the skills utilised within the other.

WHAT DOES THIS COURSE INVOLVE?

Students will be able to:

- Demonstrate a close knowledge and understanding of texts, maintaining a critical style and presenting an informed personal engagement.
- Analyse the language, form and structure used by a writer to create meanings and effects.
- Explore links and connections between texts.
- Show understanding of the relationships between texts and the contexts in which they were written.

HOW IS THE COURSE ASSESSED?

Exam Title	Mode of Assessment	Weighting	Time
Paper 1: written examination Poetry and Prose	Examination 90 marks	60%	2 hours
Modern drama and literary heritage texts	Internally assessed coursework	40%	N/A

WHY IS THIS A USEFUL QUALIFICATION?

The qualifications will equip students for A Level study and for entry to university, but also for a successful life: the development of English skills relate to our interactions with others and with the world around us. It will also extend learners' knowledge by broadening and deepening skills.

ISLAMIC

COURSE: Islamic Education subject is a compulsory until Year 13.

DIRECTOR OF ARABIC AND ISLAMIC: Mrs Ramadan (E: nramadan@hartlandinternational.com)

WHY STUDY THIS COURSE?

Studying Islamic education as a student is invaluable for a myriad of reasons. It not only offers a deep cultural understanding of Islamic societies but also promotes religious literacy and a global perspective on international affairs. This knowledge encourages interfaith dialogue, fostering tolerance and respect among diverse communities. Additionally, Islamic education instills ethical values, contributing to the development of compassionate and socially responsible individuals. The insights gained from studying Islam can open doors to various career opportunities, particularly in fields requiring an understanding of different cultures and religions. Beyond professional prospects, it nurtures personal development by honing critical thinking skills and a respect for diversity.

WHAT DOES THIS COURSE INVOLVE?

We follow the MOE curriculum and standards. We focus on the 6 strands of the curriculum and include a range of topics. Quran, Hadeeth and recitation are the key focus of understanding and memorization.

HOW IS THE COURSE ASSESSED?

Based on the Ministry of Education Assessment Policy the scale of marks is as follows:

Exam skill	Mode of assessment	Weighting	Time	
Assessment	60 marks	60%	55 minutes	
Recitation	20 marks	20%	10-15 minutes	
Projects and skills	20 marks	20%	Course work	

WHY IS THIS A USEFUL QUALIFICATION?

In Islamic education, students will benefit in their studies in which they are equipped with the skills to enhance their research capabilities, enabling them to delve into the depth of Islamic teachings, traditions, and historical contexts. This educational approach emphasizes critical analysis and the application of knowledge, empowering students to apply Islamic principles in contemporary contexts and contribute meaningfully to their real life.

MATHEMATICS

EXAM BOARD: Edexcel IGCSE (4MA1)

SUBJECT LEADER: Mr MacBlain (E: jmacblain@hartlandinternational.com)

WHY STUDY THIS COURSE?

Learning Mathematical skills at IGCSE level will help to build up essential skills that are used on a daily basis. Skills such as problem solving, analysing data, communication, logical thinking and attention to detail. Mathematical skills are used every day in the form of shopping, baking, journey planning and driving. Along with key mathematical concepts, your skills in planning, motivation, memory and practice that will also define how you are going to perform in your IGCSE examination.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The Pearson Edexcel International GCSE in Mathematics qualification requires students to focus on mathematical skills, techniques and concepts and learn how to use them to solve problems. This is a two-year course for teaching in international schools and colleges and UK independent schools.

WHAT DOES THIS COURSE INVOLVE?

Through the study of IGCSE Mathematics, students will be able to make deductions and draw conclusions from mathematical information. They will be able to construct chains of reasoning, presenting both arguments and proofs. During the course, students will develop their ability to interpret and communicate information accurately. Students should be able to demonstrate problem-solving skills by translating problems in mathematical or non-mathematical contexts.

The course is broken down into four key areas: Number (using numerical skills in a purely mathematical way and in real-life situations); Algebra (using letters as equivalent to numbers and as variables; understanding the distinction between expressions, equations and formulae; using algebra to set up and solve problems; demonstrating manipulative skills; and constructing and using graphs); Geometry (using properties of angles and understanding ideas of space and shape; understanding a range of transformations; working within the metric system; and using a ruler, compasses and protractor appropriately); and finally, Statistics (understanding basic ideas of statistical averages; using a range of statistical techniques and using basic ideas of probability).

HOW IS THE COURSE ASSESSED?

Exam Title	Mode of Assessment	Weighting	Time
2 Exam papers	Each exam is worth 100 marks	Each exam has a weighting of 50%	Each exam is 2 hours

WHY IS THIS A USEFUL QUALIFICATION?

Mathematics is welcomed by Higher Education for admission to degrees in the sciences, geography, economics and business studies, as well as being an essential requirement for engineering degree courses.

SCIENCE COMBINED

EXAM BOARD: AQA GCSE (8464)

SUBJECT LEADER: Ms Neylon (E: cneylon@hartlandinternational.com)

WHY STUDY THIS COURSE?

This new Science GCSE was developed with teachers to inspire and challenge students of all abilities and aspirations. Improved exams have fewer words, fewer contexts, and questions that increase in difficulty. Key skills are an explicit component of the course: teamwork through group work, ICT skills, numeracy, communication and problem solving are threaded throughout the programme of study. 'How Science Works' is a new element of this course, where students are given the opportunity to study the use of science in the work place, industry and research environments.

WHAT DOES THIS COURSE INVOLVE?

All students are required to study GCSE Science in year 10 and 11. The combined award (Trilogy) allows students to obtain two GCSE awards in science. All students will learn biology, chemistry and physics. There is a large practical element to GCSE science, which will be assessed within the final exams in year 11.

HOW IS THE COURSE ASSESSED?

Exam Title	Mode of Assessment	Weighting	Time
2 Exam papers in each of the three sciences	Examination Each paper is marked out of 70 marks	Each of the 6 papers is worth 16.7% of the total	Each of the 6 exams is 1 hour and 15 minutes

This course includes 21 required practical activities, which will be completed in lessons.

WHY IS THIS A USEFUL QUALIFICATION?

Careers in science include, but are not restricted to, Medicine, all branches of Engineering, Astronomy, and Pharmaceutical industry, Petrochemical industry, Chemistry, Biology, Physics, Pharmacology, Marine Biology, Agricultural Studies, Laboratory researcher, Oceanography, Geology, Dentistry, Veterinarian Scientist, Optometry, Law, Teaching and many more.

USEFUL RESOURCES

Nelson Thornes textbooks are available for use in lessons.

AQA Revision Guides for Combined Science: Trilogy are available.

AQA website for past and specimen papers.

Website - BBC GCSE Bitesize – AQA New GCSE specification.

SEPARATE SCIENCE (Triple)*

EXAM BOARD: AQA GCSE (8463, 8462, 8461)

SUBJECT LEADER: Ms Neylon (E: cneylon@hartlandinternational.com)

WHY STUDY THIS COURSE?

The main difference between the two choices is the level of knowledge acquired. In both, students will study biology, chemistry and physics and will sit two papers in each subject (6 in total). The combined science option (Trilogy) will cover roughly 2/3 of the separate science topics and will have a slightly shorter exam length. The recommendation is for students who are looking at choosing a science subject for A level to choose the separate science option.

WHAT DOES THIS COURSE INVOLVE?

GCSE Biology helps put Biology in the context of students' everyday lives with topics ranging from 'Keeping healthy' to 'Humans and their environment'.

GCSE Chemistry gives students the opportunity to gain a good understanding of the nature of substances, how they react together, how we our use of raw materials in fuels and manufacturing can affect the global and local environment.

GCSE Physics students are likely to be engaged by topics they can relate to their everyday lives, such as the efficiency of electrical appliances and braking distances as well as larger concepts like nuclear fission and fusion and evidence of the 'Big Bang'.

HOW IS THE COURSE ASSESSED?

Exam Title	Mode of Assessment	Weighting	Time
2 Exam papers in each of the three sciences	Examination Each paper is marked out of 100 marks	Equal weighting of 50% for each paper in each science	Each of the 6 exams in 1 hour and 45 minutes

There are 28 required practical activities, which students will complete during lesson time.

WHY IS THIS A USEFUL QUALIFICATION?

Careers in science include, but are not restricted to, Medicine, all branches of Engineering, Astronomy, and Pharmaceutical industry, Petrochemical industry, Chemistry, Biology, Physics, Pharmacology, Marine Biology, Agricultural Studies, Laboratory researcher, Oceanography, Geology, Dentistry, Veterinarian Scientist, Optometry, Law, Teaching and many more.

USEFUL RESOURCES

Nelson Thornes textbooks are available for use in lessons.

AQA Revision Guides for Combined Science: Trilogy are available.

AQA website for past and specimen papers.

Website - BBC GCSE Bitesize – AQA New GCSE specification.

**Please note that studying Separate Science will require one of the four option choices to be used.*



OPTION SUBJECTS

ARABIC AS AN ADDITIONAL LANGUAGE	25
ART & DESIGN	26
ART & DESIGN - TEXTILE DESIGN	27
BUSINESS	28
CHINESE	29
COMPUTER SCIENCE	30
DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY	31
DRAMA	32
ECONOMICS	33
FRENCH	34
GEOGRAPHY	35
GERMAN	36
HISTORY	37
ITALIAN	38
MEDIA STUDIES	39
MUSIC	40
PHYSICAL EDUCATION	41
PSYCHOLOGY	42
SPANISH	43

ARABIC

SUBJECT LEADER: Mrs Gamal - E: sgamal@hartlandinternational.com

DIRECTOR OF ARABIC AND ISLAMIC: Mrs Ramadan (E: nramadan@hartlandinternational.com)

WHY STUDY THIS COURSE?

Studying Arabic at the GCSE level is valuable for several reasons. Firstly, Arabic is one of the most widely spoken languages globally, opening up opportunities for communication and cultural understanding in a diverse and interconnected world. Additionally, proficiency in Arabic can enhance career prospects, particularly in fields such as international relations, diplomacy, business, and journalism. As the language is integral to the Arab world's rich history and contemporary significance, learning Arabic at GCSE provides students with a unique and meaningful skill set that goes beyond linguistic competence, fostering cross-cultural appreciation and fostering global perspectives.

WHAT DOES THIS COURSE INVOLVE?

In Year 10, students will study identity and culture; holiday and travel; and school life. In Year 11 the course comprises of future aspirations, study and work; and International and global dimensions.

HOW IS THE COURSE ASSESSED?

Based on the Ministry of Education Assessment Policy the scale of marks is as follows:

Paper	Description	Length	Weighting
1	Listening and understanding in Arabic	Foundation tier: 35 minutes, Higher tier: 45 minutes	50 marks 25% weighting
2	Speaking in Arabic	Foundation tier: 7–9 minutes Higher tier: 10–12 minutes	70 marks 25% weighting
3	Reading and understanding in Arabic	Foundation tier: 50 minutes. Higher tier: 1 hour 5 minutes.	50 marks. 25% weighting
4	Writing in Arabic	Foundation tier: 1 hour 20 minutes. Higher tier: 1 hour 25 minutes.	60 marks 25% weighting

WHY IS THIS A USEFUL QUALIFICATION?

Studying Arabic will benefit you in many ways. It will increase your competitiveness in future job career. Studying Arabic will foster your knowledge of the Arabic culture and values. Navigating and appreciating the beauty of Arab countries more confidently. You will be able to interact with Arabic speakers, making travel experiences more enriching and immersive.

ART & DESIGN Art Craft and Design & Fine Art

COURSE: International GCSE Art & Design Fine Art (4FA1)

EXAM BOARD: Edexcel

SUBJECT LEADER: Ms Beggs (E: cbeggs@hartlandinternational.com)

SUBJECT SPECIFIC ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Consultation with Head of Art

WHY STUDY THIS COURSE?

Art and Design is the right subject for you if you enjoy engagement with aesthetic and intellectual concepts using traditional and/or digital media, materials, techniques, and processes for the purpose of self-expression, free of external constraints. Fine art may be created to communicate ideas and messages about the observed world, the qualities of materials, perceptions, or preconceptions. It can also be used to explore personal and cultural identity, society and how we live, visual language, and technology. Fine Art allows us to consider and reflect on our place in the world, both as individuals and collectively.

WHAT DOES THIS COURSE INVOLVE?

Students will work within a wide variety of art disciplines and are encouraged to work within the medium which best reflects their skills. The main areas available to students are drawing and painting, printmaking, sculpture (ceramics, card, wood, plaster, and wire) and lens-based media. Students are encouraged to attend life drawing classes and other workshops offered by the Art department and outside agencies. Critical studies are an integral part of the course and students will be expected to investigate and analyse the work of other artists and use this to inform their own work. Trips to galleries and museums will be organised, including the possibility of a trip abroad. We also expect students to visit galleries in their own time.

HOW IS THE COURSE ASSESSED?

Coursework is central to the course. Coursework is produced in lessons and for homework throughout the two years. Fine artwork will demonstrate an understanding and application of formal elements and creative skills, including mark-making. Students will use visual communication sensitively and thoughtfully to document their artistic journey and fully support their intentions..

There are 2 components:

Component 1: Personal Investigation = 60%	Component 2 = Externally Set Assignment = 40%
Unit 1 Coursework 60% This component incorporates three major elements: supporting studies, practical work and a personal study of a minimum 1000 words of continuous prose	Unit 2 Externally set assignment. Students will receive the exam paper on the 1st of February and will have several weeks to complete the preparatory work before they sit a 15-hour exam, which is held over the course of three days.

WHY IS THIS A USEFUL QUALIFICATION?

If you want to pursue a career in the creative industries an IGCSE in Fine Art could lead to A level Art or a Foundation course, which in turn would lead on to a degree course. There are many courses available in Art and Design leading to professional and rewarding careers; Computer Software Design, Ceramics, Industrial Design, Interior Design, Fashion Design, Textiles, Illustration, Graphic Designer 3D Design, Fine Art, Painting, Sculpture, Printmaking, Film Making, Photography, Animation, Theatre Design, Architecture and Art Historian.

ART & DESIGN – TEXTILE DESIGN

EXAM BOARD: AQA GCSE Art and Design – Textile Design (8204)

SUBJECT LEADER: Mr Miller (E: pmiller@hartlandinternational.com)

WHY STUDY THIS COURSE?

GCSE Art Textiles is a creative and exploitative course which can be taken in the direction of textiles art and/or fashion and textiles. During the course students will develop their drawing and presentation skills alongside designing and making. Students will be given the tools to develop their ideas drawing inspiration from cultural, social, historical, contemporary, environmental and creative contexts. Students will build a portfolio of work during the course which will show their understanding and exploration of themes and materials alongside their final pieces of art and or fashion.

The course allows for a more practical way of learning with an assessment portfolio and practical exam.

WHAT DOES THIS COURSE INVOLVE?

Year 10 will consist of several tasks and mini projects which will cover the following topics:

- Pattern cutting
- Fashion design and illustration
- Decorative surface techniques
- Dying techniques
- Embroidery and sewing
- Portfolio presentation and development
- Digital textiles

Year 11 will consist of one major project which will be assessed through a portfolio of work and a final piece of fashion or art. From January, students will produce their externally set assignment portfolio. This will conclude with a final piece of art or fashion which will be created during a 10-hour practical exam.

HOW IS THE COURSE ASSESSED?

Exam Title	Mode of Assessment	Weighting	Time
Component 1	Portfolio 96 marks	60%	N/A
Component 2	Externally set assignment 96 marks	40%	10 hours

WHY IS THIS A USEFUL QUALIFICATION?

This is an excellent qualification for anyone wishing to explore further education or a career in the fashion or textiles industry whether in the area of design, production or marketing.

BUSINESS

EXAM BOARD: Edexcel IGCSE (4BSI)

SUBJECT LEADER: Mr Heffernan (E: eheffernan@hartlandinternational.com)

WHY STUDY THIS COURSE?

The Business syllabus develops students understanding of business activity in the public and private sectors, and illustrates the importance of innovation and change. Students will find out how the major types of business organisation are established, financed and run, and how their activities are regulated. Factors influencing business decision-making are also considered, as are the essential values of cooperation and interdependence.

Students not only study business concepts and techniques but also enhance related skills such as numeracy and enquiry. The syllabus provides both a foundation for further study at A Level and an ideal preparation for the world of work.

WHAT DOES THIS COURSE INVOLVE?

Students will have the opportunity to analyse the strategic position of a variety of small and large businesses and discuss how they manage change. With corporate case studies, videos and ICT, students will gain a broad understanding of these key topics, whilst also gaining a range of transferable skills such as data analysis, building arguments, recognising and solving problems; in addition to extended writing and carrying out research.

HOW IS THE COURSE ASSESSED?

Exam Title	Mode of Assessment	Weighting	Time
Paper 1 Investigating small business	Examination 80 marks	50%	1 hour 30 minutes
Paper 2 Investigating large businesses	Examination 80 marks	50%	1 hour 30 minutes

WHY IS THIS A USEFUL QUALIFICATION?

Business Studies is an extremely useful foundation in the skills needed in the business world. Looking to the future you can start a career in business armed with an excellent knowledge of how businesses operate. In particular, you will have a head start in careers within accountancy, marketing and human resources.

CHINESE

EXAM BOARD: Edexcel IGCSE (4CN1)

SUBJECT LEADER: Mrs Blair (E: ablair@hartlandinternational.com)

WHY STUDY THIS COURSE?

Chinese, a language spoken by nearly one third of the world's population, has become increasingly important as a language of global business. By studying Chinese, you will become familiar with the fascinating culture and language of this historic and diverse country. The knowledge and understanding of Chinese language and culture will be of great value in employment or Higher Education.

A language is a skill, which will always be useful at some point, as there is a high chance you will visit a country where the language you are learning is spoken. Once you have learnt one language, you have the skills and tools to learn any number of languages in the future.

WHAT DOES THIS COURSE INVOLVE?

The design of the International GCSE aims to extend students' knowledge by broadening and deepening skills. For example, students develop the ability to:

- Read for both meaning and detail.
- Write in response to a given situation.
- Listen to a complex argument or discussion, understand the overall message and identify attitudes and opinions.

Development of spoken language skills: Students are able to develop their understanding of the spoken word through separate speaking and listening components

You will be assessed on the following topics: Everyday activities, Personal and social life, The world around us, The world of work, The international world.

HOW IS THE COURSE ASSESSED?

Exam Title	Mode of Assessment	Weighting	Time
Paper 1 Listening	Examination 40 marks	25%	30 minutes
Paper 2 Reading and writing	Examination 80 marks	50%	1 hour 45 minutes
Paper 3 Speaking	Examination 40 marks	25%	10 minutes

WHY IS THIS A USEFUL QUALIFICATION?

The study of a modern language is a vital life-skill and one that has benefits for everyone. The companies that are doing best in the current economic climate are those that seek new markets and have the language skills and cultural knowledge to do business with other countries. Furthermore, for those thinking of going to University, the study of a modern language, such as Chinese, to IGCSE level is seen as very useful across all faculties and courses.

COMPUTER SCIENCE

EXAM BOARD: AQA GCSE (0825)

SUBJECT LEADER: Mr Al Rifai (E: erifai@hartlandinternational.com)

WHY STUDY THIS COURSE?

Computers have become ubiquitous in our modern day lives and as such, everything we do on a day-to-day basis is rooted in the use of technology. GCSE computer Science is a wonderful subject that will allow learners to explore how different technology works and the computational thinking that underpins the design of both the hardware and software that we have become dependent upon. The course also allows students to develop their logical thinking and mathematical problem-solving skills through a range of practical fun and challenging learning activities.

WHAT DOES THIS COURSE INVOLVE?

- Computational thinking
- Code tracing
- Problem solving
- Programming concepts & skills via Python
- Writing effective algorithms
- Designing, writing, testing and refining code
- Data representation (Sound, Images, Text, Numbers)
- The CPU and the Von Neuman Architecture
- Logic gates and circuits
- Memory & Storage
- Computer Networks
- Cyber Security
- SQL Databases
- Ethical, legal and environmental impacts of technology

HOW IS THE COURSE ASSESSED?

Exam Title	Mode of Assessment	Weighting	Time
Paper 1 Computational thinking and programming	Examination 90 marks	50%	1 hour 30 minutes
Paper 2 Computing concepts	Examination 90 marks	50%	1 hour 30 minutes

WHY IS THIS A USEFUL QUALIFICATION?

GCSE Computer Science will provide students with computational thinking skills which will benefit their current and future studies, across all subjects, by helping them learn how to think logically and solve problems efficiently. For those with aspirations of a career in software development, game design, networking, or cyber security, GCSE Computer Science provides the essential building blocks towards achieving their long-term goals.

DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY

EXAM BOARD: AQA GCSE (8552)

SUBJECT LEADER: Mr Miller (E: pmiller@hartlandinternational.com)

WHY STUDY THIS COURSE?

Design and Technology has a far-reaching impact on our daily lives from the homes we live in, the technology we use to communicate, the cars we drive and the cities we live in. Everything around us is designed and designers can have a very influential impact on people's lives. The Design and Technology GCSE takes a wide range of subjects including Science, Maths, Art and Computer Science and applies them to real life applications to solve contextual design problems.

The course allows for a more practical way of learning with 50% of the assessment being a practical design and make project.

WHAT DOES THIS COURSE INVOLVE?

Year 10 will consist of a number of short projects, which will cover the following topics:

- New and emerging technologies
- Energy, mechanical devices and electronic devices
- Materials and their working properties
- Design principles (sketching and computer aided design)
- Making principles

Year 11 will consist of one major project (NEA) which will be assessed through a design and make project, the context of this project will be available in June of Y10.

HOW IS THE COURSE ASSESSED?

Exam Title	Mode of Assessment	Weighting	Time
Paper 1	Examination 100 marks	50%	2 hours
Non-exam assessment	Coursework 100 marks	50%	1 hour 45 minutes

WHY IS THIS A USEFUL QUALIFICATION?

Design and Technology has an extensive range of career paths available to those who study it. Pupils who study Design and Technology go onto study: architecture, graphic design, product design, interior design, fashion design, mechanical, sports, chemical, electrical and civil engineering, just to name a few.

DRAMA

EXAM BOARD: Pearson Edexcel GCSE (1DR0)

SUBJECT LEADER: Mrs Ansell (E: lansell@hartlandinternational.com)

WHY STUDY THIS COURSE?

- To develop communication, public speaking and presentation skills
- To develop performance skills, both individually and in groups
- To understand the role of actor, director and designer in creating a piece of theatre
- To consider ways in which ideas and feelings can be communicated to an audience
- To discover the performance possibilities of plays and other dramatic stimuli
- To devise Theatre Performances of your own.

WHAT DOES THIS COURSE INVOLVE?

Students will work with extended extracts from published plays as well as stimuli (short titles, poems, pictures, songs, historical events, stories) for devising dramatic pieces. Students will study aspects of theatre history, genres and practitioners. They will undertake two coursework assignments (worth 60%) as well as preparing practical material for the final exam (40%). There is flexibility for students to include their own choice of dramatic repertoire and material of their own devising.

HOW IS THE COURSE ASSESSED?

Exam Title	Mode of Assessment	Weighting	Time
Component 1 Devising Non-exam assessment	Coursework 60 marks	40%	N/A
Component 2 Performance from a text	Coursework 48 marks	20%	N/A
Component 3 Theatre makers in practise Written examination	Examination 60 marks	40%	1 hour 45 minutes

HOW IS THE COURSE ASSESSED?

GCSE Drama students develop language and communication skills, presentation skills, confidence in public speaking and performance, self-confidence, critical and creative thinking skills, problem solving and collaboration.

Job opportunities linked to Drama include:

Actor, Community Arts Worker, Drama Therapist, Costume Designer, Director, Teacher, Arts Administrator, TV Presenter, Theatrical Makeup, Public Speaker, Playwright, Arts Management, Lighting Designer, Theatre Manager, Stage Manager, Producer.

ECONOMICS

EXAM BOARD: Edexcel IGCSE (4EC1)

SUBJECT LEADER: Mr Heffernan (E: eheffernan@hartlandinternational.com)

WHY STUDY THIS COURSE?

The Economics syllabus is designed to give students a sound understanding of economics and the ability to use knowledge, skills and understanding appropriately in the context of individual countries and the global economy. Students will engage in a study of key economic issues and develop an understanding of how to participate effectively in society as citizens, producers and consumers. They will develop an awareness of economic change and its impact on developing and developed countries.

Students not only study economics concepts and techniques but also enhance related skills such as numeracy and enquiry. The syllabus provides both a foundation for further study at A Level and an ideal preparation for the world of work.

WHAT DOES THIS COURSE INVOLVE?

Students will have the opportunity to analyse the microeconomic world and consider how the market system functions through key economic topics such as supply and demand. They will also apply this knowledge of microeconomics to businesses and consider its implications on costs, revenue, profit and the labour market, amongst others areas. In addition, students will also have the opportunity to analyse the macroeconomic environment and gain insights into the policy tools used by governments to achieve their macroeconomic aims. Students will also consider the global economy and evaluate the impacts of international trade, trading blocs and protectionism on the global economy.

HOW IS THE COURSE ASSESSED?

Exam Title	Mode of Assessment	Weighting	Time
Paper 1 Microeconomics and Business Economics	Examination 80 marks	50%	1 hour 30 minutes
Paper 2 Macroeconomics and the Global Economy	Examination 80 marks	50%	1 hour 30 minutes

WHY IS THIS A USEFUL QUALIFICATION?

Economics is an extremely useful foundation in how the global economy works and the impacts on businesses. This gives students an extremely useful knowledge base, whatever career path they may choose. Economics has many cross-curricular areas with business and means that students who have completed the GCSE Economics course are not only well versed for continuing to study economics at A-Level, but it equally gives students a solid knowledge base which can support them should they choose to study a business-related field at A-Level or university. Some of the most common career paths for students of economics include economist, financial analyst, statistician, policy analyst, actuary, accountant and investment analyst. Additionally, as economics is a study of how our world economies work it can be combined with other subjects and give students a pathway into many other areas of study, for example a student of economics and biology may look to pursue a career in environmental policy such as protecting our ecosystems and combating climate change.

FRENCH

EXAM BOARD: Edexcel IGCSE (4FR1)

SUBJECT LEADER: Mrs Blair (E: ablair@hartlandinternational.com)

WHY STUDY THIS COURSE?

French is one of the main languages of the United Nations, European Union and NATO. It is used by a large number of international bodies and multinational companies from relief organisations such as Médecins Sans Frontières ('Doctors Without Borders') to pharmaceuticals, engineering, tourism and the fashion industry. Studying another language helps you improve your written and verbal communication, listening, thinking, problem solving, analytical skills, resilience and creativity. Employers often look for people who can demonstrate these transferable skills. Students are strongly encouraged to continue the work they have been doing in French onto IGCSE in Years 10 and 11.

WHAT DOES THIS COURSE INVOLVE?

The design of the International GCSE aims to extend students' knowledge by broadening and deepening skills. For example, students develop the ability to:

- Read for both meaning and detail.
- Write in response to a given situation.
- Listen to a complex argument or discussion, understand the overall message and identify attitudes and opinions.

Development of spoken language skills: Students are able to develop their understanding of the spoken word through separate speaking and listening components

You will be assessed on the following topics: Everyday activities, Personal and social life, The world around us, The world of work, The international world.

HOW IS THE COURSE ASSESSED?

Exam Title	Mode of Assessment	Weighting	Time
Paper 1 Listening	Examination 40 marks	25%	30 minutes
Paper 2 Reading and writing	Examination 80 marks	50%	1 hour 45 minutes
Paper 3 Speaking	Examination 40 marks	25%	10 minutes

WHY IS THIS A USEFUL QUALIFICATION?

The study of a modern language is a vital life-skill and one which has benefits for everyone. The companies that are doing best in the current economic climate are those that seek new markets and have the language skills and cultural knowledge to do business with other countries. Furthermore, for those thinking of going to University, the study of a modern language, such as French, to IGCSE level is seen as very useful across all faculties and courses.

GEOGRAPHY

EXAM BOARD: Edexcel IGCSE (4GE1)

SUBJECT LEADER: Mrs Keeley (E: rkeeley@hartlandinternational.com)

WHY STUDY THIS COURSE?

IGCSE Geography enables a variety of teaching and learning approaches that build on knowledge and skills of Key Stage 3. This exciting and relevant course studies geography in a balanced framework of physical and human themes and investigates the link between them.

Students will travel the world from their classroom, developing an awareness of tectonic and weather hazards, the issue of climate change and deforestation of tropical rainforest as well as an appreciation of physical landscapes in a physical environment context. The human environment will offer a similar global dimension exploring urban and economic growth, the contrasts in levels of development, as well as issues of population change, resource provision and management.

WHAT DOES THIS COURSE INVOLVE?

The course is divided into four sections, and the students will sit two external exams at the end of the course.

Section A: The Natural Environment (Hazardous Environments and Coastal Environments)

Section B: People and their Environments (Economic Activity and Energy, and Urban Environments)

Section C: Practical Geographical Enquiry

Section D: Global Issues (Development and Human Welfare)

The fieldwork element will be incorporated into different areas of the curriculum, which will encourage students to develop problem-solving techniques and the ability to make and explain their decisions. This in turn will be assessed through questions in the IGCSE exams at the end of the course.

HOW IS THE COURSE ASSESSED?

Exam Title	Mode of Assessment	Weighting	Time
Paper 1 Physical Geography	Examination	40%	1 hour 10 minutes
Paper 2 Human Geography	Examination	60%	1 hour 45 minutes

WHY IS THIS A USEFUL QUALIFICATION?

The social relevance of Geography is evident in newspaper reports of natural disasters and global inequalities, and as such is a strong argument in favour of its study at GCSE and beyond. Geography is about the future and encourages higher order thinking skills. It also develops transferable skills such as group work, independent learning, data handling, decision making and ICT skills. Many aspects of Geography provide a solid foundation of knowledge for many other disciplines beyond GCSE level and in conjunction with other subjects could lead to careers in business, economics, banking, tourism, law, planning, architecture, journalism, advertising, aviation and environmental science.

GERMAN

EXAM BOARD: Edexcel IGCSE(4GN1)

SUBJECT LEADER: Mrs Blair (E: ablair@hartlandinternational.com)

WHY STUDY THIS COURSE?

Over 120 million Europeans speak German. Outside Germany, it is also the first language of Austria, and an official language of Switzerland, the Italian South Tyrol and parts of Belgium. All this makes German a great language to have, for business and tourism. Speaking a foreign language puts you at the front of the queue of candidates for many jobs in our global capital city, and in many other places around the world, as in many companies the ability to communicate with customers and colleagues around the world is a must.

WHAT DOES THIS COURSE INVOLVE?

The design of the International GCSE aims to extend students' knowledge by broadening and deepening skills. For example, students develop the ability to:

- Read for both meaning and detail.
- Write in response to a given situation.
- Listen to a complex argument or discussion, understand the overall message and identify attitudes and opinions.

Development of spoken language skills: Students are able to develop their understanding of the spoken word through separate speaking and listening components

You will be assessed on the following topics: Everyday activities, Personal and social life, The world around us, The world of work, The international world.

HOW IS THE COURSE ASSESSED?

Exam Title	Mode of Assessment	Weighting	Time
Paper 1 Listening	Examination 40 marks	25%	30 minutes
Paper 2 Reading and writing	Examination 80 marks	50%	1 hour 45 minutes
Paper 3 Speaking	Examination 40 marks	25%	10 minutes

WHY IS THIS A USEFUL QUALIFICATION?

The study of a modern language is a vital life-skill and one which has benefits for everyone. The companies that are doing best in the current economic climate are those that seek new markets and have the language skills and cultural knowledge to do business with other countries. Furthermore, for those thinking of going to University, the study of a modern language, such as German, to IGCSE level is seen as very useful across all faculties and courses.

HISTORY

EXAM BOARD: Edexcel IGCSE (4HI1)

SUBJECT LEADER: Mr Hatcher (E: ahatcher@hartlandinternational.com)

WHY STUDY THIS COURSE?

Our IGCSE History course aims to extend our knowledge of key events, periods and societies with diverse and international unit choices reflecting our context as a truly international school. It will develop students as independent learners and critical thinkers. It will develop their ability to ask relevant questions, to investigate issues and to test historical interpretations. It will also help them to organise and communicate what they learn in a variety of ways.

WHAT DOES THIS COURSE INVOLVE?

Students will gain knowledge and understanding of the key features and characteristics of various historical periods, develop skills to analyse and evaluate historical interpretations in the context of historical events studied, develop skills to explain, analyse and make judgements about historical events and periods studied, using second-order historical concepts. They will study:

- Dictatorship and Conflict in the USSR (1924-53)
- A world divided: Superpower relations (1943-72)
- Conflict in Vietnam (1945-72)
- China: Conflict, crisis and change (1900-89)

HOW IS THE COURSE ASSESSED?

Exam Title	Mode of Assessment	Weighting	Time
Paper 1 Depth studies	Examination 60 marks	50%	1 hour 30 minutes
Paper 2 Investigation and Breadth studies	Examination 60 marks	50%	1 hour 30 minutes

WHY IS THIS A USEFUL QUALIFICATION?

History is highly regarded as a rigorous academic subject by employers and top universities. Most importantly, history is a fascinating, engaging and enjoyable subject. IGCSE History prepares students for further study at A Level and beyond.

Careers where a history qualification is regarded as incredibly useful include law, business & banking, accountancy, journalism, tourism & media, marketing, politics, international organisations and academia.

ITALIAN

EXAM BOARD: Edexcel GCSE (11N0)

SUBJECT LEADER: Mrs Blair (E: ablair@hartlandinternational.com)

WHY STUDY THIS COURSE?

Italian is one of the most studied languages in the world and has an important place in a multi-lingual global society. Italian is spoken by over 120 million people in 26 countries. It is indeed the language of food, fashion, art and business. Learning a language is great fun. It allows you the chance to see things from the perspective of others and learn about countries and cultures different from your own. A language is a skill which will always be useful at some point, as there is a high chance you will visit a country where the language you are learning is spoken.

WHAT DOES THIS COURSE INVOLVE?

The design of the GCSE aims to extend students' knowledge by broadening and deepening skills. For example, students develop the ability to:

- Read for both meaning and detail.
- Write in response to a given situation.
- Listen to a complex argument or discussion, understand the overall message and identify attitudes and opinions.

You will be assessed on the following topics: Everyday activities, Personal and social life, The world around us, The world of work, The international world.

HOW IS THE COURSE ASSESSED?

Students are assessed at the end of year 11 and they will have four exams, which are:

Exam Title	Mode of Assessment	Weighting	Time
Paper 1 Listening and understanding	Examination 50 marks	25%	45 minutes
Paper 2 Speaking	Examination 70 marks	25%	Up to 24 minutes
Paper 3 Reading and Understanding	Examination 50 marks	25%	1 hour
Paper 4 Writing	Examination 60 marks	25%	1 hour 20 minutes

WHY IS THIS A USEFUL QUALIFICATION?

The study of a modern language is a vital life-skill and one which has benefits for everyone. The companies that are doing best in the current economic climate are those that seek new markets and have the language skills and cultural knowledge to do business with other countries. Furthermore, for those thinking of going to University, the study of a modern language, such as Italian, to GCSE level is seen as very useful across all faculties and courses.

MEDIA STUDIES

EXAM BOARD: AQA GCSE (8572)

UBJECT LEADER: Mrs Naylor (E: mnaylor@hartlandinternational.com)

WHY STUDY THIS COURSE?

GCSE Media Studies offers students an interactive and engaging course that aims to broaden students' minds. It covers all aspects of media including language, representations, industries and audiences, giving students both an overall and in-depth understanding of how media represents the world. Media is everywhere; it influences and shapes our perceptions, attitudes, desires and behaviour. This course is designed to make learning interesting, challenging and creative.

WHAT DOES THIS COURSE INVOLVE?

GCSE Media Studies specification nurtures students' ability to formulate their own responses to the range of media that saturates modern life – both old and new. It also encourages students to develop their opinions on how the media represents the world.

It will include:

- Practical production work which integrates media theories and concepts
- Assignments for real audiences and uses
- The chance to study across a range of different media
- Opportunities to learn about real media products and industries
- Extensive and meaningful coverage of media theory and practice

HOW IS THE COURSE ASSESSED?

Exam Title	Mode of Assessment	Weighting	Time
Paper 1 Media Language Media Representations Media Industries and Audiences	Examination 84 marks	35%	1 hour 30 minutes
Paper 2 Close Study Product	Coursework 84 marks	35%	1 hour 30 minutes
Non-exam assessment	Coursework production	30%	N/A

WHY IS THIS A USEFUL QUALIFICATION?

Media is a contemporary and interactive subject which encourages students to develop their creative, analytical, research, and communication skills, through exploring a range of media forms and perspectives. The media is a powerful entity which plays a significant role within society and Media Studies helps students to engage critically with these forms.

MUSIC

EXAM BOARD: Edexcel GCSE (1MU0)

SUBJECT LEADER: Mr Ansell (E: gansell@hartlandinternational.com)

Due to our nature of this course, it is a pre-requisite that students must be a grade 3 standard (or above) on a musical instrument before starting our course. Students don't need to have taken exams but must be able to perform at this standard.

WHY STUDY THIS COURSE?

If you enjoy listening to music, enjoy creating music, enjoy performing or just enjoy whiling away the hours being creative on Garage band, then Music could be the course for you. A course that covers 500 years of musical history from around the world, this course is perfect for anyone wishing to take their musical knowledge to the next level.

WHAT DOES THIS COURSE INVOLVE?

The Music GCSE contains three main areas; performing, composition and appraising and builds on skills developed in Key Stage 3. Throughout the course, students work on their compositions and performances, which are then recorded in a 'controlled' environment with the teacher present.

It is recommended that to give them the best chance of a successful outcome, students should be at grade 4 standard for performing (they do not have to have sat an exam) by the end of the course.

HOW IS THE COURSE ASSESSED?

Exam Title	Mode of Assessment	Weighting	Time
Component 1 Performing	Solo performance and Ensemble performance	30%	At least 4 minutes
Component 2 Composing	Two compositions internally assessed	30%	N/A
Component 3 Appraising	Examination 80 marks	40%	1 hour 45 minutes

WHY IS THIS A USEFUL QUALIFICATION?

The routines and discipline it needs to learn an instrument allow students to use these skills for any challenges they face in later life. Music has also been proven to improve the following:

- Language and reasoning
- Memory
- Emotional development
- Auditory Skills
- Creative thinking
- Self-confidence

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

EXAM BOARD: Edexcel GCSE (I PE0)

SUBJECT LEADER: Mr Statham (E: nstatham@hartlandinternational.com)

WHY STUDY THIS COURSE?

Studying GCSE Physical Education will open your eyes to the amazing world of sports performance. The combination of the physical performance and academic challenge provides an exciting opportunity for students. During this course, you will acquire the development of transferable skills including; decision-making, independent thinking, problem solving and analytical skills, as well as thinking, acting, and reacting under pressure.

WHAT DOES THIS COURSE INVOLVE?

The exam consists of two externally examined papers. Both papers consist of multiple-choice, short-answer and extended writing questions. These papers cover the topics of: Health, fitness and well-being; Sport psychology; Socio-cultural influences; Applied anatomy and physiology; Movement analysis; Physical training; and finally, Use of data.

HOW IS THE COURSE ASSESSED?

Exam Title	Mode of Assessment	Weighting	Time
Practical assessment	Assessed in 3 different sports	30%	N/A
Non-exam assessment – Personal exercise programme	Coursework	10%	Up to 24 minutes
Paper 1 Fitness and Body systems	Examination	36%	1 hour
Paper 2 Health and Performance	Examination	24%	1 hour 20 minutes

The practical assessment consists of students completing three physical activities from a set list. One must be a **team** activity and one must be an **individual** activity. The final activity can be a **free** choice.

The coursework element is a PEP (Personal Exercise Programme). The assessment consists of students producing their own PEP and requires them to analyse and evaluate their performance.

WHY IS THIS A USEFUL QUALIFICATION?

GCSE Physical Education is not just an excellent base for progression to further sport related courses (such as A Level PE and BTEC Sport); it can take you much further. For those of you fascinated by the human mind, why not carry on to Psychology? For those students who are curious about the 'why' of the human race, this carries you through to Sociology. It is also an excellent additional qualification for those undertaking the sciences with the intention to move into the physiotherapy or nutrition routes of medicine.

PSYCHOLOGY

EXAM BOARD: AQA GCSE (8182)

SUBJECT LEADER: Mr Rogers (E: mrogers@hartlandinternational.com)

WHY STUDY THIS COURSE?

- It may help you understand yourself and those around you; why people behave in a certain way and the influences and motivations behind their actions.
- You will develop your critical thinking skills. As you study psychology, you will learn more about topics such as scientific method, decision-making, and problem solving, all of which might help you hone your ability to think deeply and critically about different issues.
- Because different areas of psychology encompass a range of topics including philosophy, biology, and physiology, studying the subject can help you gain a richer understanding of these related areas.
- You will gain an insight into mental health. While you might not be interested in becoming a psychotherapist, studying psychology can help you better understand how psychological conditions are diagnosed and treated. You can also discover how mental wellbeing can be enhanced, how to reduce stress, how to boost memory, and how to live a happier, healthier life.
- Psychology is challenging but also fascinating. From intriguing optical illusions that reveal the inner workings of the brain to shocking experiments that expose how far people will go to obey an authority figure, there is always something amazing to learn about the human mind and behaviour.

WHAT DOES THIS COURSE INVOLVE?

- Memory
- Research Methods
- Perception
- Development
- Social Influence
- Language, thought and communication
- Brain and neuropsychology
- Psychological problems

HOW IS THE COURSE ASSESSED?

Exam Title	Mode of Assessment	Weighting	Time
Paper 1 Cognition and behaviour	Examination 100 marks	50%	1 hour 45 minutes
Paper 2 Social context and behaviour	Examination 100 marks	50%	1 hour 45 minutes

WHY IS THIS A USEFUL QUALIFICATION?

Psychology is considered both an academic subject and a science. Students can go on to study many different A – Levels and pursue careers in: Psychology, Medicine, Veterinary, Dentistry, Law, Clinical Psychology, Criminology, Forensic Science, Criminal Psychology, Health and Social Care, Nursing, Education, Counselling, Occupational Health, Sport Psychology, Mental Health and many more. The list is varied and reflects the fact that Psychology is a valued subject that leads to the development of a critical, analytical approach to information by students who can present their conclusions coherently.

SPANISH

EXAM BOARD: Edexcel IGCSE (4SP1)

SUBJECT LEADER: Mrs Blair (E: ablair@hartlandinternational.com)

WHY STUDY THIS COURSE?

Spanish is the second most common first language across the world and the second language of the USA. As we live in a globalised world, having a solid grasp of the Spanish language will be likely to come in useful in the future. Learning a language is great fun. It allows you the chance to see things from the perspective of others and learn about countries and cultures different from our own. A language is a skill which will always be useful at some point, as there is a high chance you will visit a country where the language you are learning is spoken.

WHAT DOES THIS COURSE INVOLVE?

The design of the International GCSE aims to extend students' knowledge by broadening and deepening skills. For example, students develop the ability to:

- Read for both meaning and detail.
- Write in response to a given situation.
- Listen to a complex argument or discussion, understand the overall message and identify attitudes and opinions.

Development of spoken language skills: Students are able to develop their understanding of the spoken word through separate speaking and listening components

You will be assessed on the following topics: Everyday activities, Personal and social life, The world around us, The world of work, The international world.

HOW IS THE COURSE ASSESSED?

Exam Title	Mode of Assessment	Weighting	Time
Paper 1 Listening	Examination 40 marks	25%	30 minutes
Paper 2 Reading and writing	Examination 80 marks	50%	1 hour 45 minutes
Paper 3 Speaking	Examination 40 marks	25%	10 minutes

WHY IS THIS A USEFUL QUALIFICATION?

The study of a modern language is a vital life-skill and one which has benefits for everyone. The companies that are doing best in the current economic climate are those that seek new markets and have the language skills and cultural knowledge to do business with other countries. Furthermore, for those thinking of going to University, the study of a modern language, such as French, to IGCSE level is seen as very useful across all faculties and courses.



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T: 800-HARTS (42787) | +971 4 407 9444 **E:** admissions@hartlandinternational.com **W:** www.hartlandinternational.com

Sobha Hartland, Nad Al Sheba, Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum City, P.O. BOX: 50362, Dubai, UAE