

International School of Creative Science

ISCS Sixth Form Guide (grades 12 and 13)

Academic entry into ISCS Sixth Form normally requires C grades in at least 5 IGCSE subjects. We shall discuss individually with you and your parents any case where it turns out that you are less well-qualified than this, so that we can all agree how best to use the rest of your Academic career.

The most important entry qualification, however, is your personal commitment. Our range of A-Level courses gives you a wonderful opportunity to choose a programme which is individually suited to you: to build on the knowledge and skills which you have developed up to grade 11 and to apply them in an increasingly specialised programme which will allow you to move on into Higher Education or work.

Enjoy your work

It is clear that, whatever pattern of exams you choose, you will find your academic studies unrewarding if you choose subjects which you do not enjoy. Naturally your ideas about a future career will influence your choice but consideration of future status or salary is rarely enough to guarantee either a successful Sixth Form course or a fulfilling career. Nor is a like for (or a dislike of) particular teachers going to be a good basis for a sensible programme.

Do not worry if you have no clear-cut career plans yet: choose subjects that suit your capabilities, interests and enjoyment, as any A level combination will still offer you a vast variety of paths at university level. Only a handful of professions, such as Medicine, require specific A level combinations.

"AS" and A-Levels at the Intl. School of Creative Science

Why A-Level?

A-Level enables a narrower range of subjects than Higher to be studied to a more satisfying intellectual depth, and provides a very good basis for the transition to university education.

Examination is by six public examination modules, the first three of which constitute the AS Level and the second three of which are called A2. (AS + A2 = A-Level.) Since there are three opportunities during the course to sit modules, students sometimes choose to re-sit module that they need to improve.

What are "AS" Levels?

The modern "AS" stands for "Advanced Subsidiary" and should not be confused with the old "Advanced Supplementary". The qualification was awarded for the first time in 2001. They may be used in one of two ways:

1. As a final qualification, allowing candidates to broaden their studies and postpone specialization.
2. as the first half of an Advanced Level qualification.

It is intended that the demands of "AS" should be consistent with the attainment of students who have completed the first half of an "A" Level course. "AS" forms the first 50% of the marks of an "A" Level.

What is A2?

The second year of an A-Level course is nowadays called the A2 year, (A-Level Year 2.) The subject is usually taken to a greater depth rather than greatly increasing the breadth of coverage. A complete A Level course will usually involve a total of six modules.

"AS" Level (Modules 1–3, Grade 12)

It is divided into three modules. In most subjects these will be of an introductory nature. They are related themes, but examined separately. Marks in each modular examination are totaled to determine the final grade, and candidates may re-take modules where they consider that they could do better.

"A2" Level (Modules 4–6, Grade 13)

It is possible that one or more of the A2 modules could be taken in January in some subjects. Others may prefer to treat the course as linear and take all three modules in the summer. The January diet is also normally used by those subjects that have postponed AS modules from the previous year, and for re-sitting of any modules in which candidates are seeking an improved mark.

Although the marks are similar to those of the "AS" modules, the standard expected in A2 modules is of a student who has progressed beyond the level of a first year student.

A Level Subjects

The range of subjects we offer is regularly updated. Please check with The Director of Secondary for classes available for the next academic year.

Subject	Exam Board
Accounting	Via NEC*
Arabic	Edexcel
Biology	Edexcel, Cambridge
Human Biology	Edexcel, Cambridge
Business Studies	Edexcel, Cambridge
Chemistry	Edexcel, Cambridge
Computing	Cambridge
Critical Thinking	Via NEC*
Economics	Via NEC*
English Language	Edexcel, Cambridge
English Literature	Edexcel, Cambridge
English Language and Literature	Edexcel, Cambridge
French	Via NEC*
Geography	Edexcel, Cambridge
ICT	Cambridge
Law	Via NEC*
Mathematics	Edexcel, Cambridge
Physics	Edexcel, Cambridge
Psychology	Via NEC*
Religious Studies	Edexcel, Cambridge
Sociology	Via NEC*

Entry Requirements

- If you achieve five grade Bs and above at IGCSE you may choose four AS Level subjects.
- If you achieve less than five grade Bs but above four grade Cs at IGCSE you may choose three AS Level subjects.
- If you achieve Grade D and above at AS Level, you may continue onto the A2 Level programme with three A2 Level subjects.
- Full-time A levels are normally allocated 5 hours per week. Arabic Language and Islamic Studies are two compulsory subjects by The Ministry of Education at grade 12.
- If you have studied a subject at IGCSE, you must have achieved at least Grade C in order to study it at A Level.