

# Introduction to IGCSE

## International General Certificate of Secondary Education

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## IGCSE Subject offers

IGCSE - A **two year programme**, designed for students in Years 9 and 10, leading to individual IGCSE certificates

The International School Braunschweig - Wolfsburg offers examinations in the following subjects (*new offers in June 2023*):



**Cambridge Assessment  
International Education**

Cambridge International School

- English (First Language) (0500)
- English (Second Language) (0511)
- German (First Language) (0505)
- German (Foreign Language) (0525)
- Spanish (Foreign Language) (0530)
- Mathematics (0580)
- Biology (0610) / Physics (0625) / Chemistry (0620)
- Geography (0460) or *History (0470) New*
- *Global perspectives (0457) New*
- Music (0410) or Art and Design (0400) or *ICT (0417) New*
- other First Languages (Chinese, Spanish, Portuguese, ...) if available

## The IGCSE Exam components

- » The following part contains information on the different papers, their duration and weighting. Students can opt for Core or Extended Papers in some exams depending on their individual abilities. Please be aware that the best grade for the subject that students can achieve with Core papers is a grade C.



**Cambridge Assessment  
International Education**

Cambridge International School

## IGCSE First Language English 0500

All students; grades A\* to G

### **Paper 1: (2 hours)**

- Reading
- Questions will be based on three reading texts
- 50% of total marks

### **Paper 2: (2 hours)**

- Directed writing and composition
- Externally assessed
- 50% of total marks

### **Optional: Component 4: (10-12 min)**

- Speaking and listening
- Individual task and discussion
- number grade on Certificate from 1 (High) to 5 (Low)

## IGCSE Second Language English 0510

Core Curriculum Grades C – G	Extended Curriculum Grades A* – G
<p><b>Paper 1: (1 hour 30 min)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Reading and writing</li> <li>▪ 70% of total marks</li> </ul>	<p><b>Paper 2: (2 hours)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Reading and writing</li> <li>▪ 70% of total marks</li> </ul>
<p><b>Paper 3: (40 min)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Listening</li> <li>▪ 30% of total marks</li> </ul>	<p><b>Paper 4: (50 min)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Listening</li> <li>▪ 30% of total marks</li> </ul>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Component 5 Speaking (10-15 min)</b> <b>Speaking endorsement</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Marks for the Speaking component do not contribute to the overall grade candidates receive for the written components. Certificates record separately the achievements of candidates, with grades 1 (high) to 5 (low) for speaking.</p>	

IGCSE Second Language English 0511 Count in speaking: P1/P2 60%; P3/P4 20%; Component 5 20%

## IGCSE First Language German 0505

### All Students Grades A\* – G

#### **Paper 1: (2 hours)**

- Reading
- 2 texts and questions
- 50% of total mark

#### **Paper 2: (2 hours)**

- Writing
- 2 essays
- 50% of total marks

## IGCSE German 2<sup>nd</sup> Language 0525

All students; grades A\* to G

### **Paper 1: (50 min)**

- Listening, 25% of total marks

### **Paper 2: (1 hour)**

- Reading comprehension, 25% of total marks

### **Paper 3: (15 min)**

- Speaking (one role play, conversation on two topics), 25% of total marks

### **Paper 4: (1 hour)**

- Writing, 25% of total marks

## IGCSE Spanish 2<sup>nd</sup> Language 0530

All students; grades A\* to G

### **Paper 1: (50 min)**

- Listening, 25 % of total marks

### **Paper 2: (1 hour)**

- Reading comprehension, 25 % of total marks

### **Paper 3: (10 min)**

- Speaking (one role play, conversations on two topics), 25 % of total marks

### **Paper 4: (1 hour)**

- Writing ( responding in the target language to three texts),  
25 % of total marks



## IGCSE Mathematics 0580

<b>Core Curriculum Grades C – G</b>	<b>Extended Curriculum Grades A* – G</b>
<p><b>Paper 1: (1 hour)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Short answer questions</li> <li>▪ 35% of total marks</li> </ul>	<p><b>Paper 2: (1 hour 30 min)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Short answer questions</li> <li>▪ 35% of total marks</li> </ul>
<p><b>Paper 3: (2 hours)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Structured questions</li> <li>▪ 65% of total marks</li> </ul>	<p><b>Paper 4: (2 hours 30 min)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Structured questions</li> <li>▪ 65% of total marks</li> </ul>

IGCSE Biology / Physics / Chemistry  
0610 / 0625 / 0620

Core Curriculum Grades C – G	Extended Curriculum Grades A* - G
<p><b>Paper 1: (45 min)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Multiple-choice questions</li> <li>▪ 30% of total marks</li> </ul>	<p><b>Paper 2: (45 min)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Multiple-choice questions</li> <li>▪ 30% of total marks</li> </ul>
<p><b>Paper 3: (1 hour 15 min)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Core theory</li> <li>▪ 50% of total marks</li> </ul>	<p><b>Paper 4: (1 hour 15 min)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Extended theory</li> <li>▪ 50% of total marks</li> </ul>
<p><b>Paper 6: (1 hour)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Alternative to practical test</li> <li>▪ 20% of total marks</li> </ul>	<p><b>Paper 6: (1 hour)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Alternative to practical test</li> <li>▪ 20% of total marks</li> </ul>

## IGCSE Geography 0460

### All students Grades A\* - G

#### **Paper 1: (1 hour 45 min)**

- Geographical Themes
- 45% of total marks

#### **Paper 2: (1hour 30min)**

- Geographical Skills Interpretation, analysis and application of techniques
- 27.5% of total marks

#### **Paper 4: (1hour 30min)**

- Alternative to coursework Theme-based written work
- 27.5% of total marks

## IGCSE History 0470 Exams from June 2023 on

### All students Grades A\* - G

#### **Paper 1: (2 hours)**

- Written paper Candidates answer two questions from Section A (Core Content) and one question from Section B (Depth Studies)
- 40% of total marks

#### **Paper 2: (2 hours)**

- Written paper Candidates answer six questions on one prescribed topic taken from the Core Content.
- 33% of total marks

#### **Paper 4: (1 hour)**

- Alternative to coursework One Question on a Depth Study
- 27% of total marks

## IGCSE Art and Design 0400

### All students Grades A\* - G

#### **Component 1: Coursework**

**50% of total marks**

- Candidates research, develop and realise a project from one area of study in the subject content from a theme set by the teacher.
- There are two parts to the coursework:
  - a portfolio and
  - a final outcome.
- Externally assessed

#### **Component 2 Externally set assignment**

**50% of total marks**

- Candidates respond to one starting point set by Cambridge International (published at the beginning of year 2).
- There are two parts to the assignment:
  - supporting studies and
  - a final outcome, produced during a supervised test of 8 hours' total duration.
- Externally assessed

## IGCSE Music 0410

### All students Grades A\* - G

#### **Component 1: 1h 15 min**

- Listening: Written exam based on CD recordings. Recognition and description of musical features
- 40% of total marks – externally assessed

#### **Component 2: Coursework**

- Performing: Two prepared performances, one individual and one ensemble, singing or playing an instrument.
- 30 % of total marks – internally marked/ externally moderated

#### **Component 3: Coursework**

- Composing: Two contrasting compositions written for different instruments and/or voices, which must be recorded.
- 30 % of total marks - internally marked/ externally moderated

## IGCSE Global Perspectives 0457

Exams from June 2023 on

### All students Grades A\* - G

#### **Component 1: Written examination (1 hour 15 min)**

- 35% of total marks
- Externally assessed

#### **Component 2: Individual report**

- 30% of total marks.
- Candidates research one topic area of personal, local and/or national and global significance and submit a report based on their research. The title is devised by candidates themselves. The report must be 1500–2000 words and written in continuous prose.
- Internally set and externally marked

#### **Component 3: Team project**

- 35% of total marks
- Candidates devise and develop a collaborative project into an aspect of one topic. The Team Project comprises two elements.

##### **Team Element**

Candidates produce as a team one Outcome and one Explanation as a Collaboration. The Explanation must be 200–300 words. (10 marks)

##### **Personal Element**

Candidates each write a Reflective Paper on their research, contribution and personal learning. The paper must be 750–1000 words. (60 marks)  
Internally assessed and externally moderated.

## IGCSE ICT (Information and Communication Technologies) 0417 Exams from June 2023 on

### All students Grades A\* - G

#### **Paper 1 Theory: (2 hours)**

- 40% of total marks
- Questions will be based on sections 1–21 of the subject content. All questions are compulsory. Externally assessed.

#### **Paper 2: Practical test (2 hours 30 min)**

- Document Production, Data Manipulation and Presentations
- 30% of total marks
- Externally assessed

#### **Paper 3: Practical test (2 hours 30 min)**

- Data Analysis and Website Authoring
- 30% of total marks
- Externally assessed





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International Education**

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[www.cie.org.uk](http://www.cie.org.uk) (general information)

Info about IGCSE Subjects:

<https://www.cambridgeinternational.org/programmes-and-qualifications/cambridge-upper-secondary/cambridge-igcse/subjects/>

Info about ICE:

<https://www.cambridgeinternational.org/programmes-and-qualifications/cambridge-upper-secondary/cambridge-ice/>