



MUTIARA INTERNATIONAL GRAMMAR SCHOOL



YEAR 9

ACADEMIC COURSE HANDBOOK

2016/2017

Discovering Potential | Learning to Care | Respecting Differences

VISION STATEMENT

Discovering Potential

Learning to Care

Respecting Differences

MISSION STATEMENT

Our mission is to challenge students to reach their full potential by offering an International curriculum that encourages students to become lifelong learners and develop intellectual curiosity with a thirst for innovation.

CLIENT CHARTER

Mutiara International Grammar School endeavours to:

- Provide opportunities in all aspects of the curriculum for students to reach their full potential;
- Provide best practices in Teaching and Learning;
- Provide a safe, caring, happy and conducive environment for all;
- Provide opportunities for the use of Technology;
- Ensure that each child appreciates that serving and caring brings the highest rewards in life;
- Develop an awareness for the need for stewardship of the earth's resources.

INTRODUCTION

Welcome to *Year 9* studies at our School.

This subject handbook will assist you with your child's formal education, with a focus on curriculum. For further information regarding MIGS Policies and Procedures, including Uniform Code, Pastoral Care, Bullying and communication guidelines, please refer to the Mutiara International Grammar School website and Parent Information Booklet.

Year 9 involves a number of changes for students, some of which may be the subjects studied, the organisation of the daily routine, the type of contact with the Tutor/Roll Call Teacher, assessment procedures, homework, revision, assessment and reporting, and the opportunity to become actively involved in co-curricular activities.

It is important as parents that we continually support our children through their years of formal education. Showing a genuine interest in your child is a priority and emphasis, being positive is essential. Your continued guidance and support will go a long way to making your child's time at school both an enriching and rewarding one.

STUDENT SUCCESS:

Student Success = 5R's

Paramount to learning in Key Stage 3 is its focus on maintaining student success during this time of developmental change. This is made possible by using the development units of work that are aimed at enhancing student success through engaging, authentic and relevant education experiences that promote:

Resilience

Successfully managing change, being adaptable, realistic and proactive in approaches to problem-solving;

Relationships

Cooperative and collaborative learning, teamwork, sense of belonging, feeling valued and supported, tri-partnership between school-home-student;

Rigour

High expectations of student effort and achievement, opportunities to develop understanding and achieve educational outcomes;

Relevance

Experiences and content that is relevant and engaging to young adolescents with a focus on their place and responsibilities in a global community;

Responsibility

For self and actions, decision-making, leadership opportunities and personal choice.

EDUCATIONAL ATTRIBUTES – ESSENTIAL LEARNINGS

Each of these is distilled from studying the works of well-respected business writers and futurists. They form the common threads that connect our curriculum through Key Stage 3 to Key Stage 4.

An International Perspective

An ability to communicate with people from other cultures will be an essential ingredient for 'thrivability'. Communication means more than the ability to speak foreign languages. It really concerns an openness to send and receive messages. The essential ingredient is, therefore, cultural sensitivity. Our students need to understand why people from other cultures do things differently to our own culture.

A Futures (or Change) Orientation

One of the biggest paradigm shifts in the modern world concerns the nature of the status quo. The last generation expected stability. Change was unusual and often resisted. Today, change is the norm. 'Change' is the status quo! The idea is that we prepare students to embrace changes that align with their principles and reject those that are in conflict. Change within an educational perspective is occurring nearly on a daily basis.

A Capacity to Work in Teams

Teamwork is not the same as 'group work'. Teams have a particular blend of skills and approaches that allows them to create more than the sum of their parts. Team members appreciate the unique contribution made by the people with different outlooks and skills. There are a number of different types of teams, but the most challenging and appealing is the self-managed team, the characteristics of which include the capacity to set direction, assess performance, identify and harness strengths and weaknesses of team members and manage resources.

The Ability to Apply Knowledge

Individuals need an opportunity to contribute in the workplace and in the general community. Application of knowledge need not always involve the production of tangible items. Finding solutions to problems or creating works of art also fit this picture. How many times have we heard students ask about the 'use' of certain work/study? How many times have we asked the same question ourselves? Why are we hooked on the idea that 'academic' subjects are not meant to be practical?

An Interdisciplinary Perspective

It is Drucker, an ecologist who calls for the blending of 'knowledges' into 'knowledge'. His argument is that one cannot truly understand with blinkers on. He recognises that there is room for specialisation, but one must be able to seek the contributions of other disciplines in developing 'understanding'. This appeals because it warns us about developing the arrogance (and ignorance) of the narrow professional, while equipping students with a range of skills needed to be flexible and change orientated.

Literacy, Numeracy and Communication Skills

This refers to the three R's (**R**eading, **W**riting and **A**rithmetic) and an appreciation of the language of Science and Technology. Students should also have an appreciation for foreign languages, though this need not involve many years of study. The ability to communicate ideas, feelings and knowledge are crucial for success. Verbal and non-verbal communication skills should develop hand-in-hand with knowledge, skills and personal awareness.

Spirituality

Viktor Frankl, an Austrian neurologist and psychiatrist, claimed that 'man is a stubborn seeker of meaning'. Our students should reflect on their place in the universe and their relationship with God.

Imagination/Creativity

We need to respond to the claim that little children are naturally imaginative and creative, and we then teach it out of them. Our aim instead is to treasure and develop this creativity.

Personal Mastery and Character Based Leadership

We set ourselves the task of producing authentic leaders. The business world is looking for people with these qualities. It fits very much with the notion of being change orientated and principle centred. The three characteristics of leaders include 'integrity' (the ability to make and keep meaningful promises), 'maturity' (the ability to tell the truth without offending others) and 'abundance mentality', a preparedness to recognise the contribution of others.

Life-Long Learning

We must encourage students to see learning as a life-long process and credentials simply as staging posts. The key ingredients here are an interest in all fields of knowledge and a genuine enjoyment of learning. We must never be satisfied with learning being 'tolerated'.

THE TIMETABLE

Classes at MIGS are organised on a 5 day weekly cycle. Each day is divided into 7 periods, except for Friday that is divided into 4 periods with an early finish at 12.30pm. In addition, students in Year 7 attend a weekly PSHE session for 1 Period, COMPULSORY Co-curricular Activities (CCA) for 1.5 hours and an Assembly. The 2016 – 2017 bell times and weekly period structure is featured below.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Tutor Time Roll Call 7.30am - 7.40am	Tutor Time Roll Call 7.30am - 7.40am	Tutor Time Roll Call 7.30am - 7.40am	Tutor Time Roll Call 7.30am - 7.40am	Tutor Time Roll Call 7.30am - 7.40am
Period 1 7.40am – 8.30am	Period 1 7.40am – 8.30am	Period 1 7.40am – 8.30am	Period 1 7.40am – 8.30am	ASSEMBLY 7.40am – 8.30am
Period 2 8.30am – 9.20am	Period 2 8.30am – 9.20am	Period 2 8.30am – 9.20am	Period 2 8.30am – 9.20am	Period 1 8.30am 9.20am
Period 3 9.20am -10.10am	Period 3 9.20am –10.10am	Period 3 9.20am –10.10am	Period 3 9.20am –10.10am	Period 2 9.20am –10.10am
Period 4 10.10am 11.00am	Period 4 10.10am 11.00am	Period 4 10.10am 11.00am	Period 4 10.10am 11.00am	Period 3 10.10am 11.00am
LUNCH BREAK 11.00am 11.40am	LUNCH BREAK 11.00am 11.40am	LUNCH BREAK 11.00am 11.40am	LUNCH BREAK 11.00am 11.40am	LUNCH BREAK 11.00am 11.40am
Period 5 11.40 – 12.30pm	Period 5 11.40 – 12.30pm	Period 5 11.40 – 12.30pm	Period 5 11.40 – 12.30pm	Period 4 11.40 – 12.30pm
Period 6 12.30 – 1.20pm	Period 6 12.30 – 1.20pm	Period 6 12.30 – 1.20pm	Period 6 12.30 – 1.20pm	School Finishes @ 12.30pm
BREAK 1.20pm – 1.40pm	BREAK 1.20pm – 1.40pm	BREAK 1.20pm – 1.40pm	Period 7 1.20pm – 2.10pm	
Period 7 1.40pm – 2.30pm	Period 7 1.40pm – 2.30pm (PSHE)	Period 7 1.40pm – 2.30pm	BREAK 2.10pm – 2.25pm	
			CCA 2.30 - 4.00pm	

ASSEMBLY TIME:

As part of the Pastoral Care/Wellbeing Programme, students and staff will come together for an Assembly/Year group meeting each week. The Assembly/Year group meeting will focus on academic information, co-curricular encouragement and achievements, and highlight the talents of our Senior School students. At the moment assembly time is scheduled every Friday from 7.40am – 8.30am

STUDENT MANAGEMENT AND PASTORAL CARE

At the very core of what we do, is a genuine concern for our students; their well-being and personal success. A great deal of research has shown that no matter how hard we work, study or try to be successful, if we are not happy in our environment then we will never reach our full potential. It is our aim to create and sustain an environment where students feel safe and respected by their peers and staff, thus enhancing their opportunity to achieve their goals and reach their potential.

HOUSE STRUCTURE

Each student is allocated to a House. The Houses are named as follows:

Blue **Sapphire**

Yellow **Topaz**

Green **Emerald**

Red **Ruby**

Each House includes students from each of the Years, Reception – Year 11. Students become part of their House and are encouraged to build strong friendships within their House system. House spirit is strong at the School with fierce loyalty to House emerging in many of the School's annual events such as sporting carnivals, debating and various other competitions.

HOUSE MEETINGS

Regular House Meetings are held to bring together the individual students from the various Year Groups. Heads of House will oversee the House organisation. The Head of House holds the primary responsibility for the organisation of their entire House Group during ALL scheduled House events. All teachers in the Senior School are assigned to a House group to assist the Head of House.

YEAR GROUP / PASTORAL GROUPS

Year 9 Coordinator: Mr Ivan Chan

Year 9 Tutors/Roll Call Teachers: **9T** – Mr Nikolai Lugovoi, **9E** – Mr Ivan Chan

The Year Group is divided into smaller groups called Tutor Groups (Roll Call Classes), each with a Tutor Teacher, a member of the teaching staff, who monitors closely the progress and general development of each student and liaises closely with the Year Coordinator, Head of Pastoral Care, Deputy Head of Senior School and parents. The Tutor teacher can also be the class teacher for some of the class learning time each day.

The Year Groups meet every morning for roll call, whilst on a Tuesday afternoon through a sequenced PSHE programme (Personal, social and health education), they engage in a variety of activities which develop their social and learning skills as well as strengthening bonds within the group. Students learn not only to take an interest in each other and broaden their own horizons, they also make their own contribution to the activities and feel valued and can use their strength to develop the confidence to work on their weaknesses.

ASSESSMENT

Teaching and Learning is undertaken via the National Curriculum of England (NC) Framework and teachers will match learning and assessment by constructing an appropriate set of tasks. Students in Year 9 will undergo a formal assessment programme with set assessment tasks to complete throughout the year. Students will be given ample warning of tests and the preparation and learning required. When a student is absent for a formal test, the class teacher, in consultation with the Head of Department determines whether it is necessary for the test to be completed on the student's return. This decision will be dependent on the significance of the test result to the evidence of performance available. The following procedure will be followed:

- Formal notification of absence is lodged with the School in accordance with the school policy on absenteeism.
- The student should approach the class teacher and receive the decision as to whether the test is to be completed and when.
- The teacher documents the decision and/or test result in the student folio and teacher records (mark book).
- Further guidelines regarding School assessment protocols are provided to students at the commencement of each academic school year.

LEARNING AREAS AND SUBJECT LISTINGS

Students follow a course of study which provides a broad and balanced range of learning experiences. The content of the National Curriculum of England (NC) is modified to take into account of our position in South East Asia, but the basic skills and concepts remain the same.

Subjects taken in Year 9 (Key Stage 3) follow the NC with additional subjects being offered for Malaysian students to fulfil the requirements of the Ministry of Education.

All subjects taught in Key Stage 3 lead to further study at both IGCSE level and/or post 16 level.

All students undertake the following *compulsory* learning areas:

- English
- Mathematics
- Science
- Information and Communication Technology (ICT)
- Geography
- History
- Business Studies
- Physical Education
- Art and Design
- Drama
- Music
- PSHE
- One language from the list below

Students must also select from the following to complete our Year 9 studies programme:

- Bahasa Melayu or Communication Malay (Bahasa Melayu is compulsory for Malaysian students)
- French, Mandarin or Arabic
- Islamic Studies or Cultural Studies (Islamic Studies is compulsory for Malaysian Muslim students)

HOMEWORK

Homework is seen as an integral part of Mutiara International Grammar School's philosophy on teaching and learning. It provides for extension and consolidation of what is developed in the classroom. Homework develops and extends the core learning skills of inquiry and independent study. Homework serves to strengthen the partnership between home and school. It provides parents and caregivers with insights as to what is being taught at MIGS.

No more than 2 hours of written homework per weeknight.

CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES (CCA)

Students are offered the opportunity to participate in programmes together with their academic schedules. Our Co-curricular activities are placed on a Thursday afternoon between the hours of 2.30pm – 4.00pm and are supervised/run by the teaching staff and at times under the guidance of outside professional instructors. CCA is a compulsory component of life at MIGS and students are given the opportunity to investigate a number of activities on an annual basis. Students are required to discuss and gain consent from their parents when selecting any activity. CCA is made up of Inter-house games, clubs and societies and a variety of sports.

DESCRIPTION OF COMPULSORY LEARNING AREAS AND SUBJECTS

ENGLISH

OVERVIEW:

In English, texts and language constitute the central and essential concepts. The concept of texts focuses equally on creating and analysing texts, understanding and interpreting texts, and moving beyond interpretation to reflection and critical analysis. The concept of language includes the use of language and the development of linguistic competence, and the development of knowledge about language. Students learn to appreciate, enjoy and use language and develop a sense of its richness and its power to evoke feelings, to form and convey ideas, to imagine, explore and entertain, to inform, explain and describe, to persuade, argue and advise, to analyse, review and comment. Students learn sentence construction and punctuation, paragraphing and cohesion, Standard English and language variation.

DURATION:

This is a compulsory subject that runs for the THREE terms, three hours per week.

KEY SKILLS:

Students learn:

- Research and study skills, reading for meaning, understanding the author's craft and understand and the use made of rhetorical devices in a text.
- To analyse ways in which different cultural contexts and traditions have influenced language and style.
- Spell accurately all high-frequency words and new terms from all subject areas.
- Recognise layers of meaning in the writer's choice of words, e.g. *connotation, implied meaning, different types of multiple meanings*
- Recognise how lines of thought are developed and signposted through the use of connectives, e.g. *nonetheless, consequently, furthermore*
- Identify the underlying themes, implications and issues raised by a talk, reading or programme
- Discuss and evaluate conflicting evidence to arrive at a considered viewpoint

TOPICS OF STUDY:

Term 1:

- Argument and discursive writing. Rhetorical devices, analysing writers' stylistic effects. Practise using colons and semi-colons and spelling, revisit summarising and sequencing, discuss a poem and write a magazine article
- Argumentative and persuasive writing, ways of making language effective and emphatic, use of modal verbs. Students practise paraphrasing, summarising and identifying topic sentences. They argue a case, compare poems, and write an argument composition.
- Informative writing. Considering different kinds of content and style in informative, argumentative and discursive writing. Write a letter to a newspaper, a blog post and a news report, take part in a group discussion

- The role of argument in a range of prose, poetry and drama texts, and consider propaganda and satire. The writing tasks include a diary entry and a newspaper editorial

Term 2:

- Setting, pacing and structuring stories. Students look at style, collocations, character, suspense, prediction, and comparing stories with similar themes. They will write a review, plan a short story, and write a letter
- Role of choice in prose, poetry and drama. Students identify opposing arguments and persuasive devices, and distinguish fact from opinion. There is practice in commenting and comparing poems, writing and advertisement, providing and ending to a narrative, and writing a short story.
- Forming a view and practising persuasive techniques, looking at a range of non-fiction articles, a satirical poem and a drama extract. Students will transform information to argument, design a poster and a publicity flyer, present a dialogue, as well as report on a survey and refute an argument.
- Language of persuasion and pathos. Students will respond to a news story and a fiction story, a diary entry, an appeal letter, and informative articles. Students will look at more punctuation, vocabulary and grammar structures. Tasks include designing a poster, creating dialogue, collating material in texts, and writing a charity appeal letter.

Term 3:

- A news article, a brochure and short stories, and students practise the skills of predicting, continuing a narrative, inferring, comparing, hot seating, and identifying reader positioning and irony. They will design a poster and cartoon strip, and write a character sketch, a news report, a complaint letter and a short story.
- Informal versus formal language, prefixes, indirect speech and phrasal and prepositional verbs. Reader positioning and inferential reading are considered. Students compare poems, looking at their sound and imagery, and write a formal letter, a work journal, and a monologue.
- Prefixes, connectives, hyphens, direct and indirect speech, and idioms. Students will collate texts, make notes, do research, compose verse and draw a cartoon strip. They will write a biography, a leaflet, an account, a review and a news report.
- Facts versus opinions, bias, empathy, prediction, and sequencing of material. Students practise sentence structures, transitional adverbials, prefixes, hyphens, dashes, summary, and more phrasal verbs. The tasks are to script a news interview; take part in group discussion; write a news article; and an encyclopaedia entry; evaluate an argument; research and write a form report.

ASSESSMENT TASKS:

Students will complete a number of assessment tasks throughout the year, these will include:

- Reading tasks based on a variety of genres, poetry, prose and drama
- Writing a descriptive/narrative composition
- Writing a charity appeal letter
- Oral presentation through original oratory
- Examination: Midyear and End of year

CAREER PROSPECTS:

Students require literacy skills to understand and interpret their world effectively and efficiently, through listening and speaking, reading and writing. Students require these essential skills for any career choice they make.

ENQUIRIES: Datin Christie Vengadesan

MATHEMATICS

OVERVIEW:

Students learn to recognise when and how a situation may be represented mathematically, identify and interpret relevant factors and, where necessary, select an appropriate mathematical method to solve the problem, to use mathematics as a means of communication with emphasis on the use of clear expression and to develop an ability to apply mathematics in other subjects, particularly science and technology.

DURATION:

This is a compulsory subject that runs for the THREE terms.

KEY SKILLS:

Students learn to:

- become fluent in the fundamentals of mathematics, including through varied and frequent practice with increasingly complex problems over time, so that pupils develop conceptual understanding and the ability to recall and apply knowledge rapidly and accurately.
- reason mathematically by following a line of enquiry, conjecturing relationships and generalisations, and developing an argument, justification or proof using mathematical language
- can solve problems by applying their mathematics to a variety of routine and nonroutine problems with increasing sophistication, including breaking down problems into a series of simpler steps and persevering in seeking solutions.

TOPICS OF STUDY:

Term 1:

- Travel graphs
- Working with numbers
- Probability
- Percentages
- Ratio and proportion
- Algebraic products
- Algebraic factors
- Organising and summarising data

Term 2:

- Formulas
- Simultaneous equations
- Quadratic equations
- Graphs
- Areas and volumes
- Transformations
- Similar figures

Term 3:

- Trigonometry: tangent of an angle
- Sine and cosine of an angle
- Problems in three dimensions
- Geometry proof
- Congruent triangles

ASSESSMENT TASKS:

Students will complete a number of assessment tasks throughout the year, these will include:

- Practising questions
- Online Maths (www.myimaths.com)
- Mental maths
- Presentation
- Projects
- Examination

CAREER PROSPECTS:

Students who study Mathematics develop creativity and perseverance in the approach to problem solving, appreciate the interdependence of different branches of mathematics and acquire a foundation appropriate to their further study of mathematics and of other disciplines. Students require these essential skills for any career choice they make.

ENQUIRIES: Mr Ivan Chan

SCIENCE

OVERVIEW:

A high-quality science education provides the foundations for understanding the world through the specific disciplines of biology, chemistry and physics. Science has changed our lives and is vital to the world's future prosperity, and all pupils should be taught essential aspects of the knowledge, methods, processes and uses of science as well as new technology. Through building up a body of key foundational knowledge and concepts, pupils should be encouraged to recognise the power of rational explanation and develop a sense of excitement and curiosity about natural phenomena. They should be encouraged to understand how science can be used to explain what is occurring, predict how things will behave, and analyse causes.

DURATION:

Science is a compulsory subject that runs for the THREE terms.

KEY SKILLS:

The national curriculum for science aims to ensure that all pupils:

- Develop scientific knowledge and conceptual understanding through the specific disciplines of biology, chemistry and physics
- Develop understanding of the nature, processes and methods of science through different types of science enquiries that help them to answer scientific questions about the world around them
- Are equipped with the scientific knowledge required to understand the uses and implications of science, today and for the future.

TOPICS OF STUDY:

Year group	Term 1	Term 2	Term3
Year 9	New technology in Biology - Genetics Inherited disorders, Selective breeding Genetic engineering, cloning New technology in Chemistry - New technology in Nanoparticles, Cars pros and cons New technology in Physics - Your Phone, House Your Hospital	Turning points In Biology - Vaccines and Antibiotics Turning Points In Chemistry - Atoms and The Periodic Table Turning points in Physics - The Universe , Big Bang, Space crafts and Satellites and Mission to the moon	Detection in Biology - Microscopy, Fingerprinting, DNA and Blood typing Detection in Chemistry - Break In, Smelly problem, Message in a bottle, blood alcohol Detection in Physics - Planets, alien life, position

ASSESSMENT TASKS:

Students will complete a number of assessment tasks throughout the year, these will include:

- Mini-quizzes
- Creative writing tasks
- In class levelled tasks
- Oral presentations
- Tests
- Examinations

CAREER PROSPECTS:

A science degree is compulsory in order to embark on a career in the following fields:

- Architecture
- Biochemistry
- Biology
- Botany
- Chemistry
- Clothing, Textiles & Material Culture
- Computer Science
- Environmental Science
- Exercise Science
- Forestry
- Geography
- Geology
- Human Ecology
- Kinesiology
- Mathematics
- Nursing
- Nutrition
- Physic

ENQUIRIES: Ms Josebell Lopez

INFORMATION COMMUNICATION AND TECHNOLOGY

OVERVIEW:

Learning ICT focuses on further developing understanding and skills in computational thinking such as precisely and accurately describing problems. Learning ICT also focuses on engaging students with specialised learning in preparation students for the future. Students will have the opportunity to learn scenario-based activities that promote problem solving through clearly levelled tasks. The modules in ICT are design to help students learn how to use the PowerPoint to produce effective business presentation. Students will include the use of charts, images, animation and a range of software features. Students will also learn how to use Word-processing software to create documents. Excel and Access are also included in their modules. An introduction of webpage designing is also introduced to the students. They will learn a variety of formulas and functions, creating charts, formatting worksheets. Students will use relevant knowledge, ideas, skills and procedures to complete well-defined tasks and address straightforward problems.

DURATION:

This is a compulsory subject that runs for the THREE terms.

KEY SKILLS:

Students learn to:

- Creating and editing podcasting
- Listening, importing music files and making changes, recording sound using audacity
- Using programming language (MSWLogo) to create amazing shapes
- Using a spreadsheet simulation models
- Create and design webpages using the stylesheet
- Create database, reports and Interrogate data
- Understand the use of graphics
- Analyse and evaluate information
- Designing the master slide in PowerPoint

TOPICS OF STUDY:

Term 1:

- Podcasting
- Shape Recognition
- Theory

Term 2:

- Creating a Social Networking Website
- Working with Graphics
- Theory

Term 3:

- Crime Solving
- Creating a Wiki
- Theory

ASSESSMENT TASKS:

Students will complete a number of assessment tasks throughout the year, these will include:

- Group Projects
- Individual Project
- Classwork
- Online Projects
- PowerPoint Presentation
- Tests
- Examination
- Analysing database

CAREER PROSPECTS:

Information Communication and Technology (ICT) industry is one of the fastest growing and changing fields. Technology is developing rapidly and new devices and systems are constantly being created to provide faster and more efficient methods for ICT. Careers in the ICT field are high demand and this industry is expected to grow. Technology is developing rapidly and new devices and systems are constantly being created to provide faster and more efficient methods for information and communication technology.

The Information Communication and Technology (ICT) will build a strong foundation for those who wish to move on to KS4 (IGCSE). The Information Communication Technology syllabus in ICT IGCSE encourages learners to develop lifelong skills, which will be useful to them in their work across the curriculum and prepare them for future employment. They will develop understanding of the implications of technology in society, including social, economic and ethical uses and awareness of the ways ICT can help in home, learning and work environments.

ENQUIRIES: Ms Kunasunthary Durappiah

GEOGRAPHY

OVERVIEW:

A high-quality geography education should inspire students a curiosity and fascination about the world and its people that will remain with them for the rest of their lives. Students will be equipped with knowledge about diverse places, people, resources and natural and human environments, together with deep understanding of the Earth's key physical and human processes. As student progress, their growing knowledge about the world should help them to deepen their understanding of the interaction between physical and human processes, and of the formation and use of landscapes and environments. Geographical knowledge, understanding and skills provide the frameworks and approaches that explain how the Earth's features at different scale are shaped, interconnected and change over time.

DURATION:

This is a compulsory subject that runs for the THREE terms.

KEY SKILLS:

Students learn to:

- Develop contextual knowledge of the location globally significant places
- Understand the processes that give rise to key physical and human geographical features of the world, how these are interdependent and how they bring about spatial variation and change over time.
- Acquire geographical skills to collect, analyse and communicate with a range of data through experiences of fieldwork that deepens their understanding of geographical processes
- Interpret a range of sources of geographical information, including maps, diagrams, globes, aerial photographs and Geographical Information Systems
- Communicate geographical information in a variety of way, including through map, numerical and quantitative skills and writing at length.

TOPICS OF STUDY:

Term 1:

- Introduction to Physical & Human Geography
- International Development
- Earning A Living
- Living off Earth's Resources

Term 2:

- Map Work – Topographical Maps
- From Rock to Soil
- Our Restless Planet

Term 3:

- Regional Study - Russia
- Regional Study – The Middle East
- Regional Study – ASEAN

ASSESSMENT TASKS:

Students will complete a number of assessment tasks throughout the year, these will include:

- Presentation of Case Studies
- Project work
- Fieldwork & Investigations
- Small Scale Research
- Map Interpretations
- Mind Mapping Presentations
- Topical Assignments
- Topical Assessments
- Term Examinations

CAREER PROSPECTS: What Do Geographers Do?

Geography is unique in bridging the social sciences and natural sciences. There are two main branches of geography: human geography and physical geography. Human geography is concerned with spatial aspects of human existence. Physical geographers study patterns of climates, landforms, vegetation, soils and water. Geographers use many tools and techniques in their work, and geographic technologies are increasingly important for understanding our complex world. They include Geographic Information Systems (GIS), Remote Sensing, Global Positioning Systems (GPS) and online mapping such as Google Earth. For an overview of geography careers, explore some of the areas listed below:

Physical Related Careers – Geomorphology, Meteorology, Biogeography, Natural Hazards, Climatology and Hydrology

Human Related Careers – Political, Economic, Cultural, Population, Regional and Transport Geography.

Human- Environmental Related Careers – Cartography, Field Methods, Spatial Thinking, Global Perspective, Diversity Perspective, Spatial Statistics, Remote Sensing, Photogrammetry and Geographical Information System

ENQUIRIES: Mr Che Abas bin Haji Hamid

HISTORY

OVERVIEW:

From the Norman Conquest to the Battle for Berlin, from the Black Death to Bird Flu, History deals with the substance of life and death throughout the ages, and helps us to understand not only why mistakes have been made but also how they have been avoided, thus enabling us to avoid them in our own time. But this is only the most obvious benefit of studying History. Studying the past sates the curiosity we all have as human beings. And, in an age, when comments and opinions abound on every subject under the sun, a study of History helps young people to strip out bias and prejudice and be able to focus on the essential facts.

History at Mutiara is taught using a variety of resources, including texts, hand-outs, whiteboards, multimedia PowerPoints, video and DVD. At Key Stage Three we follow a course which is broadly in line with the National Curriculum for England but enrich it to acknowledge the S E Asian context.

DURATION:

This is a compulsory subject that runs for the THREE terms.

KEY SKILLS:

Students develop:

- the ability to recall, select, organise and deploy knowledge of the syllabus content
- an understanding of change and continuity, cause and consequence, similarity and difference.
- empathy for the motives, emotions, intentions and beliefs of people in the past.
- the ability to understand, interpret, evaluate and use a range of sources as evidence.

TOPICS OF STUDY:

Term 1:

- World War One
- The Treaty of Versailles
- Germany between the Wars and the Rise of Hitler

Term 2:

- USA in the 1920s
- Roads to War – background to World War II
- The Second World War

Term 3:

- The Korean War
- The Vietnam War
- The Malayan Emergency

ASSESSMENT TASKS:

Students will complete a number of assessment tasks throughout the year, these will include:

- Fact Files, posters and newspaper articles
- Projects
- Student made videos
- Oral presentation
- Tests
- Examination

CAREER PROSPECTS:

History develops verbal and written communication skills to a very high level – these skills are highly marketable commodities in today’s job market. History graduates can hope to find employment in many spheres of work, from journalism and human resources, whether in commerce or in industry, to law and advertising, the media or politics. History graduates like Jonathan Ross and Louis Theroux, Dermot Murnaghan, and Michael Palin are famous TV personalities, whilst David Sainsbury (CEO Sainsburys), Anita Roddick (founder of the Body Shop), Anthony Hudson and Charles Smith (former CEOs of ICI) have made their names in industry.

ENQUIRIES: Mr Michael Bradfield

BUSINESS STUDIES

OVERVIEW:

This course introduces students to each of the major areas of business: business operation, accounting, marketing, human resources, production, management, finance and entrepreneurship. This introductory course aims to ensure that all students acquire a general understanding of the role and nature of business, as they begin to develop management skills related to financial decision making and ethical business practice. The course will provide a strong foundation both for students who wish to pursue business studies in KS 4 (IGCSE).

DURATION:

This is a compulsory subject that runs for the THREE terms.

KEY SKILLS:

The goals of the Year 9 business studies curriculum are to enable students to:

- gain an understanding of business concepts through the study of subjects such as accounting, entrepreneurship, information and communication technology (ICT) and marketing.
- develop the skills, including critical thinking skills, and strategies required to conduct research and inquiry and communicate findings accurately, ethically, and effectively;
- apply the knowledge, skills, and attitudes acquired through the study of business to a variety of learning tasks and relate them to business phenomena on the local, national, and global levels;
- develop lifelong learning skills that will help them adapt to technological advancements, the changing workplace, and the global economy.

TOPICS OF STUDY:

Term 1:

BUSINESS AND ITS ENVIRONMENT

1. Consumers, suppliers, goods and services
2. Types of economy
3. Production
4. People involved in business activity
5. Business objectives
6. Sole traders
7. Partnerships
8. Private limited companies
9. Public limited companies

Term 2:

MARKETING

1. Introduction to marketing principles and concepts
2. Market segmentation
3. Marketing mix
4. Purposes and methods of market research
5. Demand and supply
6. Advertising

PRODUCTION

1. Introduction to production principles and concepts
2. Production decisions
3. Productive efficiency
4. Methods of production
5. Lean production
6. Costs and revenue

Term 3:

ACCOUNTING & FINANCE

1. Functions of business finance
2. Financial forecasting
3. Assets and liability
4. Profit and loss account

In Term 3, students will be able to use the knowledge gained to complete coursework and prepare for a Market Day event in Term 3. Students will then aim to sell the product(s)/service(s) they have produced to friends, family, parents, members of the school and those attending on the day.

ASSESSMENT TASKS:

Students will complete a number of assessment tasks throughout the year, these will include:

- Group Projects
- Individual Project
- Classwork
- Online Projects
- PowerPoint Presentation
- Tests
- Examination
- Coursework

Students will be able to use the knowledge gained to complete coursework and prepare for a Market Day event in Term 3. The Market Day will enable students to demonstrate the skills they have learnt throughout the year and demonstrate their entrepreneurial skills in the areas of:

- Market research
- Marketing
- Human resources
- Production of a product
- Finance

During the Market Day event, students will be judged and awards will be presented for:

- Display - how students set up their stalls
- Innovation - how innovative is the product
- Customer service - how friendly is the company and their representatives
- Quality of product - does the product conform to the Consumer Guarantees Act

CAREER PROSPECTS:

Young people need to understand how business functions, the role it plays in our society, the opportunities it generates, the skills it requires, and the impact it can have on their own lives and on society, today and in the future. The fundamental purpose of the business studies program is to provide students with the knowledge, skills, and attitudes necessary to achieve success in IGCSE, the workplace, postsecondary education or training, and daily life.

Business activity affects the daily lives of all citizens as they work, spend, save, invest, travel, and play. It influences jobs, incomes, and opportunities for personal enterprise. Business has a significant effect on the standard of living and quality of life and eventually, all students will encounter the world of business, whether they work in urban or rural areas, local or international. They must be prepared to engage in business activity with confidence and competence.

The business studies program will build a strong foundation for those who wish to move on to KS4 (IGCSE). Business studies provides students with a new, practical context for many of the subjects they studied at the elementary level, including mathematics, science and technology, language, and social studies. It helps students to recognize the relevance of these subjects as they are applied in the world of business.

ENQUIRIES: Mr Jehabar Sadiq

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

OVERVIEW:

In Physical Education, students are given the opportunity to broaden their knowledge and understand what constitutes a healthy, active lifestyle and also to develop an appreciation of Sport. Over the course of the year, students will participate in a number of practical activities whilst learning a variety of techniques and tactics for various sports. In addition to this, we will be introducing more of a theoretical approach into the subject with the aim to give students more understanding of what it is to be healthy, and live longer, happier lives as well as opening their minds more to the outside sporting world.

DURATION:

This is a compulsory subject where students are given 2 lessons per week and runs for the THREE terms.

KEY SKILLS:

Students learn:

- To develop skills and techniques with/without the ball, and work as team in a number of sports.
- To understand and apply rules and tactics to team sports.
- To develop their personal fitness and understand how to maintain and/or improve it.
- About a variety of training methods and how they are suited to different needs.
- About the effects of exercise, and how they can have positive and negatives influences on our decisions.
- How to effectively analyse sporting performances. (This will include the use of technology).
- How role models have a positive and negative affect on the sporting world.
- About specific hormones that are related to exercise.
- About the major global sporting events, and how they affect the communities involved.

TOPICS OF STUDY:

Term 1:

- Netball
- Hockey
- Cross Country
- Basketball
- Health Related Fitness
- Training methods
- Effects of exercise on us

Term 2:

- CCA inter-house game preparation
- Volleyball
- Ultimate Frisbee
- Athletics
- Sports Analysis and Improvement
- How the media affects performance

Term 3:

- Cricket
- Touch/Rugby
- Softball
- Gymnastics
- Hormones in exercise
- Global sporting events

ASSESSMENT TASKS:

Students will complete a number of assessment tasks throughout the year, these will include:

- Practical assessments
- Subject essays
- Newspaper articles
- Posters
- Role plays
- Video logs
- Presentations
- Examinations

CAREER PROSPECTS:

It is desirable in every career to live a healthy lifestyle; employees who are frequently ill, injured or unhealthy can potentially risk falling behind in their work or even losing their job. Therefore students are required to understand the purpose of developing and enhancing healthy behaviours that can influence lifestyle choices, namely their health and fitness. Living a healthy lifestyle makes one generally more employable.

ENQUIRIES: Ms Hannah Budge & Mr Rodney Fernandez

ART AND DESIGN

OVERVIEW

An Art and Design course encourages personal expression, imagination, sensitivity, conceptual thinking, powers of observation, an analytical ability and practical attitudes. It leads to greater understanding of the role of the visual arts in the history of civilisations and widens cultural horizons and enriches the individual. In addition, it combines a breadth and depth of study so that it may accommodate a wide range of abilities and individual resources.

DURATION:

This is a compulsory subject that runs for the THREE terms.

KEY SKILLS:

- Introduction to 3 dimensional creations
- Anatomical experiments – Portraits, hand studies and animal drawings
- Contemporary Art

TOPICS OF STUDY:

1. 3D
2. History of Art
3. Anatomy

Term 1:

- Sculpture
- History of Art - Realism

Term 2:

- Anatomy – Human / Animals
- Live drawings – at the Zoo

Term 3:

- History of Art – 20th Century and Post Modern
- Compositions based on research

ASSESSMENT TASKS:

- Termly tests are given to students
- Teacher analyses the creativity of the students in a regular basis

CAREER PROSPECTS:

While students might have heard that becoming an architect, fine artist, sculptor or gallery manager is an option for those who study Art or Design, there are many other careers available for those who are able to envision, design and create beautiful things.

Whether you're designing ships as a naval architect or creating cutting edge art as a fine artist, the one thing that all jobs in this family have in common is creativity!

Take a look at some of these jobs.

- Animator
- Architect
- Architectural technician or technologist
- Art editor
- Art gallery curator
- Arts administrator
- Art therapist
- CAD technician
- Ceramics designer-maker
- Conservator
- Costume designer
- Design engineer
- Exhibition designer
- Fashion design assistant
- Fashion designer
- Fine artist
- Footwear designer
- Furniture designer
- Furniture restorer
- Glassmaker
- Graphic designer
- Illustrator
- Interior designer
- Jewellery designer-maker
- Landscape architect
- Make-up artist
- Medical illustrator
- Model maker
- Museum assistant
- Museum curator
- Musical instrument maker
- Naval architect
- Pattern grader
- Photographer
- Photographic stylist
- Photographic technician
- Printing administrator
- Product designer
- Reprographic assistant
- Set designer
- Textile designer
- Textiles production manager
- Visual merchandiser
- Web designer

ENQUIRIES: Mr Nikolai Lugovoi

DRAMA

OVERVIEW:

Students working in drama will be constantly involved in making, performing and responding and may participate in more than one at any time. A student making drama could be one of the following: an individual researching the historical or cultural background to a play; someone with profound and multiple learning difficulties experimenting with a sound instrument to transform a mood; a member of a group contributing to an improvisation; or a student devising an original piece of work.

DURATION:

This is a compulsory subject that runs for the THREE terms.

KEY SKILLS:

- Drama strategies
- Drama Elements
- Drama Medium
- History of Theatre
- Forms of Stimuli
- Drama Production

TOPICS OF STUDY:

Term 1:

Still image, Thought tracking, Hot Seating, Cross-cutting

Term 2:

Conventions, Characterisation, Climax, Plot, Movements, Levels/Spacing

History of Theatre - Evolution of Greek Theatre

Forms of Stimuli: Words, Picture, Objects, Script

Term 3:

Practical exploration of Drama Strategies, Mediums and Elements

ASSESSMENT TASKS:

- Peer assessment/ Teacher assessment
- Working as a group- giving and taking ideas, cooperation and team work.
- Ability to create an original and imaginative idea and put this into practice
- Use of Drama Techniques- Strategies, Mediums
- Staying in role/Responding to ideas and performance
- Their ability to create an original and imaginative idea and put this into practice.

CAREER PROSPECTS:

Performing arts combine creative talent with practical aspects of self-promotion and arts management. This mix of disciplines is a good preparation for the world of artistic performance. There are many different career options available for Theatre & Drama graduates. Below is a sample of types of positions that graduates have gone on to.

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Production & Performance

- Actor
- Artistic Director
- Director
- Stage Manager
- Technical Director
- Set Designer
- Costume Designer
- Lighting Designer
- Sound Designer
- Scenic Artist
- Special Effects Artist
- Film Editor
- Art Critic
- Producer
- Playwright
- Journalist
- Voice Over Artist

Health & Education

- School Teacher
- University Professor
- Drama Instructor
- Drama/Speech Coach
- Vocal Coach
- Singing Teacher
- Counsellor
- Drama Therapist
- Nutritionist
- Community Worker
- Religious Worker
- Personal Trainer
- Early Childhood Education
- Corporate Trainer

Business & Arts Administration

- Advertising
- Arts Administrator
- Association Manager
- Fine Arts Manager
- Human Resources Specialist
- Lawyer
- Managing Director
- Media Relations
- Development Director
- Marketing Director
- Performing Arts Publicist
- Press Director
- Producer
- Public Relations Director
- Theatrical Press Agent
- Historian*

ENQUIRIES: Mr Ajesh Suresh

MUSIC

OVERVIEW:

In Year 9, the students will use their creativity in lyric writing and producing music using the software provided. Students will experiment the sound and genres they have learnt previously. They will use the knowledge from previous topics to create music of their own. Besides that, students will also learn how to create music for visual images. The students will experience how to create music based on the movement of the video.

DURATION:

This is a compulsory subject that runs for the THREE terms.

KEY SKILLS:

Students learn to:

- Lyric writing- expressing themselves into words
- Experiment sounds
- Use the correct term in music production
- Synchronize the sound effects with the video
- Used different sounds and instruments in their music

TOPIC OF STUDY:

Term 1

- Lyric Writing

Term 2

- Music Technology

Term 3

- Jingle Music
- Film Music

ASSESSMENT TASKS:

- Quiz
- Listening test
- Singing test
- Presentation

CAREER PROSPECTS:

- Musician
- Orchestra player
- Conductor
- Solo-ist
- Music Software maker
- Transcriber
- Artist Manager
- Music arranger
- Orchestrator
- Music teacher/lecturer
- Music engineer
- Music publisher
- Music editor
- Lyricist
- Composer
- Film music composer
- Foley artist
- Jingle writer
- Animation music composer
- Music producer
- Record producer
- Music business
- Music therapist

ENQUIRIES: Ms Farisya Rentah

MALAY

OVERVIEW:

This course is designed for learners who are learning Malay as a foreign language. The aim is to develop an ability to use the language effectively for practical communication. The course is based on the linked language skills of listening, reading, speaking and writing, and these are built on as learner's progress through their studies. The syllabus also aims to offer insights into the culture and civilisation of Malaysia, thus encouraging positive attitudes towards language learning. Students are asked to be reflective and develop their ability to learn. They learn to work with different information and ideas. They are engaged intellectually and socially.

DURATION:

This runs for the THREE academic terms.

KEY SKILLS:

- To understand and respond to spoken and written language from a variety of authentic sources
- To speak with increasing confidence, fluency and spontaneity, finding ways of communicating what they want to say, including through discussion and asking questions, and continually improving the accuracy of their pronunciation and intonation
- To write a varying length piece of work, using a variety of grammatical structures that they have learnt, on a variety of topics
- To discover and develop an appreciation of a different culture.

TOPICS OF STUDY:

Term 1

- Home town and geographical surroundings
- Shopping
- Public services
- Natural environment
- Weather
- Finding the way
- Meeting people

Term 2

- Places and customs
- Food and drink
- Meeting people
- Issues according to available resources and individual interest
- Language at work
- Holiday travel and transport
- Geographical surroundings
- Weather Places and customs
- Travel and transport

Term 3

- Further education and training
- Future career plans
- Employment
- Communication

ASSESSMENT TASKS:

Students will complete a number of assessment tasks throughout the year, these will include:

1. Reading Comprehension: Candidates read a number of texts and answer questions testing comprehension.
2. Speaking: Candidates complete role plays, a topic presentation/conversation and a general conversation.
3. Writing: Candidates respond in the target language to few tasks.

CAREER PROSPECTS:

Language skills are in demand and can be used in almost any career, particularly within businesses that trade internationally. Employment options include: Interpreter, Translator, Foreign Civil Service, Airline services, Broadcast Journalist, Diplomatic Services, Language Teacher, International aid/development worker, Logistics and Distribution Manager, Marketing executive to name a few.

ENQUIRIES: Ms Azleen Zakaria

MALAYSIAN STUDIES

OVERVIEW:

Learning a foreign language provides an opening to other cultures. It fosters pupils' curiosity and deepens their understanding of the world. An essential dimension of international education is for a school to recognize and celebrate its "host country." This involves both the learning of functional language and cultural insight and understanding. Malaysian Studies is MIGS way of ensuring that non-Malaysians leave Malaysia knowing more about the host country. Non-Malaysian students gain an understanding of the Malaysian language as well as its culture, fables, and history.

DURATION:

This runs for the THREE academic terms.

KEY SKILLS:

- To speak with increasing confidence, fluency and spontaneity on a variety of topics.
- To write a varying length piece of work on a variety of topics.
- To discover and develop an appreciation of a different culture.

TOPICS OF STUDY:

Term 1:

- Malaysian Cultural Topic 1
- Malay vocabulary development topic 1

Term 2:

- Malaysian Cultural Topic 2
- Malay vocabulary development topic 2

Term 3:

- Malaysian Cultural Topic 3
- Malay vocabulary development topic 3

ASSESSMENT TASKS:

In order to facilitate in-depth debate amongst the students, the Malaysian Studies course is held in English. Assessment of practical language skill acquisition is done in Malay and Malaysian cultural understanding is taught and assessed in English.

Students will complete a number of assessment tasks throughout the year, these will include:

- Quizzes and tests
- Reading assessments to show comprehension of Malay language acquisition and/or cultural understanding
- Listening assessments such as listening to a variety of forms of spoken language to obtain information and respond appropriately
- Speaking Assessments such as role plays, oral presentations and video productions
- Writing varying length pieces of work on a studied theme.

CAREER PROSPECTS:

Learning about Malaysia provides an opening to other cultures. It fosters pupils' curiosity and deepens their understanding about Malaysia. It also, provides the foundation for learning further languages, equipping foreign pupils to study and work in Malaysia. Foreign students have found employment in many private industries such as manufacturing, transportation, telecommunication, service, finance, trading, mass communication and in government sectors. We live in a global, multicultural world. To prepare students for their future, Malaysian studies, ensuring our students are sensitive to other cultures and develop sensitivity to other environments. Transferable skills developed through Malaysian studies will enable student to adapt themselves to the job market in Malaysia.

ENQUIRIES: Ms Josebell Lopez

FRENCH

OVERVIEW:

Learning a foreign language provides an opening to other cultures. A high-quality language education should foster pupils' curiosity and deepen their understanding of the world. The teaching enables pupils to express their ideas and thoughts in another language and to understand and respond to its speakers, both in speech and in writing. It also provides opportunities for them to communicate for practical purposes. Language learning provides the foundation for learning further languages, equipping pupils to study and work in other countries.

DURATION:

This runs for the THREE academic terms.

KEY SKILLS:

- To understand and respond to spoken and written language from a variety of authentic sources
- To speak with increasing confidence, fluency and spontaneity, finding ways of communicating what they want to say, including through discussion and asking questions, and continually improving the accuracy of their pronunciation and intonation
- To write a varying length piece of work, using a variety of grammatical structures that they have learnt, on a variety of topics
- To discover and develop an appreciation of a different culture.

TOPICS OF STUDY:

Tense: Focus on the present, future, and past tense including common regular and irregular verbs

Term 1:

- Identifying different French shops
- Talking about shopping and what you can buy
- Talking about transport, holiday destinations and what you want to buy

Term 2:

- Learn to talk about holidays with the family in the past tense
- Learn to role play different scenarios around the theme of travel
- Learn to express yourself in the past, present and future

Term 3:

- To communicate about fashion and free-time activities
- To talk about healthy and unhealthy habits and health
- To do a role play around the theme of fashion or health

ASSESSMENT TASKS:

Students will complete a number of assessment tasks throughout the year, these will include:

- Quizzes and tests
- Reading assessments to show comprehension of original and adapted materials from a range of different sources
- Listening assessments such as listening to a variety of forms of spoken language to obtain information and respond appropriately
- Speaking Assessments such as role plays, oral presentations and video productions
- Writing varying length pieces of work on a studied theme.

CAREER PROSPECTS:

Language skills are in demand and can be used in almost any career, particularly within businesses that trade internationally. Employment options include: Interpreter, Translator, Foreign Civil service, Airline services, Broadcast journalist, Diplomatic Services, Language teacher, International aid/development worker, Logistics and distribution manager, Marketing executive to name a few.

ENQUIRIES: Ms Sybille Roger

MANDARIN

OVERVIEW:

Learning a foreign language provides an opening to other cultures. A high-quality language education should foster pupils' curiosity and deepen their understanding of the world. The teaching enables pupils to express their ideas and thoughts in another language and to understand and respond to its speakers, both in speech and in writing. It also provides opportunities for them to communicate for practical purposes. Language learning provides the foundation for learning further language, equipping pupils to study and work in other countries.

DURATION:

This runs for the THREE academic terms.

KEY SKILLS:

- To understand and respond to spoken and written language from a variety of authentic sources
- To speak with increasing confidence, fluency and spontaneity, finding ways of communicating what they want to say, including through discussion and asking questions, and continually improving the accuracy of their pronunciation and intonation
- To write a varying length piece of work, using a variety of grammatical structures that they have learnt, on a variety of topics
- To discover and develop an appreciation of a different culture.

TOPICS OF STUDY:

Term 1:

- Learn to talk about appearance, personality
- Role play such as occupations
- Talk about household chores

Term 2:

- Learn about pets
- Talk about schools, examinations and school events
- Talk about delicious food

Term 3:

- Learn about festivals
- Learn to order food in restaurant
- Role play such as travelling
- Learn about accidents

ASSESSMENT TASKS:

Students will complete a number of assessment tasks throughout the year, these will include:

- Quizzes and tests
- Reading assessments to show comprehension of original and adapted materials from a range of different sources
- Listening assessments such as listening to a variety of forms of spoken language to obtain information and respond appropriately
- Speaking Assessments such as role plays, oral presentations and video productions
- Writing varying length pieces of work on a studied theme.

CAREER PROSPECTS:

Language skills are in demand and can be used in almost any career, particularly within businesses that trade internationally. Employment options include: Interpreter, Translator, Foreign Civil service, Airline services, Broadcast journalist, Diplomatic Services, Language teacher, International aid/development worker, Logistics and distribution manager, Marketing executive to name a few.

ENQUIRIES: Ms Blanche Tey

ARABIC

OVERVIEW:

Arabic has always held its own in the literary ladder of beautiful language. Intricate yet simple, one word has multiple meanings and when strung together in a sentence, the grammar cannot be called anything less than a symphony. Arabic vocabulary gives a real richness and depth to descriptions, in addition to beautiful forms and types of calligraphy. Students will learn to communicate accurately, appropriately and effectively. Learning a foreign language provides an opening to other cultures and deepens their understanding of the world. Language learning provides the foundation for learning further languages, equipping pupils to study and work in other countries.

DURATION:

This runs for the THREE academic terms.

KEY SKILLS:

- To understand and respond to spoken and written language from a variety of authentic sources
- To speak with increasing confidence, fluency and spontaneity, finding ways of communicating what they want to say, including through discussion and asking questions, and continually improving the accuracy of their pronunciation and intonation
- To write a varying length piece of work, using a variety of grammatical structures that they have learnt, on a variety of topics
- To discover and develop an appreciation of a different culture.

TOPICS OF STUDY:

Term 1:

- Arabic Grammar: (comparative and superlative degrees of the adjective, types of sentence, numbers, present and past tenses)

Term 2:

- The Arabic Vocabularies (Fruits, animals, food and drink)
- Conversation: “in the canteen”, “in the hospital”

Term 3:

- Reading and Creative writing: “living in the village” “in the zoo”

ASSESSMENT TASKS:

Students will complete a number of assessment tasks throughout the year, these will include:

- Quizzes and tests
- Reading assessments to show comprehension of original and adapted materials from a range of different sources
- Listening assessments such as listening to a variety of forms of spoken language to obtain information and respond appropriately
- Speaking Assessments such as role plays, oral presentations and video productions
- Writing varying length pieces of work on a studied theme.

CAREER PROSPECTS:

Arabic is one of the most widely spoken languages in the world, and the Arabic language exists as MSA (Modern Standard Arabic) and as various dialects. Many graduates of Arabic language degree programs choose to enter careers in business, translation, interpretation, publishing and education. Other employment areas to consider include working as bilingual salespersons, community program managers or facilitators with large Arabic populations and Arabic linguists.

ENQUIRIES: Dr Bouchikhi Hocine

ISLAMIC STUDIES

OVERVIEW:

Islamic studies education is a holistic approach to learning and development where the principles of submission to Allah (SWT) as well as the essential elements in achieving human excellence are instilled in our students starting at the earliest stages. The subject focuses on producing individual Muslims who lead a God-conscious life, upright in their behaviour, having a caring and loving attitude towards themselves and others, and also individuals who live harmoniously with nature (flora and fauna).

DURATION:

This subject runs for the THREE academic terms.

KEY SKILLS:

Students learn to:

- develop an understanding on the basic beliefs in Islam and explore how they influence the life of the believers
- identify and explore the religious, historical, and moral questions raised in the Islamic scriptures they study.
- explore the practical aspects of being a good Muslim, particularly in their moral behaviour and in the proper manner of performing the basic Islamic rituals such as Thaharah (rituals of purification), Wudhu (ablution), Shalah (daily prayers), observing the Sawm (fasting) and Hajj (pilgrimage).

TOPICS OF STUDY:

Term 1:

- Islam and human life
- Man in the universe
- Articles of faith in Islam
- A surah from The Qur'an 1

Term 2:

- Prophet hood In Islam
- Faith in Practice
- Story of a Noble Scholar: Imam Shafi'i
- Story of Prophet Muhammad S.A.W.: Life at Makkah
- A surah from The Qur'an 2

Term 3:

- Story of Prophet Muhammad S.A.W.: Life at Madinah
- Da'wah: Preaching of Islam
- Sholat Maktubah (compulsory prayer)
- The treatment of other communities
- A surah from The Qur'an 3

ASSESSMENT TASKS:

Students will complete a number of assessment tasks throughout the year, these will include:

- Practical test on basic Islamic rituals which include Wudu, Tayammum and Shalah.
- Quranic reading and memorisation test.
- Assessment task presentation
- Individual and group project
- Quizzes and Tests
- Examination

CAREER PROSPECTS:

Islamic Studies has become a subject of strategic importance in a multicultural society. It offers students a unique approach to all the major disciplines within the humanities. Islamic studies students will be prepared for further study in the humanities as well as for employment in state and local government, religious organizations, social agencies, teaching, business, and the arts.

ENQUIRIES: Mr Mohamad Ali Maskur

CULTURAL STUDIES

OVERVIEW:

PSHE education helps pupils to develop the knowledge, skills and attributes they need to manage many of the critical opportunities, challenges and responsibilities they will face as they grow up and in adulthood.

By teaching pupils to stay safe and healthy, and by building self-esteem, resilience and empathy, an effective PSHE programme can tackle barriers to learning, raise aspirations, and improve the life chances of the most vulnerable and disadvantaged pupils.

There is evidence to show that PSHE education can address teenage pregnancy, substance misuse, unhealthy eating, lack of physical activity, and emotional health. The skills and attributes developed through PSHE education are also shown to increase academic attainment and attendance rates.

DURATION:

This is a compulsory subject that runs for the THREE terms.

KEY SKILLS:

Students learn to:

- Develop confidence and responsibility and making the most of their abilities
- Preparing to play an active role as citizens
- Developing a healthy, safer lifestyle
- Developing good relationships and respecting the differences between people

TOPICS OF STUDY:

Term 1:

- *Moving forward*
To look at the successes and failures of the previous year
To think about the coming year.
- *Which Subjects*
To begin to think about curriculum choices for next year.
- *Which Job*
To relate job opportunities to personal skills, strengths and aptitudes.
- *Getting help with your future*
To understand the role of personal advisers and how they can help young people.
- *Target setting and career plans*
To appreciate the importance of target setting and developing flexible career plans.
- *Understanding HIV and AIDS*
To gain and understanding of HIV and AIDS, and the issues surrounding them.

- *A growing concern*
To look at teenage suicide and suicide attempts.

Term 2:

- *Mental Health*
To examine the nature and meaning of being mentally fit and understand some of the pressure affecting mental health.
- *Violence in the home*
To examine the issue of violence in the home and explore strategies for dealing with it.
- *Problems in the family*
To examine child abuse within the family and to look at the rights of children within this society.
- *A new member of the family*
To understand the feelings and emotions that may arise when a new family member arrives.
- *Problems at work*
To examine the effects of gender stereotyping and discrimination at work and develop strategies for dealing with these problems
- *Community-based voluntary groups*
To understand the nature of community-based voluntary groups, and explore the benefits for individuals and communities.

Term 3:

- *How can I help?*
To look at ways in which you, as a citizen, can make a valuable contribution to your school, neighbourhood and wider communities.
- *Refugees*
To understand and appreciate what it means to be a refugee.
- *A global community-environmental and social*
To examine the implications of the world as an interdependent community in environmental and social terms.
- *Being Involved*
To explore the benefits of active involvement with school and local communities.
- *Finances and local government*
To understand how local councils are financed and how their money is spent.
- *Juvenile Court*
To learn about the juvenile justice system.

ASSESSMENT TASKS:

Students will complete a number of assessment tasks throughout the year, these will include:

- Writing folio
- Oral presentation
- Tests
- Examination

ENQUIRIES: Ms Azleen Zakaria