

THE IGCSE PROGRAMME AT Symbiosis International School

Processes of learning and the relationships that students create while learning are accorded high significance at SIS. IGCSE is a two year programme that offers the best in international education and lays an excellent foundation for students who wish to continue with any national +2 level qualification or any international pre-university programme, like the IB Diploma, Advanced Placement Diploma (US), and A/AS Level & AICE (UK).

IGCSE offers a wider range of subjects and encourages high academic standards through a practical approach to teaching and learning. Assessment is not limited to conventional written papers and they consist of a variety of tests including oral and listening tests. The assessment is aimed at a wide ability range of students, with an eight-point grading scale, from A* to G, with A* being the highest.

IGCSE is a balanced curriculum and a flexible course of study. Most subjects offer a choice between core curriculum and extended curriculum. This gives students of all ability levels the freedom to choose subjects that are right for them and, thereby, the opportunity to score good grades.

We take utmost care that students are not compared with each other. Alternatively, they are gently guided to understand the inherent strengths, virtues and potential. The objective is to recognize the progress that each child makes in his/her own learning curve. Ample opportunities are provided to learn beyond the four walls of the classroom. The thrust is on fine tuning the balance between academic excellences and imbue the students with enduring values. Practice, research, articulation and accuracy assume high importance for the students. Opportunities are provided for students to orient themselves to national and international level competitive examinations, the Olympiads, MUN, etc to name a few. They also participate in inter school sports events. Students are guided and encouraged to explore their own levels of mastery and potential for growth in a variety of competitive settings.

There are five subject groups in IGCSE with several subjects to choose from in each group.

List of Subjects Offered:

- **Group 1:** English, ESL **Foreign Language** – French, Spanish, Hindi
- **Group 2:** English Literature, Economics, Environmental management.
- **Group 3:** Sciences: Physics, Chemistry, Biology.
- **Group 4:** Mathematics
- **Group 5:** Business Studies, Drama, Computer Studies

International Certificate of Education (ICE)

IGCSE subjects can be taken in two ways:

- A student chooses 5 subjects from any of the 5 groups with English and Mathematics as compulsory subjects. This is needed to obtain the IGCSE Certificate.
- As qualifications towards ICE, a student is encouraged to take a broad and balanced range of subjects. A student needs to pass a minimum of 7 IGCSE subjects. Two of these from the Group I (English plus an additional language), one each from Group II to Group V, with a seventh subject from any group.

In SIS, we allow students to opt for a maximum of **8 subjects**.

Candidates who qualify for the ICE will be graded in one of these categories:

DISTINCTION: Grade A or better in 5 subjects and Grade C or better in the remaining two.

MERIT: Grade C or better in 5 subjects and Grade F or better in the remaining two.

PASS: Grade G or better in all 7 subjects.

Co Curricular Activities:

Apart from academics, the students are encouraged to opt from the following activities as their CCA. This is not an assessed part of the curriculum but helps them follow their passion and realize their talent.

Music: Guitar, Keyboard, Drums and Vocal

Dance: Western Style

Art

Sports: Table Tennis, Soccer, Basket Ball.

Research Skills:

In keeping with the present trends in education and preparing them for the IB Diploma Program, we at SIS also teach the Research Methodology to the IGCSE 1 students. They write an essay for around 2500 words on a topic of their choice which is assessed.

The IGCSE Team:

We have a team of dedicated and trained facilitators who constantly strive to find innovative methods of delivering their subject to the students in a way that interests them and aids better understanding and retention.

Assessments and PTM's in IGCSE

Regular class assessments are held and the feedback is mailed to parents in **October, February and April**. 20% of Class Test marks are added to the Terminal Exam marks and then the Grade is awarded. No retests will be conducted if a student is absent for the class test. He/she will be marked absent. Forums and PTM's are conducted to discuss the progress of the students with their parents/guardians periodically.

The IGCSE Field Trips:

The IGCSE team goes for an overnight field trip once in a year where all students and teachers get to know each other better as this is a time they are not in a class room atmosphere. A lot of adventure sports and fun activities are planned for both the students and the teachers.

The IGCSE Academic Calendar

July:	Orientation for IGCSE 1 students and parents.
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Orientation Camp for new students, an overnight camp, to help them understand and choose their subjects.
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August:	School reopens for new session for both IGCSE 1 and IGCSE 2 Declaration of results of IGCSE Exam held in May/June by CIE.
November:	First Term End Examination for IGCSE 1 and IGCSE 2 IGCSE Hindi Examinations from November 2015 onwards.
January:	First Mock Exam for IGCSE 2
February:	Mid Term Assessment for IGCSE 1 Intensive Revision for IGCSE 2
March:	Second Mock Examination for IGCSE 2 Oral Examination for ESL and French
April:	Practical Examination of ICT Award Ceremony and Graduation Day
May:	Board Examination for IGCSE 2 Second Term End Examination for IGCSE 1 Declaration of results for IGCSE 1

Pl.Note: These dates will be mentioned in the eventometer but may be subject to slight changes, if need be. Parents will be notified about it well in advance.

The IGCSE Results:

The IGCSE results have always been a 100% every year and a steady improvement in the results year after year. The weighted average shows this steady improvement. All the ICE students qualify with a majority of them with Distinction and a few Merit. We also have students scoring A* in all seven ICE subject for the past 3 years.

Shefali Verma added another feather to our cap by being declared the WORLD TOPPER in ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMANT in the June 2012 Examination. In June 2013 Examinations, Rhea Chug scored A* in all the 8 subjects taken by her.

There has been a steady increase in the weighted average of our results. From 77.5 in 2012 to 79.9 in 2013 and 81.6 in 2014!! The 2014 batch had a total of 190 subject entries in which students scored 50 A*s and 77 A's!

IMPORTANT NOTICE:

Book fees to be paid in IGCSE Year 1

Board Examination fees to be paid in IGCSE Year 2

This is apart from the tuition fees paid by you.