

ACADEMIC GUIDE

Edexcel International Tuition Programme



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Edexcel International Tuition Programme

The Edexcel International Tuition Programme is an intensive single phase, full-time course, intended for students who have at least six (6) years of primary education school in an overseas country, and who are aiming to further their education in Singapore.

The main objective of the course is to prepare students for entry onto a Pearson Edexcel International GCSE (O-Level) programme. The course provides students with the opportunity to acquire the specific subject knowledge and the academic skills they will need to progress to the next level of their studies.

The EITP comprises four compulsory modules: Mathematics, English Language, Combined Science (Biology, Chemistry and Physics) and Humanities (Geography, History). In addition, there are optional modules in Chinese, Art and Commerce.

These subjects have been selected as they cover a broad range of academic disciplines which will prepare the way for further studies. Students on the EITP develop a high level of numeracy, have a good grounding in Science, can communicate their ideas accurately in spoken and written English, and have a good understanding of the world in which they live.

Aims of the Edexcel International Tuition Programme

1. To provide a thorough grounding in the knowledge and skills that will be necessary for progress to further secondary education based on the British curriculum and taught in English.
2. To offer overseas students who have no experience of a British-based system an opportunity to develop the language skills and academic foundations needed to progress to IGCSE (O-Level) programmes.
3. To identify and address any weaknesses or gaps in the prior education of the students, notably in oral and written communication, Mathematics, the sciences and study skills.
4. To provide the students on the course with a supportive learning environment, including pastoral support and welfare back-up.
5. To provide a solid foundation in the following key subject areas, all of which are essential if students are to meet the challenges of further education:

<i>Numeracy:</i>	The programme aims to provide students with a wide range of basic mathematical skills which are essential for further studies in this subject.
<i>Analytical skills:</i>	The programme aims to develop students' analytical skills through encouraging an enquiring and critical attitude towards learning in the classroom. Students are challenged to engage and connect with what they are learning, consider alternative views and critically evaluate arguments.
<i>Scientific awareness:</i>	The programme aims to foster awareness of the practical applications of scientific theories through the provision of up-to-date material and practical experimentation.

<i>Social, cultural and environmental awareness:</i>	The programme aims to generate an enhanced awareness and interest in the world in which the student lives.
<i>Language skills:</i>	The programme aims to equip students with essential communicative and academic skills in English. Students will learn how to frame their ideas in order to communicate directly, clearly and accurately. Lessons in Chinese (optional) will also help learners to improve their effective communication skills in spoken and written Mandarin
<i>Study skills:</i>	The programme aims to help students to develop productive approaches to studying by teaching necessary skills such as notetaking, reading accurately and quickly and basic approaches to independent research.

Entry Requirements

In addition to having successfully completed Primary Level Education or equivalent, students will need to fulfill our English Language Entry requirement. Entry to the EITP requires a minimum score of 4.0 in IELTS or equivalent. Insworld offers its own test of English which may be taken as an alternative to IELTS.

If a student does not meet the minimum English Language proficiency, they may join the English for Academic Study programme for three (3) to nine (9) months. Upon successful completion of such a course, the student may then be offered a place on the EITP.

Average Teacher Student Ratio 1:8

Enrolment Period

There are 2 main intakes per year (in January and in July) However students may apply to join the programme at any time.

Course Structure

The EITP is a 12-month, full-time programme of study that is taught over four terms. Each term comprises 11 weeks. It is to be noted that the final week of each term is an assessment week during which no formal classes are timetabled. Over the duration of the course, students study 4 core modules and one or two optional modules

Core Module: English Language
 Mathematics
 Combined Science (Biology, Chemistry and Physics)
 Humanities (History and Geography)

Optional Modules: Chinese, Art, Commerce

Mathematics

Phase 1 and 2

1. Quadratic Equations;
2. Factorisation;
3. Pathagarus' Theorem;
4. Index Numbers;
5. Logarithms;
6. Surds;
7. Scales/Ratios;
8. Inequality;
9. Graphs (Linear); and Transformations.

Phase 3 and 4

1. Sets,
2. Functions,
3. Linear Law,
4. Trigonometric Identities and Equations,
5. Circular Measures,
6. Linear Inequality,
7. Quadratic Graphs and Applications,
8. Navigation and Simple Trigonometry.

Rationale

To provide students with the fundamental numerical skills necessary to cope with the higher-level demands of the Pearson Edexcel International GCSE Mathematics. In particular, the course aims to build up a thorough understanding of arithmetic, algebra and geometry, as well as introduce students to the use of graphs and the application of trigonometry.

English Language

Listening/Speaking: Students, at the end of the course should be able to:

1. Understand spoken English in a variety of in-school and out-of-school situations.
2. Develop spoken English skills that allow effective communication across a range of contexts.
3. Understand and use the more familiar speech conventions of spoken English.
4. Converse fluently on topics appropriate to their level of maturity and personal interests.
5. Read aloud with fluency and accuracy.
6. Participate in classroom discussions and deliver effective presentations.

Reading: Students, at the end of the course should be able to:

1. Recognise the main ideas/themes of a text.
2. Follow narrative sequences and other discourse structures in a range of texts.
3. Understand explicit information and infer indirect information in texts.

4. Make sense of a text where some words are not known.
5. Understand information presented in non-verbal form – e.g., diagrams, charts, etc.

Writing: Students, at the end of the course should be able to:

1. Write clearly and accurately.
2. Select relevant material and present it in an ordered and logical manner.
3. Use appropriate range of written structure and expression across a range of academic and non-academic contexts.

Knowledge: Students, at the end of the course should be able to:

1. understand the principles of word-type and word formation.
2. have an appropriate range of grammatical expression that will allow effective communication in spoken and written English.
3. understand how written texts are structured (phrases, clauses, sentences and paragraphs), and apply this to their own writing
4. have good spelling strategies
5. use punctuation accurately and effectively to aid communication in written texts
6. understand the principles of genre and register, and the importance of audience and function.

Two contrasting examples of text/language will be studied in detail:

Terms 1 to 4

1. Novel or selection of short stories,
2. Magazine articles.
3. Selection of poetry,
4. Newspaper articles or reports.

Rationale

To provide students with the reading and writing skills necessary to cope with the higher-level demands of the Pearson Edexcel International GCSE English Language syllabus. In particular, the course aims to develop the students' range of comprehension and their ability to use English clearly and accurately.

Science (Physics, Chemistry and Biology)

Phase 1 and 2

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1. Human Systems & Function,
2. Health/Disease,
3. Drug/Drug Abuse,
4. Atoms and Molecules,
5. Acids and Alkalis,
6. Metals and Non-Metals,
7. Solutions & Suspensions,
8. Heat/Heat transfer and Effects of Heat,
9. Optics (Reflection/Refraction) Colours of Light,
10. Sound/Echo/Quality of Sound.

Phase 3 and 4

1. Cell structure and reproduction method
2. Animal & Plant cells
3. Simple Organic Chemistry
4. Chemical reactions and Equations
5. Common Chemicals and uses
6. Mechanics (Velocity/Acceleration)
 - i. (Density/Mass/Weight)
 - ii. (Force and Motion)
7. Energy and Work Done (P.E/K. E/friction)
8. Thermic (Temperature Measurement)
9. Electricity (Ohm's law and simple circuits)
10. Simple Electronics (Electronic Components)

Rationale

To provide students with the scientific knowledge and skills necessary to cope with the higher-level demands of the Pearson Edexcel International GCSE level syllabuses in Physics (4PHO), Biology (4BIO) and Chemistry (4CHO). In particular, the course aims to develop the students' understanding of the basic principles of Physics, Biology and Chemistry, and an appreciation of scientific methodology, so that students may be able to specialise in one or more of these disciplines at the next level of their education.

History

The attainment targets for History cover the following strands.

1. Knowledge and Understanding
This involves the analysis of major changes and events within history and the key causes and consequences of historical events. Students also learn about the role of key individuals who had a decisive influence on the course of events. Significant turning points in the history at a national, regional and global level are also studied, with a particular emphasis on how much the shape of the present is determined by the events of the past.
2. Historical Skills
This focuses on various techniques for interpreting historical events and the use of sources to provide historical evidence. Emphasis is placed on distinguishing the quality and reliability of sources and identifying biases and subjectivities. Students are encouraged to appreciate why some sources are regarded as more valuable than others and understand why historians must use a wide range of primary and secondary sources to write effectively about the past.

Citizenship themes are also highlighted, emphasizing how the study of history help students become aware of their rights and duties as citizens. The accurate use of language is also emphasized with students being encouraged to write coherently using key terminology, well-structured sentences and effective discourse strategies.

Terms 1 and 2

British History

1. Chapter One (1066 to 1500)
2. Chapter Two (1500 to 1750)
3. Chapter Three (1750 to 1900)

Terms 3 and 4

1. European study before 1914
2. A world study before 1900
3. A world study after 1900

Geography

Terms 1 and 2

Finding your way around the World

1. Continents & Countries
2. Oceans & Seas
3. Rivers & Lakes
4. Capital Cities & other Important Cities & Towns
5. Landforms & Landscapes
6. Land Use: Settlement, Industry & Agriculture
7. Weather & Climate
8. Atlas-Use & Map-Reading Skills

Terms 3 and 4

World Geography

1. Communications
2. Travel & Tourism
3. Soil & Soil erosion
4. Lakes, Rivers and Seas
5. Desertification & Drought
6. Vegetation
7. Population & Migration

Rationale

To provide students with the geographical knowledge and skills necessary to cope with the higher-level demands of the Pearson Edexcel International GCSE level syllabus in Geography (4GEO). In particular, the course aims to develop the students' appreciation of their immediate environment and that of the world in which they live.

Chinese (optional)

Terms 1 and 2

History of China

1. Qin Dynasty (221 – 205 B.C.): Qin Shi Huang Di (246-210B.C),
2. Three Kingdoms (220 – 265 A.D.): Wei Wen Di <Cao Pi> (220 – 227 A.D.),
3. Shu <Liu Bei, Guan Yu, Zhang Fei> (221-263 A.D.),
4. Qing Dynasty (1644-1911 A.D.): Qing Shi Zu <Shun Zhi> (1644–1662 A.D.),
5. Qing De Zong <Guang Xu> (1875-1909 A.D.)

Terms 3 and 4

Chinese Culture

1. Chinese Characters and Culture (how to understand, appreciate and remember Chinese Characters)
2. Confucian Classic (selection from the Analects)
3. Mencius (selections from the Mencius)
4. The Art of War (Sun Tzu's)
5. Chinese Food (using chopsticks)

Rationale

To provide students with the reading and writing skills necessary to cope with the higher-level demands of the Pearson EDEXCEL International GCSE level syllabus in Chinese. In particular, the course aims to develop the students' ability to use the language precisely and accurately, as well as develop an understanding of Chinese history, culture and geography.

External Examination

Students have the option to register for the Pearson Edexcel International Lower Secondary external exams. These are available in the May/June exam series.

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