



Bangalore International School
A Caring, Connected Community



Welcome to the AS/A Levels

www.bangaloreinternationalschool.org

Welcome to the Cambridge International AS/A level Programme at Bangalore International School! This booklet is designed to help you start the year with a clear picture of what the school day will be like for your child.

What are Cambridge International AS & A Levels?

Cambridge International Advanced Subsidiary Levels (AS Levels) and Cambridge International Advanced Levels (A Levels) are subject-based qualifications usually taken in the final two years of high school. Cambridge International AS Level is typically a one-year programme of study, while Cambridge International A Level typically takes two years. Assessment takes place at the end of each programme.

Most subjects can be started as a Cambridge International AS Level and extended to a Cambridge International A Level. The syllabuses are international in outlook but retain local relevance. They have been created specifically for an international student body with content to suit a wide variety of schools and avoid cultural bias. The contexts or examples used in syllabuses and exam question papers are culturally sensitive in an international context.

Why choose Cambridge International AS & A Levels?

Develop unique skills

The qualifications aim to develop students' knowledge, understanding and skills through:

1. In-depth subject content
2. Learning to work independently
3. Applying knowledge and understanding to new as well as familiar situations
4. Handling and evaluating different types of information sources
5. Thinking logically and presenting ordered and coherent arguments and explanations
6. Studying and communicating in English.

Class Teachers

The class teacher's role in the AS/A level is two-fold; pastoral and academic. Her/his pastoral responsibilities include taking care of the child's wellbeing, safety, health, and behaviour.

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BIS is a school with a difference.
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Class teacher, LC Head of Department (HOD) & LC Coordinator

Every student belongs to a grade. Your child's/ward's class teacher is responsible for maintaining his/her attendance and for his/her participation in class assemblies. All academic, therapy and other areas are monitored by the respective LC HOD. Matters relevant to the LC as a section are handled by the LC Section Coordinator.

Subject

Thousands of learners gain places at leading universities around the world with Cambridge International AS & A Levels every year.

AVAILABLE CAMBRIDGE INTERNATIONAL SUBJECTS

AS and A Level Subject Grouping - BIS	
Block	Subjects
1	English Language (AS)
2	Art & Design Mathematics Environmental Management (AS)
3	Physics Psychology History
4	Chemistry Business
5	Biology Economics Computer Science
6	Global Perspectives and Research

At AS & A Level, students must choose 1 subject each from the Blocks 2 - 5 and Block 6 is optional apart from AS English.

Students who want to pursue AICE Diploma may refer to the Course Leaflet provided for AS & A Level

Cambridge AICE Diploma

Cambridge awards a group certificate to students for passing examinations in subjects drawn from three curriculum areas within Cambridge International AS & A Level. Curriculum areas include mathematics and science, languages, and arts and humanities. Each AS Level is awarded 1 credit and a full A Level is awarded 2 credits. From 2017, students are required to achieve a minimum of 7 credits, including the AS in Global Perspectives & Research as a compulsory subject. For more information visit www.cambridgeinternational.org/aice

Grading and assessment

Cambridge's internationally recognized grades are reported with clear guidelines to explain the standards of achievement. The Cambridge International A Level is reported on a grade scale from A* (highest) to E (minimum required performance). There is no A* grade for Cambridge International AS Levels, which are reported from grade a to e. Each subject is graded separately and no Grade Point Average is calculated. Separate certificates are issued for each examination series. Grades are awarded only for subjects that candidates pass.

Personal Counselling

The AS/A students have access to two personal counsellors should they wish to avail of their services to deal with any kind of mental health issue, stress or anxiety.

"The Guidance Counselor at BIS follows a systematic approach throughout the high school years to ensure that each student is guided adequately on profile building, subject selection, course and career selection for college and beyond, university selection and application process. The main objective of the Guidance Counselor at BIS is to match each student with the best suitable universities for their academic interest and ability. To facilitate the placement process, we work with a wide range of colleges and universities across countries to help students create road maps for entry into the ideal university."

For the meeting with the student/parent, we can schedule a meeting any time after 8am tomorrow morning. Let me know what works for them so that I can block the time on my calendar accordingly.

SEN

The AS/A students with special educational needs have access to a special educator who has the expertise to identify learning needs and recommend appropriate academic strategies and exam accommodations to help students progress without any impediment. We are an inclusive school and our teachers are experienced at ensuring that SEN children are able to cope with the AS/A programme with the appropriate support system in place.

Transport and Timings

The school day for the AS/A level students is from 7:40 am– 2:45 pm every day. School bus facility is available for all students who require it but it is not compulsory. Please get in touch with the Transport Coordinator, Mr Shameer in case of any query related to transport. Transport related emails should be sent to transport@bischool.in.

Assembly

We have assembly thrice a week with the whole school, on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. Assemblies involve a message or a performance conducted by the grades or departments in charge on that particular day. On Mondays, we sing the school song while on Fridays we sing the national anthem. On Wednesdays, we sing the National Anthem of another country.

Drop off and Pick up

We request all parents who bring their children to school to cooperate with us by dropping their children off at the gate and, similarly, picking them up from the gate. Please ensure that your child comes to school on time and you pick him/her up on time. If there is any change in the pick-arrangement (not on the bus, different person picking them up, etc), please let the Transport department know a day before via email.

Snack and Lunch

Children have breakfast between 09:50 am to 10:10 am which usually consists of a 'hot' component, such as idlis, dosas, vadas, parathas, puris, etc., along with cornflakes and milk, and a fruit.

Lunch break is from 12:55 pm– 1:50 pm. There is always a combination of Indian and continental food. While the majority of the food is vegetarian, each day there is also either a fish or a chicken option. The meat is halal. Menus are sent home each week, along with the school newsletter. Please monitor the menus and do keep the school informed of any allergies.

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Many of our students have gone ahead and realised their dreams with the knowledge and the skills that they acquired at BIS.
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Personal Belongings

Please label all your children's belongings clearly, with the first name and last initial. This goes especially for bags, bottles, jackets and shoes. If you notice that your child has carried home anything from school, including books, stationery, or educational equipment, please do send it back to school!

PTMs and Report Cards

Although teachers stay in touch with you via email or over the phone, we begin the year with a Parent Teacher Conference (PTC), and we have scheduled review meetings each year. These are known as the Parent Teacher Meetings (PTM) and give you a chance to meet all your child's teachers, and to discuss their progress in all subjects. We also send out Report Cards at the end of each semester to help you track your child's learning. If you have any queries or need to contact the school, then you can email the AS/A programme coordinator at as.acod@bischool.in

Clothes

Wearing the school uniform, which is the white t-shirt and shorts/track pants with white socks, is compulsory. The children have a house uniform as well, which is a coloured t-shirt along with shorts or trackpants. Please note the following rules:

1. Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri -school uniform
2. Wednesday – house uniform
3. Field Trips – school uniform
4. Sports Day – house uniform

The school shoes must also be purchased and worn every day. Please label everything clearly!

Food

We appreciate your cooperation in sending bottles that close properly. Please do not send food for them to eat in school.

Bus Rules

The bus rules will be shared with you via email. Please try to review these with your children often to ensure that their journey on the bus each day is without incident.

Any issues with the bus routes and pick-up/drop timings can be raised with the Transport Coordinator. The school uses an app for its transport management system, which allows you to see where the bus is at any point in time. You will also have access to the driver and the attendant's numbers.

Newsletters

Each week, you will receive a weekly bulletin from the school. This contains school-wide information for the week ahead, with regard to timings, activities planned, important announcements, etc. Please pay specific attention to the acronyms AS/A, HS (High School), and AS (All School).

Calendar and Handbook

The school calendar has all the events and holidays listed in it. Please refer to the calendar while planning holidays and please let us know well in advance in the case of extended periods of absence.

The handbook contains the BIS vision, mission, school policies, rules and regulations. Please take the time to go through it carefully.

Nurse and Medication

Our school nurse is stationed on campus at all times. We also have a visiting doctor, who remains on call. If your child needs to be administered medication during school hours, please let us know via email. The nurse will be the person in charge of administering the medicine. Please regularly check your child's hair for lice and nits and ensure that if they have a problem, it is being addressed promptly.

We look forward to sharing this wonderful journey with you and we are excited about making it as enjoyable, memorable and fruitful as possible.



“ *An opportunity to grow in a safe and nurturing environment.* ”



Bangalore International School

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Cambridge Assessment
International Education

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