



# THE ACS (INDEPENDENT) INTEGRATED PROGRAMME

## INTRODUCTION

The ACS (Independent) Years 3 and 4 Integrated Programme is a specially designed, broad-based two-year preparatory course that will equip students with the necessary skills and knowledge that will prepare them to pursue the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme in Years 5 and 6.

### SUBJECTS OFFERED

Students in the Programme are required to study a total of 8 subjects; 1 subject from each of the five compulsory subject groups and 3 other subjects from any of the option subject groups.

### COMPULSORY SUBJECT GROUPS

- 1. Language Arts** An integrated English Language & Literature course which will prepare students for the rigorous demands of the IB Language A course.
- 2. Mother Tongue Language** Options of Chinese, Malay or Tamil language at standard or higher level which is taken as a GCE O-Level examination subject.
- 3. International Studies (IS)** The course is designed as an integrated curriculum that draws on the various strands of the Humanities. It contains elements of Anthropology, Geography, History, Archaeology, Economics, Sociology, Current Affairs and Political Science and aims to provide a point of access to the Humanities, but not to supersede these disciplines. It adopts a multi-disciplinary approach which allows students to broadly explore knowledge in a number of topics which fall under the Humanities. This will give them a broad-based foundation and a holistic learning experience.
- 4. Core Mathematics** essentially follows the Elementary Mathematics syllabus but is enhanced with important topics not normally covered in the Elementary Mathematics subject.
- 5. Sciences:** Students will opt to take 1 Science subject from the group of Physics, Chemistry or Biology.

### OPTION SUBJECT GROUPS

- **Sciences** Physics, Chemistry or Biology
- **Humanities** Geography or History
- **Mathematics** Advanced Mathematics
- **Aesthetics** Art, Music or MEP
- **Other Languages** Foreign Languages (e.g. French, German) or Indian Minority Languages (eg Punjabi, Bengali)

Apart from the core academic subjects, every student is also given instruction in Pastoral Care and Career Guidance (PCCG), Physical Education (PE) and Disciplines of Thought (DoT). In addition, they are expected to complete a Collaborative Study Options (CSO) on a topic of their interest.

### IP GRADING SYSTEM

Each subject is graded on a scale of 1 point (minimum) to 7 points (maximum). The scale and marks tally is as follows:

Marks	Points
≥ 80	7
70 – 79	6
60 – 69	5
50 – 59	4
40 – 49	3
20 – 39	2
0 – 19	1

The overall aggregate point is calculated based on 6 relevant subjects and bonus points for their combined performance in Disciplines of Thought (DoT) course and the Collaborative Study Options (CSO).

The six relevant subjects for Year 3 and 4 are:

1. Language Arts
2. Mother Tongue
3. International Studies (IS)/History/Geography
4. Core Mathematics/Advanced Mathematics
5. Physics/Chemistry/Biology
6. Any other subject

### PROMOTION CRITERIA

For promotion to the next level, students must:

1. Obtain an overall aggregate point of at least 26 points based on 6 relevant subjects
2. Obtain a grade requirement of at least 4 or better in the 6 relevant subjects AND
3. Obtain at least 1 bonus point for performance in DoT (applicable to Year 3 IP only)  
Obtain at least 1 bonus point for performance in DoT and CSO (applicable to Year 4 IP only)