



COMPASS INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

A NORD ANGLIA EDUCATION SCHOOL



# IGCSE GUIDE

Madinat Khalifa Campus

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# CREATE YOUR FUTURE



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# Message from the Head of Secondary

## Dear Parents and Students,

When given a choice, it is important to make the right selection to keep our options open for the future.

At Compass International School Doha, we are pleased to offer comprehensive International General Certificate of Secondary Education (IGCSE) Programme in Years 10 and 11 (Key Stage 4). To assist you in this process, I am pleased to offer our IGCSE Options Guide. We have prepared this booklet to try to answer some of the questions you might have about what happens next in the educational journey through school to Higher Education and the world of work. If you have any other questions about any part of the process, please ask and we will be happy to help.

The IGCSE programme in Key Stage 4 marks an important time in every student's education. It sets a path for future success and allows for choice in the range of subjects available, without closing doors to the future. Everyone must study the core subjects of English, Mathematics, Science, a language and Physical Education, combined with a range of options tailored to individual preferences.

Study over these two years will lead to important examinations at the end of the courses. These are external examinations, set and marked by examiners employed by Pearson Edexcel and Cambridge International Examinations. They are recognised international qualifications which will help students access university in many countries and assist on the way to a successful career in the future. The process of students taking responsibility for their studies starts here and will continue into their choice of either our IB Diploma Programme or A-Levels, before the move to university.

This booklet, the Information Evenings and the one-to-one support sessions are designed to help every student make the right choice. We hope that you find this guide to be a useful starting point for making these important decisions.

Kind Regards,

**Laura Anderson-Rice**  
Head of Secondary  
Madinat Khalifa Campus



**WELCOME TO  
MADINAT KHALIFA**

# All You Need to Know

# IGCSE

As you progress into your International General Certificate of Secondary Education (IGCSE) journey, it is important to make an informed decision on which subjects you have to take, which ones you can choose and how to do this, to ensure you are following the career you would like to follow after school.

At Compass International School Doha, we follow the Cambridge and Edexcel IGCSE Examination courses. The IGCSE is an international version of the GCSE exams, which form part of the globally recognised British Curriculum.

The IGCSE programme is built on a number of core subjects, which are compulsory for students to take. These subjects comprise of Mathematics, English, Islamic Studies (compulsory for Qatari and Muslim students), Physical Education and Science.

Beyond the core subjects, students are offered a number of additional subjects of which they need to select four, these include: Arabic (compulsory for Qatari students and those from an Arabic speaking country), French and Spanish, Art and Design, Business Studies, Economics, Geography, History, Information Communication Technology, Music, Triple Science, Physical Education, Psychology, Drama and Global Perspectives.

Remember, it is important to choose the right options. Once accepted onto an IGCSE course, students are expected to attend and follow the course to its conclusion (Year 11). Students cannot change subjects once their choice has been made and registered.



## Helpful Questions to ask when making your selections are:

- ▶▶▶ What am I going to do when I leave school?
- ▶▶▶ Am I choosing a wide enough range of subjects, that if I want to, I can change direction? Is it possible to study the subject to a higher level, either in IB or A-Levels?
- ▶▶▶ Will I enjoy taking a particular subject for the next two years? What are my abilities, strengths and skills?

## Online help

[www.morrisby.com](http://www.morrisby.com) : Series of tests to assess your skills, strengths and limitations.

[www.fasttomato.com](http://www.fasttomato.com) : Guidance on choosing careers and future options.

[www.dfes.gov.uk/youngpeople](http://www.dfes.gov.uk/youngpeople) : General site for the wellbeing of young people.

[www.connexions-direct.com/jobs4u](http://www.connexions-direct.com/jobs4u) : Search jobs to find out required skills and qualifications, input your details to see what might suit you.

[www.ucas.com](http://www.ucas.com) : Look up college, university courses, locations and entry requirements.

[university.which.co.uk](http://university.which.co.uk) : University courses, locations, entry requirements, student reviews and anything else interesting about UK universities.



# Core Subjects

## IGCSE English

### Examination board

Edexcel International GCSE English Language A (4EA1)

Edexcel International GCSE English Literature (4ET1)

Edexcel International GCSE English as a Second Language (4ES2)

In Year 10 and 11, students will study either:

- a) English Language A AND English Literature
- b) English as a Second Language ONLY

### Aims

#### English Language A

English Language A is designed to enable students to:

- ▶ Read a wide range of texts fluently and with good understanding.
- ▶ Read critically and use knowledge gained from wide reading to inform and improve their own writing.
- ▶ Write effectively and coherently using Standard English appropriately.
- ▶ Use grammar correctly, punctuate and spell accurately.
- ▶ Acquire and apply a wide vocabulary alongside knowledge and understanding of grammatical terminology, and linguistic conventions for reading, writing and spoken language.

#### English Literature

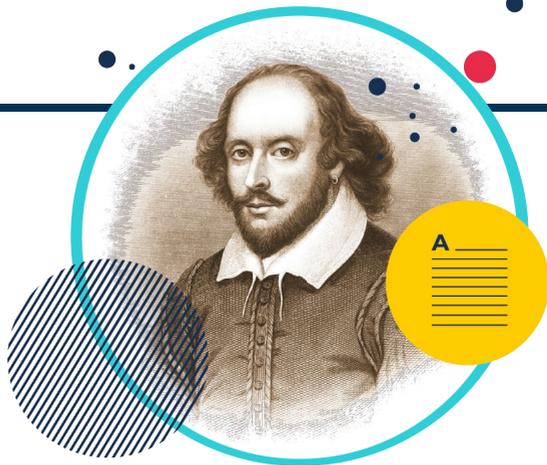
English Literature is designed to enable students to:

- ▶ Engage with and develop the ability to read, understand and respond to a wide range of literary texts from around the world.
- ▶ Develop an appreciation of the ways in which writers achieve their literary effects.
- ▶ To develop the skills needed for literary study · explore, through literature, the cultures of their own and other societies.
- ▶ Find enjoyment in reading literature and understand its influence on individuals and societies.

#### English as a Second Language

English as a Second Language is designed to enable students to:

- ▶ Understand written and spoken English language in a range of practical, familiar and unfamiliar contexts, and for a variety of purposes
- ▶ Communicate effectively in written and spoken English using a range of vocabulary, grammar, and sentence structures
- ▶ Effectively use English language grammar, sentence structures, and vocabulary.



## Syllabus Content

Throughout their study of Language and Literature, students will explore closely a range of works from the genres of poetry, prose, and drama, as well as a wide selection of non-fiction texts. Students will have the opportunity to produce many different types of writing, such as analytical essays, news articles, and short stories. Both English Language A and English Literature are assessed through coursework and examination. English as a Second Language is assessed through examination only.

## Assessment

### Externally Assessed

#### Edexcel International GCSE English Language A

**Paper 1:** Non-fiction texts and Transactional Writing (2 hours 15 minutes) – 90 marks (60%)

**Component 3:** Poetry and Prose Texts and Imaginative Writing (internally assessed and externally moderated coursework) – 60 marks (40%)

#### Edexcel International GCSE English Literature

**Paper 1:** Poetry and Modern Prose (2 hours) – 90 marks (60%)

**Component 3:** Modern Drama and Literary Heritage Texts (internally assessed and externally moderated coursework) – 60 marks (40%)

#### Edexcel International GCSE English as a Second Language

**Paper 1:** Reading (1 hour) – 50 marks (25%)

**Paper 2:** Listening (45 minutes) - 50 marks (25%)

**Paper 3:** Writing (1 hour 15 minutes) - 50 marks (25%)

**Paper 4:** Speaking - Oral Examination (22-23 minutes) - 50 marks (25%)

# Core Subjects

## Islamic Studies - National Curriculum

### Examination board

Cambridge (0493)

### Aims

- ▶ Promoting and strengthening the national identity and the Islamic values.
- ▶ The student is to learn and understand the Qur'an (recitation - Tagweed - memorization - interpretation and meanings).
- ▶ The student learns about the prophets and other religions.
- ▶ The student develops an understanding of the life of the Messenger Muhammad and his companions and how their lives were.
- ▶ The student understands Al-fiqh and how he is a Muslim in a correct way.
- ▶ The student knows about the attributes of Muslims (tolerance - honesty - cooperation - respect for others).

### Syllabus Content and Curriculum

The Ministry has asked all international schools to:

- ▶ The Muslim students must study Islam in Years (10, 11, 12) in order for the student's certificate to be approved by the Ministry of Education.
- ▶ Islamic is required to be taught to all Muslim students according to nationality and language as follows.
- ▶ Muslims (Arab or Qatari) must study Islam in Arabic (the curriculum of the Ministry of Education).
- ▶ Muslims (non-Arabs) must study Islam in English (an English curriculum approved by the Ministry of Education or the Private Schools Administration) according to the school's choice.
- ▶ The student studies (120 minutes) during the week as a minimum

### Assessment

Internal Assessment by the school (according to the school system and Assessment policy that it follows) with the supervision of the Ministry and follow-up on conducting tests and ensuring that the instructions sent by the Ministry to schools are followed.

At Compass School, the Assessment will be during the three terms according to the instructions of the Ministry of Education, and the test will be about the content that the students studied during this academic year.

# Core Subjects

## IGCSE Mathematics

### Examination board

Pearson Edexcel Mathematics A (4MA1)

### Aims

The main purpose for studying Mathematics is to develop logical reasoning skills which are essential for success in any field. There are many applications of Mathematics used in daily life.

The aims of the course are to develop knowledge and understanding of mathematical concepts and techniques as follows:

- ▶ To give students a foundation of Mathematical skills for further study in the subject or related areas.
- ▶ To enable students to enjoy using and applying Mathematical techniques and concepts. To become confident in using mathematics to solve problems.
- ▶ To give students an appreciation of the importance of mathematics in society, employment and study.

### Syllabus Content and Curriculum

IGCSE Mathematics builds upon the basic skills that have been taught in the four areas of the British National Curriculum: Shape and Space, Number, Algebra, Statistics and Probability.

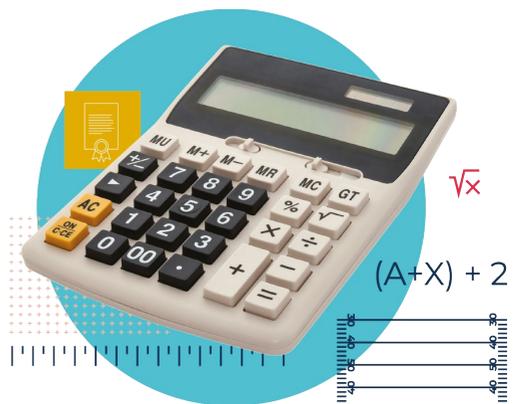
### Assessment

#### Externally Assessed

Paper 1: (2 hours) – 100 marks (50%)

Paper 2: (2 hours) – 100 marks (50%)

Students will be entered into either the higher or foundation paper in mathematics. Students working towards the higher paper will be awarded grades between 4-9 while grades 1-5 are available on the foundation paper.



# Core Subjects

## IGCSE Science (Separate Sciences)

### Examination board

Pearson Edexcel International GCSE Science (Double Award) (9-1)

For Double award Science students choose two out of three sciences below. They will end up with two separate grades for the subjects they pick.

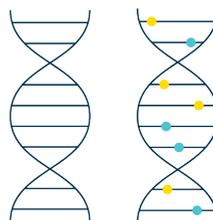
### Aims

- ▶ Students must take a minimum of 2 sciences and can take all 3 if they wish. Learn about unifying patterns and themes in science and use them in new and changing situations and acquire knowledge and understanding of scientific facts, terminology, concepts, principles and practical techniques.
- ▶ Apply the principles and concepts of science to different contexts and evaluate scientific information, making judgements on the basis of this information.
- ▶ Appreciate the practical nature of science, developing experimental and investigative skills based on correct and safe laboratory techniques and analyse, interpret and evaluate data and experimental methods, drawing conclusions that are consistent with.

## Biology

### Examination board

Pearson Edexcel International GCSE (4BI1)



### Aims

- ▶ Evidence from experimental activities and suggesting possible improvements and further investigations.
- ▶ Recognise the importance of accurate experimental work and reporting scientific methods in science and select, organise and present relevant information clearly and logically using appropriate vocabulary, definitions and conventions.
- ▶ Develop a logical approach to problem solving in a wider context and select and apply appropriate areas of mathematics relevant to science as set out under each topic and prepare for more advanced courses in science and for other courses that require knowledge of science.

## Syllabus Content

The nature and nature of living organisms, structures and functions in living organisms, reproduction and inheritance ecology and the environment, use of biological resources.

## Assessment

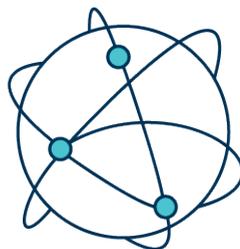
There are two examination papers externally assessed through one 2-hour written examination with the total number of marks being 110 standing for 61.1% of the total marks and one 1 ¼-hour written examination with the total number of marks being 70 standing for 38.9% of the total marks. There is a mixture of different question styles, including multiple-choice questions, short-answer questions, calculations and extended open-response questions in both written examinations.

One grade will be awarded using the 9-1 number system.

## Physics

### Examination board

Pearson Edexcel International GCSE (4PH1)



## Syllabus Content

Forces and motion, Electricity, Waves, Energy resources and energy transfers, Solids, liquids and gases, Magnetism and electromagnetism, Radioactivity and particles, Astrophysics.

## Assessment

There are two examination papers externally assessed through one 2-hour written examination with the total number of marks being 110 standing for 61.1% of the total marks and one 1 ¼-hour written examination with the total number of marks being 70 standing for 38.9% of the total marks. There is a mixture of different question styles, including multiple-choice questions, short-answer questions, calculations and extended open-response questions in both written examinations.

One grade will be awarded using the 9-1 number system.



# Chemistry

## Examination board

Pearson Edexcel International GCSE (4CHI)

## Syllabus Content

Principles of Chemistry, Inorganic Chemistry, Physical Chemistry  
Organic Chemistry.

## Assessment

There are two examination papers externally assessed through one 2-hour written examination with the total number of marks being 110 standing for 61.1% of the total marks and one 1 ¼-hour written examination with the total number of marks being 70 standing for 38.9% of the total marks. There is a mixture of different question styles, including multiple-choice questions, short-answer questions, calculations and extended open-response questions in both written examinations.

One grade will be awarded using the 9-1 number system.



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DOHA



# Core Subjects

## Physical Education Core (PE)

### Examination board

None

### Aims

- ▶ PE Core is a compulsory Physical Education lesson which all students will take part in up until the end of Year 11. Physical Education is critical to a complete education as it helps students to make informed choices and understand the value of leading a physically active lifestyle.
- ▶ A student's growing ability to compare and contrast, analyse and synthesise information, enables them to apply movement principles in new and meaningful ways. The importance of commitment and dedication in achieving success is emphasised in Physical Education.
- ▶ Participation in physical activity provides important opportunities for challenge, social interaction, group membership, as well as opportunities for continued personal growth in acquiring physical skills.
- ▶ A comprehensive, well-implemented physical education programme is an essential component in the holistic approach to the education of our students. In lessons students will take part in individual and team sports where they will continue to develop their skills and tactics. They will have the opportunity to maintain and develop a healthy, active lifestyle through physical activity and will be encouraged to lead and coach each other within lessons.

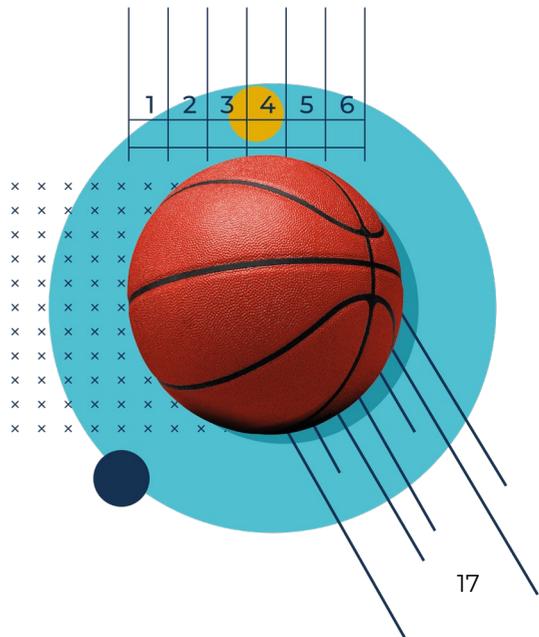
### Syllabus Content and Curriculum

Students are assessed on their level of effort and behaviour, during a six to eight (6/8 weeks unit of study in the following categories:

- ▶ Team (Football, Netball, Basketball, Handball and Rounders).
- ▶ Individual (Athletics, Swimming)
- ▶ Water Polo; Volleyball; Badminton; Fitness; Table Tennis; Trampolining.

### Assessment

No assessments or examinations are required for this core subject.



# Language Options

## IGCSE Arabic

### Examination board

Cambridge (0508)

### Aims

This is a compulsory subject for all Arabic students. The course will aid in learners being able to:

- ▶ Communicate accurately, appropriately and effectively in writing.
- ▶ Understand and respond appropriately to what they read.
- ▶ Enjoy and appreciate the variety of language.

### Syllabus Content and Curriculum

- ▶ Cambridge IGCSE First Language Arabic offers candidates the opportunity to respond knowledgeably to a rich array of reading passages. Candidates will use some of these passages to inform and inspire their own writing and write in a range of text types for different audiences. The passages cover a range of genres and types, including fiction and non-fiction, and may also include other forms of writing, such as essays, reviews and articles.
- ▶ Candidates are encouraged to become appreciative and critical Arabic readers and writers.

### Assessment

#### Externally Assessed

Paper 1: Reading (2 hours) – 50 marks (50%)

Questions will be based on Arabic passages

Paper 2: Written (2 hours) – 50 marks (50%)

Learners will answer two composition tasks

# Language Options

## IGCSE Arabic Second Language

### Examination board

Cambridge (0544)

### Aims

This is for all Arabic students, provided that they study the curricula of The Ministry as well. The course will aid in learners being able to:

- ▶ Communicate accurately, appropriately and effectively in writing. Understand and respond appropriately to what they read.
- ▶ Enjoy and appreciate the variety of language.

### Syllabus Content and Curriculum

- ▶ Cambridge IGCSE Second Language Arabic offers candidates the opportunity to respond knowledgeably to a rich array of reading passages. Candidates will use some of these passages to inform and inspire their own writing and write in a range of text types for different audiences. The passages cover a range of genres and types, including fiction and non-fiction, and may also include other forms of writing, such as essays, reviews and articles.
- ▶ Candidates are encouraged to become appreciative and critical Arabic readers and writers.

### Assessment

Externally Assessed

Paper 1: Listening (45 minutes) – 30 marks

Paper 2: Reading (1 hour) – 45 marks

Paper 4: Writing (1 hour) – 45 marks

Internally Assessed

Paper 3: Speaking (Approximately 10 minutes) – 40 marks

# Language Options

## IGCSE French or Spanish

### Examination board

Cambridge French 0520

Cambridge Spanish 0530

### Aims

- ▶ To develop the ability to communicate effectively using the target language to offer insights into the culture and society of countries where the target language is spoken.
- ▶ To develop awareness of the nature of language and language learning.
- ▶ To encourage positive attitudes towards speakers of other languages and a compassionate approach to other cultures and civilisations providing enjoyment and intellectual stimulation.
- ▶ To develop transferable skills (e.g. analysis, memorising, drawing of inferences)
- ▶ to complement other areas of the curriculum to form a sound base of the skills, language and attitudes required for progression to work or further study, either in the target language or another subject area.



## Syllabus Content and Curriculum

The syllabus content is organised around five broad topic areas which provide contexts for the acquisition of vocabulary and the study of grammar and structures. Through the study of these topic areas, students gain insight into target language countries and communities.

The topic areas are: Everyday Activities, Personal and Social Life, The World Around Us, The World of Work and the International World.

## Assessment

### Externally Assessed

Paper 1: Listening (approximately 45 minutes) – 40 marks (25%)

Students listen to a number of recordings and answer questions testing comprehension.

Paper 2: Reading (1 hour) – 45 marks (25%)

Students read a number of texts and answer questions testing comprehension.

Paper 4: Writing (1 hour) – 45 marks (25%)

Students respond in the target language to three tasks.

### Internally Assessed

Paper 3: Speaking (15 minutes) – 40 marks (25%)

Students complete one role play and conversation on two topics.





# Subject Options

## IGCSE Art and Design

### Examination board

Pearson IGCSE Art and Design

Fine Art (4FA1)

Graphic Communication (4GC1)

Photography (4PY1), Textile Design (4TE1)

Three-dimensional Design (4TD1)

### Aims

- ▶ Develop ideas through investigations, demonstrating critical understanding of sources.
- ▶ Refine work by exploring ideas, selecting and experimenting with appropriate media, materials, techniques and processes.
- ▶ Record ideas, observations and insights relevant to intentions as work progresses.
- ▶ Present a personal and meaningful response that realises intentions and demonstrates understanding of visual language.

### Syllabus Content and Curriculum

Students need to develop knowledge, understanding and the capability to evaluate:

- ▶ How ideas, feelings and meanings are conveyed and interpreted in images, artifacts and products.
- ▶ How knowledge and understanding of the work of others can develop, extend their thinking and inform their own work.
- ▶ Use a range of art, craft and design processes including two and/or three dimensions, and traditional and new media and technologies.

### Assessment

#### Component 1: Coursework assignment – 72 marks (50%)

Candidates produce a portfolio of three A2 sheets and a final outcome.

#### Component 2: Externally set assignment – 72 marks (50%)

January to April preparatory period during which time candidates produce supporting studies of three A2 sheets in advance of the ten-hour examination.

# Subject Options

## IGCSE Business Studies

### Examination board

Cambridge Business Studies (0450)

### Aims

- ▶ Apply knowledge and critical understanding to current issues and problems in a wide range of business contexts, from small to global organisations.
- ▶ Develop awareness of how and why businesses operate, the different marketing methods a business employs to reach their target market, factors considered in producing products and services, calculating and interpreting financial data and how employees are recruited and managed within an organisation.
- ▶ To develop knowledge and understanding of the major groups and organisations within and outside business, consider ways in which they are able to influence objectives, decisions and activities.
- ▶ Acquire essential skills within literacy and numeracy by analysing different business scenarios to reach balanced decisions or judgement.

### Syllabus Content

- ▶ Understanding business activity People in business
- ▶ Marketing
- ▶ Operations management
- ▶ Financial information and decisions External influences on business activity

### Assessment

#### Externally Assessed

#### **Paper 1: Written (1 hour 30 minutes) – 80 marks (50%)**

Four questions requiring a mixture of short answers and structured data responses. Students answer all questions.

#### **Paper 2: Written (1 hour 30 minutes) – 80 marks (50%)**

Four questions based on a previously unseen case study, provided as an insert with the paper. Students answer all questions.

# Subject Options

## IGCSE Computer Science

### Examination board

Cambridge Computer Science (0478)

### Aims

- ▶ To develop computational thinking about what can be computed and considering the data required.
- ▶ Understanding the main principles of solving problems by using computers.
- ▶ Understanding every computer system is made up of sub-systems, which in turn consist of further sub-systems.
- ▶ Develop the skills necessary to solve computer-based problems using a high-level programming language.

### Syllabus Content

#### Theory of Computer Science (Paper 1):

- ▶ Data representation. Data Transmission. Hardware and software. Internet and its uses.
- ▶ Automated and emerging technologies.

#### Practical Problem-solving and Programming (Paper 2):

- ▶ Algorithm design and problem solving. Programming.
- ▶ Databases.
- ▶ Boolean logic.

### Assessment

#### Externally Assessed

##### Paper 1: Theory (1 hour and 45 minutes) – (50%)

Questions will be based on the theory of computer science. Short-answer and structured questions.

##### Paper 2: Problem-solving and Programming (1 hour and 45 minutes) – (50%) Short-answer and structured questions.

Questions will be based on practical problem solving and programming.

\*This is an additional IGCSE open to students who have selected ICT as an option. Students who meet the entrance criteria will then enter into Computer Science for Year 11.



# Subject Options

## IGCSE Economics

### Examination board

Cambridge Economics (0455)

### Aims

- ▶ To distinguish between facts and value judgements in economic issues and use economic analysis in particular situations.
- ▶ To be aware of the economies in developed and developing nations and develop an appreciation of the relationships between the two.
- ▶ To gain an understanding of economics and how it impacts everyday life, enabling a better understanding of the world we live in and a higher ability to take a greater part in decision making in our personal lives.
- ▶ To develop essential skills in literacy and numeracy.

### Syllabus Content and Curriculum

- ▶ The basic economic problem
- ▶ The allocation of resources
- ▶ Microeconomic decision makers
- ▶ Government and the macroeconomy
- ▶ Economic development
- ▶ International trade and globalisation

### Assessment

Paper 1: Written (45 minutes) – 30 marks (30%)

Multiple choice - Students answer 30 multiple choice questions.

Paper 2: Written (2 hours 15 minutes) – 90 marks (70%)

Written examination where candidates answer one compulsory question which requires them to interpret and analyse previously unseen data relevant to a real economic situation and three optional questions from a choice of four.

# Subject Options

## IGCSE Geography

### Examination board

Cambridge CIE (0460)

### Aims

- ▶ To develop an understanding of location on a local, regional and global scale.
- ▶ To develop an awareness of the characteristics, distribution and processes affecting contrasting physical and human environments.
- ▶ To develop an understanding of the ways in which people interact with each other and with their environment.
- ▶ To develop an awareness of the contrasting opportunities and constraints presented by different environments.
- ▶ To develop an appreciation of and concern for the environment.
- ▶ To develop an appreciation of the earth including its people, places, landscapes, natural processes and phenomena.

### Syllabus Content

#### Theme 1 – ‘Population and Settlement’

Population dynamics, migration, population structure, population density and distribution, settlements and service provision, urban settlements and urbanisation.

#### Theme 2 – ‘The Natural Environment’

Earthquakes and volcanoes, weather, climate and vegetation, rivers and coasts.

#### Theme 3 – ‘Economic Development’

Development, food production, industry, tourism, energy, water and environmental risks of economic development.

## Assessment

### Paper 1: Geographical Themes (1 hour 45 minutes) - 75 marks, weighted to 100 marks (45%)

Students answer three questions, each worth 25 marks. The paper has three sections and each section will be based on Themes 1, 2 or 3. Candidates must answer one question from each section.

### Paper 2: Geographical Skills (1 hour 30 minutes) - 60 marks (27.5%)

The paper is based on testing the interpretation and analysis of geographical information, decision making and the application of graphical and other techniques as appropriate. The questions will not require specific information about places but will require the use of a 1:25 000 or 1:50 000 map with a key.

### Internally Assessed and Externally Moderated

### Component 3: Coursework - 60 marks (27.5%)

Candidates will complete one coursework assignment, set by teachers, of up to 2000 words. Coursework assignments may be based on physical geography or human geography or on an interaction between physical and human geography. Coursework will be assessed on the quality of the content of the assignment in relation to the criteria on which assessment is based.





# Subject Options

## IGCSE History

### Examination board

Edexcel (4H11)

### Aims

The aims and objectives of this qualification are to enable students to:

Extend their knowledge and understanding of specified key events, periods and societies in history; and of the wide diversity of human experience.

- ▶ Develop the ability to ask relevant questions about the past, to investigate issues critically and to make valid historical claims by using a range of sources in their historical context.

Create an awareness that different people, events and developments have been accorded historical significance and how and why different interpretations have been constructed about them.

- ▶ Organise and communicate their historical knowledge and understanding in different ways and reach substantiated conclusions.

### Syllabus Content

#### Paper 1: Depth Studies

- ▶ Development of Dictatorship: Germany, 1918-1945.
- ▶ The establishment of the Weimar Republic and its early problems, the recovery of Germany (1924-1929), the rise of Hitler and the Nazi Party, life in Nazi Germany and Germany during the Second World War.
- ▶ A Divided Union: Civil Rights in the USA 1945-1974.
- ▶ Red Scare and McCarthyism. Civil Rights in the 1950's. Impact of civil rights protests 1960-1974. Other protest movements, women, students and anti-vaccination.

#### Paper 2: Historical Investigation and Breadth Studies

- ▶ Historical Investigation - The Origins and Course of the First World War, 1905-1918
- ▶ The alliance system and international rivalry (1905-1914), the struggle for control in the Balkans (1905-1914), the growth of tension in Europe (1905-1914), the Schlieffen Plan, deadlock on the Western Front, the war at sea, Gallipoli and the defeat of Germany.
- ▶ Breadth Study - Changes in medicine, 1848-1948
- ▶ Progress in the mid-19th century, discovery and development (1860-1975), accelerating change (1875-1905), government action and war (1905-1920), advances in medicine, surgery and public health (1920-1948).

## Assessment

### Paper 1: Depth Studies (1 hour 30 minutes) - 60 marks (50%)

Six questions requiring a mixture of short and long answers. Questions are designed to test the ability to analyse historical interpretations, explain consequences and develop a balanced argument. Students will answer all questions

### Component 2: Externally set assignment – 72 marks (50%)

Six questions requiring a mixture of short and long answers. Test students on their ability to explain causes, compare similarity and difference, contrast sources and describe key features. Students will answer all questions.supporting studies of three A2 sheets in advance of the ten-hour examination.



# Subject Options

## Islamic Studies

### Examination board

Cambridge (0493)

### Aims

This is a compulsory subject for all Qatari students.

The aims describe the purposes of a course based on this syllabus. The aims are to enable students to:

- ▶ Acquire a knowledge of the major sources of Islam, its main beliefs and its early history. Develop an enquiring approach to the study of Islam.
- ▶ Identify and explore the religious, historical and moral questions raised in the material they study.

### Syllabus Content

Students will study key topics of Islam, including the following:

- ▶ The history and importance of the Qur'an
- ▶ The life and importance of the Prophet Muhammad (phuh)
- ▶ The first Islamic community
- ▶ Major teachings in the Hadiths of the Prophet
- ▶ The history and importance of the Hadiths
- ▶ The period of rule of the Rightly Guided Caliphs and their importance as leaders
- ▶ The Articles of Faith and the Pillars of Islam

### Assessment

#### Externally Assessed

#### Paper 1: Written (1 hour 30 minutes) – 50 marks

This paper contains five questions of which candidates must answer Question 1, Question 2 and two others. Topics include: major themes of the Qur'an, the history and importance of the Qur'an, the life and importance of the Prophet Muhammad and the first Islamic community.

#### Paper 2: Written (1 hour 30 minutes) – 50 marks

This paper contains five questions of which candidates must answer Question 1, Question 2 and two others. Topics include: major teachings in the Hadiths of the Prophet, the history and importance of the Hadiths, the period of rule of the Rightly Guided Caliphs and their importance as leaders and the Articles of Faith and the Pillars of Islam.

# Subject Options

## IGCSE Information Communication Technology

### Examination board

Cambridge IGCSE 0417

### Aims

- ▶ Cambridge IGCSE Information and Communication Technology encourages learners to develop lifelong skills, including:
- ▶ Understanding and using applications.
- ▶ Using Information and Communication Technology (ICT) to solve problems.
- ▶ Analysing, designing, implementing, testing and evaluating ICT systems, ensuring that they are fit for purpose.
- ▶ Understanding the implications of technology in society, including social, economic and ethical uses.
- ▶ Awareness of the ways ICT can help in home, learning and work environments.

### Syllabus Content

- ▶ Types and components of computer systems.
- ▶ Input and output device.
- ▶ Storage devices and media.
- ▶ Networks and the effects of using them.
- ▶ The effects of using ICT applications.
- ▶ The systems life cycle.
- ▶ Safety and security.
- ▶ Document production.
- ▶ Data manipulation.
- ▶ Presentations. Spreadsheets.
- ▶ Website authoring.

### Assessment

#### Externally Assessed

#### Paper 1: Theory (1 hour 30 mins) – (40%)

Questions will be based on sections 1–21 of the subject content.

#### Paper 2: Practical (2 hours and 15 mins) – (30)

This test assesses the practical skills needed to use the applications covered in sections 17, 18 and 19 of the subject content.

#### Paper 3: Practical (2 hours and 15 mins) – (30%)

This test assesses the practical skills needed to use the applications covered in sections 20 and 21 of the subject content.





# Subject Options

## GCSE Music

### Examination board

Edexcel (1MU0)

### Aims

- ▶ Students will be encouraged to engage critically and creatively with a wide range of music, develop an understanding of the place of music in different cultures and contexts, and reflect on how music is used in the expression of personal and collective identities.
- ▶ In addition to improving creativity, learning music develops many skills that will continue to be useful to students throughout their lives. It has been proven that taking music lessons helps to enhance concentration, coordination, patience and self-confidence.
- ▶ Students who practice self-expression and creativity often become better communicators later in life.

### What prerequisites are there for GCSE Music?

- ▶ Ideally students should already be taking instrumental or vocal lessons outside of regular classroom music. In order to achieve a Grade 9/8 at GCSE Music, students will need to have reached ABRSM/Rockschool Grade 4 on their instrument or voice by the Spring Term of Year 11.
- ▶ Practical music lessons on the chosen instrument/voice are available in school and students would be required to take weekly lessons to reach an appropriate standard.

### Assessment

#### Internally Assessed and Externally Moderated

#### Paper 1: Theory (1 hour 30 mins) – (40%)

Two performances are required, which demonstrate technical and musical competence on an instrument or voice. One solo piece of a minimum of 1 minute in length and one ensemble (group) piece, also of a minimum of 1 minute. Both pieces together should amount to a total minimum length of 4 minutes. These performances will be recorded in Year 11 and assessed internally before being sent to the exam board for moderation. The majority of the preparation for this component of the GCSE will be completed out of regular lesson times.

## Component 2: Composing (30%)

Two compositions are required, which will be worked on both in lesson time and at home. One composition will be to a set brief, released by the exam board at the start of Year 11 and the second composition is a free composition. Students will complete a variety of composition exercises throughout the GCSE, aiming to develop their skills as composers and give them ideas and suggestions for their two final compositions. They will be given credit for developing musical ideas, demonstrating technical control and composing with musical coherence. The two compositions will be internally assessed and then sent to the exam board for moderation.

## Externally Assessed

### Component 3: Appraising (40%)

This component is assessed with a listening exam of 1 hour 45 minutes at the end of Year 11. Students will cover four areas of study over the 2 years and they will analyse and explore 2 set works from each area of study:

Area of Study	Set Works
Instrumental Music 1700–1820	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▶ J.S. Bach: 3rd Movement from Brandenburg Concerto no. 5 in D major</li><li>▶ L. van Beethoven: 1st Movement from Piano Sonata no. 8 in C minor 'Pathétique'</li></ul>
Vocal Music	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▶ H. Purcell: 'Music for a While'</li><li>▶ Queen: 'Killer Queen' (from the album Sheer Heart Attack)</li></ul>
Music for Stage and Screen	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▶ S. Schwartz: 'Defying Gravity' (from the album of the cast recording of Wicked)</li><li>▶ J. Williams: 'Main title/rebel blockade runner' (from the soundtrack to Star Wars Episode IV: A New Hope)</li></ul>
Fusions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▶ Afro Celt Sound System: 'Release' (from the album Volume 2: Release)</li><li>▶ Esperanza Spalding: 'Samba em Preludio' (from the album Esperanza)</li></ul>

The exam paper consists of questions on each of the set works and some unfamiliar music related to them. Questions include melodic and rhythmic dictation and an essay question comparing two given pieces.

# Subject Options

## IGCSE Triple Science

### Aims

- ▶ Learn about unifying patterns and themes in science and use them in new and changing situations and acquire knowledge and understanding of scientific facts, terminology, concepts, principles and practical techniques.
- ▶ Apply the principles and concepts of science to different contexts and evaluate scientific information, making judgements on the basis of this information.
- ▶ Appreciate the practical nature of science, developing experimental and investigative skills based on correct and safe laboratory techniques and analyse, interpret and evaluate data and experimental methods, drawing conclusions that are consistent with evidence from experimental activities and suggesting possible improvements and further investigations.
- ▶ Recognise the importance of accurate experimental work and reporting scientific methods in science and select, organise and present relevant information clearly and logically using appropriate vocabulary, definitions and conventions.
- ▶ Develop a logical approach to problem solving in a wider context and select and apply appropriate areas of mathematics relevant to science as set out under each topic and prepare for more advanced courses in science and for other courses that require knowledge of science.

### Biology

#### Examination board

Pearson Edexcel International GCSE (4BII)

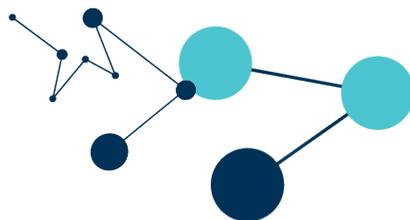
#### Syllabus Content

The nature and nature of living organisms, structures and functions in living organisms, reproduction and inheritance ecology and the environment, use of biological resources.

#### Assessment

There are two examination papers externally assessed through one 2-hour written examination with the total number of marks being 110 standing for 61.1% of the total marks and one 1 ¼-hour written examination with the total number of marks being 70 standing for 38.9% of the total marks. There is a mixture of different question styles, including multiple-choice questions, short-answer questions, calculations and extended open-response questions in both written examinations.

One grade will be awarded using the 9-1 number system.



# Chemistry

## Examination board

Pearson Edexcel International GCSE (4CH1)

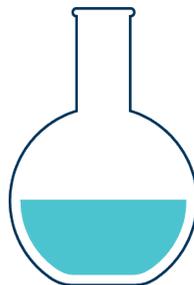
## Syllabus Content

Principles of Chemistry, Inorganic Chemistry, Physical Chemistry, Organic Chemistry.

## Assessment

There are two examination papers externally assessed through one 2-hour written examination with the total number of marks being 110 standing for 61.1% of the total marks and one 1 ¼-hour written examination with the total number of marks being 70 standing for 38.9% of the total marks. There is a mixture of different question styles, including multiple-choice questions, short-answer questions, calculations and extended open-response questions in both written examinations.

One grade will be awarded using the 9-1 number system.



# Physics

## Examination board

Pearson Edexcel International GCSE (4PH1)

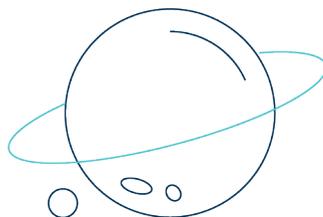
## Syllabus Content

Forces and motion, Electricity, Waves, Energy resources and energy transfers, Solids, liquids and gases, Magnetism and electromagnetism, Radioactivity and particles, Astrophysics.

## Assessment

There are two examination papers externally assessed through one 2-hour written examination with the total number of marks being 110 standing for 61.1% of the total marks and one 1 ¼-hour written examination with the total number of marks being 70 standing for 38.9% of the total marks. There is a mixture of different question styles, including multiple-choice questions, short-answer questions, calculations and extended open-response questions in both written examinations.

One grade will be awarded using the 9-1 number system.





# Subject Options

## IGCSE Psychology

### Examination board

Edexcel (IPSO)

### Aims

The aims and objectives of this course are to enable students to:

- ▶ Use specialist vocabulary and psychological concepts to engage in the process of enquiry Acquire knowledge and understanding of psychology to help explain everyday behaviour
- ▶ Understand how psychological research is conducted, including the role of scientific methods and data analysis.
- ▶ Present information, develop arguments and draw conclusions through a critical approach.
- ▶ Develop an understanding of the relationship between psychology and personal, moral, social and cultural issues, and develop an understanding of ethical issues in psychology.
- ▶ Develop an understanding of psychological issues and how psychology contributes to society.

### Syllabus Content

**Topic 1: Development:** What are the stages of development?

**Topic 2: Memory:** How does memory work?

**Topic 3: Psychological Problems:** What are the possible causes of psychological problems?

**Topic 4: The Brain and Neuropsychology:** How might biological make-up affect behaviour?

**Topic 5: Social Influence:** What leads to changes in behaviour, in groups and social settings?

**Topic 6: Criminal Psychology:** What factors may lead to criminal behaviour?

**Topic 7: The Self:** What makes you who you are?

**Topic 8: Research Methods:** How do you carry out psychological research? This includes mathematical skills.

## Assessment

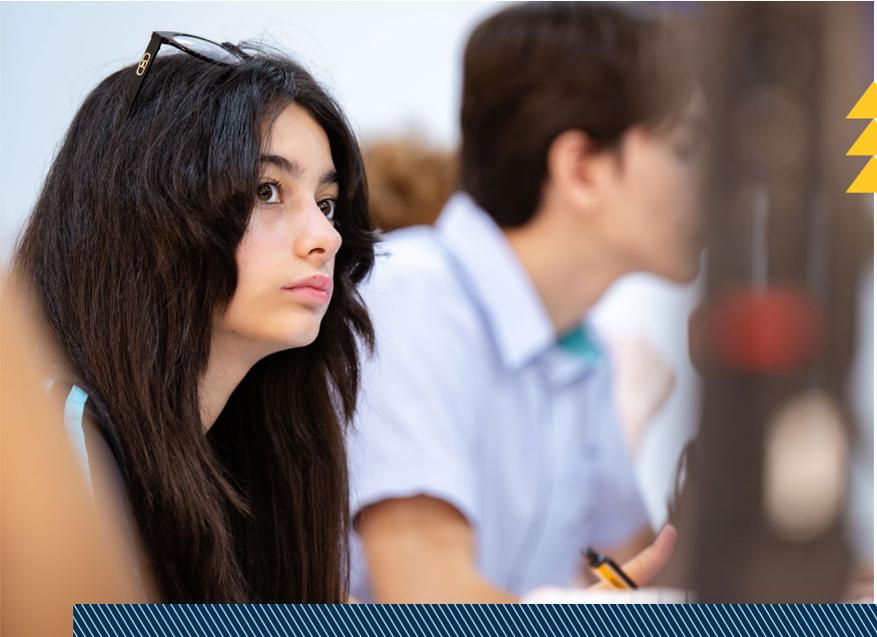
### Externally Assessed

#### Paper 1: Written (1 hour and 45 minutes) – 98 marks (55%)

The paper consists of multiple choice, short and open-response questions on Topics 1-5, which may also draw on knowledge and understanding of Topic 8. The paper also contains two essay (9 marks) questions which focus on debates within psychology and using different areas of the course to explain a scenario.

#### Paper 2: Written (1 hour and 20 minutes) – 79 marks (45%)

Section A of this paper consists of mathematical calculations, multiple choice, short and open- response questions and one essay (12 marks) question on Topic 8. Section B consists of multiple choice, short and open-response questions and two essay (9 marks) questions on Topic 6 and 7.





# Subject Options

## IGCSE Physical Education

### Examination board

Cambridge (0413)

### Aims

Cambridge IGCSE Physical Education is accepted by universities and employers as proof of knowledge and understanding of Physical Education. The syllabus encourages learners to:

- ▶ Develop their knowledge and understanding of the theory underpinning physical performance in a modern world.
- ▶ Use and apply this knowledge and understanding to improve performance.
- ▶ Perform in a range of physical activities, developing skills and techniques, and selecting and using tactics, strategies and/or compositional ideas.
- ▶ Understand and appreciate safe practice in physical activity and sport.
- ▶ Understand and appreciate the benefit of physical activity and sport for health, fitness and well-being.
- ▶ Gain a sound basis for further study in the field of Physical Education.

### Syllabus Content

- ▶ Anatomy and Physiology
- ▶ Health Fitness and Training
- ▶ Skill Acquisition and Psychology
- ▶ Social Cultural and Ethical Influences

### Assessment

#### Externally Assessed

#### Written Examination (1 hour and 45 minutes) 100 marks (50%)

The exam consists of multiple-choice, short answer and extended written questions.

#### Internally Assessed and Externally Moderated

#### Coursework - 100 marks

Candidates undertake four physical activities from at least two (2) of the seven (7) categories listed.

# Core Subjects

## IGCSE Drama

### Examination board

Cambridge (0411)

### Aims

Promoting and strengthening the national identity and the Islamic values.

- ▶ An interest in and enjoyment of drama and theatre.
- ▶ An understanding of the dramatic process of moving from script to performance.
- ▶ Skills in devising original drama.
- ▶ Practical performance skills as individuals and within a group.
- ▶ An understanding of, and engagement with, the role of actor, director, and designer in creating a piece of drama.
- ▶ An understanding of how performers communicate with an audience.

### Syllabus Content and Curriculum

Learners develop an understanding and enjoyment of drama through practical and theoretical study. Candidates will study:

- ▶ Practical drama.
- ▶ How to work with extracts from published plays as an actor, director, and designer
- ▶ How to devise, develop and structure their own original dramatic material.
- ▶ How to evaluate their contribution to the devising process and the success of the final piece
- ▶ How to use staging and design as part of a dramatic performance.
- ▶ Individual and group performance skills.

### Assessment

#### Component 1: Written Exam (2 hours 30 minutes) – 80 marks (40%)

Analysis of play extracts and devising an original piece of drama (based on pre-release materials).

#### Component 2: Coursework – 120 marks (60%)

Three pieces of practical work: an individual performance based on an extract from a play; a group performance based on an extract from a play; a group performance based on an original devised piece of drama.



# Core Subjects

## IGCSE Global Perspectives

### Examination board

Cambridge (0457)

### Aims

The aims of the course are to enable students to:

- ▶ Become independent and confident about taking their place in a changing, information rich and connected world
- ▶ Develop an analytical and evaluative grasp of global issues, leading to the suggestion of evidence based courses of action
- ▶ Consider the concept of sustainability when analyzing local, national and global issues
- ▶ Engage with and reflect on issues, both independently and in collaboration with others, and from a variety of different perspectives
- ▶ Critically assess information available to them and support judgements with lines of reasoning in order to communicate effectively and appropriately

### Syllabus Content and Curriculum

Students are not assessed on content knowledge, the topics give students a stimulating context to develop the skills they are assessed on. The following topics are intentionally broad and students can have considerable input over which paths of enquiry they wish to explore.

- ▶ Arts in society
- ▶ Change in culture and communities
- ▶ Climate change, energy and resources
- ▶ Conflict and peace
- ▶ Development, trade and aid
- ▶ Digital world
- ▶ Education and employment
- ▶ Environment, pollution and conservation
- ▶ Globalisation
- ▶ Health and wellbeing
- ▶ Law and criminality
- ▶ Media and communication
- ▶ Political power and action
- ▶ Sport and recreation
- ▶ Technology, industry and innovation
- ▶ Transport, travel and tourism

## Assessment

### Component 1:

Written Exam - 1 hour 25 minutes, 70 marks (35%)

4 questions based on a range of contemporary sources presenting an issue of global significance from a range of perspectives

### Component 2:

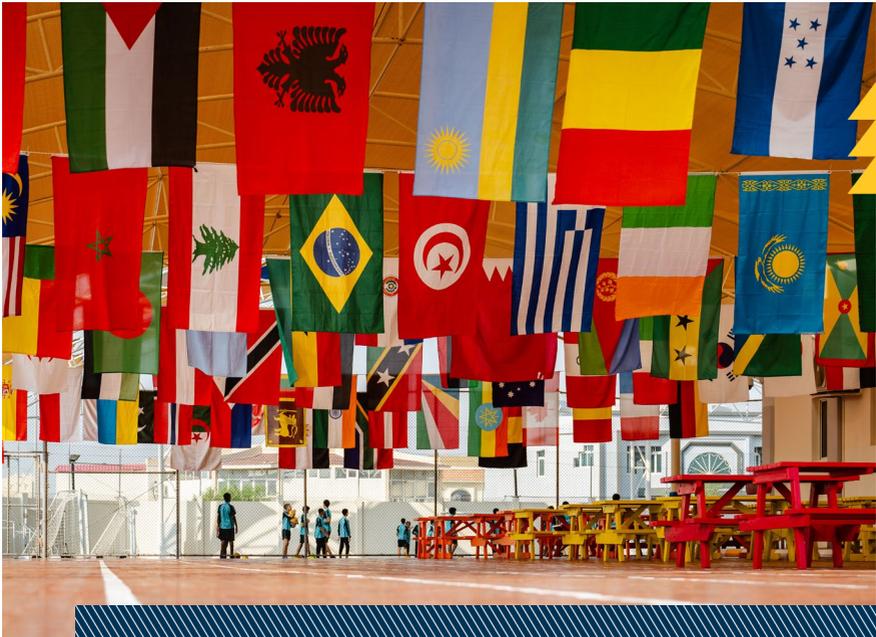
Individual report - 1500-2000 words. 60 marks (30%)

Students research a global issue of their choice and write a report

### Component 3:

Team Project - 70 marks (35%)

Over the course of a term, students work in teams to identify a local issue and deliver a collaborative project to address the issue. Teams produce a 400 word research, planning and action report worth up to 25 marks and a 1000 word personal reflection worth up to 45 marks.



# GET IN TOUCH

General Enquiries  
[admissions.cisd@nais.qa](mailto:admissions.cisd@nais.qa)

Madinat Khalifa Campus  
+974 4034 9888  
[info.mk@nais.qa](mailto:info.mk@nais.qa)

[www.cisdoha.com](http://www.cisdoha.com)



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