

# RAISING GREATNESS

# WHY

# **MAHSA International School?**

- British International Curriculum
- Qualified, experienced, trained teachers and coaches
- · Technology enhanced learning
- · Excellent facilities and services
- · Boarding facilities
- · Affordable fees
- 24-hour security
- A strong link to MAHSA University and International Universities

#### Information about A-Levels

With so many pathways available to students after they complete their IGCSE or SPM and with competing and contrasting information about the best way forward the choice of what to do next can often be difficult and perplexing.

This leaflet provides information about the A-Level programme that is currently being offered at MAHSA International School. In it you should find the answers to some of the basic questions you may have about the programme in general.

## So first of all what are A-Levels?

A-Levels are Advanced level qualifications. They are subject based and offered by schools and colleges to students between the ages of 16-19. They are usually studied over 2 years and are recognised for entry into universities and Higher Education institutes in the UK and around the world.

And International A-Levels are the qualifications for students who wish to follow the programme outside the UK. The main awarding bodies for the international A-Levels are Cambridge which are offered at MAHSA International School, Pearson and Edexcel.

# Are International A-Levels the equivalent of UK A-Levels?

An independent report by NARIC the agency responsible for the recognition of international qualifications and skills in the UK stated that the qualifications should be viewed as equivalent



and comparable. They should be treated exactly the same as the UK A-Level.

# Why should I choose A-Levels?

A-Levels are considered by UK universities to provide more in depth subject expertise compared to the IB programme. In addition, A-Levels allow students to play to their strengths. Students are able to choose subjects that they have shown ability in and subjects that they enjoy. They are able to avoid other subjects that they have no interest in or that they find difficult. This means that students are more likely to excel in the programme. A-Levels also allow for easier transition into a UK university setting.

In addition, A-Levels also provide far more flexibility than any foundation course can offer for entry into university and are more suitable for entry into prestigious universities and prestige programmes such as medicine and law.

International A-Levels are recognised throughout the world. You can use them to gain entry into universities in the UK, USA, Australia, Canada, New Zealand, Singapore, Holland, Germany, South Africa and many other countries.



# **Learning Approaches**

The MAHSA International School A-Level programme supports students to develop the required knowledge, skills and understanding so that they can succeed and achieve in their learning. The programme helps students to become independent and active thinkers, to apply knowledge and skills to overcome challenges, to think logically and critically, and to confidently present reasoned explanations.

# **Independent Learning Skills:**

Helps develop students into responsible and confident individuals; proactive at acquiring knowledge and ideas to achieve their goals.

# **Collaborative Learning Skills:**

Encourages students to master peer-to-peer interaction and leverage on individual strengths to acquire sound knowledge.

## **Research Skills:**

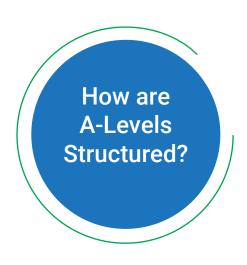
Equips students with techniques to acquire higher order thinking skills and broaden their academic perspective.













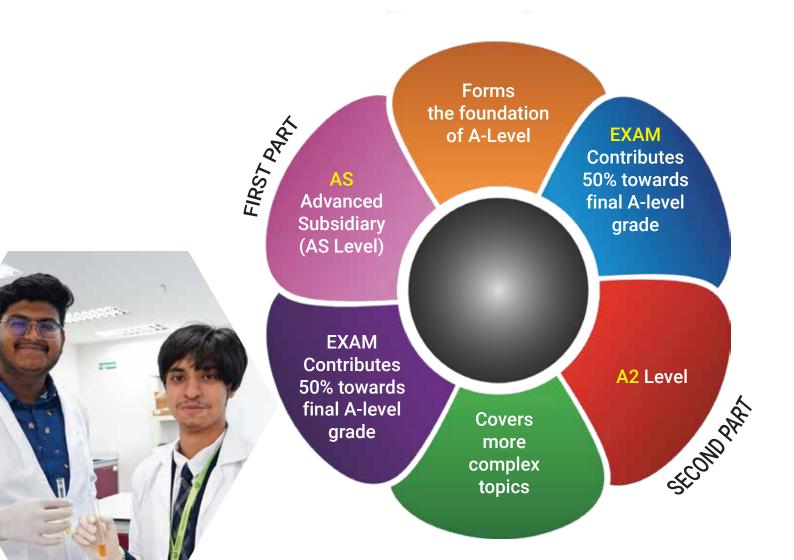
Are you wondering what AS Levels and A-Levels are? Well, AS Levels are actually part of A-Levels. A - Levels consist of 2 parts:

Advanced Subsidiary (AS Level) and A2 Level.

AS Level is the first half of the programme and forms the foundation of A-Levels. A2 Level is

the second part of the syllabus, covering more complex topics in your chosen subjects. At each of the levels you will typically take exams, with each level contributing 50% towards your final grade. 50% from AS exams and 50% from A2 exams. A-Level is 100% exam based.

Your final results will be graded A to E for each subject taken.



# Academic

# Requirements

In order to successfully transition to A-Levels, students should pass a minimum of 5 subjects at SPM, IGSCE or equivalent at grade C and above including English or a minimum IELTS score of 5.5. Students who intend to take A-Level science subjects must have at least a C-grade pass in the same SPM/ IGCSE pure science subject; Combined Science does not provide a sufficient foundation.

Additional Mathematics is usually required for A-Level Mathematics and Further Mathematics.

It is vital that you choose your subjects with care. Talk to your parents and teachers about the courses you are interested in. Talk to students already studying for A-Levels about the subjects. Think about your future plans. There are common combinations of subjects that often complement each other, and the option blocks from which you choose will have been based around these. Find our as much as you can.

#### Which A-Levels should I choose?

At MAHSA International School we currently offer 19 subjects to choose from that cover a wide range of options. Students are expected to select up to 4 subjects to study over a 2 year period.

# Students at MAHSA International School will need to study a maximum of 4 subjects in total.

- English
- Accounting
- Biology
- Business
- Chemistry
- Computer Science
- Design & Technology
- Economics
- English Literature

- Chinese (A Level only)
- Geography
- Global Perspectives and Research
- History
- Information Technology
- Mathematics
- Mathematics Further
- Physical Education
- Physics

If there is a subject that you wish to study that is not on the list, please consult the MAHSA International School Head of Secondary for further information.

# When selecting subjects it is important to ask yourself 3 important questions.

## What subjects do I enjoy and what subjects am I good at?

If you already like a subject and have performed well at it then you are very likely to do well at A-Level.

## Do I have a particular career or university in mind?

You can get help from the school to help match your requirements.

#### I don't know what I want to do in the future.

Are you unsure about what you want to study in the future? Then A levels provide the flexibility to keep your options open by providing a broad range of subjects.



If you already have an idea of the degree you would like to pursue after A-Levels, this list of recommended and essential subjects will help you choose your subject combinations.

DEGREE	RECOMMENDED SUBJECTS
Accounting, Business, Economics, Finance	Essential: Mathematics & Economics Recommended: Business Studies, Accounting, Law, Psychology
Actuarial Science	Essential: Mathematics Recommended: Further Mathematics, Economics, Physics
Biochemistry, Biomedical Science, Nutrition	Essential: Chemistry, Biology & Mathematics Recommended: Physics
Computer Science	Essential: Mathematics Recommended: Physics, Further Mathematics, Computing
Engineering	Essential: Mathematics & Physics Recommended: Chemistry, Further Mathematics
Law	Essential: None Recommended: Mathematics, Economics, Law, English Literature, Accounting
Medicine, Dentistry & Pharmacy	Essential: Chemistry, Biology & Mathematics Recommended: Physics

LEVEL

A choice of two intakes a year for A-Level Admission with variation in study plan and subjects offered:

#### SEPTEMBER INTAKE

- Completion in two years
- Choice of two to four subjects
- Wide range of subjects
- Additional English Classes

#### **JANUARY INTAKE**

- Completion in 18 months
- Choice of two to four subjects
- Narrower range of subjects
- Additional English Classes

Examination Months

•May / June

Entry
Requirements
Minimum 5 subject
passes
(Grade C and above)
in SPM / IGCSE/

equivalent

**INTAKES** 

•SEPTEMBER
•JANUARY































**WEBSITE** 



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