



The Sixth Form @ ISP
PROSPECTUS



THE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL
@ PARKCITY

K U A L A L U M P U R





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A message from the Head of Sixth Form

Patricia Upton

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Welcome to the ISP Sixth form. Our Sixth Form is a centre of both personal and academic excellence and I am genuinely enthused by the opportunities we can offer our students. A strong pastoral commitment is at the heart of all we do and a dedicated Sixth Form team provide all the support and guidance necessary for academic success and life after school. Our Sixth Form students benefit from being taught in small classes by experienced A-Level teachers, who have a genuine passion for their subject. As well as offering a wide range of A-Level subjects, we also provide students with the opportunity to enrich their Sixth Form experience through the AQA Baccalaureate qualification which provides both crucial university research and study skills and enrichment opportunities. Everything we do ensures that not only are our students able to submit highly competitive applications to top universities around the world, but that they also have the skills and attributes to ensure success as independent young adults in the 21st Century. We have absolute confidence that we will provide exactly what each individual student needs and we hope to have the opportunity to welcome your child into the Sixth Form @ ISP.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P. Upton', written in a cursive style.

Patricia Upton
Head of Sixth Form

Vision

To be Malaysia's premier international school by offering excellence in the academic sphere, on the sporting field, in the arts and beyond.

Mission

Enabling young learners to achieve their full potential today and empowering them to become the global leaders of tomorrow.



The Curriculum - The A Level Programme

Students in the Sixth Form will follow an academic programme based on the AS and A-Level syllabuses from Cambridge International Examinations and AQA. A-Levels are the 'gold standard' post-16 qualification and are highly valued by universities and employers around the world. The A-Levels we are offering will give students the best preparation for their future. The majority of our students will initially choose three or four subjects to study at A-Level. Some students might wish to take a reduced programme based on their academic ability. At ISP we are committed to ensuring every student achieves their potential and our curriculum has been carefully planned to recognise that each student is an individual. Students are encouraged to choose subjects they are passionate about, have a natural aptitude for and are willing and able to study for two more years. Naturally, a certain level of academic achievement in these subjects is also required for the student to be successful in their final examinations. Students in Year 11 will be guided by teachers and tutors to help them make sensible decisions on subjects to study at A-Level. As a guide, most subjects would require students to achieve a B grade or better at IGCSE as a prerequisite for studying that course at A-Level. In Term 1 of each academic year, Year 11 students receive an A-Level options booklet and are invited, along with their parents, to an information session to give them more information about the subjects available. Academic staff are also on hand to answer any questions. All Information Sessions are available to external students interested in joining our Sixth Form.

Subjects to be offered at A Level

Mathematics
English Literature
Biology
Physics
Chemistry
Geography
History
Art and Design
3D Design
ICT
PE
Music
Psychology
Spanish
Business Studies
Economics
Further Maths

Note:
The final subjects offered will be dependent on student demand.

Students are offered the opportunity to study for the AQA Baccalaureate (AQA Bacc) alongside their A-Level subjects. The AQA Bacc gives students an edge in the highly competitive process of moving from school to employment or Higher Education. By combining core A-Level subjects with wider learning and enrichment activities, the AQA Bacc enables students to display the necessary personal skills and academic abilities.

How the AQA Baccalaureate works

Depth of study

Any three or four A-Level subjects (excluding the subject used for broader study) to provide in-depth academic study and to test

Broader study

One AS level (or A-level) from a choice of subjects, to develop analytical thinking and learning skills.

Extended project

Development of independent learning, self-managing and research ability through completion of an extended project.

Enrichment

Formal recognition of non-academic pursuits that develop valuable skills, and qualities, such as initiative, teamwork and leadership.

“Universities love it because it shows that you have different research skills and, in interviews especially they did always ask me about the Baccalaureate and how I’d been doing.”

(Alexandra Stone, A Level Student, Buckinghamshire, www.aqa.org.uk)

“The academic rigour required to gain three A-levels, the requirement to undertake an AS-level in General Studies or Critical Thinking or Citizenship, the demands of the Extended Project, and the development through enrichment activities will produce suitable young people to gain from degree level education.”

(University of Birmingham, UK)

The Extended Project Qualification

The Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) is an internationally recognised and highly regarded undertaking that 'allows students to extend their abilities beyond the A-Level syllabus and prepare for university or their future career.' Students work on their EPQ either as part of the AQA Baccalaureate or as a 'stand alone' qualification. The EPQ requires and develops key skills in project management, research, analysis and self-reflection and further demands that students engage in planning and working independently. Students work closely with a teacher in the role of project supervisor who provides key support and guidance throughout the process.

Academic Rigour and Pastoral Support

Studying in the Sixth Form at ISP is a unique experience characterised by highly structured academic tutorial support, individualised academic programmes and strong pastoral support. Our students are allocated into tutor groups, which is the heart of our pastoral system, and they spend time with their tutor each day. Tutors are available at any time for our students to seek support and there are opportunities across the year for parents to meet with tutors to learn more about their progress.

Our unique Academic Monitoring programme ensures students have the resources and guidance needed to be successful. Each term, structured conferences between individual students and tutors take place, providing time for reflection and agreed target setting to ensure students are on track to achieve their potential.

ISP is able to offer a wide range of A-Levels, ensuring access to further education at universities worldwide. Our results attest to our focus on excellent teaching, high expectations and academic support. All subjects are delivered by experienced specialist teachers who are able to give highly individualised attention, thanks to our small class sizes.

Head Boy and Head Girl



Head Boy - Russell Fock

Head Girl - Nafisa Nezamuthdeen



Each year we appoint a Head Boy and Head Girl who act as strong role models and lead our Student Council, which represents the student voice. The Head Boy and Head Girl are expected to play an active role throughout the school and are involved in many assemblies and special events. Students apply formally for these prestigious positions and are interviewed for the role.

Student Leadership

We recognise that the young adults in our Sixth Form should be leaders of the 'student voice' within ISP as well as acting as role models for our younger students. Opportunities for leadership are considered an important part of the Sixth Form and complement our academic programme. The Sixth Form Mentor Program enables every student to work with younger primary children across the school each week, assisting staff and helping with activities. We appoint a Community Ambassador, a Communication Ambassador and an Environment Ambassador. Students elected to these positions lead their own student teams in each area, promoting activities, fundraising and other initiatives across the school.



Kymberly

"When I started my Sixth Form journey, I knew early on that I needed to make my application as appealing as possible to my universities of choice. ISP provides us with the necessary links and relevant advice to help us choose suitable universities for ourselves and on how to start writing our personal statements. As my application deadline was slightly earlier than my peers, I was given one-to-one support, received very honest feedback on my personal statement and shown how to promote myself in the best possible light. Applications are one of the most important things to help us further our studies and to have someone there to discuss it with is really a huge help."



Daniel

"The combination of focused individualised learning and its relatively small class sizes allows teachers to be attentive to each student separately. This means that a teacher would be able to easily spot when a student is struggling and is able to help almost immediately. That is what is most important; everyone gets what they want, and no one is left out."



Zoe

"I chose to study at ISP because there are other options here that no other school offers; like the AQA Baccalaureate- which requires students to complete a project (EPQ) outside of class and which really gives us a chance to explore our interests and increase the standards of our personal statements as well. The flexibility of options in here really gives students the opportunity to pursue areas of study that they love and they really do offer the individual curriculum they promise."



Keevan

"ISP has many leadership positions that students can apply for, such as Head Boy, Head Girl and the Ambassador roles. This is important because this is a fantastic opportunity to hone your leadership skills and it is a great way to express your opinions. Additionally, holding a leadership position gives you an advantage over others when applying for university. As Head Boy, I have sharpened my public speaking skills and improved my ability to work with others. I have contributed to improving the ISP community by leading the Student Council alongside the Head Girl and participated in many charity events such as Pink Day, Jeans for Genes and the 24 Hour Race."



Daphne

"After the AS exams, we were encouraged to participate in the work experience week, where we had to find a work placement, depending on our interests. This was a very insightful experience as I learnt what working in a company feels like. One thing that I like about ISP is that it does not just focus on academics; there are many opportunities to participate in activities outside of the classroom, helping us to become more well-rounded individuals. Throughout the year, we have many university visits and career talks that aim to guide us towards our next step, to university and beyond. Opportunities like these are important as many of us were initially unsure about what and where to study after the Sixth Form."

Enriching the learning experience

The Enrichment programme at ISP follows three strands: personal growth and development; community outreach and work experience. We recognise that for students to be well-rounded upon graduation, they must also be involved in activities outside of the classroom. Such activities enable students to broaden their horizons, encourage personal development, present new challenges and enable skills that academic studies alone cannot.

A defining feature of the Sixth Form is the Leadership Camp which takes place over a weekend early on in the academic year. This is an opportunity for students to learn more about themselves, develop critical thinking and reflection skills and improve their leadership potential. It is a wonderful opportunity that helps our students forge close bonds with their peers and tutors.

Each week, students participate in physical education lessons aimed at promoting health and fitness as well as being an enjoyable break from studies. There are also co-curricular activities available such as the school orchestra, drama productions and sports teams, allowing students to pursue areas of interest beyond the academic curriculum.

All students in the Sixth Form take part in the Community Outreach and Life Skills (COALS) programme. Part of this programme asks students to participate in a number of community based and mutually beneficial projects, as well as forming a core part of our pastoral care programme.

Every year, our Sixth Formers engage in a week-long period of work experience in a vocation of their choice. We believe that these placements provide an invaluable opportunity to immerse themselves in the world of employment. Such opportunities can also be included within university applications in order to show real passion and commitment to a particular course.

We are able to provide an excellent provision for all of our students, due to the dedicated careers advice given by our highly professional and experienced staff and team of Sixth Form Tutors. Our combined approach of technical expertise and pastoral care means that students in the Sixth Form receive advice and support that is current, relevant and personalised. Thanks to the specialist guidance available from the Sixth Form staff, our students are well prepared and able to apply and gain places at top universities worldwide.



Visiting Universities Programme

In addition to the in-school expertise, ISP has close contacts with universities worldwide. We regularly host presentations and university fairs enabling our students to meet admissions officers and professors in person and gather the information they need to make informed choices. Top UK universities, including Edinburgh, Warwick, Durham and Birmingham have recently visited our campus, as well as US universities from across the breadth of America. Maintaining, nurturing and forging new relationships with the world of Higher Education is a key and vibrant part of the Sixth Form. We recognise our students are truly international students and that they need to be informed and successful in making choices wherever they want to across the globe.

Student Life

The Sixth Form is accommodated in its own centre, providing a unique environment in which students can study, collaborate and socialise. The Sixth Form centre is very much the heart of the Sixth Form and is on two floors containing a student lounge, a kitchen and dining area, study areas, a conference room and classrooms.

Sixth Form students are not required to wear school uniform and instead are asked to wear 'business attire' each day. This creates a professional atmosphere amongst the students and sets them apart from the other students in the school. Being a Sixth Former at ISP gives students privileges that younger students can not enjoy. Aside from having their own dedicated Sixth Form Centre, students are also able to make use of the Cafe@ISP and may leave the school site to visit the nearby food and beverage outlets located adjacent to the school at break and lunch times.



"One of the nice things about the Sixth Form area is that there is plenty of room to find an area to study independently without being disturbed. It is even possible to stay after school until quite late if we need to. It's also nice to have been given the freedom of a kitchen area where we can prepare our own food and drinks."

Khairul - Year 12

Across the academic year, there are social opportunities organised by the students themselves. Two key events on the Sixth Form calendar are the '24 hour race', a charity event in which our students participate annually and also the 'Sixth Form Graduation Ball', which is an annual event held to congratulate the graduating students of Year 13 and celebrate the year.

Regular parent information sessions and meetings facilitate strong communication links between school and home, enabling parents to keep abreast of all recent educational developments. We recognise the importance of maintaining clear lines of communication to ensure every Sixth Form student is provided with the very best support and guidance throughout their A-Level studies to ensure that they achieve their academic goals and are fully prepared for life beyond the Sixth Form.

Key Dates

Term One:

Year 11 Critical Thinking mornings: a chance to visit the Sixth Form in tutor time and engage in a Critical Thinking activity led by Sixth Form students.

Open Forum: a chance for parents to meet and chat to current Sixth Form students about their experiences of A-Level studies.

A-Level options evening: an introduction to the Sixth Form, our programme of study and an opportunity to talk to Heads of Department.

Coals lessons and visiting professors throughout this term provide key information in what to consider when thinking of A-Levels for undergraduate study and the world of work.

Term Two:

Option Blocks Issued: a chance for students to consider their combinations of subjects for A-Level study.

A-Level - Meet the Teacher: Information evening with time to discuss in detail options for A-Level study.

Confirmation Letter: request for confirmation of A-Level subjects.

COALS lessons continue to provide information for A-Level subject choices and undergraduate options.



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