

# Cambridge International AS and A Level

A passport to success in education,  
university and employment

Cambridge  
International  
AS & A Level



UNIVERSITY of CAMBRIDGE  
International Examinations

Excellence in education

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## About us

University of Cambridge International Examinations is the world's largest provider of international education programmes and qualifications for 5 to 19 year olds. We are part of the University of Cambridge, one of the world's top universities and trusted for excellence in education. Our qualifications are recognised by the world's universities and employers.

## University of Cambridge International Examinations

We are the **world's largest** provider of international education programmes and qualifications for 5 to 19 year olds

**Over 9000** schools are part of the Cambridge learning community

Cambridge programmes and qualifications are taken in more than **160 countries**

**98%** of Cambridge schools would recommend us to others

## Welcome to Cambridge

We understand education. More than 9000 schools in over 160 countries are part of our Cambridge learning community. Our mission is to provide excellence in education, and our vision is that Cambridge learners become confident, responsible, innovative and engaged.

Every year, thousands of learners use Cambridge qualifications to gain places at leading universities worldwide. We believe in setting educational standards – and then encouraging learners to exceed them.

Understanding learners' needs around the world means listening carefully to our community of schools, and we are pleased that 98 per cent of Cambridge

schools say they would recommend us to others.

We are a part of Cambridge Assessment, a department of the University of Cambridge and a not-for-profit organisation. We invest constantly in research and development to improve our programmes and qualifications.



# Cambridge programmes and qualifications

Cambridge programmes and qualifications are carefully designed to engage your students and give them solid foundations to achieve high levels of academic and personal attainment.

The programmes are progressive, giving you and your students a clearly defined path to success from 5 to 19 years. Our four stages lead seamlessly from primary to secondary and pre-university years, and each stage builds on the learners' development from the previous one.

We offer flexibility, allowing you to shape Cambridge curricula to the needs and abilities of your students. You can offer programmes and qualifications for learners at every stage, or focus on specific ones.

Our programmes and qualifications are compatible with other curricula, so you are free to build a unique curriculum that suits your school's values. And you will have the expertise and support of Cambridge alongside you.

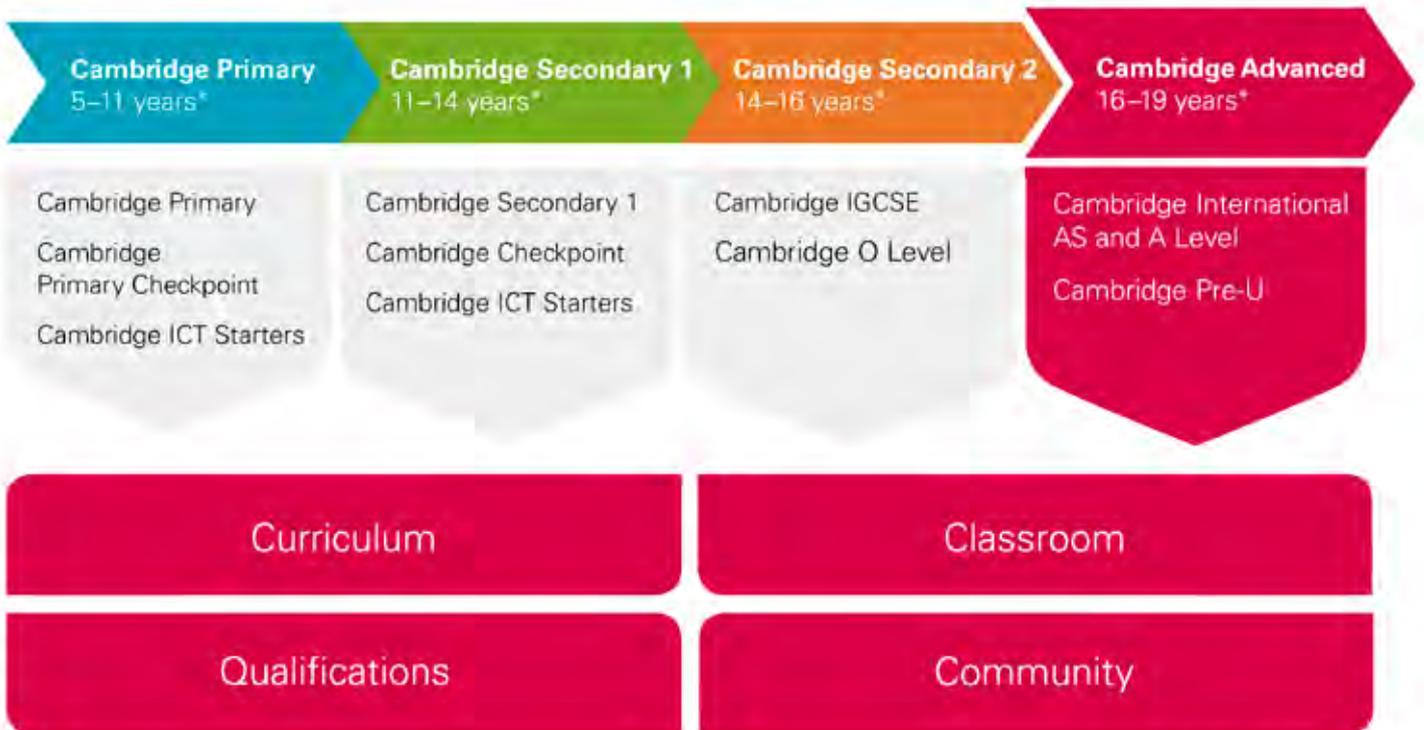
We offer comprehensive support in four areas, designed carefully around the needs of Cambridge learners and teachers:

- **Curriculum:** develops learners' knowledge, understanding and skills. Our curriculum sets clear goals for learners and teachers.

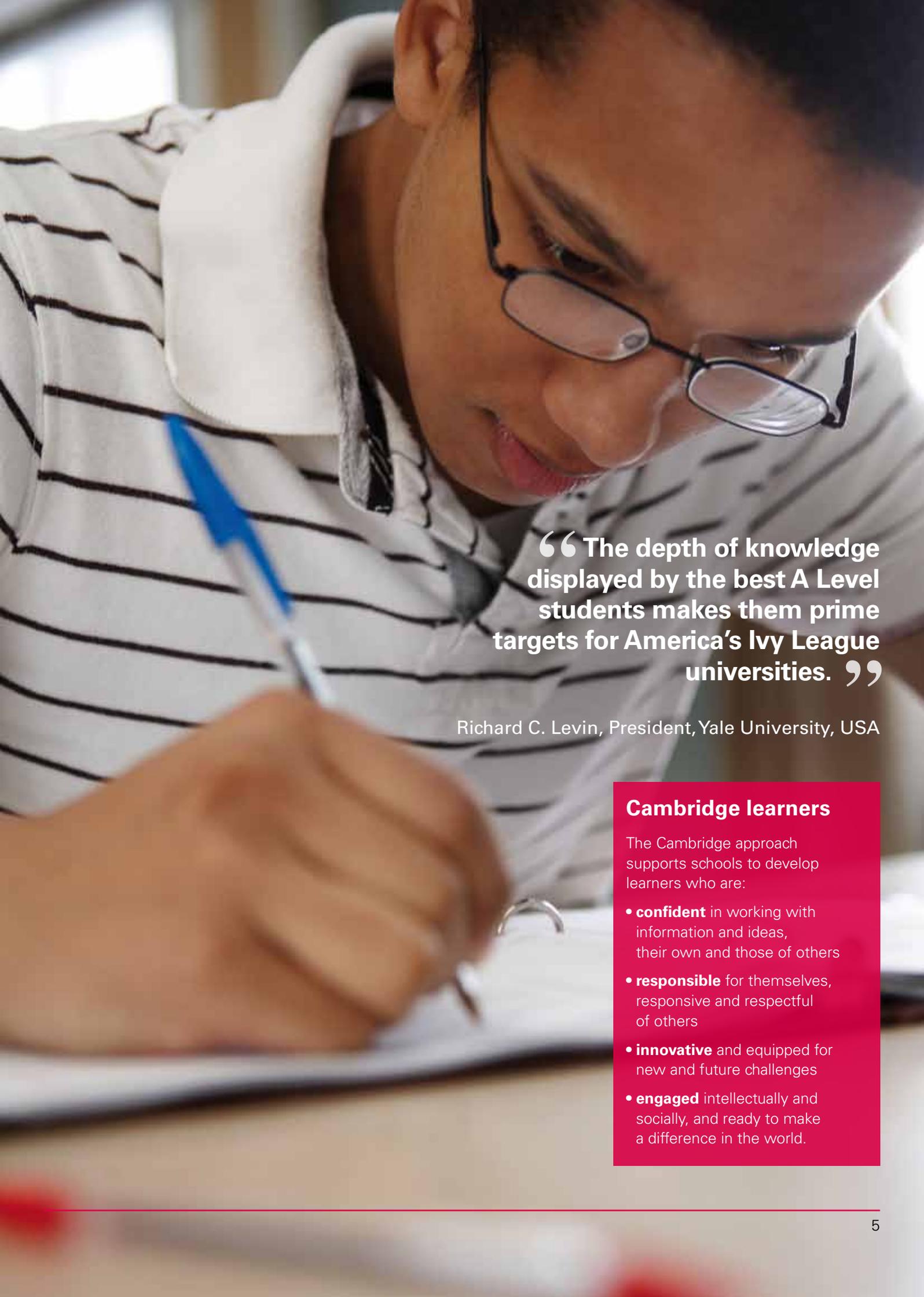
- **Classroom:** support and guidance helps teachers and learners perform to their maximum ability. We offer world-class teacher and learner resources.

- **Qualifications:** provide learners with a global passport to success. We offer reliable, rigorous and flexible assessment, leading to internationally recognised qualifications.

- **Community:** brings Cambridge schools, teachers and learners closer together through the sharing of best practice and ideas.



\*Age ranges are for guidance only.



“The depth of knowledge displayed by the best A Level students makes them prime targets for America’s Ivy League universities.”

Richard C. Levin, President, Yale University, USA

### Cambridge learners

The Cambridge approach supports schools to develop learners who are:

- **confident** in working with information and ideas, their own and those of others
- **responsible** for themselves, responsive and respectful of others
- **innovative** and equipped for new and future challenges
- **engaged** intellectually and socially, and ready to make a difference in the world.



Recognised by universities around the world including all UK universities and over **450** US universities

Taken by **over 175 000** students in more than **125 different countries**

**350 000 entries** annually

Choice of **55 subjects**

“ Since implementing Cambridge, Brentsville District enjoys great success and has become one of the most respected and award-winning high schools in Virginia. ”

Alexander B. Carter, Principal,  
Brentsville District High School, USA

# Cambridge International AS and A Level

Cambridge International AS and A Levels are taken by over 175 000 students in more than 125 countries every year. There are 350 000 entries for Cambridge International A Level annually and growing. Regarded as a passport to success in education, university and employment, a choice of 55 different Cambridge International AS and A Level subjects is available.

Our syllabuses help students develop a deep understanding of subjects, as well as independent learning and constructive thinking skills – abilities which universities value highly.

You have the freedom to offer Cambridge International AS Levels as qualifications in their own right, or as part of a progression to Cambridge International A Level. Your students can study for AS Level alongside A Level subjects to increase breadth in the curriculum and to build further knowledge and understanding.

Cambridge International A Level is part of our Cambridge Advanced stage and is typically for learners between the ages of 16 and 19 years who need advanced study to prepare for university and higher education. Although it builds on foundations laid down at our Cambridge Secondary 2 stage such as within

Cambridge IGCSE or Cambridge O Level, students do not need to have completed the previous stage.

## Benefits for you and your school

Cambridge International A Level helps your school to improve student performance. Your school can encourage breadth through a combination of Cambridge International A Levels or allow learners to specialise in particular subjects.

When you choose Cambridge International AS and A Level, you create a relationship with an organisation that has an excellent reputation as the leader in international education. Our reputation will help strengthen the status of your school, as you become part of the global Cambridge learning community.

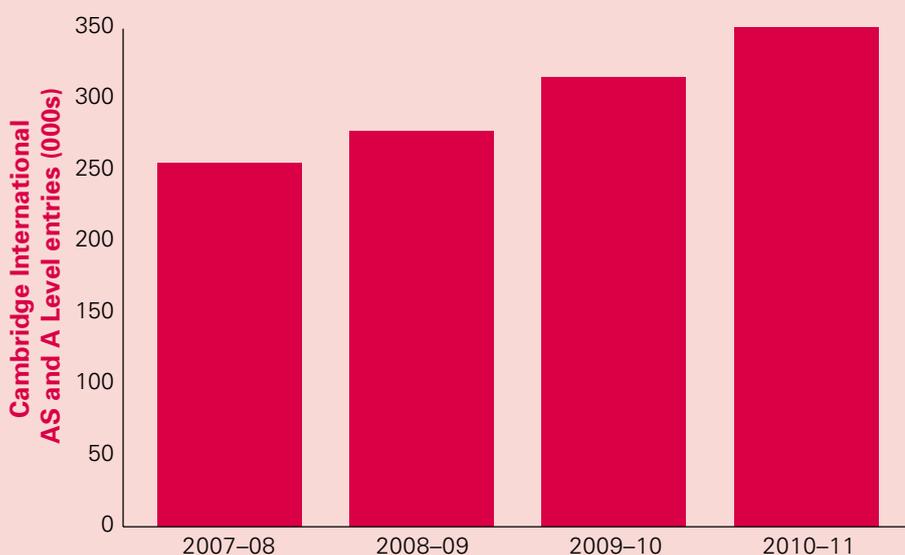
## Benefits for your learners

Cambridge International AS and A Levels have a proven reputation for being an excellent preparation for university, employment and life. They help develop the in-depth subject knowledge and understanding which are so important to universities and employers.

Learners use Cambridge International AS and A Levels to gain places at leading universities worldwide. All UK universities and over 450 US universities accept Cambridge International AS and A Levels, including Harvard, Yale, MIT and Stanford.

Together with schools we aim to develop Cambridge learners who are confident, responsible, innovative and engaged – equipped for success in the fast-changing modern world.

## Cambridge International AS and A Level growth



Harvard  
MIT  
Yale  
University of Mumbai  
Cambridge  
Oxford  
National University of Singapore  
McGill  
University of Cape Town  
Monash

## Our curriculum

Cambridge International AS and A Level curricula are flexible. You can offer almost any combination of 55 subjects. Cambridge International A Level is typically a two-year course, and Cambridge International AS Level is typically one year. Some subjects can be started as a Cambridge International AS Level and extended to a Cambridge International A Level. But courses can be taken over different periods of time.

This flexibility gives you building blocks to build an individualised curriculum that develops your learners' knowledge, understanding and skills in:

- in-depth subject content
- independent thinking
- applying knowledge and understanding to new as well as familiar situations
- handling and evaluating different types of information sources
- thinking logically and presenting ordered and coherent arguments
- making judgements, recommendations and decisions

- presenting reasoned explanations, understanding implications and communicating them clearly and logically
- working and communicating in English.

### Building your curriculum

The curriculum is at the heart of your mission and vision. So the best place to make decisions about it is within the school. We will help you make the right decisions in curriculum design, planning and delivery. We will help you build a curriculum to develop the knowledge and understanding that universities and employers look for, and to bring success for your students.

The syllabuses are international in outlook, but retain a 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 content, the structure and the administrative support make Cambridge International AS and A Level the answer to the needs of schools worldwide.

### Motivating learners

Students can specialise or study a range of subjects, ensuring breadth. Giving students the power to choose helps motivate them throughout their studies.





**“ Students with Cambridge International AS and A Levels are very well prepared for university study. It helps them demonstrate the two essentials for winning a place: academic excellence and the ability to think independently. ”**

International admissions tutor from a college at the University of Cambridge, UK

## Cambridge International AS and A Level subjects

Regularly updated and extended, Cambridge International AS and A Level subjects provide you with a wide range of well-resourced and supported courses.

### Cambridge English

Cambridge International AS Level English Language is for students who can already communicate effectively in English. The syllabus enables them to achieve greater fluency, accuracy and confidence in the language as it is spoken and written.

Students choosing Cambridge International AS and A Level Literature in English will critically analyse a range of texts in the three main forms: prose, poetry and drama, from a wide range of different periods and cultures.

#### Cambridge International AS Level

English – Language

Language and Literature in English

#### Cambridge International AS and A Level

English – Literature

### Cambridge mathematics

Cambridge International AS and A Level Mathematics builds on the skills acquired at Cambridge IGCSE or equivalent level. The syllabus gives you the flexibility to choose from three different routes to Cambridge International AS Level Mathematics: Pure Mathematics only, or Pure Mathematics and Mechanics, or Pure Mathematics and Probability and Statistics. You can choose from three different routes to Cambridge International A Level Mathematics depending on the choice of Mechanics, or Probability and Statistics, or both, in the broad area of 'applications'.

#### Cambridge International AS and A Level

Mathematics

#### Cambridge International A Level

Mathematics – Further

### Cambridge sciences

Biology, Chemistry and Physics are available at Cambridge International AS and A Level. They focus on the understanding of concepts and the application of scientific ideas in novel contexts. The syllabuses develop creative thinking and problem-solving skills which are transferable to any future career path. They are ideal for students who want to study Biology, Chemistry or Physics or related subjects at university, or to follow a career in science or medicine.

#### Cambridge International AS Level

Environmental Management

Physical Science

#### Cambridge International AS and A Level

Biology

Chemistry

Marine Science

Physics



## Cambridge languages

Cambridge International AS and A Levels in languages are the ideal foundation for university study, or to improve career prospects. Students learn how to use the language in a variety of situations. Through their studies, students can expect to achieve greater fluency, accuracy and confidence in the language.

### Cambridge International AS Level

Afrikaans – First Language  
Afrikaans – Language  
Chinese – Language  
French – Language  
French – Literature  
German – Language  
Japanese – Language  
Portuguese – Language  
Portuguese – Literature  
Spanish – First Language  
Spanish – Language  
Spanish – Literature  
Urdu – Language

### Cambridge International A Level

Afrikaans\*  
Chinese\*  
French\*  
German\*  
Portuguese\*  
Spanish\*  
Urdu\*

*\* All Cambridge International A Level language syllabuses cover both language and literature content.*

## Cambridge humanities and social sciences

Humanities and social sciences enable students to develop a deeper insight and wider perspective on social issues and cultures around the globe.

### Cambridge International AS Level

General Paper  
Global Perspectives

### Cambridge International AS and A Level

Classical Studies  
Divinity  
Economics  
Geography  
Hinduism  
History  
Islamic Studies  
Law  
Psychology  
Sociology

## Cambridge business, technical and vocational

Business, technical and vocational subjects prepare students for the world of work, and provide a foundation for university by building on the understanding of concepts and practical skills gained at Cambridge IGCSE or equivalent level.

### Cambridge International AS and A Level

Accounting  
Applied Information and Communication Technology  
Art and Design  
Business Studies  
Computing  
Design and Technology  
Design and Textiles  
Music  
Physical Education  
Thinking Skills  
Travel and Tourism

### Cambridge International A Level

Food Studies





**“ Cambridge has consistently provided us with excellent levels of support for teachers, administrative staff and students. ”**

Gavin Lazaro, Senior Teacher,  
Bangkok Patana School, Thailand

# Classroom support for teachers and learners

Our ethos of excellence in education extends to support and services, to help you deliver engaging and effective courses, and develop as a professional.

## Teacher resources

We have a wealth of teaching and learning resources to help you plan and deliver the programme. They suit a wide range of teaching methods and different international contexts and include:

- recommended textbooks
- recommended workbooks
- guidance to explain how the resources support teaching
- teaching schemes and lesson plans
- assessment tools, including mark schemes, examiner reports, previous examination papers and global learner performance statistics by grade and subject, enabling you to provide valuable feedback, to identify learner strengths and weaknesses, before final assessment.

We offer fast, simple, reliable and friendly administration. Schools receive comprehensive help from Cambridge Customer Services and our local representatives.

## Teacher Support website

We offer a secure support website for Cambridge teachers – access is free for Cambridge schools. Here you will find all the materials you need to teach our syllabuses, including past question papers, mark schemes, examiner reports, and lesson plans and schemes of work.

## Cambridge Professional Development for teachers

We offer regular training workshops for Cambridge International AS and A Level syllabuses. Online training is also available, increasing access for teachers who have limited time or are a long way from training events.

We also provide Professional Development qualifications and services for teachers. They help develop teachers' thinking and practice and build the knowledge and skills they need to help learners succeed with Cambridge.

**“ Cambridge International A Levels are the ‘gold standard’ qualification. They are based on rigorous, academic syllabuses that are accessible to students from a wide range of abilities yet have the capacity to stretch our most able. ”**

**Mark Vella, Director of Studies, Auckland Grammar School, New Zealand**

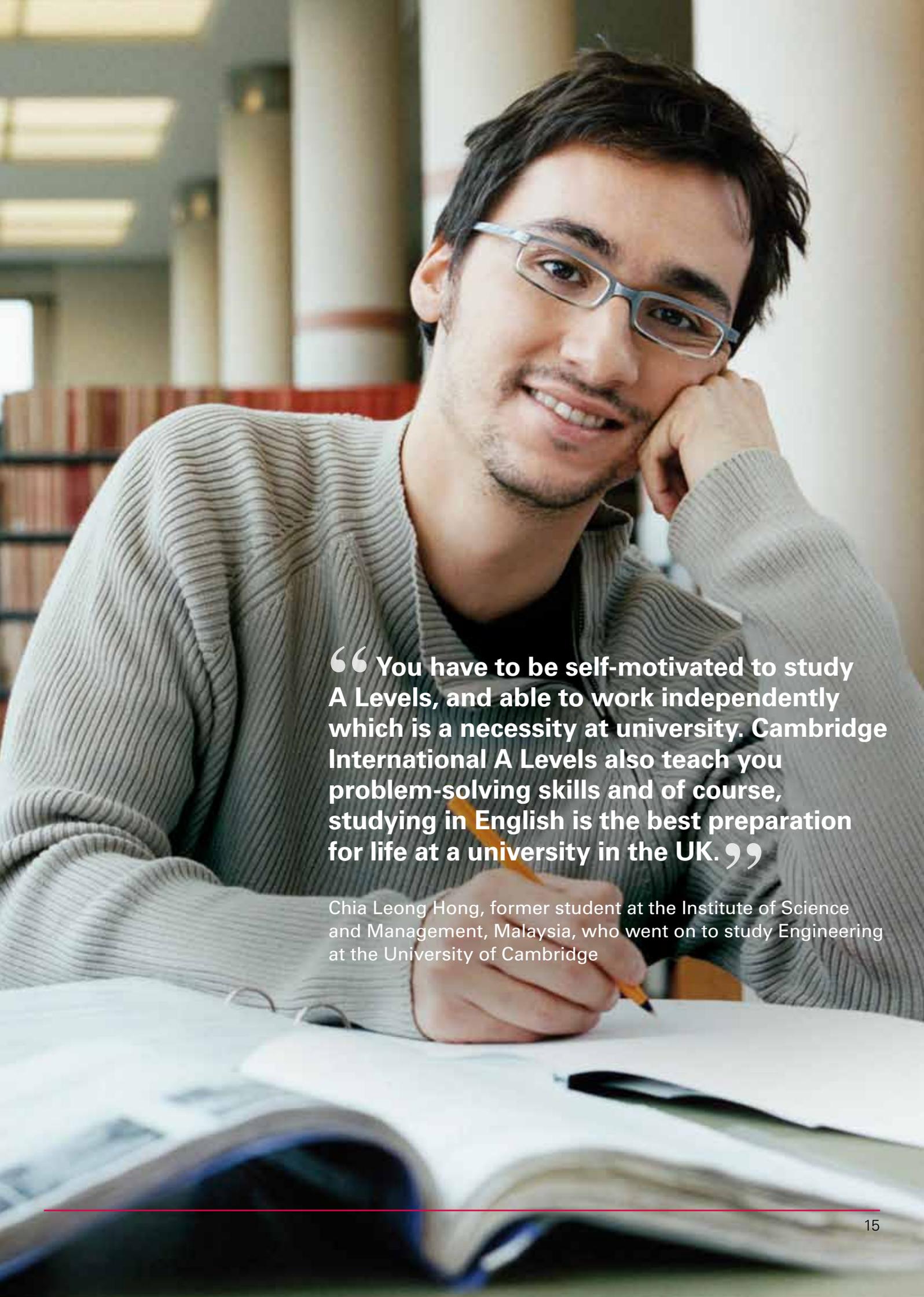


## Teacher support resources

A wide range of support resources for teachers and learners are available for Cambridge International AS and A Level. Resources suit a variety of teaching methods in different international contexts. Teachers can access these resources once their school becomes a registered Cambridge school.



What resources are available for Cambridge International AS and A Level teachers?		
	Training – face-to-face	✓
	Training – online	✓
	Subject communities and discussion forums	✓
	Syllabuses	✓
	Teacher guides and schemes of work	✓
	Syllabus and support DVD	✓
	Textbooks and resources from publishers	✓
	Secure support website	✓
	Ask CIE – frequently asked questions ( <a href="http://www.cie.org.uk/askcie">www.cie.org.uk/askcie</a> )	✓
	Past question / specimen papers	✓
	Mark schemes	✓
	Examiner reports	✓
	Example candidate responses (Standards Booklet)	✓
	'Ask the Examiner' question and answer sessions	✓
<b>Languages only</b>		
	Speaking test handbooks	✓



**“ You have to be self-motivated to study A Levels, and able to work independently which is a necessity at university. Cambridge International A Levels also teach you problem-solving skills and of course, studying in English is the best preparation for life at a university in the UK. ”**

Chia Leong Hong, former student at the Institute of Science and Management, Malaysia, who went on to study Engineering at the University of Cambridge

# Our qualifications

## University recognition

Learners use Cambridge International AS and A Levels to gain places at leading universities worldwide including the UK, Ireland, USA, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, India, Singapore, Egypt, Jordan, South Africa, the Netherlands, Germany and Spain.

In places such as the United States and Canada, good grades in carefully chosen Cambridge International A Level subjects can result in up to one year of university course credit.

Over 450 US universities accept Cambridge International AS and A Levels, including Harvard, Yale, MIT and Stanford.

Cambridge International AS and A Levels are viewed as equivalent to the AS and A Levels taken by students in the UK, and are accepted for entrance to all UK universities.

For more information about recognition of Cambridge qualifications, including a database of institutions that accept them go to [www.cie.org.uk/recognition](http://www.cie.org.uk/recognition)

## Group awards

The Cambridge AICE Diploma is a group certificate which requires learners to study subjects drawn from three curriculum areas within Cambridge International AS and A Level: mathematics and science, languages and arts and humanities.

## Reporting achievement

Each subject that a learner takes at Cambridge International AS and A Level receives a separate grade. The Cambridge International A Level is reported on a grade scale from A\* grade, awarded for the highest level of achievement, to E, indicating the minimum required performance. There is no A\* grading

in the certification of Cambridge International AS Levels, which run from grade A to grade E.

## Performance feedback

Many schools use Cambridge International AS Level to give learners valuable feedback on their performance, identifying strengths and weaknesses before they complete their full Cambridge International A Level.

Taking the Cambridge International AS Level examination during the Cambridge International A Level course gives learners helpful pointers that they can use to set learning goals for the second half of the course. It can also give learners the motivation and momentum to complete their studies.

## Assessment

Your learners can choose from a range of assessment options:

### Option one

Take the Cambridge International AS Level only. The Cambridge International AS Level syllabus content is half a Cambridge International A Level.

### Option two

Take a 'staged' assessment route – take the Cambridge International AS Level in one examination session and complete the final Cambridge International A Level at a subsequent session.\*

### Option three

Take all papers of the Cambridge International A Level course in the same examination session, usually at the end of the course.



\* The staged assessment route is not possible in all subjects. The outcomes awarded for Cambridge International AS Level language syllabuses cannot be carried forward to Cambridge International A Level.

A close-up photograph of two young women smiling warmly. The woman on the left has light green eyes and is wearing a black top. The woman on the right has dark brown eyes and is wearing a light grey top. They are both looking towards the camera with bright, genuine smiles.

**“ Cambridge International AS and A Levels are excellent preparation for students to take the next step in the path of lifelong learning. ”**

Mary Adams, Associate Director of Admissions,  
Pennsylvania State University, USA



## Join the Cambridge community

Join Cambridge and be part of a global network of more than 9000 schools in over 160 countries.

When you become a Cambridge school, you join a worldwide educational community. Our range of activities includes community events for Cambridge school leaders and heads of department, teacher training workshops with Cambridge experts where you can learn at your own

pace, and online 'Ask the Examiner' question and answer sessions. You have free and unlimited access to our secure support website, enabling you to share resources and ideas, get access to Cambridge experts and explore discussion forums and social networks.

Learners have access to online resources such as revision guides and sample questions. We also have Facebook pages where students can take part in debate, with Cambridge and with each other. Online events bring schools together to discuss their projects and activities.

**“ We have found the examinations not only provide students with an excellent foundation for tertiary study, but they also provide an easily understood and transparent pathway into university study. ”**

Clarence van der Wel, Executive Principal, ACG Strathallan, New Zealand

## What next?

If you would like to teach Cambridge International AS and A Level, and are already a Cambridge school, please contact our Customer Services team – contact details are below. If you are not a Cambridge school already, you need to register first. There are four simple steps and we will guide you.

### Become a Cambridge school



#### Start working with us

On completing the registration process, we will send you a *Welcome to Cambridge Pack*. This contains a range of support materials to get you started.

#### Classroom support

You will receive a range of excellent support for teachers and learners, to help deliver Cambridge education programmes and qualifications in every classroom.

#### Marketing support

To help you make the most of your association with Cambridge, we will provide your school with marketing materials as part of the *Welcome to Cambridge Pack*. These materials can help you start to promote your relationship with us and the qualifications and subjects you offer.

#### Administration support

You will be able to use a secure website which allows you to communicate securely with us and exchange all administrative

information, including exam entries and results, entry instruction booklets and other documentation. You can always contact us if you need help, or simply have a question that's on your mind. We're pleased to say that our customer service is rated as the best in its class.

#### Fees

We charge each school an annual registration fee, plus fees for each examination entry.

### Learn more!

Getting in touch with Cambridge is easy:

Email: [international@cie.org.uk](mailto:international@cie.org.uk)

Call: +44 (0)1223 553554

Visit our website: [www.cie.org.uk/alevel](http://www.cie.org.uk/alevel)

“ Cambridge provides a fantastic support service, on their website and also from their representatives. For me there was no one else. ”

Stephen O'Connor, Headmaster,  
Heathfield International School, Thailand

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