

Our Curriculum 2020

Cambridge International

Cambridge Primary and Lower Secondary starts learners on an exciting educational journey. It develops young learners who are confident, responsible, reflective, innovative and engaged and includes assessment that proves and improves learning.

Canterbury Prep follows the full Cambridge Primary Curriculum as well as including additional subjects that compliment Cambridge learning to ensure our learners receive a well-rounded and comprehensive education that is the springboard for a lifelong love of learning.

Cambridge Core Subjects:

Art and Design

Art creates a potential for voicing things that cannot be captured in words. Art & Design gives learners a platform to express themselves, sparking imagination, creativity and developing transferable skills. Students explore and push boundaries to become reflective, critical and decisive thinkers. They learn how to articulate personal responses to their experiences.

Digital Literacy

Digital literacy is an essential skill for learners of all ages, including the youngest primary students. The digital world allows us to connect, collaborate, innovate and discover new information on an ever-broadening scale, and learners must be able to effectively use technology from the very beginning of their educational journey.

English

Cambridge Primary English promotes an enquiry-based approach, developing learners' confidence, creativity and intellectual engagement. Learners develop English skills they can apply for a range of different purposes and audiences in everyday situations and in study. They will communicate confidently and effectively and develop the critical skills to respond to a range of information, media and texts with understanding and enjoyment.

The curriculum is divided into six stages and the framework covers knowledge, skills and understanding in three strands:

- Reading
- Writing
- Speaking and listening

Global Perspectives

This innovative and stimulating skills-based programme places academic study in a practical, real-world context. It provides students the opportunity to develop the skills that they need to be successful at school and university as well as in their future careers.

The programme taps into the way today's students enjoy learning, including group work, seminars, projects and working with other students around the world. The emphasis is on developing students' ability to think critically about a range of global issues where there is always more than one point of view.

This curriculum develops the skills of research, analysis, evaluation, reflection, collaboration and communication. It strengthens the links across all of the other subjects in the primary programme, including English, Mathematics and Science.

ICT Starters (Information and Communication Technology)

Information and Communications Technology (ICT) is regarded as a new 'literacy' alongside reading, writing and numeracy.

Learners will develop key ICT skills in a range of applications including computer programming, word processing, digital graphics, databases, spreadsheets, email, presentations, video/animation, the internet and web authoring. They will also consider wider issues such as eSafety and the adaption of their work to suit their audience.

Mathematics

Cambridge Primary Mathematics explores five content areas:

- Number
- Geometry
- Measure
- Handling data
- Problem solving

The curriculum focuses on principles, patterns, systems, functions and relationships so that learners can apply their mathematical knowledge and develop a holistic understanding of the subject.

Music

Learners explore music as performers, composers and informed listeners. This course enables learners to broaden their experience and appreciation of music. Music fosters creativity and builds confidence. It helps learners to express themselves and shows them the importance of communication.

Physical Education

Regular exercise improves physical and mental health and there is growing evidence that it improves academic performance across the curriculum. This subject is about learning to move and moving to learn. The aim is to establish healthy patterns for life. It explores the skills of creativity, collaboration, leadership and responsibility.

Science

Children are naturally curious and science supports the development of a child's curiosity, helping them to investigate problems, learn more about the world around them and understand and use scientific explanations for a wide range of phenomena.

Cambridge Primary Science covers four content areas:

- Scientific enquiry
- Biology
- Chemistry
- Physics

Scientific enquiry is about considering ideas, evaluating evidence, planning investigative work and recording and analysing data. The Scientific enquiry objectives underpin Biology, Chemistry and Physics, which are focused on developing confidence and interest in scientific knowledge, including environmental awareness and history of science.

Students develop research, collaboration and creative skills that will help with many aspects of their future learning and development.

Additional Curriculum Subjects:

Social Science

Grade 4 - 7

Geography and History both play an important role in understanding the world we live in, how we ended up where we are and the impact we have on the future. Making use of both local and global examples, learners are actively engaged to discover the world around us.

Economic Management Science (EMS)

Grade 6 and 7

Having an understanding of how diverse the economy is, and being able to harness creativity and directing it into a business is a key skill to learn. Learners are taught general economic and business principals as well as basic accounting practices. A large section is dedicated to preparing for Entrepreneurs Day.

Second Language

All learners must study two languages. We currently offer Afrikaans as a second language, taught according to national requirements and in line with what is expected from Cambridge for second languages at an Upper Secondary Level.

If parents choose, a foreign second language may be taken in lieu of Afrikaans. Lingual Express offers a foreign language school on Canterbury Prep's property. This is arranged privately.

Robotics, Design and Engineering (RED)

Grade 4 – 7.

Lessons are designed to give learners a practical introduction to electronics and material sciences. The module is project focused. Projects will include building machines with electric motors and wiring simple circuits. The module also gives the children a chance to unleash their creativity and artistic side. We aim to give learners a realistic view of design constraints and develop project management skills.

Drama

Drama is a course that strengthens creativity and self-confidence and develops the skills of problem solving, team work and communication. It is an ideal cross curricular activity and is a valuable tool for use in many subject areas. In particular, drama develops literacy skills – supporting speaking and listening, extending vocabulary and encouraging pupils to understand and express different points of view.

A highlight in our academic year, is the school concert where all our learners participate. Performing often nudges children out of their comfort zones, and provides a practical platform to develop confidence, concentration and communication skills.

Please note:

- Canterbury Kids and Junior Primary have separate music and drama lessons weekly.
- Senior Primary have weekly lessons incorporating both Music and Drama.

A word on Information Communication Technology (ICT)/Digital Literacy at Canterbury Prep

The main focus of the course is to provide learners with the opportunity to become fluent in Microsoft Word, Excel and PowerPoint. To achieve this objective, we give demonstrations in class and allow learners to explore and become familiar with the programs. In the senior primary level, to enhance their problem solving skills once they have mastered the basics, we assign projects relevant to other modules where the children get a chance to do their own research and present the work using techniques from theory lessons.

Canterbury's **Computer Science Lessons** (for Grade 4-7) complement the Digital Literacy and ICT curriculums. Here we aim to give learners a broad perspective on modern technology and current advancements. "Technology in the news" is a brief discussion we will have in each class, where learners are encouraged to do their own research and report on their findings. Students will engage in coding and programming. The two main areas of focus are website design and mathematical problem solving. Other areas we will touch on is first order logic. The aim of this to start teaching learners how to think the way a programmer would think about a problem and secondly to integrate with Mathematics. This will be important as they develop more advanced programs. We will also be looking at theoretical artificial intelligence and game theory.

Please note:

- **Canterbury Kids** have weekly STEAM classes where technology and Digital Literacy are introduced.
- **Junior Primary** follow the Digital Literacy curriculum within their weekly ICT Starters classes.
- **Senior Primary** have two Computer Science lessons per week, incorporating both Digital Literacy and ICT Starters.
- Coding and Programming is introduced from Grade 4. Additionally, Digital Literacy is used within and across other subjects.