

**Cambridge IGCSE**

Cambridge  
**IGCSE**



**CAMBRIDGE**  
International Examinations

Learn • Discover • Achieve

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**“ We think the Cambridge curriculum is superb preparation for university. ”**

Christoph Guttentag, Dean of Undergraduate Admissions,  
Duke University, USA



# Welcome to Cambridge

Cambridge International Examinations prepares school students for life, helping them develop an informed curiosity and a lasting passion for learning. We are part of Cambridge Assessment, a department of the University of Cambridge.

Our international qualifications are recognised by the world's best universities and employers, giving students a wide range of options in their education and career. As a not-for-profit organisation, we devote our resources to delivering high-quality educational programmes that can unlock learners' potential.

Our programmes and qualifications set the global standard for international education. They are created by subject experts, rooted in academic rigour and reflect the latest educational research. They provide a strong platform for learners to progress from one stage to the next, and are well supported by teaching and learning resources.

We develop our qualifications according to our Code of Practice and the Cambridge Approach. We are accredited as an awarding body

by Ofqual (Office of Qualifications and Examinations Regulation), the UK government's regulator for awarding organisations and qualifications in England. Every year, nearly a million Cambridge learners from 10 000 schools in 160 countries prepare for their future with an international education from Cambridge.

## Benefits for you and your school

When you choose Cambridge, 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. We listen carefully to our community of schools to make sure we understand the needs of learners around the world.



## Benefits for your learners

Cambridge programmes and qualifications have a proven reputation for being an excellent preparation for university, employment and life.

Your learners can be confident that the results they receive are fairly awarded against our consistent global standard.

Every year, many thousands of Cambridge learners achieve the grades they need to progress to their chosen university. Leading universities and employers worldwide value and recognise Cambridge qualifications as evidence of academic ability. They open doors for Cambridge learners.

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



## 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 to and respectful of others
- **reflective** as learners, developing their ability to learn
- **innovative** and equipped for new and future challenges
- **engaged** intellectually and socially, and ready to make a difference in the world.

A photograph of four diverse students walking together on a school campus. They are smiling and engaged in conversation. The student on the far left is a young man with blonde hair, wearing a blue t-shirt and a backpack. Next to him is a young woman with long blonde hair, wearing a maroon cardigan and a grey scarf, carrying several colorful folders. In the center is a young man with dark hair, wearing a green t-shirt and a grey jacket, also carrying folders. On the far right is a young woman with long dark hair, wearing a green sweater and light blue jeans, carrying a black folder. The background shows a modern building with large windows and a clear sky. A large blue diagonal graphic is overlaid on the bottom left of the image.

“ Cambridge students develop a deep understanding of subjects and independent thinking skills ”

Tony Hines, Principal, Rockledge High School, USA

# Cambridge programmes and qualifications

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

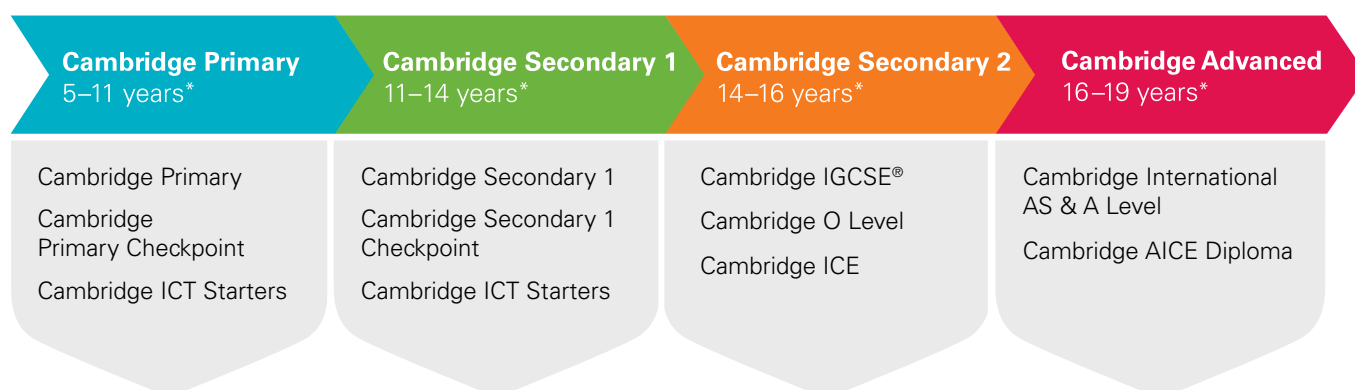
The programmes are progressive, giving you and your learners a clearly defined path to success from 5 to 19 years. Our four stages lead seamlessly from primary to secondary and pre-university years, and each stage builds on the learners' development from the previous one.

We offer flexibility, allowing you to shape Cambridge curricula to the needs and abilities of your learners. You can offer our 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. When you register with us we will give you support and guidance on how to implement Cambridge programmes, so that you make a smooth transition.

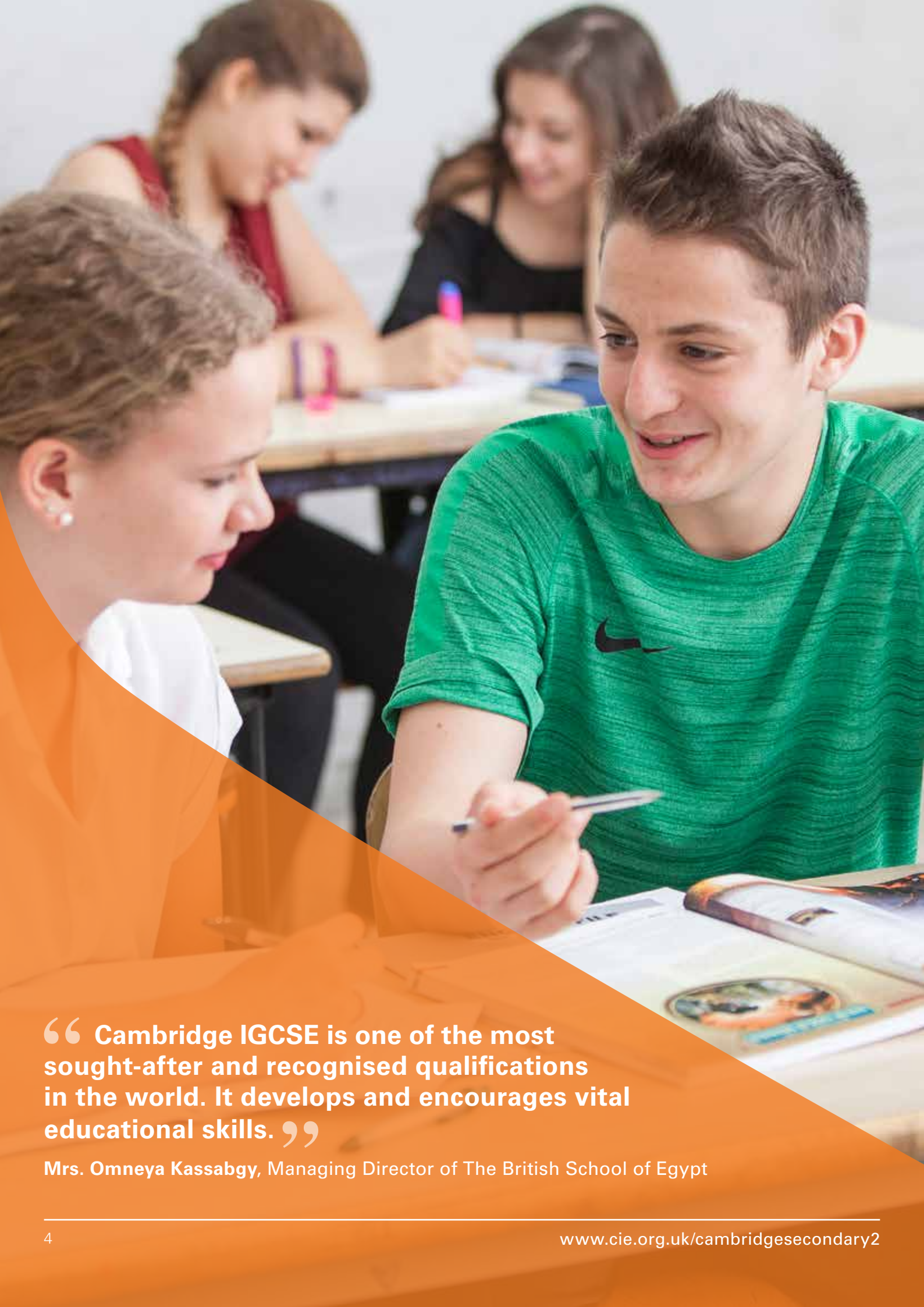
We offer comprehensive support in four areas, designed carefully around the needs of Cambridge learners and teachers:

- **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*





**“ Cambridge IGCSE is one of the most sought-after and recognised qualifications in the world. It develops and encourages vital educational skills. ”**

**Mrs. Omneya Kassabgy, Managing Director of The British School of Egypt**

# Cambridge Secondary 2

Cambridge Secondary 2 is typically for learners aged 14 to 16 years. It builds on the foundations of Cambridge Secondary 1, although it is not essential to have completed that stage before beginning Cambridge Secondary 2.

Cambridge Secondary 2 includes Cambridge IGCSE – the world’s most popular international qualification for 14 to 16 year olds – and Cambridge O Level, which has been designed especially for an international audience. Both provide excellent preparation for Cambridge Advanced and for progression to other educational systems. Syllabuses support schools by using learner-centred and enquiry-based approaches to learning. They describe the knowledge, understanding and skills learners will develop and explain how these will be assessed.

## Cambridge IGCSE®

We developed the International General Certificate of Secondary Education (IGCSE) over 25 years ago. It now attracts over 900 000 entries every year from over 140 different countries.

### Our curriculum

With its 70 subjects, available in any combination and including more than 30 languages, the Cambridge IGCSE curriculum offers a variety of routes for learners with a wide range of abilities, including those whose first language is not English. It develops learner knowledge, understanding and skills in:

- subject content
- applying knowledge and understanding to new as well as familiar situations
- intellectual enquiry
- flexibility and responsiveness to change
- working and communicating in English
- influencing outcomes
- cultural awareness.

Schools worldwide have been – and continue to be – involved in the development of Cambridge IGCSE, so we are confident it represents the best possible international education for 14 to 16 year olds.

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 mean Cambridge IGCSE answers the needs of more and more schools worldwide.

### 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. Encouraging learners to engage with a variety of subjects between the ages of 14 and 16 years is fundamental to our approach.

#### Foundation curriculum

You can build a curriculum around the core subject groups of mathematics, science and English. Each core subject has a range of alternative syllabuses to suit each learner.

For example, in science, you can offer Cambridge IGCSE Biology, Chemistry and/or Physics plus Cambridge IGCSE Sciences – Combined or Co-ordinated (Double Award) or Cambridge IGCSE Physical Science.



Cambridge  
IGCSE is  
taken in 145  
countries



with over 990 000  
subject entries per year

### Broadening the curriculum

Broadening the curriculum is easy. Simply draw on the wide range of subjects to add breadth and richness to the curriculum.

For example, you can offer any of the following in addition:

- over 30 language syllabuses including first, second and foreign language options
- established curriculum components such as Cambridge IGCSE History or Geography.

### Cross-curricular perspectives

Cross-curricular perspectives are a valuable part of learning. Making connections between subjects, skills and other dimensions creates coherence for learners, and increases motivation and engagement for teachers and students alike.

For example, Cambridge IGCSE Global Perspectives complements existing subject-based syllabuses, encourages creativity and critical thinking, and promotes a joined-up view of the world.



## Cambridge IGCSE subjects

Regularly updated and extended, Cambridge IGCSE provides you with a wide range of well-resourced and supported courses.

### Cambridge English language and literature

Cambridge IGCSE English syllabuses are available for learners whose first language is English and for those with good English skills, but who are not native speakers. The syllabuses develop the ability to communicate clearly, accurately and effectively in both speech and writing, for study and employment.

English – First Language

English – Second Language

English – Literature

World Literature

### Cambridge mathematics

An essential subject for all learners, Cambridge IGCSE mathematics syllabuses encourage the development of mathematical knowledge as a key life skill, and as a basis for more advanced study.

Mathematics

Mathematics – Additional

International Mathematics

### Cambridge sciences

Students learn how science is studied and practised, and become aware that the results of scientific research can have both good and bad effects on individuals, communities and the environment.

Agriculture

Biology

Chemistry

Environmental Management

Physical Science

Physics

Science – Combined

Science – Co-ordinated  
(Double award)





## Cambridge languages

Cambridge offers a wide range of language syllabuses, including first, second and foreign language options. Learners are encouraged to enjoy and appreciate the variety of language, and to understand and respond appropriately to what they read and hear.

### First language

Afrikaans  
Arabic  
Bahasa Indonesia  
Chinese  
Czech  
Dutch  
French  
German  
Japanese  
Korean  
Portuguese  
Russian  
Spanish  
Thai  
Turkish

### Foreign language

Arabic  
Dutch  
French  
German  
Greek  
Indonesian  
Italian  
Japanese  
Malay  
Mandarin Chinese  
Portuguese  
Spanish  
Spanish – Literature

### Second language

Afrikaans  
Chinese  
Hindi  
IsiZulu  
Kazakh

## Cambridge humanities and social sciences

The study of Cambridge IGCSE humanities and social sciences subjects enables learners to gain a deeper insight into the different communities and cultures that exist around the world.

Bangladesh Studies  
Development Studies  
Economics  
Geography  
Global Perspectives  
History  
India Studies  
Islamiyat  
Latin  
Pakistan Studies  
Religious Studies  
Sociology

## Cambridge business, technical and creative

These Cambridge IGCSE subjects introduce learners to the theory and concepts that underpin the subjects as well as providing a good opportunity to engage with the subject practically. The syllabuses provide both a solid foundation for further study at Cambridge International A Level, and an ideal preparation for the world of work and other studies.

Accounting  
Art & Design  
Business Studies  
Child Development  
Computer Science  
Design & Technology  
Drama  
Enterprise  
Food & Nutrition  
Information & Communication Technology  
Music  
Physical Education  
Travel & Tourism

“ While studying Cambridge IGCSE and Cambridge International A Levels, students broaden their horizons through a global perspective and develop a lasting passion for learning. ”

Zhai Xiaoning, Deputy Principal, The High School Affiliated to Renmin University of China

Resources for teachers of Cambridge IGCSE	
Syllabuses	✓
Syllabus and support DVD	✓
Teacher guides and/or schemes of work	✓
Textbooks and resources from publishers	✓
Listening CDs (languages only)	✓
Vocabulary and defined content booklets (languages only)	✓
Training – face-to-face and online	✓
Coursework training handbooks	✓
Teacher Support – secure support site	✓
Subject communities and discussion forums	✓
‘Examiner Feedback’ online question and answer sessions	✓
Online help – frequently asked questions <a href="http://www.cie.org.uk/help">www.cie.org.uk/help</a>	✓
Past/specimen question papers	✓
Mark schemes	✓
Examiner reports	✓
Example candidate responses (standards booklets)	✓
For more details of the support we offer to schools, see page 10.	

## Classroom support for teachers and learners

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



## Our qualifications

### University recognition

Many universities worldwide require a combination of Cambridge International A Levels and Cambridge IGCSEs to meet their entry requirements. For example, leading US and Canadian universities require Cambridge International AS & A Levels, but some US and Canadian colleges and universities will accept learners with five Cambridge IGCSEs at grade C or above.

In the UK, Cambridge IGCSE is accepted as equivalent to the GCSE. Many UK universities look at Cambridge IGCSE grades, as well as predicted grades for Cambridge International A Level, when making admissions decisions.

It is essential that your students can communicate effectively in English and are able to do so in an academic environment. Cambridge IGCSE

English language qualifications are recognised by a good number of UK universities as evidence of English language competency for university study. It is advisable to check the English language requirements of each university students are interested in applying to, before making any applications.

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)

### Assessment

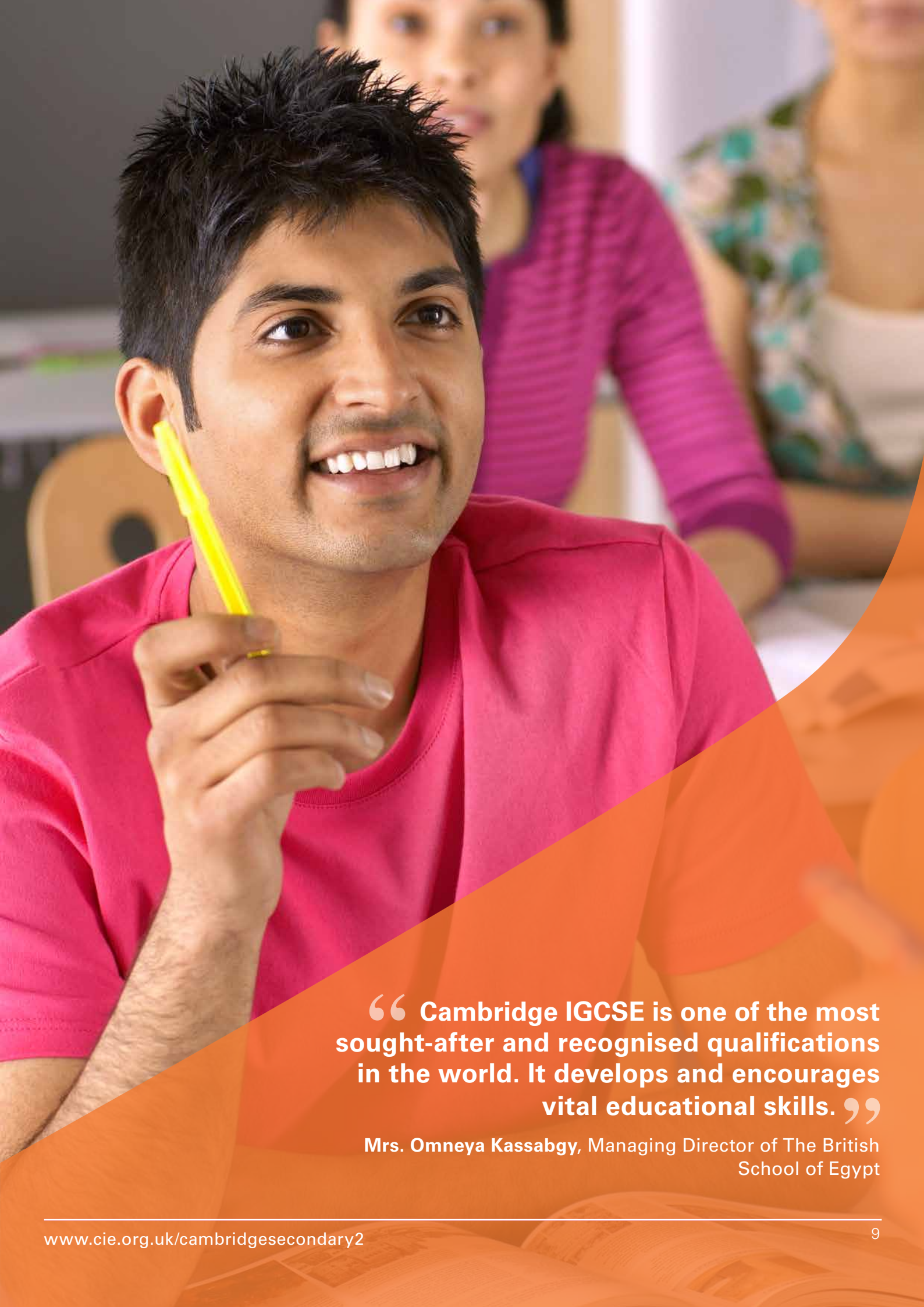
Assessment takes place at the end of the course and gives you options to suit your learners, including written, oral, coursework and practical assessment. This broadens opportunities for students to

demonstrate their learning, particularly when their first language is not English. With a tiered structure in many subjects for different ability levels, learners of all abilities are assessed positively and bright individuals have the chance to excel. The grades awarded at Cambridge IGCSE are A\*–G, with A\* being the highest.

### Group awards

Cambridge ICE is a group award for Cambridge IGCSE, particularly popular in the US and South America. It allows you to offer a broad and balanced curriculum by recognising the achievements of learners who pass examinations in at least seven subjects, including two languages, and one subject from each of the other subject groups: humanities and social sciences, sciences, mathematics, and creative, technical and vocational.





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**Mrs. Omneya Kassabgy, Managing Director of The British School of Egypt**

# Support for Cambridge teachers

We offer a wide range of support resources to help teachers plan and deliver our programmes and qualifications.

## Secure online support

We offer free, secure online support to Cambridge teachers.

### Teacher Support

An online resource bank and community forum where teachers can access thousands of Cambridge support resources, exchange lesson ideas and materials, and join subject-specific discussion forums.

### Assessment tools

We provide dedicated online support to schools registered to offer Cambridge Primary and Cambridge Secondary 1. Teachers can download Progression Tests and use results analysis tools to monitor learners' progress.



### Examiner Feedback presentations

Our pre-recorded examiner feedback presentations give:

- feedback on the key themes in the principal examiner report
- suggestions on how to put the feedback into practice
- top tips to help develop new teaching methods.

## Teaching resources

Our teaching and learning resources help teachers plan and deliver Cambridge programmes.

### Syllabus (or curriculum framework)

The most important documents teachers will use. They describe what learners need to know, what they must be able to do, and how they will be assessed.

### Schemes of work

A medium-term plan that gives ideas on how teachers might deliver the course.

### Teacher guides

Some subjects have teacher guides which provide extra guidance on planning and teaching.

### Textbooks and publisher resources

We publish lists of resources to support teaching, including textbooks and websites. Some of these resources are endorsed by Cambridge International Examinations, which means we have quality checked them and judge them to match the syllabus well.

### Example candidate responses (standards booklets)

Real candidate answers are shown alongside examiner comments so teachers can see the level of performance needed to achieve each grade.





## Exam preparation materials

We provide information after each exam series to help teachers understand the standard of Cambridge exams and prepare learners effectively.

### Past question papers

We publish past papers for each subject. Great for giving learners practice at answering different types of question.

### Examiner reports

Our principal examiners write detailed reports describing learners' overall performance on each part of the question. The reports give insight into common misconceptions shown by learners, which teachers can address in lessons.

### Grade thresholds

These show the minimum number of marks learners needed to achieve in order to be awarded a particular grade.

### Mark schemes

These help teachers understand how marks are awarded for each question and what examiners look for when they mark.



## Professional development

Our comprehensive professional development programme includes training courses and qualifications for teachers and school leaders at different stages of their careers.

Cambridge Professional Development includes Introductory Training, Extension Training and Enrichment Professional Development.

Our aim is to help Cambridge schools improve the quality of teaching and learning. We work with teachers and school leaders to build confidence in teaching Cambridge qualifications and transform classroom practice.

We hold face-to-face training workshops around the world, as well as webinars and online training.

### Cambridge Professional Development Qualifications

We provide qualifications for teachers and trainers who want to develop their thinking and practice. Find out more from our website at [www.cie.org.uk/pdq](http://www.cie.org.uk/pdq)





## Join the Cambridge community

Join our community and be part of a global network of more than 10 000 schools in over 160 countries.

When you become a Cambridge school, you join a worldwide education community. Our range of activities includes community events for Cambridge school leaders and heads of department, professional development events including our annual Cambridge Schools Conference, workshops with

Cambridge experts where you can learn at your own pace, and online 'Examiner Feedback' question and answer sessions. You have free and unlimited access to Teacher Support, our secure online support for Cambridge teachers where you can share resources and ideas, get access to Cambridge experts and explore

discussion forums. You can also use our LinkedIn group to network with Cambridge teachers.

Learners have access to online resources such as study guides and sample questions. We also have a Facebook page where learners can take part in debate, with Cambridge and with each other.

**“ Delegates at Cambridge Schools Conferences start to work in harmony, facing similar problems and seeking the same solutions. ”**

Muhammed Eissa, Principal/Academic Supervisor, Al Khandaq International Schools, Saudi Arabia



# What next?

If you would like to take Cambridge programmes and qualifications, and are already a Cambridge school, please contact us – our 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

There are four steps to becoming a Cambridge school:



### Step one: Express your interest

We aim to contact you within two working days of submitting your expression of interest.



### Step two: Complete our Application Form

We aim to contact you within five working days of submitting your *Application Form*.



### Step three: We carry out an approval visit

We will arrange a time that is convenient to you.



### Step four: You become a Cambridge school

If you are approved to become a Cambridge school we will send your contract letter within 30 working days of the approval visit.

You can find more information at [www.cie.org.uk/startcambridge](http://www.cie.org.uk/startcambridge)

## Start working with us

On completing the registration process, we will send you a *Welcome to Cambridge* pack. This contains a wide 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.

## Teaching and learning

Our website provides resources to support teaching and learning in your school. The resources explore different aspects of educational practice, from designing a curriculum to improving the quality of classroom activity. More details at [www.cie.org.uk/teaching-and-learning](http://www.cie.org.uk/teaching-and-learning)

## Fees

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

## Communications support

The communications toolkit on our website is full of materials to help schools explain Cambridge programmes to parents, students and others.

The toolkit includes factsheets, posters, presentations, videos and press releases. Registered Cambridge schools can also find our logo here, together with guidelines about how to use it.

Just go to [www.cie.org.uk/toolkit](http://www.cie.org.uk/toolkit)

## Administration support

You will be able to use CIE Direct, our online tool for exams officers, 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 is on your mind. We are pleased to say that our customer service is rated as the best in its class.

### Learn more!

Getting in touch with Cambridge is easy:  
Email: [info@cie.org.uk](mailto:info@cie.org.uk) Call: +44 1223 553554  
Visit: [www.cie.org.uk](http://www.cie.org.uk)

### Sign up for email alerts

For the latest updates on our new products and services – and to sign up for email alerts – go to [www.cie.org.uk/new](http://www.cie.org.uk/new)



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