

# IGCSE PROGRAM BRIEF



**Verdala**  
INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

Students in 9th and 10th grades at Verdala International School are enrolled in the two-year International General Certificate of Secondary Education (IGCSE) programme. VIS is an authorized testing centre for both the Cambridge International Examinations and the Pearson Edexcel examination boards.

We strive to ensure that all of our students become knowledgeable, inquisitive and ethical contributors to our world.

## Knowledgeable

Students at VIS have an understanding of concepts, ideas and issues across a broad range of disciplines with global and local significance.

## Inquisitive

Students at VIS participate in their learning by exploring a variety of situations with courage and an open mind. They are reflective and appreciate diverse points of view.

## Ethical

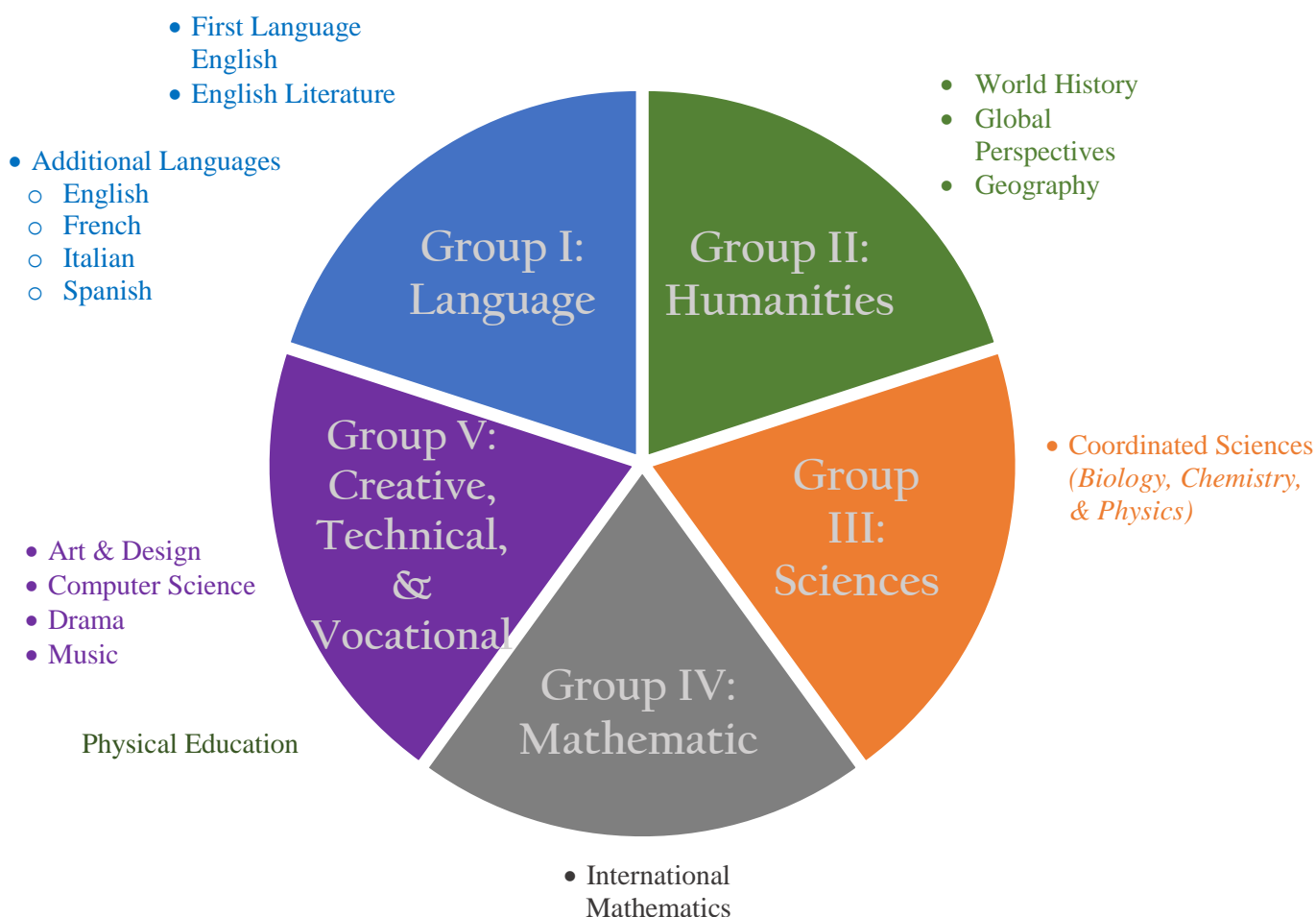
Students at VIS act with integrity and honesty. They demonstrate a strong sense of justice and fairness by respecting individuals, communities and the environment.

## Contributors

Students at VIS actively pursue opportunities to contribute responsibly to their local and global communities.

## COURSE OFFERINGS

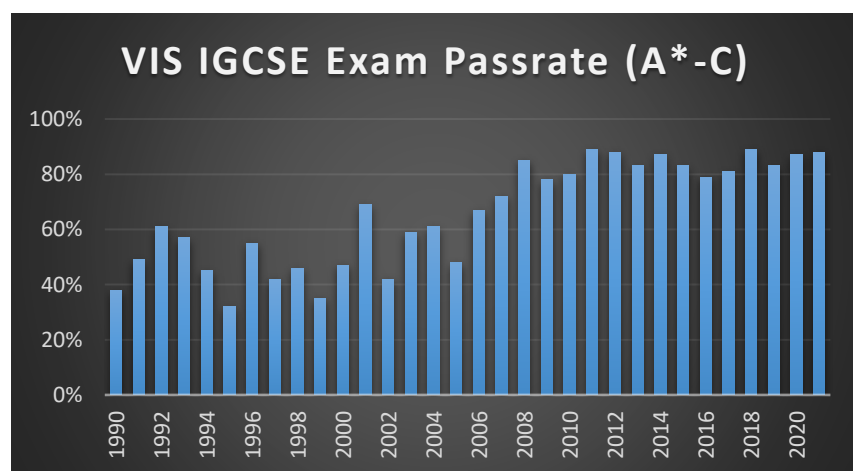
Verdala International School is committed to providing students with a wide range of courses that will lay a solid foundation for later entry into the school's International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme. Our school's current course offerings include:



Students in our IGCSE Programme are expected to take one course in each Groups II, III, IV, and V; and two subjects in Group I (one English course and one Additional Language). The Combined Sciences course is a Double Award subject. The Group 1: First Language & Literature English course is taught as two subjects in one course. Lastly, all Grade 9 and 10 students have Physical Education as a subject, but it is not an IGCSE course subject. In Group V, Art & Design and Computer Science are a part of Pearson Edexcel International GCSE, separate from Cambridge International Education.

## ACADEMIC RESULTS

Verdala International School is an open enrolment school, catering to students with a wide range of abilities and backgrounds; students in the VIS High School hold passports from over forty different countries and use over twenty native languages on campus. In order to cater for the highly heterogeneous nature of our student population, each examination candidate is set his or her own personal targets that are designed to reasonably push the student to achieve at his or her own full potential. Verdala is proud of its record of student achievement, with IGCSE candidates regularly performing above world standards in their subject areas. In the most recent examination session (June 2021), 88% of students achieved A\* to C grades in the subjects they took. June 2018 saw the school's highest IGCSE pass rate in history, with 89%.



Verdala International School's IGCSE students regularly perform above world averages, with students scoring above their global peers in the A\* to C range for all subjects examined. We are an inclusive High School Programme that encourages all students to sit for examination, regardless of their academic strengths and weaknesses. Our challenging two year IGCSE Program prepares learners for the rigours International Baccalaureate Diploma Program in Grades 11 and 12.

## CREATIVE SERVICE IN THE IGCSE PROGRAMME

Students develop awareness of the needs in VIS and Malta's community; and address those needs through service and experiential learning in the Creative Service in IG Project (CSIG). Learners participate in a sustained and in-depth inquiry, leading to service as action in their community. They will be able to demonstrate confidence in working with information and ideas – their own and those of others, responsibility for themselves - as well as a responsiveness to and respect of others, innovation and being equipped for new/future challenges, and intellectual and social engagement.

### Aims of Gr 9 Collaborative Service Project

- \* Students develop awareness of the needs in VIS & Malta's community; and address those needs through service and experiential learning.
- \* Students participate in a sustained and in-depth inquiry, leading to service as action in the community.

### Aims of Gr 10 Personal Project

- \* Students will plan, take action, reflect, and produce an outcome to their own original project.
- \* The Personal Project aims to teach Grade 10 students how to create and participate in a long-term project as preparation for IBDP Extended Essay and Creativity, Action, & Service.
- \* The VIS Personal Project was piloted in April 2020.

## ADDITIONAL COMPONENTS

Additional unique components to the IGCSE Programme at Verdala are the incorporation of weekly sessions in Advisory and PSHE (Physical, Social, and Health Education). Advisory sessions allow opportunities for students to improve study skills, organization, critical thinking and additional approaches to learning that strengthen their academic and mental well-being in High School. Our PSHE course focused on developing young learners' social and emotional health.