

ICS Frequently Asked Questions: General



Which curriculum does ICS follow?

ICS broadly follows the English National Curriculum (ENC), modifying where possible for our local and international context. In Primary, we build on the most recent curriculum version, and enhance it with the best of international practice. We ensure that our curriculum is appropriate when considering our local and international context and the needs of our students as learners. There are multiple options available for students in Year 10 and above, and they are able to select courses which follow the (I)GCSE and BTEC specification.

For curriculum-related questions in Primary, contact Melanie Greenwood, Deputy Head of Primary at m.greenwood@ics.edu.jo.

For curriculum-related questions in Secondary, contact Emma Darwood, Deputy Head of Secondary at e.darwood@ics.edu.jo.



How many nationalities make up the ICS community?

We have around 60 nationalities across the school, and are very proud to genuinely offer diversity with #theworldinoneclassroom.



How long is the bus ride from ICS?

Depending on where you live, the number of stops and the route, the bus ride can take from 30 minutes up to an hour and a half. We have a real-time bus tracking system that can be installed on your mobile in order for you to see where your child's bus is on their journey.

For more information, contact Mazen Abdalla at m.abdalla@ics.edu.jo.



What do I need to send to school with my child?

Usually, students bring with them a lunch, a reading book, reading diaries (provided), a water bottle and an outdoor jacket or coat that is showerproof and warm and labelled with the child's name for break times (we do go out to play in the cold - wind and light rain.) A backpack is preferred as your child's school bag. If your child's lunch bag can fit in their backpack, this will help ensure it doesn't get lost. If anything else is required, communication will be sent home. If you would like to purchase a school lunch from the canteen, please ensure that you fill out the canteen form sent home, via engage, each Tuesday.

In Secondary, we would like all students to bring a small backpack with them to school which will contain their lunch or lunch money, their pencil case and, if they have one, their device.



Can my Early Years child wear a diaper?

Before enrolling in the Early Years programme, children must be fully potty trained. Children may not be in diapers and must be able to independently use the bathroom.



Are there naps in Early Years?

Quiet time is built into the EY curriculum and children can nap if they need it.



Does the school provide stationery and school supplies for the students?

In the Primary school, students are provided with the materials they will need to complete class work, including pencils and writing utensils; we ask that from Year 3 upwards, you kindly provide an empty pencil case for your child to bring to school. If you'd like to provide any extra writing utensils, feel free to send them.

In Secondary, we ask all students to bring their own stationery with them to school.



In which year group do exams begin?

We are a school that believes learning is ongoing and organic, and the more that students can own and manage this process, the better; this philosophy limits the amount of regular testing and assessments. However, we work closely with GL Education, the world's leading provider of assessment tools, to help ensure that student achievement, progress and wellbeing are measured against an external benchmark.

In Primary, Year 2 and upwards complete a Maths test and an English test once a year, at the end of the year, to assess the curriculum areas they have covered and inform their next teacher of any necessary revision areas. The results of these assessments are used by teachers to inform their planning and should not be a source of stress or anxiety. These end-of-year tests continue in Years 7-9, until the (I)GCSE programme begins in Year 10.

Also in Secondary, students undergo regular 'learning

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reviews' across all subjects; again intended to be formative and informal. These give students ownership of their achievement and progress. Formal 'mock' examinations take place in Term 2 of Year 11 and Year 13 in preparation for the (I)GCSE and A Level examinations. In some cases, we will also assess children on entry during the first couple of weeks and in addition to the overall admissions tests, as this helps inform our planning to cater for your child's needs.



From what age will students use tablets or devices?

The school is in the process of rolling out a Device Within Reach (DWR) policy. Students of all ages have access to devices and technology as age appropriate. Primary students are not allowed to bring mobile phones to school.

In Secondary, phones and devices are permitted around school. Students in Years 10 and above will often bring a laptop with them, especially in the 6th Form, where its use will become increasingly important.

For device-related questions in Primary, contact Melanie Greenwood, Deputy Head of Primary at m.greenwood@ics.edu.jo.

For device-related questions in Secondary, contact Emma Darwood, Deputy Head of Secondary at e.darwood@ics.edu.jo.



What is Challenge Hour?

Within the current context of COVID-19, we are unable to offer Challenge Hour, however, as government guidelines change and adapt, we will consider reintroducing this multi-age learning time.



How many breaks are there in Primary, and what are the activities available during break time?

An online learning day is often more intense than a regular school day and our timetable reflects the need for frequent short breaks as well as longer breaks to enjoy a snack or lunch. During an online learning day, there are short screen breaks between lessons for students to stretch, move and refresh before starting again. Primary students have a 30 minute break from 10.05-10.35 and a lunch break from 12.40-1.20. The timetable for each class is available in their Google classroom, with suggestions for what to do each break.



What are the breaks in Secondary?

Secondary students have a break during the morning (10.05-10.35) and another at lunchtime (12.40-1.15). Each year group has a designated area for their breaks, allowing for one indoor and one outdoor space each day, unless there is extreme weather where they will remain indoors for both breaks. Students can visit the canteen to purchase a lunch pack and then take it to their year group space. Students wear masks when they are not eating and are always encouraged to maintain physical distancing whilst interacting with their peers.



Are there any school clubs, sports teams or afterschool activities?

As per the guidelines set by the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Education, we will not be running any clubs or afterschool activities until further notice. When this changes, all parents will be informed of their options.



How can I support my child at home/after school?

Parent involvement is essential to the growth of your child in education. We encourage you to communicate with your child's class teacher(s) individually to talk about ways to support your child based on their in-class learning. Appointments can be made via email.

We hold three Family Teacher Conferences (FTCs) a year where parents are able to discuss their child's progress with their teacher. Unlike many schools, our teachers are easy to get in touch with via Engage. Online parent workshops are offered, providing many opportunities for you to find out more about your child's education.

Frequently Asked Questions: COVID-19



Do children have to wear masks?

All staff and children from Year 1 and older are required to wear masks while entering and leaving school, and while moving between common areas. Each year group will be assigned a pod and each pod will have designated areas around school for break times to minimise contact between students.

When children are in their pods and in classes they are not required to wear a mask but any visiting adults such as learning support assistants will wear masks when in the classroom.



Will lunches be provided during the school day?

Prepackaged lunches will be available to students either in their year group lunch areas (Years 1-6), or for pick up in the Canteen (Secondary). Lunches will include a sub-style sandwich, a piece of fruit and a juice pack; lunches are priced at 2 JOD. Both vegetarian and non-vegetarian options are available. Lunch packages in Primary need to be ordered in advance through a Google form and payment should be submitted for the week each Sunday morning. The correct amount of money should be sent to your child's class teacher in a labelled envelope. Students who order from the canteen will still need to bring a snack from home for the first break.



What are the school clinic and isolation areas?

We have added another clinic within the Primary area to deal with normal symptoms linked to everyday school activities such as cuts, bruises, etc. The current clinic will be isolated for any students who exhibit symptoms listed by the MOH, including fever, cough, and shortness of breath.



What time does school start and finish?

Schools have adjusted their timing and after school activity according to the guidelines set by the MOH and MOE. The school day begins at 7:45am and ends for all students at 2.15pm. There will be no after school activities or clubs until further notice.

Staff are stationed throughout the school during the beginning and end of each school day to ensure proper physical distancing procedures are practised.



What are the sanitation procedures for the school?

The entire school will be completely sanitized at the end of each day, no students are allowed to stay after 2.15pm and no staff are allowed to stay after 3.30pm to

enable the cleaning staff to thoroughly clean the campus.

To read more information regarding sterilization and cleaning, [click here](#).

For more information regarding Primary physical distancing protocols, [click here](#).

For more information regarding Secondary physical distancing protocols, [click here](#).

For more general healthy and safety protocol information, contact Mr. Amer Qtashat, Health, Safety and Security Manager at a.qtashat@ics.edu.jo.



What if my child cannot physically attend campus?

Online learning will be provided for children abroad or for families in quarantine. As staff will be teaching in school for the majority of students, teachers will endeavor to support and provide feedback as necessary outside lesson time, but will not be able to provide "real time" support during lesson time. Please note that the current online provision is intended as a short term measure for students temporarily unable to be on campus.

ICS Frequently Asked Questions: Admissions



Can I take a school tour?

ICS has an [online 360 tour](#) so you can visit our campus even if you're abroad or unable to come to the school. If visitors are allowed on campus, you can also arrange to book a school tour through our Admissions Office at admissions@ics.edu.jo and they will arrange for the appropriate member of the academic staff to give you a comprehensive tour around the campus, highlighting the year groups and curriculum specifics that will be most important to your family.



What are the fees for the bus transportation?

Where parents would like to make use of the school bus service, a non-refundable bus fee is paid either by cash in advance for the whole year, or at the beginning of each term. Registering for a bus route can be done by contacting Mazen Abdalla, the Head of Transportation, at m.abdalla@ics.edu.jo.

One-Way: JOD 311 Per Student, Per Term

Round-Trip: JOD 430 Per Student, Per Term



Who can I contact if I have any other questions?

You can contact the school by phone at 06 4790666 and dial the appropriate extension:

Admissions: 1301 or 1100

Finance: 1056 or 1081

Primary: 1043

Secondary: 1110

or send an email to:

Admissions: admissions@ics.edu.jo

Finance: General Enquiries - d.zuhdi@ics.edu.jo; Fees - fees@ics.edu.jo

Primary: m.alnahhas@ics.edu.jo

Secondary: h.qulaghassi@ics.edu.jo

Inclusion: Inclusion Cases - m.lee@ics.edu.jo; General Inclusion Enquiries - m.alnahhas@ics.edu.jo

You can also submit an enquiry through our website at www.ics.edu.jo/contact-admission, we are happy to answer any questions you may have.



What documents do I need to provide upon application?

- Applicants are requested to provide:
 - One recent passport photograph of the children (actual photo or scanned copy)
- A copy of children and parents' valid passport
- The child's academic school reports (previous 3 years)
- Reference form to be filled by most recent previous school
- Copy of your children's immunisation records



What happens after I provide all the documentation required?

After submitting the above documents, children will be invited to complete the CAT4 assessment (for Years 2-13) along with any required progress test.

Upon the completion of the assessments, the Admissions Officer will arrange for a Skype/Zoom interview with the appropriate Head of School. If the application has no additional conditions, you will receive a final decision via email and confirmed via phone call by the Admissions team.



What if my child needs additional support academically or otherwise?

If it is expressed that your child may need additional support, the Head of Inclusion, Matthew Lee, will discuss options with your family after submitting the related reports to the Admissions Office following your interview with the Head of School. To reach out to Matthew directly with any Inclusion-related questions, you can email him at m.lee@ics.edu.jo.



How do I enrol my child at ICS?

To begin the admissions process, you must first submit an application online [on our website](#) using Google Chrome.

For more information about enrolment, feel free to contact Admissions at: admissions@ics.edu.jo, or call 06 4790666 and dial extension 1100.

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