



ISCT High School FAQs

What are my child's language choices in High School?

From Year 7, students choose between French, Afrikaans or Spanish for their second language. This second language choice continues through to the end of IGCSE (mid Year 11) at the earliest or further if they wish to take it to A level.

My child is a South African citizen. Does he/she have to do Afrikaans?

All students writing foreign examinations are considered under immigrant status, which means that they do not need an official South African language as a second language. They do need a second language to at least IGCSE level.

If they revert to the South African schooling system please bear in mind they will need a second South African language.

How do the IGCSE and A levels work?

IGCSE (International General Certificate of Secondary Education) is an external exam administered by University of Cambridge International Examinations (CIE). It was developed as an international alternative to the GCSEs in the UK and is the world's most popular international qualification for 14-16 year olds. The 'I' indicates 'International'.

- It is usually a 2 year course, covering Year 10 and Year 11. At ISCT, we have successfully shortened it to 18 months, starting in January of Year 10, being written off in May of Year 11.
- Between 7 and 9 subjects are chosen from subject groupings which vary from year to year, depending on demand from the students
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A levels comprise 2 parts: AS and A2 (usually spoken of as 'A levels')

- AS levels Start in August of Year 11 and is written off in November of Year 12.
 - Students take 4 subjects. This subject choice is made with reference to personal preference as well as IGCSE results and subjects offered by ISCT.
 - In South Africa, the AS level (i.e. 12 years of schooling) is sufficient for a Matric Exemption, which is needed to study further at University.
- A levels (A2)
 - Students usually take only 3 subjects
 - The full A levels (As and A2) are required to study in the UK and most other countries.
 - A2 runs from January to November of Year 13.

How does my child get a Matric Exemption?

Please visit our website www.isct.co.za and look under ACADEMIC – ISCT AND TERTIARY EDUCATION for detailed information about this. A matric exemption or 'Bachelors' Pass' is possible with the correct number of subjects and subject levels.