



Braeburn Dar es Salaam International School



**Key Stage 4
Option Booklet
2022**



Dear parents and students of year 9,

Welcome to this year's options process. From next term you will start your IGCSE courses, this will consist of Mathematics, English Language, English Literature and 6 optional subjects. This booklet contains details of those optional subjects.

Our options evening will give you a chance to understand what will happen in key stage 4 and 5 as well as an opportunity to talk to the teachers who will be delivering the various subjects. You will then be able to go away and discuss your options and complete the form by the:

25th of March

The later you give in your form the less likely it is that we will be able to give you your preferred choices.

If you have any questions please feel free to come and talk to one of us at any time.

Please enjoy our options evening.

Phil Treacher

Headteacher (Secondary)

Making Your Mind Up

Deciding your options can be a very difficult decision. There are a number of factors to consider and sources of information to look at.

Here are some sources that you could look at before making your final decision.

- Reports for Term 1.
- The information obtained during Term 1 and 2 Parents' Teacher Consultations concerning performance in individual subjects.
- The information obtained during Careers activities and careers evening.
- Points raised during PSHE lessons which will be designed to explore and help guide subject choices to suit the strengths of each individual.
- The information to be obtained from taster lessons or talking to the subject teacher (this might be particularly useful for subjects that are new).

We would advise students to choose subjects based on Ability — choose subjects that you are good at, remember you will study these subjects for two years.

Interest — choose subjects that you are interested in, if the subject is new, ask the teacher or do some research.

Enjoyment — pick subjects that you enjoy the most or that are similar to those that you enjoy the most. Remember we all do well at things we enjoy.

Skills — think about what you are good at and what skills you have. Then think about what subjects those skills would suit.

Future career — think about this at the end! Though it is an important consideration, enjoyment, interest and ability to do a subject are more important. If a certain subject is needed for your chosen career and you don't enjoy that subject or are not very good at it then probably that career is not for you.

Don't choose subjects based on:

- What your friends are doing.
- Which teacher is teaching it.
- You think it will be easy.
- It's a good course for a boy/girl to do.
- You didn't really do any research and you are just picking randomly.

Once you have chosen, there will be a short period when you can change but after that you will have to continue with those subjects until the end of year 11. You will not be allowed to "drop" a subject. So make sure you choose carefully!

We are all here to help so if you are unsure then please ask your form tutor, Mr Hopkinson, Mr Turner or Mr Treacher. If you would like some careers advice you can email Alex Manning, the Braeburn Group careers advisor.

alex.manning@braeburn.ac.ke

Good luck!

Contents

Page

6	Art
6	Biology
7	Business Studies
8	Chemistry
9	Computer Science
9	Design Technology: Graphic Products
10	Drama
11	English Language
14	English Literature
15	French
15	Geography
17	History
18	Information and Communication Technology
18	Mathematics
20	Music
20	Physical Education
22	Physics
23	Sociology
23	Swahili

Art

The course covers the use of various mediums, painting, printing and design work and will develop your personal artistic skills and creative thinking

It can then be beneficial for:

- Architecture
- Graphic Design
- Interior Design
- TV & Media - Advertising
- Art-based courses

The exam consists of an eight-hour exam plus six pages of A2 supporting work, full of highly developed drawing ideas. The latter carry a lot of weight towards the final grade.

This exciting project (generally about 20 to 30 well-researched studies) has to be completed within 4-6 weeks.

Biology

Biology is directly relevant to everyday life. It explains the ways in which living organisms (including humans) function from the level of the molecules that make them up to the level of the ecosystems of which they are a part.

Topics

- Characteristics and classification of living organism
- Cell structure and enzymes
- Nutrition
- Transportation
- Respiration, ventilation
- Excretion in humans
- Coordination and response
- Drugs
- Reproduction
- Growth and Development
- Inheritance
- Energy Flow, Food Chains and Food Webs
- Nutrients Cycles
- Human influences on the ecosystem
- Biotechnology and genetic engineering

Assessment

Biology IGCSE has two entry levels: Core and Extended. The papers are as follows:

Paper 1 – Core Multiple Choice 30%

Paper 2 – Extended Multiple Choice 30%

Paper 3 – Core Theory 50%

Paper 4 – Extended Theory 50%

Paper 6 – Alternative to Practical 20%



Careers

Pharmacy, medicine, genetic engineering, nutrition, biochemistry, conservation, environmental monitoring, pollution studies and many more. Alternatively, it may be used as a general qualification to enter courses such as business and law.

Business Studies

Business studies introduce students to the concept of resource scarcity and the Economic Problem. It provides an understanding

of the internal functions of a business such as Production, Marketing, Finance and Communication. Students will study and audit the role played by key stake holders such as customers, the government, the community and pressure groups.

Topics

- Understanding business activity
- People in business
- Marketing

- Operations management
- Financial information and decisions
- External influences on business activity

Assessment

Paper 1 (1hr 30 min) 50%

Short-answer questions and structured/data response questions.

Paper 2 (1hr 30min) 50%

Case study

Chemistry

Chemistry is an exciting subject to

study but one which will also strongly support your understanding of biology, physics, geography, geology and environmental sciences. It is essential for careers in medicine, pharmacy and chemical engineering but has much wider applications to careers such as forensics, food technology, waste management, mining, leisure management and the health and beauty industry.

Topics

- The particulate nature of matter
- Acids, bases and salts
- Experimental technique
- The Periodic Table



- Atoms, elements and compounds
- Metals
- Stoichiometry
- Air and water
- Electricity and chemistry
- Sulfur
- Chemical changes
- Carbonates
- Chemical reactions
- Organic chemistry

Assessment

Chemistry IGCSE has two entry levels, namely Core and Extended.

Paper 1 – Core Multiple Choice
30%

Paper 2 – Extended Multiple
Choice 30%

Paper 3 – Core Theory 50%

Paper 4 – Extended Theory 50%

Paper 6 – Alternative to Practical
20%

Computer Science

The aims of Computer Science are to develop:

Computational thinking, that is thinking about what can be computed and how, and includes consideration of the data required.

Understanding of the main princi-

ples of solving problems by using computers.

Understanding that every computer system is made up of sub-systems, which in turn consist of further sub-systems.

Understanding of the component parts of computer systems and how they interrelate, including software, data, hardware, communications and people.

Skills necessary to apply understanding to solve computer-based problems using a high-level programming language.

Students will cover the following topics using a variety of methods:

Assessment

All candidates take two papers.

1.(Theory) 60%

2.(Practical Problem-solving and Programming) 40%

Design Technology: Graphic Products

The Cambridge IGCSE Design and Technology syllabus enables learners to identify, consider and solve problems through creative thinking, planning and design, and by working with different media, materials and tools. As a result,

learners gain greater technical and design awareness, while developing skills such as initiative, resourcefulness, enquiry and ingenuity. They also develop the communication skills central to design making and evaluation.

Common Content

- Observe need / requirement
- Design brief / specification Identification/ research
- Generation of possible ideas Selection / organisation
- Evaluation Implementation and realisation
- Health and safety
- Initiation and development of ideas and recording data
- Communication of design ideas
- Use of technology in design and making
- Design & technology in society Practical design application
- Environment and sustainability
- Control

Graphic Products

- Formal drawing techniques
- Projections, views and developments
- Presenting and communicating information
- Materials and modelling
- Use of instruments and/or ICT

- Manufacture of graphic products

Assessment

Paper 1. 1 hour 15 minutes Product Design 25%

Component 2 Project 50%

Paper 5 1 hour Graphic Products 25%

Drama

Through practical and theoretical study, learners develop an understanding and enjoyment of drama, developing group and individual skills and studying ways to communicate ideas and feelings to an audience. They learn how to discover the performance possibilities of a text and other stimuli, and devise dramatic material of their own. Learners also develop their performance skills, the demonstration of which will form part of the final assessment.

Assessment

Component 1 2 hours 30 minutes Written examination 40%

Component 2 Coursework 60% 120 marks Candidates submit three pieces of practical work:

- Individual performance based on an extract from a play.
- Group performance based on an extract from a play.
- Group performance based on an original devised piece.

English Language

All students must study English Language.

Assessment

Paper 1 assesses reading skills while 50%

Paper 2 assesses writing skills. 50%

Topics

Students learn a variety of skills. These include:

- Summaries
- Newspaper Articles
- Magazine Articles
- Play scripts
- Short Stories
- Speeches
- Reports
- Creative/Fiction Writing





- Argumentative Essays
- Students are also taught oral and drama skills.

English Literature

All students study English Literature though some may opt not to sit the exam. It is incorporated within the teaching of English as a whole.

Assessment

There are 2 papers.

Paper 1—Two questions on two texts. One poetry and one prose.

50%

Paper 2—Two questions on two drama texts. 50%

Literature could lead to many careers such as Journalism, Media, Law, Teaching, Development Work, International Relations, Counselling, Psychology, and Social Work.

French

The French IGCSE course is designed to develop the ability to speak, read, write and listen in the French language.

We put the emphasis on communication. We organise debates, role-plays, games and group projects on the different topics of the syllabus.

Topics

Unit 1: Everyday activities: Home life and school; Food, health and fitness

Unit 2: Personal and social life: Self, family and personal relationships; Holidays and special occasions

Unit 3: The world around us: Home town and local area; Natural and made environment; People, places and customs

Unit 4: The world of work: Continuing education; Careers and employment; Language and communication in the work place

Unit 5: The international world: Tourism at home and abroad; Life in other countries and communities; World events and issues

Assessment

All candidates take the following four components:

Paper 1: Listening multiple choice
50 minutes 40 marks. 25%

Paper 2: Reading 1 hour 45
marks. 25%

Paper 3: Speaking approximately
15 minutes. Candidates complete
two role plays, a topic presentation/conversation and a general
conversation. 100 marks. 25%

Paper 4: Writing 1 hour. 50 marks.
Externally assessed. 25%

Geography

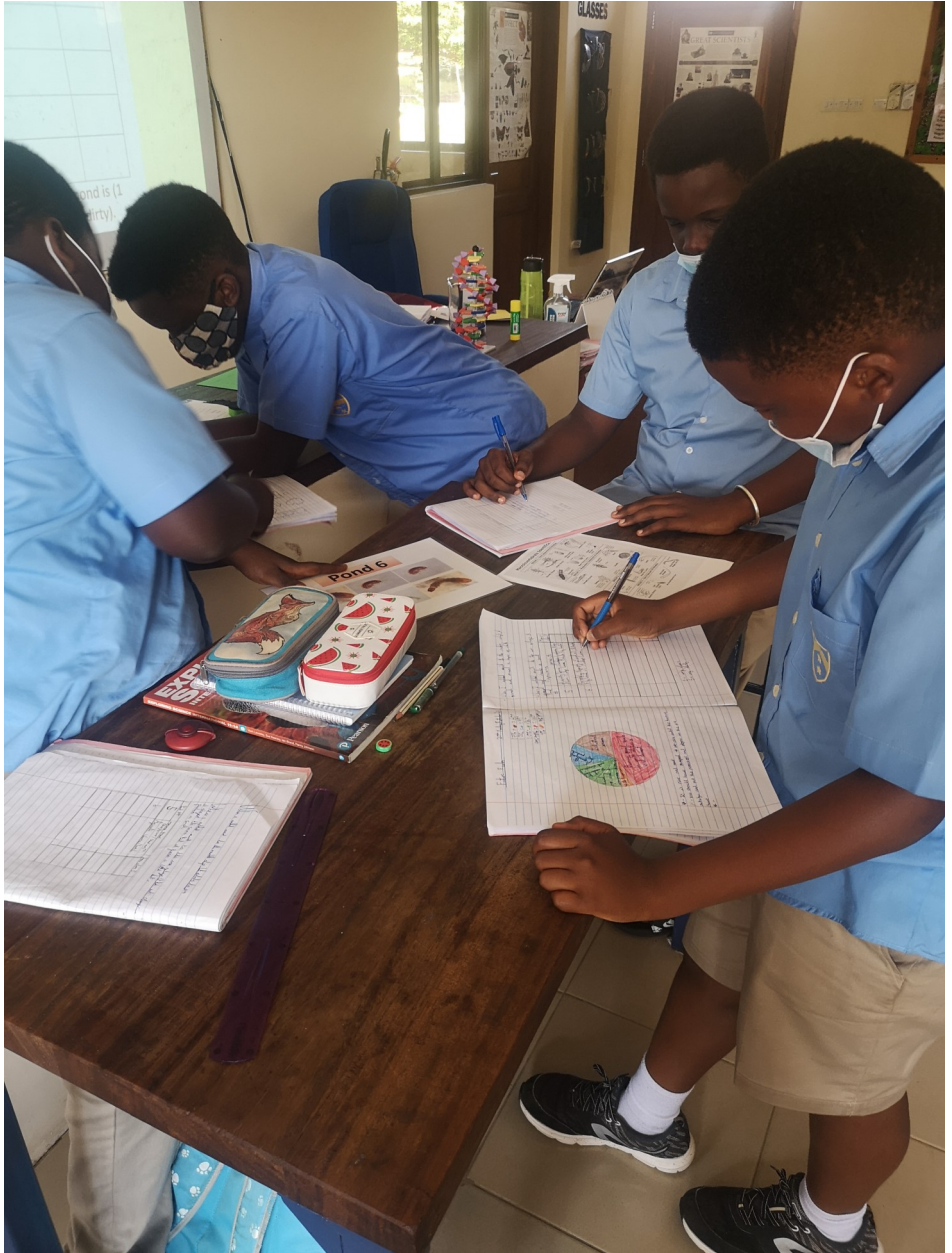
Who should study Geography?

Anyone, especially if you are interested in your environment, current events, countries and people.

The curriculum is divided into three main themes, which are designed to develop an understanding of both the human and natural environment. Geographical techniques are incorporated into all the themes. The main themes are:

- Population and Settlement
- The Natural Environment
- Economic Development and the use of Resources

We study a balance of Human and Physical Geography. This



includes topics like Population & Resource Issues, Settlement, Plate Tectonics, Volcanoes, Earthquakes, Rivers, etc. We also look at Global Issues like Deforestation, Global Warming, and The Greenhouse effect. We also carry out field work.

Assessment

The course is assessed by three exams:

Paper 1: 6 long questions from which you answer 3 questions

Paper 2: 1 map based question and short data response questions: Answer all questions

Paper 4: Questions on geographical techniques e.g. Surveys and questionnaires: Answer all questions

Geography is an important subject for students wishing to pursue careers in environmental conservation, geology, and piloting. It may also be used as a general qualification to enter arts-based courses such as business and law.

History

All students follow the 20th Century Core Content and a Depth Study. There are three exam papers and no coursework.

Core topics

- Why international peace collapsed in 1939.
- Why the democratic powers of Britain and France were unable to prevent the dictators Hitler and Mussolini from launching World War 2.
- The Cold War in Europe and Asia and the tension between the USA and USSR.
- The USA and events in Cuba-1959-62.
- American involvement in Vietnam.
- The USSR's control over Eastern Europe between 1948 and 1990.
- The United Nations as it struggles to define a role for itself as the century closes.

Depth Study

For a Depth Study, we look at Nazi Germany 1933-45. We look at the question, which still intrigues everybody, of how a country like Germany could allow itself to be ruled by Adolf Hitler. The course examines Nazi Party policies on the economy, women and young people. It attempts to analyse what it was like to live under Nazi rule.

History and Possible Future Careers

Students who have followed IGCSE History have built successful careers in the following fields: Law, the Media, Education, the Civil Service, Journalism, Accountancy, Diplomacy and many others.

Information and Communication Technology

Practical Skills

Students should be able to:

- use e-mail and Internet to gather and communicate information.
- use word processing facilities to prepare documents.
- use database facilities to manipulate data to solve problems and represent data graphically
- integrate data from different sources into a single document or report.
- Produce output in a specified format.
- use a spreadsheet to create and test a data model, extracting and summarising data.
- create a structured website with style sheets, tables and hyperlinks.

- Create and control an interactive presentation.

Knowledge and Understanding

- The functions of the main hardware and software components of computer systems.
- The networking of information-processing systems.
- The ways in which information technology is used and the effects of its use.
- The stages and methods of systems analysis and design.
- Computing terminology.

Assessment

All candidates will be entered for Papers 1, 2 and 3

1.(Theory) 40%

2.(Practical A) 30% Document production and data manipulation

3.(Practical B) 30% Data analysis and website authoring

Mathematics

All students must study Mathematics.

Cambridge IGCSE International Mathematics provides a strong foundation of mathematical knowledge both for candidates studying mathematics at a higher

level and those who will require mathematics to support skills in other subjects.

Assessment

There is a choice of Core or Extended examinations.

Extended

Students who take extended are eligible for the award of grades A* to E .

There are two papers.

Paper 2.1 Hour 30mins. (35% weighting). Short answer questions based on the Extended Curriculum.

Paper 4. 2 hours 30mins. (65% weighting). Structured questions based on the Extended Curriculum.

Core

Students who take core are eligible for the award of grades C to G .

There are two papers.

Paper 1.1 hour. (35% weighting). Short answer questions based on the Core Curriculum.

Paper 3. 2 hours. (65% weighting). Structured questions based on the Core Curriculum.



Music

Music is universal. (Imagine a world without music!) Every film, show and radio station is full of it. Music is an international industry, employing millions of people. We human beings are driven to make music as surely as we are driven to speak, to touch, to come closer to other humans. It is a vital subject, and studying it at IGCSE level gives students the chance to learn how to express themselves creatively as individuals.

Listening to music is profoundly human. It lets us touch and understand some of our most complicated feelings. It helps us know who we are, what we want, how to connect with our cultural past and how to be ourselves in the world.

The topics covered for two years both in theory and practical include:

- Playing and making music
- Various styles of music, past and present,
- Forms, devices and techniques of composition
- Harmony
- Selected works and their composers

Assessment

Course work

Composing and performing pieces preferably in a variety of genres or styles.

Examination

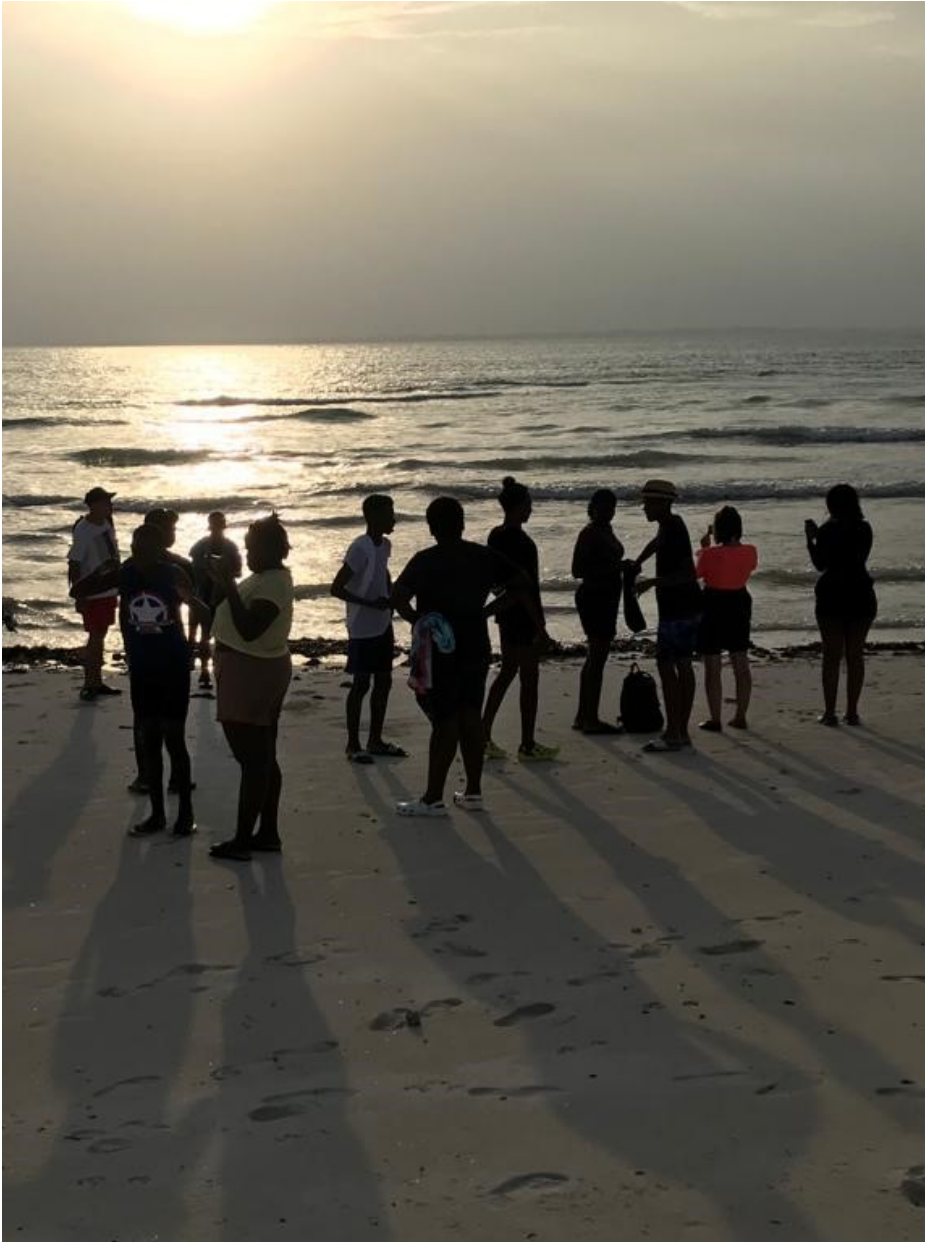
A 2-hour paper with examples of unprepared music (Folk, traditional, world-wide, rock, pop, jazz, classical and contemporary excerpts). And two prepared works: one from classical repertoire and music from one part of the world i.e. African Music.

Physical Education

Taking PE at GCSE is ideal for anyone who enjoys and/or is interested in sport. It involves an in-depth study of the theoretical side of sport, as well as a thorough involvement in practical activities.

Assessment

Coursework 50% - A wide variety of sports are taught, with each candidate being assessed in the four at which they can obtain the highest mark. The assessments are based on the candidate's ability to plan, perform, evaluate, analyse and improve each sport. To this end the students work on skill



development, game play, an understanding of tactics and etiquette, and the application of rules and regulations. It is possible to be assessed in any sporting activity in which the candidate feels competent.

Theory 50% - 1hr 45min examination

There are three major theoretical units:-

- Factors affecting performance.
- Health, safety and training.
- Reasons and opportunities for participation in physical activity.

PE is a good preparation for any further study in Human Biology, Physiology, Sociology, Psychology, Marketing and Management. Additionally, it gives a distinct advantage to anyone intending to follow a career related to sport, its provision, promoting, coaching, teaching and/or management.

Physics

Physics is a challenging, practical-based subject with a significant mathematical content. It has many applications in every-day life and in the world of work.

Topics

- General Physics.
- Thermal Physics.
- Properties of wave including light and sound.
- Electricity and magnetism.
- Atomic Physics.

Assessment

Physics IGCSE has 2 entry levels, namely Core and Extended.

Paper 1 – Core Multiple Choice 30%

Paper 2 – Extended Multiple Choice 30%

Paper 3 – Core Theory 50%

Paper 4 – Extended Theory 50%

Paper 6 – Alternative to Practical 20%

Some Careers for which Physics is essential:

Engineering, Astronomy, Radiography, Geophysics, Piloting, Electrician, Optician, Surveying, Metallurgist, Space Scientist

Some Careers for which Physics is important: Medicine, IT, Pharmacy, Dentistry and Marine Science

Sociology

Through the Cambridge IGCSE Sociology syllabus, learners ex-

plore aspects of social relationships, processes and structures; as a result, they develop a greater understanding of human societies and the role of continuity and change in social life. Learners are encouraged to evaluate critically a variety of different social, economic and political structures, thereby learning more about the sociological method, and developing an ability to assess different forms of information and evidence.

Topics

- Theory and methods
- Culture, identity and socialisation
- Social inequality
- Family
- Education
- Crime, deviance and social control
- Media

Assessment

Paper 1. 2 hours 54% Candidates answer one compulsory data response question and one optional structured question from a choice of two.

Paper 2. 1 hour 45 minutes 46% Candidates answer two optional structured questions from a choice of four.

Swahili

The Kiswahili IGCSE level course is aimed at those pupils who already have a background in formal, written and spoken Swahili.

It is designed to assess students' skill in reading, writing, listening and speaking.

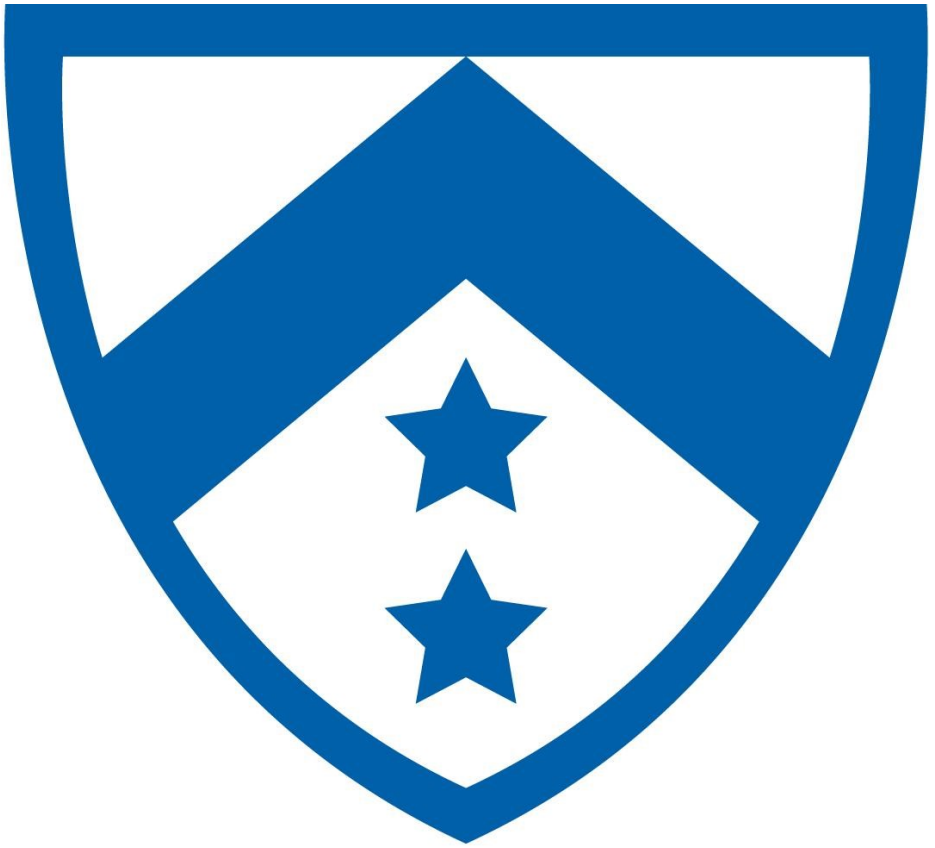
Assessment

Paper 1. Reading and Writing. 2 hours 67% 60 marks

Paper 2 Listening. Approx. 35–45 minutes 33% 30 marks

There is also an optional component:

Component 3 Approx. 10–12 minutes Speaking



Braeburn Schools
S u m m u m A p p e t o