

# SCHOOL PROFILE 2012



## ABOUT ISLAND SCHOOL

Island School is part of the English Schools Foundation (ESF). The ESF makes a vital contribution to Hong Kong by providing high quality and cost effective education through the medium of English. ESF runs 21 schools throughout Hong Kong, with Island School being a founding school in 1967. Island School is an international co-educational comprehensive high school with a roll of approximately 1200 students and over 40 nationalities. As a result our outlook stresses humanitarian and environmental ideals as well as academic excellence. There are no academic barriers for entry apart from the ability to benefit from an education in the medium of English. Our current staff of 90 teachers and 40 ancillary staff are recruited mostly from the UK, but are also of Chinese, Australian and North American origin.

## THE ISLAND SCHOOL CODE

The Island School Code was developed by students in collaboration with teachers so as to enhance every student's experience at school. The code encourages students to: respect the diversity of the school community, be positive role models, take action to support those in need, show respect for others and the environment, be positive about learning and respecting the rights of others to learn in their own way and to take responsibility for their own actions.

## THE ACADEMIC PROGRAM

**Island School offers students two pathways in the final two years of school, Yrs 12-13:  
The majority of students choose the IB Diploma.**

### 1) International Baccalaureate Diploma Pathway (IB)

Students must take the required component parts of the Diploma, namely 6 subjects (First Language, Additional Language, Humanities, Natural Science, Mathematics and Arts subject), and a 'core' constituting a co-curricular programme based around service, i.e. "CAS" (Creativity, Action and Service), a Theory of Knowledge course, and an Extended Essay (self-directed academic research project).

The Diploma is scored out of 45 total points. Each subject is scored 1-7, (7 is high), and The Core (Theory of Knowledge, Creativity Action Service, Extended Essay) is awarded up to 3 marks. A score of 24 points is considered a pass.

#### GRADING

IB Diploma Points score	% of Students Awarded (Globally, May 10)	% of IS Students May 2011
45	0.2	0.9
40-44	5.1	17.6
35-39	16.3	38.8
30-34	28.6	29.6
25-29	25.5	12.0
24	2.4	0.9

### 2) International Applied Diploma Pathway (IAD)

Students following this pathway select subjects accredited by the Business Technological Education Council Higher National Qualifications (BTEC) NPQF Level 3. Students typically take 3 separate BTEC courses at Award level. The BTEC courses are practical based courses with a vocational context to the learning.

Island School offers BTEC courses in Digital Media, Performing Arts, Sport, Business, Travel and Tourism and also AS level Food Technology. Alternatively, students can take one or two BTEC courses and add IB subjects for a broader learning experience. BTEC courses are equivalent to A Levels and are widely accepted university entrance qualifications in the UK. All IAD students must also complete the CAS requirement (IB).

#### GRADING

**BTEC Higher National subjects are graded at Distinction, Merit and Pass levels.**

Grade Level	British Equivalency
Distinction	GCE Advanced Level Grade A or 120 UCAS tariff points
Merit Level	80 UCAS tariff points
Pass	40 UCAS tariff points

## Yrs 10-11

All students follow a two year course preparing them for British GCSE and IGCSE (International GCSE) examinations. This includes compulsory examinable courses in Maths, English, Science and ICT. Students also take four option subjects each occupying 10% of curriculum time plus homework assignments. The choice of option subjects is balanced across the areas of Languages, Humanities, Technological and Creative subjects. The remainder of time is given to Personal, Health and Social Education (PSHE) and Physical Education courses which do not culminate in examinations.

#### GRADING

**Most students will sit NINE G.C.S.E. examinations at the end of Year 11. This is the national post-16 examination of the U.K.**

GCSE Grade	UK Percentage '11	Island School '10
A*	8	26
A	15	24
B	20	29
C	25	15
D, E, F, G, U	32	6

## UNIVERSITY DESTINATIONS 2008-2011

UK	
Warwick	15
Edinburgh	11
Nottingham	11
Durham	10
London School of Economics	10
UCL	9
Bristol	8
Exeter	8
King's College, London	7
Leeds	7
Manchester	7
Bath	6
York	6
Oxford	5
Aberdeen	4
Birmingham	4
Bournemouth	4
Central St. Martins	4
Leeds Metropolitan	4
Liverpool	4
Newcastle	4
Nottingham Trent	4
Oxford Brookes	4
SOAS	4
Southampton	4
U WE	4
Cardiff	3
Imperial College, London	3
Keele	3
Sheffield	3
Bradford	2
European Business School	2
Hull	2
Hull York Medical	2
Leicester	2
London School of Fashion	2
Manchester Metropolitan	2
Portsmouth	2
Reading	2
St. Andrews	2
Aston, Bishop Burton, Cambridge, Chester, De Montfort, Derby, Edinburgh College of Art, (contd.)	1

East Anglia, Essex, Goldsmiths, Hertfordshire, Kent, Kingston, Liverpool Institute of Performing Arts, Loughborough, Northumbria, Queens Belfast, Mary, Regents College London, Royal Holloway, Royal Scottish Academy of Drama, Suffolk, Strathclyde, and U Wales Institute Cardiff

### USA

USC	12
Michigan	4
Northeastern	4
UPenn	4
Brown	3
Emory	3
Bentley	2
Bowdoin	2
Chapman	2
Cornell	2
Fashion Institute of Technology	2
Fordham	2
Illinois	2
UC Irvine	2
UC LA	2
Notre Dame	2
NYU	2
Pace	2
Purdue	2
Swarthmore	2
Washington	2
Wellesley	2
Yale	2
American, Bates, Berkeley College of Music, Buffalo, California College of Arts, Carnegie Mellon, Chaminade, Columbia, George Washington, Georgetown, Georgia Tech, Goucher, Hawaii Pacific, Miami, Mt Holyoake, Northwestern, Ohio Wesleyan, Otis College of Art & Design, Parsons NY, Princeton, Rhode Island School of Design, Richmond, Sarah Lawrence, SCAD, Scripps, Syracuse, U Chicago, Seattle, UC Berkeley, UC Santa Cruz, U San Francisco, Wheaton and Whittier	1

### CANADA

UBC	16
Toronto	12
McGill	4
Western Ontario	3
Carleton	2
Queens	2
York	2
Concordia, Kwantlen Polytechnic, National Theatre School, McMaster, OCAD University, Simon Fraser, Victoria, Waterloo, Wilfred Laurier	1

### HONG KONG

HKUST	16
HKU	7
PolyU	4
CUHK	1

### AUSTRALIA

Melbourne	6
Monash	5
Int'l College of Hotel Management	2
UNSW	2
Sydney University	2
Adelaide University, U of South Australia	1

### EUROPE

Belgium: Katholieke University	1
Ireland: Royal College of Surgeons	2
Spain: Esade Business School	1
Switzerland: Les Roches	6
Franklin College	1
Sweden: Lund University	1
KTH University	1

### ASIA

New Zealand: Canterbury	1
India: Pune	2
Israel: Interdisciplinary Centre	1
Japan: Temple University	1

## ISLAND SCHOOL ENRICHMENT

Island School has some unique features which greatly enrich the student's daily experience and learning. They are:

### CAS Week

CAS week is a valued part of the school curriculum. Each year for one week school is suspended so that all senior students have the opportunity to take part in an activity either in Hong Kong or overseas, which will further their development socially, emotionally or intellectually. Examples of CAS week activities are 'Film & Video in Hong Kong', Trekking in Kathmandu and assisting in a Chinese orphanage. Our younger students all attend camps emphasizing physical challenge and social development.

### The House System

The vertical House System is a great strength of Island School allowing continuity of pastoral care & guidance from entry in Year 7 to leaving in Year 13. The result is a deep understanding of each student's individual strengths and needs, and a close relationship with the student and their parents. Through the House System students are encouraged to engage in the school community with activities such as House charities, Interhouse Sports and other competitions such as Debating. Students are offered opportunities to develop leadership through the House System by taking on roles and responsibilities such as Sports Captains, Prefects, and Mentoring programmes.

### Extracurricular

The School has always had a strong extracurricular program which encourages students to engage in the school community, as well as offering opportunities for leadership. The school has a wide range of sporting, creative and intellectual activities and student involvement is usually very high. Many students take the opportunities to extend their engagement into the wider Hong Kong community through representation at interschool or representative level. As part of the IB CAS requirement senior students would be expected to record their involvement in these activities.

## CONTACTS

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