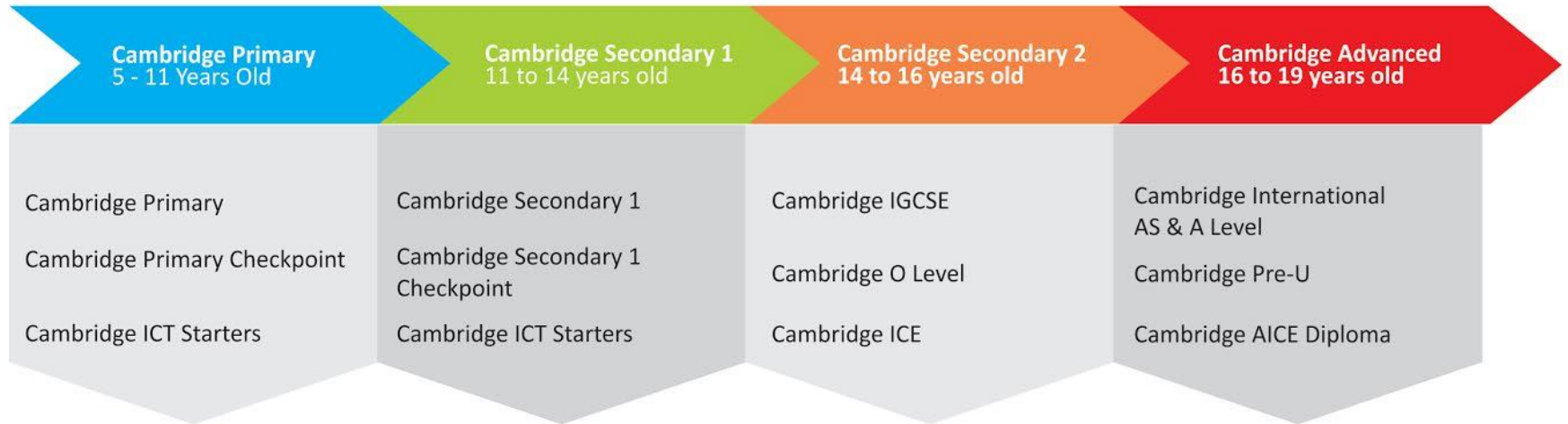


Making Options Choices

A guide...

The Cambridge system



University degree
(Single Subject)



A Levels
(3-4 Subjects)



Year
12 &
13

IGCSE
(8-9 Subjects)



Year
10 &
11

Year
7,8 &
9

Secondary School Curriculum
(All Subjects)



Key moments



Year 9

IGCSE Options



Year 11

A Level Options



HeadStart
International School, Phuket



DT Music

Drama

Business

History

Languages

Art

Geography

PE

+4-5 of...

Maths

English

Science

Maths

Music

Physics

Chemistry

Business

French

History

3-4 of...

Biology

Native Language

Art

Literature

Geography

BA Computer Science



Year
12 &
13



Computing, Maths,
Physics, Business

Year
10 &
11



English, Maths, Science
& ICT, Business, Chinese, History

Year
7,8 &
9



Secondary School Curriculum
(All Subjects)

TO THINK ABOUT...

The subject combinations

- What are your child's plans when they leave school?
- Their enjoyment of / interest in their current subjects
- Their ability in their current subjects
- Interest in a "new" subject?

THINGS TO UNDERSTAND

- Subjects get more difficult at IGCSE and then more difficult again at A Level
- Many subjects cover completely new content (especially new subjects)
- There are many misconceptions about subjects needed for university courses
- Subjects “dropped” are difficult to “pick up” again later on



A TIP: what do universities want?

- Russell Group
- “Facilitating Subjects”
- Maths
- English Literature
- Physics
- Biology
- Chemistry
- Geography
- History
- Languages

UK “style” Universities

- SAT II (Subject Tests)
- English Literature
- History (US & World)
- Languages
- Mathematics
- Biology
- Chemistry
- Physics

US “style” Universities

IF YOUR CHILD HAS A GOOD IDEA ABOUT WHAT THEY WANT TO DO...

● **Compulsory subjects:**

- **Medicine:** Chemistry
- **Engineering:** Physics / Mathematics
- **Economics:** Mathematics
- **Architecture:** Art
- **Computer Science:** Mathematics

● **Useful subjects:**

- **Business:** Mathematics
- **Earth Sciences:** Geography
- **Law:** History
- **Medicine:** a non-science subject
- **Psychology:** Mathematics
- **Politics/Int Rel:** History

IF THEY HAVE NO IDEA!

- Don't panic
- Keep their options open by taking “facilitating subjects”
- These subjects have transferable skills
- Choose subjects your child is good at
- Choose subjects your child enjoys
- There are lots of university courses (and the careers that follow) where it doesn't matter what A Levels you have done:
 - Business / Sociology / Philosophy / Anthropology etc.
 - America / Canada are pretty flexible...

IT'S UP TO YOUR CHILD - but you can help them!

- Help them check subjects necessary for future careers
- Make sure they have read what the subject will involve at IGCSE and A Level - ask them questions to check their understanding
- Be realistic about your child's ability and get teacher opinion on whether these choices are really for them
- Don't make your child do subjects they don't want to do
- If your child does the subjects they enjoy and are good at they will make the right decision

Help them talk through “childish” thinking...

I love (or hate!) the teacher...



My friend is doing...



I've always dreamt about being a vet...



And try and be objective yourself...

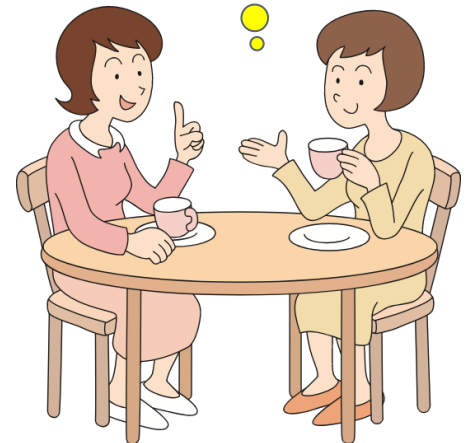
I remember when I was at school...



We are so proud of my nephew the...



Our friends say...



SCHOOL WILL HELP!

- Talks with teachers
- Individual consultation
- PTCs
- Subject Fairs (8th March for A level)
- Make an appointment to see whichever teachers will be useful:
 - Homeroom teacher
 - Subject teachers
 - Heads of Faculty
 - Head of Sixth Form
 - Director of Academics

Next Week!

Thursday 7th March (usual venue - Secondary Hall)

Applying to the UK / Europe



Questions???