The Island School is an international co-educational Years 7 to 13 high school that is part of the English Schools Foundation (ESF). The school is an IB World School and accredited by CIS:WASC.

Island School has a roll of approximately 1100 students, with over 40 nationalities in the student body. As a result, our outlook stresses humanitarian and environmental ideals as well as academic excellence. While many of our teaching and support staff are from the UK, others are from Australia, China, Hong Kong, Japan, Europe, New Zealand and North America.

As a comprehensive entry school, there are no academic barriers to entry apart from the ability to benefit from an education in the medium of English. The school also has a learning support centre (LSC) for students with moderate learning difficulties.

The ESF makes a vital contribution to Hong Kong by providing high-quality education in the medium of English through its 22 schools. Island School is the founding school of the Foundation and one of 7 secondary schools within the group. To find out more about the Foundation and other ESF schools visit www.esf.edu.hk

The Island School Code, developed by students in collaboration with teachers, enhances every student’s experience at school. The school lives by this code and together with the school’s strategic aims for students’ learning, it is central to our structures and operation. The code encourages all in the Island School community 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
- Take responsibility for their own actions

The Diploma is scored out of 45, each subject is worth up to 7 points and the combined mark for Theory of Knowledge and Extended Essay is 3 points. Students must pass CAS requirements but this is not awarded points. A score of 24 points is considered a pass. The school has a high rate of accuracy in predicting IB results. Island School does not predict the core points for students in Year 12. These are predicted in Year 13 as part of a full evaluation of a student’s progress across all subjects following assessments and work submitted in the latter part of Year 12 and in Year 13.
Subjects offered in the Senior Years Academic Programme:

**Humanities and Social Sciences**
- IB HL Business and Management
- IB HL and SL Economics
- BTEC Business (12 credit Diploma and 6 credit Subsidiary Diploma), BTEC Hospitality (Subsidiary Diploma)
- IB HL and SL History, Geography, Philosophy, Psychology

**Science, Mathematics, and Sports Science**
- IB HL and SL Biology, IB HL and SL Physics, HL and SL Chemistry
- IB HL and SL Design Technology
- IB SL Sports Science, BTEC Sports and Exercise Science
- IB HL and SL Mathematics, IB HL Further Mathematics, IB SL Mathematical Studies

**Language Arts**
- Modern foreign languages:
  - English:
    - IB HL and SL English Literature, IB HL and SL English Language and Literature, IB SL English Literature and Performance, HL English Language B

**Creative technologies, Visual Arts, Theatre & Musical Arts**
- Visual Arts:
  - IB HL and SL Visual Arts, BTEC Art and Design (Subsidiary Diploma), BTEC Interactive Media (Subsidiary Diploma)
- Theatre & Musical Arts:
  - IB HL and SL Theatre, IB HL and SL Film, IB HL and SL Music, BTEC Performing Arts (Subsidiary Diploma)

**Assessment at Island School**
Assessment at Island School is about evidence, reflection and discussion. Students provide the evidence to justify a grade or to demonstrate their progress. They reflect on their learning through a logged discussion with the teacher, which results in a grade or plan for the next stage. All assessment is designed to support students knowing where they currently are and where they need to go next. At the end of Year 11 (US grade 10) all students give a viva voce, or oral presentation, and defense of learning. Courses at Island School are either developed by outside bodies, such as the International Baccalaureate Organisation, or designed by our teachers. Every course is assessed but not all courses are graded. Ungraded courses allow for a wider range of outcomes and are often more challenging and deeper than our graded ones. Graded courses have a 1-7 grading scale (7 is high). Final achieved IGCSE grades are included on Year 12 and 13 transcripts. Predicted grades for senior pathway externally assessed courses are included in transcripts as the school’s grades for term 1 and subsequent terms in Year 13. The final transcript for graduating students reflects the externally achieved grades. These are issued post-results in mid-July.
THE MIDDLE YEARS (Years 9 to 11)

Island School students in Years 9 to 11 (US grades 8 to 10) complete a middle years programme called the ‘Island Futures Curriculum’.

This comprises:
- Externally examined IGCSes (Entrance)
- School developed courses (Elements) designed to allow students to learn in a trans-disciplinary, collaborative and self-directed way. Courses stress the mastery across five branches of a skills framework based on communication, collaboration, creativity, conscience and capacity.
- Courses aimed at expanding students’ understanding of world issues, digital literacy, capacity to think critically and to take responsibility for fitness, personal health and well-being (Explorations and Escape)

IGCSEs and Diploma in Applied ICT

Students in Years 10 and 11 of the Island Futures programme work towards eight (8) IGCSEs and an IEA Diploma in Applied ICT. Of these, four are compulsory subjects:

- English Language
- Mathematics
- English: World Literature
- Global Perspectives

Students choose up to four additional IGCSE subjects. They also develop their knowledge and skills through Elements courses, of which they will complete the equivalent of up to eight in a semester-based timetable (65 hours of instruction per semester). Several courses are available as both IGCSE and Elements options. All students complete a compulsory programme in physical education each year throughout high school.

Humanities and Social Sciences

- IGCSes Business, Business Studies, IGCSes Economics, Behavioural Economics
- IGCSes History, History, Social History
- GCSE Geography, Sustainable Environments and Urban Planning, Human and Physical Geography
- GCSE Religious Studies, Philosophy and Cinema
- IGCSes Global Perspectives, Societies and Social Thinking, Society and Popular Culture, Social Psychology, Psychology and Media, Critical Thinking, Law, Plausibility in Fiction, Community Studies

Science, Mathematics, Engineering, Computing and Sports Science

- IGCSE Biology, Biology 1, Biology 2 (advanced), Biology 3 (extension), Marine Biology and Ecology, IGCSE Chemistry, Chemistry 1, Chemistry 2 (advanced), Chemistry 3 (extension), IGCSE Physics, Physics 1, Physics 2 (advanced), Physics 3 (extension), Science History and Methods
- IGCSE Mathematics, IGCSE Further Mathematics, Applied Mathematics, Mathematics with Coding and Number Theory, Practical Mathematics
- IGCSE Engineering
- Sports Science: Outdoor Education, IGCSE Physical Education, Physical Education and Personal Engagement

Language Arts

Modern foreign languages:
- GCSE Japanese, IGCSE French, IGCSE Spanish, IGCSE Chinese (Foreign Language, Second Language & First Language), Independent Language Learning, Cantonese English
- IGCSE English Language, IGCSE English as an Additional Language, IGCSE English: World Literature, Literature studies, Linguistics, Creative Writing, Debating, Literature and Performance, Learning the English Language in Different Contexts

Creative technologies, Visual Arts, Theatre & Musical Arts

- Art and politics, GCSE Art and Design, Visual Art, Visual Communications, Photography
- Dance and Choreography, Contemporary Music, IGCSE Drama, Drama, Film-making, IGCSE Music, Music, Musical Theater, Production Design: Theatre, Production Design: Sound and Light, Production Design: Music, Theatre Studies, Drama and Community Engagement

EXTRA-CURRICULAR

Island school has a strong programme of extracurricular activities (ECAs) that offers students leadership opportunities and encourages them to engage in the school community. The school has a wide range of sporting, creative and intellectual activities and student involvement is very high. Many students extend their engagement into the wider Hong Kong community through representation at interschool representative or national level. Where an ECA is meeting a CAS objective, senior students are expected to record and reflect on their involvement in these activities.

HOUSE SYSTEM

Island School has six Houses. The House System allows continuity of personal care and guidance from entry in Year 7 to leaving in Year 13. The result is a deep understanding of each student’s strengths and needs, and close relationships with students and their parents. Students are encouraged to engage in the school community with activities such as House charities and inter-House competitions. Students are offered opportunities to develop leadership through the House System by taking on roles and responsibilities such as sport captain, prefect and mentor.

Quest Week

Quest week is it valued part of the school curriculum. Each year for one week, school is suspended so that all students have the opportunity to take part in an activity either in Hong Kong or overseas to further their development socially, emotionally or intellectually. Examples of quest week activities are film & video in Hong Kong, trekking in Nepal and assisting in a Chinese orphanage.

Our younger students attend camps that emphasize physical challenge and social development.
STUDENT MATRICULATION

Each graduating cohort applies to between 10 and 15 countries (destinations). This is reflective of both the students’ passports as well as their global outlook.

Students have an application limit of eight (8) applications worldwide. Each university on multi-university application systems such as UCAS and the University of California Application count as one of the eight (i.e. 5 on the UCAS application counts as 5 of the 8). This means that our students research and apply after careful consideration of each application.

All university entrance testing, such as SAT and ACT is completed in students’ own time with no school curriculum support and in addition to the curriculum pathway chosen.

Approximately 98% of each graduating class go on to university

Final destinations for the 152 students who graduated in the 2017 cohort included universities in the top 100 in the world (according to various rankings), as well as many institutions known for their excellence in programmes offered. For all our students, we celebrate student admissions and their majors or degree programmes as a progression that will support them in their future career endeavors beyond Island School and in which their particular talents will be recognized and developed.

The list in page 5 shows universities that have made offers of admission to our students in the class of 2016 and class of 2017.

ISLAND SCHOOL REDEVELOPMENT

Island School is being redeveloped, commencing with the school removing from its present site in Borrett Road, Mid Levels on Hong Kong Island from 15 December 2017. The school will be a split-site school during the redevelopment phase.

The senior students (Years 12 and 13) will be on our Sha Tin Wai Campus. An information set for university visitors can be downloaded from the school website.

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