

Middle School Programme of Studies

2020-2021

Middle School Course Offerings

English

Mathematics

Science

Social Studies

World Languages

1. Mandarin
2. French
3. Urdu

Physical Education/Health&Fitness

Middle School Exploratory Cycle

Middle School Advisory

Middle School Advisory is a proactive and collaborative program that reinforces skills and concepts beyond lesson time. This program is designed to foster a sense of community and close student - staff relationship. All Secondary School students are divided into groups within their grade level and assigned an advisor. Activities and exercises are planned and led by the advisors based on a theme for the quarter, where students learn about important life skills, develop a sense of belonging in school and improve their relationships with peers and adults.

Annual Week Long Classroom Without Walls/Cultural Trips

- Grade 6: Daily field trips are organized during “Classroom Without Walls” to explore different archeological locations and cultures of Lahore and around. These educational trips have been designed to tie up closely our curriculum with ICT, Language Arts, Social Studies, Languages and Pakistan culture-studies, Visual Arts and P.E.
- Grade 7 & 8: Students explore culture and history while participating in an educational trip outside Pakistan. The venue and itinerary are designed to tie up closely our curriculum with ICT, Language Arts, Social Studies, Languages and Pakistan culture-studies, Visual Arts and P.E.

- Art

The **Grade 6 Arts program** offers students the opportunity to make connections with other curricular areas, learn new techniques and skills. The students are encouraged to compare and contrast artworks from different cultures and periods of history. They will study the elements and principles of art and design and consciously use them in their art work. They will work with different two dimensional mediums like pencil, paint, pastels, charcoal and collages. They will also use three dimensional mediums like clay, plaster, wood, yarn and paper Mache.

The **Grade 7 Arts program** offers students the opportunity to discover and understand their world through Art. There is a strong emphasis on developing work skills and making connections through research sharing ideas.

In the first quarter, the students study the elements of art and design, experiment with different drawing and painting mediums and techniques. They research different art movements and artists and their impact on society. This involves exploring art from different cultures.

In the second quarter students experiment with a variety of materials and techniques to develop three dimensional art.

The **Grade 8 arts programme** exposes students to the critical appreciation of art. They research art movements and genres exploring how art and design impact society and vice versa. In the first quarter, the students will explore two dimensional art and design. They will study modern and ancient art movements and understand the purpose of art. In the second quarter they will work with mix- media and three dimensional materials.

Drama

Grade 6 Drama

Students are introduced to the foundation skills and concepts required for Middle School Drama. Practical activities provide an opportunity for exploration of themes, self-expression, and a basic understanding of performance skills. Cooperative group work and evaluative reflection are key concepts of the course. Students will learn to use their voice, posture, body language, gestures, facial expression, actions to portray various characters and roles on stage. Students choreograph dances and sing songs with expression. Students perform in various plays in front of an audience.

Grade 7 Drama

Students are taken to the next stage of the foundation skills and concepts required for Middle School Drama. Practical activities provide an opportunity for exploration of themes,

self-expression, and a basic understanding of performance skills. Cooperative group work and evaluative reflection are key concepts of the course. Students will learn to use their voice, posture, body language, gestures, facial expression, actions to portray various characters and roles on stage. Students choreograph dances and sing songs with expression. Students perform in various plays in front of an audience.

Students develop confidence, fluency, clarity of expression, respect, collaboration, and responsibility while staging performances. Students also perform skits written by the students.

Grade 8 Drama

Students are taken to the next stage of the foundation skills and concepts required for Middle School Drama. Practical activities provide an opportunity for exploration of themes, self-expression, and a basic understanding of performance skills. Cooperative group work and evaluative reflection are key concepts of the course. Students will learn to use their voice, posture, body language, gestures, facial expression, actions to portray various characters and roles on stage. Students choreograph dances and sing songs with expression. Students perform in various plays in front of an audience.

Students develop confidence, fluency, clarity of expression, respect, collaboration, and responsibility while staging performances. Students also perform skits written by the students.

Music

Grade 6 Music

In this 1-semester course, students will learn the foundations of rhythm, pitch, music notation, and music history through a variety of games, activities, and projects. Students will complete two major units – Music History and Piano (Keyboard) Skills. In the Music History unit, students will research a variety of composers, and will have a listening assignment due each week, culminating in a presentation at the end of the semester. In the Piano unit, students will learn/practice how to read music notation, practice writing music notation, and will learn how to play several songs on the piano, some of which will be performed for an audience of parents/peers.

Grade 7 Music

In this 1-semester course, students will deepen their knowledge and abilities with regards to rhythm, pitch, music notation, and music history through a variety of games, activities, and projects. Students will complete two major units – Music History and Piano (Keyboard) Skills. In the Music History unit, students will research a variety of composers, and will have a listening assignment due each week, culminating in a presentation at the end of the semester. In the Piano unit, students will learn/practice how to read music notation, and will learn to play more

challenging songs on the piano, some of which will be performed for an audience of parents/peers.

Grade 8 Music

In this 1-semester course, students will continue developing their abilities in rhythm, pitch, music notation, and music history through a variety of games, activities, and projects. Students will complete two major units – Music History and Piano (Keyboard) Skills. In the Music History unit, students will research a variety of composers, and will have a listening assignment due each week, culminating in a presentation at the end of the semester. In the Piano unit, students will demonstrate their ability to sight-read music notation, and will play a number of songs on the piano, some of which will be performed for an audience of parents/peers.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS 6:

The sixth-grade writing units begin with a personal narrative unit where students generate story ideas, manage pace, and elaborate. Students proceed to write literary essays in Unit 2, learning strategies to gather, analyze, and use text evidence to support their claims. In the final unit, writers explore teen activism, using sophisticated ways to explain a position or make a call to action. In reading, students learn to consider more complex character traits. They investigate how setting shapes characters, and analyze how characters are vehicles for themes. It introduces students to a variety of instructional methods such as read-aloud, partner work, and minilessons, to increase reading expertise and independence.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS 7:

The grade 7 units start with a unit on writing powerful, realistic fiction, using symbolism and syntax. In Unit 2, students analyze craft and structure in works by beloved authors and then write companion books. The third unit teaches students to write convincing, research-based essays, making arguments to persuade readers to take action. In reading, the unit of study focuses readers on studying not just characters, but characterization, or how authors create multifaceted characters replete with weakness and strengths, complex relationships with others, and life lessons they learn and teach. In the second unit, students form study groups to research topics of contemporary, scientific, or historical significance. In the third unit, historical fiction helps students see how history is not a collection of old, dead facts to be memorized, but is full of compelling stories that help us understand our present and, perhaps, what we need to do to shape a better future.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS 8:

Eighth graders begin the year with a unit focused on investigative journalism, writing vivid narratives on social activism. Writers elevate their skills as literary essayists in the second unit, making arguments and counterarguments about themes in texts. In the final unit, students craft research-based position papers, using principled arguments, drawing on evidence, and addressing multiple perspectives. In reading, students develop skills of analyzing symbolism, deepening character analysis, understanding story arcs, and reading critically with questions in mind. Meanwhile, they build on their work with reading notebooks, strengthening their ability to transfer their skills from one context to another, and supporting their increasing independence as readers and thinkers. In the second unit, students are introduced to nonfiction books and media. The third unit introduces students to some of the great writers of their generation. It also creates powerful opportunities for teens to share their voices, and find their places, in school and in the world.

ENGLISH AS AN ADDITIONAL LANGUAGE (EAL):

EAL stands for English as an additional language. EAL support in Middle School begins from grade 6 and lasts till grade 9. All English language learners are accommodated according to their language proficiency and grade level. The primary purpose of EAL support is to aid students in attaining English language skills so they are better able to comprehend the subject related content taught in classes. There are two types of EAL programs: Pull Out and Push In. Once a learner enters an EAL program then the EAL learner receives instruction in many different areas of English language such as grammar, reading, creative writing, vocabulary, listening and speaking. The main aim of the program is to ensure that students are successful academically and are able to achieve their learning goals.

Support Classes:

For **EAL** push in support classes EAL learners receive support in content areas. At the same time they are also given instructions to help them enhance their reading and writing skills.

Social Studies-6

Push in for Social Studies-6 primarily involves students taking the mainstream class at grade 6 level. However, their progress is monitored by the EAL teacher and they receive support in terms of academic English language so that they are easily able to understand the subject content taught in the classroom.

Social Studies-7

Push in for Social Studies-7 primarily involves students taking the mainstream class at grade 7 level. However, their progress is monitored by the EAL teacher and they receive support in terms of academic English language so that they are easily able to understand the subject content taught in the classroom.

MATHEMATICS:

Grade 6 Mathematics:

This is an integrated math course that will help students to meet the AERO Mathematics standards for the 6th grade level. This course will be covering **an introduction to algebra, geometry, and statistics**. It will also help to expand their technological skills, problem solving abilities and develop critical thinking skills. This will be done in an authentic way with many hands on activities and looks into real world applications. This class will also incorporate project based learning to help reinforce this authentic learning and give students the answer to the question of “Why do I need to know this?”

Grade 7 Mathematics:

This is an integrated math course that will help students to meet the AERO Mathematics standards for the 7th grade level. This course will be **expanding on their prior knowledge** of algebra, geometry, and statistics. It will also help to expand their technological skills, problem solving abilities and continue to develop critical thinking skills. This will be done in an authentic way with many hands on activities and looks into real world applications. This class will also incorporate project based learning to help reinforce this authentic learning and give students the answer to the question of “Why do I need to know this?”, and “[How can I use it?”.

Grade 8 Mathematics:

This is an integrated math course that will help students to meet the AERO Mathematics standards for the 8th grade level and prepare them for highschool level work. This course will be expanding on their prior knowledge of algebra, geometry, and statistics to give them a solid foundation in all areas of mathematics as they move into **higher level problems**. It will also help to expand their technological skills, problem solving abilities and continue to develop critical thinking skills. This will be done in an authentic way with many hands on activities and looks into real world applications. This class will also incorporate project based learning to help reinforce this authentic learning and give students the answer to the question of “Why do I need to know this?”, “How can I use it?” and “In what ways can this change the way I see the world?”.

Science

The middle school science is the link between the elementary concepts and the more in depth concepts of the high school. Middle School Science is organized into three primary courses: Earth science, Life Science and Physical Science. Materials are taught using a combination of

animated lessons, instructional videos, worksheets, quizzes, tests and both online and offline projects.

Grade 6 covers the Life Science topic of organization and development. The Earth Science topics which are covered by the sixth graders are planetary science and weathering, erosion, deposition and landforms. In physical science this grade studies only about waves.

Grade 7 Physical Science explores motion, force and energy. Heat and energy are also a part of this course. For Earth science this class focuses on Energy in the Earth System and Population in Ecosystem.

Grade 8 Science is a hand-on, inquiry based learning experience. Students utilize the scientific method and other problem solving skills to answer questions about the world around them. In Grade 8 the Physical science emphasis is on Matter. Students explore earth science by getting in-depth knowledge on the history and structure of earth. In Life science the eighth graders continue their exploration of life over time and genetics.

SOCIAL STUDIES - Grade 6

Sixth-grade students explore the mental constructs used by historians and geographers. They will develop an understanding of the ancient world history and geography. Using significant content knowledge, research, and inquiry, the students will conduct investigations about past and present global issues. They will compose essays using the reasoned arguments as part of the inquiry. Civics/government and economics content are integrated throughout the year. Where appropriate, they will make comparisons to relevant contemporary issues.

SOCIAL STUDIES - Grade 7

Seventh-grade students review the mental constructs used by historians and geographers. They will develop an understanding of the impact of historical events on society. Using significant content knowledge, research, and inquiry, they will analyze the issues and compose essays using reasoned arguments. Contemporary civics/government and economics content are integrated throughout the year. Where appropriate, they will make comparisons to relevant contemporary issues.

SOCIAL STUDIES - Grade 8

Eighth grade Social Studies cover multiple inquiries about the United States by integrating geographic, civics/government, and economic content within the historical context. Using significant content knowledge, research, and inquiry, the students will analyze situations and develop reasoned argument essays. Where appropriate, they will make comparisons to relevant contemporary issues.

WORLD LANGUAGES

Urdu:

Urdu Grade 6:

This course is for Middle School students, who are studying Urdu (as First or Second Language) at LAS and they have an acceptable & satisfactory prior exposure to Urdu Language in Elementary or in Middle School years. The objective of this Urdu language class is to enable students to develop and utilize the processes of effective verbal and written communication by emphasizing fluency and comprehension.

This course helps students to read and write for a variety of purposes such as;

- a) To follow directions
- b) To develop an appreciation for language & literature and the literacy necessary for a successful language learner.

In addition to the above all students are expected to;

- a) Expand reading skills through Urdu phonemic awareness
- b) Read to develop fluency, expression, accuracy and confidence
- c) Expand contemporary subject specific reading & vocabulary
- d) Develop appropriate information skills and study skills to facilitate language learning
- e) Read independently for a variety of purposes
- f) Experience various literary and media genres
- g) Sustain a motivation for language & reading

Urdu Grade 7:

This course is for Middle School students, who are studying Urdu (as First or Second Language) at LAS and they have an acceptable & satisfactory prior exposure to Urdu Language in Elementary or in Middle School years. The objective of this Urdu language class is to enable students to develop and utilize the processes of effective verbal and written communication by emphasizing fluency and comprehension.

This course helps students to read and write for a variety of purposes such as;

- a) To follow directions
- b) To develop an appreciation for language & literature and the literacy necessary for a successful language learner.

In addition to the above all students are expected to;

- a) Expand reading skills through Urdu phonemic awareness

- b) Read to develop fluency, expression, accuracy and confidence
- c) Expand contemporary subject specific reading & vocabulary
- d) Develop appropriate information skills and study skills to facilitate language learning
- e) Read independently for a variety of purposes
- f) Experience various literary and media genres
- g) Sustain a motivation for language & reading

Urdu Grade 8:

This course is for Middle School students, who are studying Urdu (as First or Second Language) at LAS and they have an acceptable & satisfactory prior exposure to Urdu Language in Elementary or in Middle School years. The objective of this Urdu language class is to enable students to develop and utilize the processes of effective verbal and written communication by emphasizing fluency and comprehension.

This course helps students to read and write for a variety of purposes such as;

- a) To follow directions
- b) To develop an appreciation for language & literature and the literacy necessary for a successful language learner.

In addition to the above all students are expected to;

- a) Expand reading skills through Urdu phonemic awareness
- b) Read to develop fluency, expression, accuracy and confidence
- c) Expand contemporary subject specific reading & vocabulary
- d) Develop appropriate information skills and study skills to facilitate language learning
- e) Read independently for a variety of purposes
- f) Experience various literary and media genres
- g) Sustain a motivation for language & reading

French

French Grade 6:

Students start learning French in MS, so the method we use for Grade 6 (ZOOM 1) is a children's one and includes learning basic themes and structures with a focus on listening and speaking and relatively less on writing and reading. There is a textbook, workbook, a set of CDs with additional material and exercises and posters for each Unit to illustrate the themes of: everyday family life in France including birthdays and the home, clothing and appearance;

school life, and activities they do during the holidays. These themes are particularly relevant to our students and offer the chance to compare the lives of French children with their own. There is a strong cultural component and in Grade 6 we learn about and do projects from the following: The French Revolution; Cheese, Bread, French Monuments, Music, Cartoons... All in all, the work covered and skills acquired in Grade 6 provide a good springboard for the more complex learning that students will undertake in Grades 7 and 8.

French Grade 7

The method (POURQUOI PAS? 1, Units 0-4) used in Grade 7 maintains the themes introduced in Grade 6 and develops them further with a view to preparing for the DELF A1 exam which they will take in Grade 8. (This is a pragmatic skills-based assessment that evaluates equally the four skills of listening and speaking writing and reading.) Again the focus is on speaking, but now with greater emphasis on writing and reading. The themes and content of the units are more in sync with the interests and experience of young adolescents; eg the unit on clothing discusses different styles of clothing adopted by young people today, and the cultural component includes French celebrities from the world of music, sports and cinema. Students develop their linguistic skills, vocabulary and there are more phonetics activities to hone their pronunciation skills. Projects may be cultural in nature, but may also focus on events of significance in France.

French Grade 8

Grade 8 continues the same book used in Grade 7 (POURQUOI PAS? 1) but this time studies Units 5 and 6 which round off the method. There is a greater focus now on preparing for the A1 exam in April with activities based on the 4 papers, specifically: spoken expression, role play, listening comprehension and written expression. Because the method is pragmatic, there is no grammar paper, all the activities in the exam are pragmatic and based on life skills, the final outcome that they have been studying towards, so students learn to invite, accept or refuse an invitation (with justification for the refusal), describe themselves or another person, go shopping, order in a restaurant, write a mail to a friend while on holiday..... Of course, these activities depend on a solid grammar foundation and the spoken tasks require the student to be clear, concise and coherent. Projects in Grade 8 also focus on current events in France, for example, last year Grade 8 students chose to create projects on related themes to mark the celebrations of 100 years after the Armistice of WWI.

Mandarin Grade 6

This is an introductory course, students begin learning Mandarin in Grade 6. As Mandarin is a character based language the PinYin system is introduced to ease student ability to comprehend and communicate. In Grade 6 we focus on the phonetics so that the student can pronounce the

words correctly. This course utilizes both a textbook (Hanyu Kuaile 汉语快乐) and a workbook containing illustrations and exercises, which enhance students' learning. In Grade 6 we cover a wide variety of topics i.e You and I, My family, Food, School life, Time and weather, jobs, Hobbies and Transport. These topics assist students with critical thinking and to connect to the real world, making links to culture and increasing their Mandarin abilities.

Mandarin Grade 7

In Grade 7 students continue their journey of learning through the PinYin method and the incorporation of characters. Students learn how to draw the characters (their meaning and pronunciation) incorporating memorization techniques. In Grade 7 students utilize both a textbook and a workbook consisting of numerous daily life units i.e Me and my friend, Shopping, Environment, Health, Fashion, Entertainment, Media, Travel. These themes are designed for foreign students with a large number of illustrations and exercises. In Grade 7 we engage the students in a variety of activities (role playing, spoken expressions, listening comprehension) to enhance learning. Students

PHYSICAL EDUCATION & HEALTH

Grade 6

This course emphasizes regular participation in a variety of physical activities that promote healthy and active living. Students are empowered to make choices, meet challenges, and develop positive lifelong behaviors in fitness, wellness, and movement activity. In Grade 6 the learner will develop competence in basic motor skills; use basic movement concepts in dance, gymnastics and practice tasks; identify basic health-related fitness concepts; exhibit acceptance of self and others in physical activities; and identify the benefits of a physically active lifestyle. Units of study include Swimming, Zumba, Badminton, Soccer, basketball, volleyball, Handball, Dodgeball, Bowling, Orienteering, and Lawn games.

Grade 7

This course emphasizes regular participation in a variety of physical activities that promote healthy and active living. Students are empowered to make choices, meet challenges, and develop positive lifelong behaviors in fitness, wellness, and movement activity. The Grade 7 physical education course focuses on the development of physically literate individuals who have the knowledge, skills and confidence to enjoy a lifetime of healthy physical activity.

Units of study include Swimming, Zumba, Badminton, Soccer, basketball, volleyball, Handball, Dodgeball, Bowling, orienteering, and lawn games. The learner will apply tactics and strategies to modified game play; demonstrate fundamental movement skills in a variety of contexts; participate in self-selected physical activity; cooperate with and encourage classmates; accept individual differences and demonstrate inclusive behaviors; and engage in physical activity for enjoyment and self-expression.

Grade: 8

This course emphasizes regular participation in a variety of physical activities that promote healthy and active living. Students are empowered to make choices, meet challenges, and develop positive lifelong behaviours in fitness, wellness, and movement. Units of study include badminton, table tennis, tennis, lawn games, bowling, golf, swim, dance, badminton, soccer, basketball, volleyball, hockey bowling, orienteering, and lawn games.

MIDDLE SCHOOL TECHNOLOGY

Grade 6 ICT

This course is designed to provide students with a working knowledge of computer concepts and essential skills necessary for work and communication in today's society. Students will learn safety, security, and ethical issues in computing and social networking. All students will have an equal opportunity to develop skills that encourage personal productivity, creativity, critical thinking and collaboration in the classroom and in daily life.

The Units covered during grade 6 ICT are:

1. Typing skills development
2. Digital Citizenship
3. Computer Programming- Scratch
4. Robotics
5. Computer components, Its Functions, and Its Effects
6. Data Analysis
7. Video Editing

ICT transforms education with the guidance of the ITEEA standards for learning, teaching and leading in the digital age.

Grade 7 ICT

The Information Communication Technology course combines theoretical and practical studies focusing on the ability to use common software applications.

All students will have an equal opportunity to develop skills that encourage personal productivity, creativity, critical thinking and collaboration in the classroom and in daily life.

The Units covered during grade 7 ICT are:

1. Typing skills development
2. Computer Innovations and Its Implications
3. Computer Programming- Snaps
4. Robotics
5. Computer Technology, Its Functions, and Its Effects
6. Data Analysis
7. Engineering and Inventions

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Grade 8 ICT

The Information and Communication Technology is an innovative program of instruction designed for delivery in various modalities. The ICT course is unique in that it works well for middle grades. The course focuses on key skill sets within a given area of technology and through the use of Online demonstrations, digital activities, and assessments, coupled with external links to deepen knowledge provide a complete learning environment and experience.

The topics covered during grade 8 ICT are:

1. Typing skills development
2. Computer Innovations and Its Implications
3. Computer Programming-Bootstraps
4. Robotics
5. How Computer Works and Its Global Impacts
6. Data Analysis
7. Engineering and Inventions

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