

INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE

CAMBRIDGE, GHANAIAN (BECE/WASSCE) AND IB AGE-PROGRESSION GUIDE

Subject: Understanding the ICC Cambridge Pathway alongside the Ghanaian and International Baccalaureate pathways

Dear Parents, Guardians and Staff,

International Community College has prepared this age-progression guide to help families understand how the ICC Cambridge pathway compares with the Ghanaian pre-tertiary pathway leading to BECE and WASSCE, and the International Baccalaureate continuum.

The comparison is organised by the learner's typical age rather than by assuming that class names are direct equivalents. Cambridge, Ghanaian and IB programmes use different structures, terminology, curriculum frameworks, assessment systems and transition points.

At ICC, the intended Cambridge progression allows a learner to enter Year 1 at approximately age five, enter Year 7 at approximately age eleven, complete Year 9 at approximately age fourteen, complete IGCSE at approximately age sixteen and complete A Level at approximately age eighteen.

The side-by-side table on the following page is intended to support parents transferring children between school systems and to assist the Admissions Office in interpreting previous class records. Final placement may also consider date of birth, previous schooling, academic evidence, language development, readiness and an ICC entrance assessment where applicable.

Ghanaian examination points: BECE is taken by eligible learners in the third and final year of Junior High School. WASSCE for school candidates is taken in the third year of Senior High School.

IB programme bands: The IB Primary Years Programme serves ages 3-12, the Middle Years Programme serves ages 11-16, and the Diploma Programme or Career-related Programme serves ages 16-19. Grade names may vary between IB World Schools.

Important interpretation: The programmes should be compared by age and transition point, but they should not be described as academically identical or automatically interchangeable.

The complete age-by-age comparison follows on the next page.

AGE-BY-AGE PROGRAMME COMPARISON

Typical age alignment for parent guidance and admissions placement

Typical age	ICC Cambridge pathway	Ghanaian pathway	IB pathway
3-4	Foundation - Cambridge Early Years 1	Nursery / pre-KG provision (school dependent)	IB PYP Early Years
4-5	Reception - Cambridge Early Years 2	Kindergarten 1 (KG1)	IB PYP Early Years
5-6	Year 1 - Cambridge Primary Stage 1	Kindergarten 2 (KG2)	IB PYP
6-7	Year 2 - Cambridge Primary Stage 2	Basic 1 / Primary 1	IB PYP
7-8	Year 3 - Cambridge Primary Stage 3	Basic 2 / Primary 2	IB PYP
8-9	Year 4 - Cambridge Primary Stage 4	Basic 3 / Primary 3	IB PYP
9-10	Year 5 - Cambridge Primary Stage 5	Basic 4 / Primary 4	IB PYP
10-11	Year 6 - Cambridge Primary Stage 6	Basic 5 / Primary 5	IB PYP
11-12	Year 7 - Cambridge Lower Secondary Stage 7	Basic 6 / Primary 6	IB PYP or MYP Year 1*
12-13	Year 8 - Cambridge Lower Secondary Stage 8	JHS 1	IB MYP Year 2*
13-14	Year 9 - Cambridge Lower Secondary Stage 9	JHS 2	IB MYP Year 3*
14-15	Year 10 - Cambridge IGCSE Year 1	JHS 3 / BECE	IB MYP Year 4*
15-16	Year 11 - Cambridge IGCSE Year 2	SHS 1	IB MYP Year 5*
16-17	Year 12 - Cambridge International AS Level	SHS 2	IB Diploma Programme Year 1
17-18	Year 13 - Cambridge International A Level	SHS 3 / WASSCE	IB Diploma Programme Year 2

* **IB overlap:** PYP and MYP overlap at ages 11-12. The exact transition depends on the authorised IB World School's structure.

Yours faithfully,

The Management
International Community College
Inculcating Intelligence and Character

Reference basis: Cambridge International pathway guidance; IB official programme age bands; Ghana Education Service/NaCCA structure; and WAEC eligibility information for BECE and WASSCE. Ages are typical guidance and may vary by birth date and placement policy.