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# CAMBRIDGE LOWER SECONDARY PROGRAMME

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**SHANGHAI SINGAPORE  
INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL**  
上海新加坡外籍人员子女学校



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## What is Cambridge Lower Secondary Programme (CLSP)?

CLSP is specially crafted for 11- to 14-year old students by the prestigious Cambridge Assessment International Education (CAIE).

CLSP provides a natural progression from primary education as well as a strong foundation to pursue the IGCSE curriculum in Grades 9 to 10 and the IBDP in Grades 11 to 12.

It is currently offered in nearly 2,300 schools in over 130 countries worldwide.

The CLSP curriculum encourages learners to become confident in working with information and ideas, and be responsible, reflective, innovative and engaged in the learning process.

It is designed to help schools deliver a broad and balanced curriculum that suits their context, culture and ethos, and shape the programme around how they want their students to learn.

The CLSP curriculum sets clear learning objectives and focuses on developing knowledge and skills in 10 subjects, providing a robust foundation for the next stage of education.

- English
- Mathematics
- Science
- Chinese Language\*
- Social Studies
- ICT
- Physical Education
- Art & Design
- Music
- Drama\*

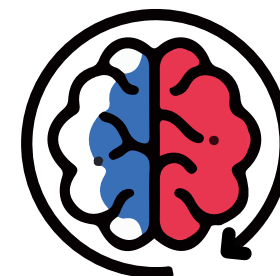
\* School-based Curriculum

## CLS PROGRAMME CURRICULUM



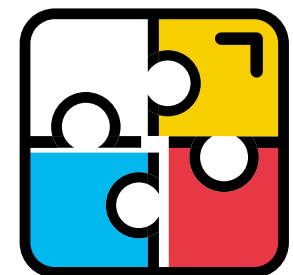
**Competence-based  
approach**

**Creativity/Project Based  
Learning**



**Higher-order thinking**

**Problem-solving**



# English

In the CLSP English course, students will focus on refining their reading, writing, speaking and analytical skills through the study of fiction, non-fiction and poetry as well as developing their writing and grammar skills while creating a varied writing portfolio. The students are divided into two levels, based on placement tests: English First Language and English Second Language. The course supports progression to the IGCSE and IB English Language A and Language B courses.

The English curriculum framework covers knowledge, skills and understanding in these three strands:

- Reading
- Writing
- Speaking and Listening.



## Cambridge Lower-Secondary English

### English First Language

### English Second Language

#### Reading

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Science fiction, Fantasy, Contemporary Folk &amp; Fairy tales</li><li>• Narrative features of short stories</li><li>• Myths and Legends From Around the World</li><li>• Novels: Chinese Cinderella; Percy Jackson &amp; The Olympians</li><li>• Poetry (narrative and non-narrative)</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Main points in a text</li><li>• Articles, Media</li><li>• Narrative features of short stories</li><li>• Non-fiction</li><li>• Novels: Klawde and Guts</li></ul> |
|--|---|

#### Writing

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Vocabulary</li><li>• Spelling Strategies</li><li>• Sentence construction</li><li>• Parts of Speech</li><li>• Letter Writing, Summaries</li><li>• Short Stories, Poems</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Subject Specific Vocabulary</li><li>• Spelling Strategies</li><li>• Tenses, Sentence Construction</li><li>• Short Articles</li><li>• Letter Writing, Emails, Reports</li><li>• Short Stories, Poems</li></ul> |
|---|---|

#### Speaking & Listening

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Organizing effective explanations &amp; presentations</li><li>• Working collaboratively in groups</li><li>• Ways to ask and answer questions</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Organizing effective explanations and presentations</li><li>• Express and support ideas and opinions</li><li>• Working collaboratively in groups</li><li>• Ways to ask and answer questions</li></ul> |
|--|---|

# Mathematics

CLSP Mathematics at SSIS is integrated with the rigorous Singapore Mathematics curriculum. It provides students with plenty of opportunities to explore different aspects of mathematics with a focus on research, mathematical investigation and modelling so that they can develop a holistic understanding of the subject. The course supports progression to a range of mathematics syllabuses at IGCSE and IB.

The Mathematics curriculum framework covers knowledge, skills and understanding in these five strands:

- Numbers
- Problem Solving
- Algebra & and Graphs
- Geometry & and Mensuration
- Statistics



## Cambridge Lower-Secondary Mathematics

### 1. Numbers

- Integers, power & roots
- Place Value, ordering & rounding
- Fractions, decimals, percentages, ratio & proportion
- Calculation- Mental Strategies
- Currency conversion & rates

### 2. Writing

- Vocabulary
- Spelling Strategies
- Sentence construction
- Parts of Speech
- Letter Writing, Summaries
- Short Stories, Poems

### 3. Algebra & Graphs

- Expressions, equations & formulae
- Sequences, functions & graphs
- Times & rates of change

### 4. Geometry & Mensuration

- Shapes and geometric reasoning
- Length, mass and capacity
- Area, perimeter and volume

### 5. Statistics

- Planning and collecting data
- Processing and presenting data
- Interpreting and discussing results

# Science

Children are naturally curious, and science supports the development of a child’s curiosity. It helps them to investigate problems, learn more about the world around them and understand and use scientific explanations for a wide range of phenomena. At SSIS, students explore the fundamental concepts of Biology, Chemistry and Physics through experiments, investigations and research. Once a term, they complete a formal lab report to demonstrate their understanding of the scientific method. The course supports progression to a wide range of science subjects at IGCSE and IB.

The Science curriculum framework covers knowledge, skills and understanding in these four strands:

- Scientific enquiry
- Biology
- Chemistry
- Physics



## Cambridge Lower-Secondary Science

### 1. Scientific Inquiry

- Ideas & Evidence
- Plan Investigative work
- Obtain & Present Evidence
- Consider Evidence Approach

### 2. Biology

- Cells and Organisms
- Classification
- Living things in their Environment
- Human as an Organism
- Plants as an Organism
- Reproduction
- Inheritance and Variations

### 3. Chemistry

- Material Properties
- States of Matter
- Particle Model
- Atoms and Elements
- Compound and Mixtures
- Acids and Bases
- Applied Chemistry
- Exothermic and Endothermic reactions

### 4. Physics

- Energy and energy sources
- Heating and Cooling
- Forces and Motion



# Chinese

For the Chinese course, students are divided into three different levels (Advanced, Standard and Foundation) based on their respective Chinese proficiency. The Advanced class is designed for Chinese native, or near-native speakers and students learn through the Yu Wen curriculum—the textbook used by the local Chinese schools. Standard class is designed for students who use Chinese as a second language and students learn the Singaporean curriculum, with textbook and learning materials introduced by the Singaporean Ministry of Education. Foundation Class is designed for students who have basic Chinese levels.



## Cambridge Lower-Secondary Chinese

### 1. Advanced

- Chinese classical texts
- Chinese literature works
- Narrative essay writing
- Chinese idioms

### 2. Standard

- Listening training of speech, interview
- Chinese idioms & vocabulary
- Reading Comprehension
- Chinese Character writing
- Practical Writing

### 3. Fwn

- Listening comprehension of situational dialogue
- Vocabulary
- Chinese Pinyin
- Grammar

# Social Studies

The Social Studies course has been designed with emphasis on skills development. Throughout the course students will develop the skills of research, analysis, evaluation, reflection, collaboration and communication. Based on research, the earlier the students start to develop and practice their skills, the greater the impact on their learning. The skills are taught through inquiry into the historical, geographical, political, religious, technological and cultural factors that have an impact on societies, individuals and environments. A wide range of topics is suggested by Cambridge to be used during the course:

Disease and health	Migration	Belief systems
Conflict and peace	Demographic change	Sustainability
Poverty and inequality	Employment	Biodiversity and ecosystem loss
Law and criminality	Education for all	Sport and recreation
Tradition, culture and identity	Fuel and energy	Family
Water, food and agriculture	Globalisation	Changing communities
Trade and aid	Transport and infrastructure	Humans and other speciwes
Human rights	Language and communication	Digital world

# ICT

The SSIS ICT course is designed to integrate The Singapore Ministry of Education 21st Century Skills Standards, the Cambridge Lower Secondary ICT & Digital Literacy syllabi. And the ISTE Standards for Students and Teachers. The course focuses on the development of students' technology, research, and digital literacy skills.





## Physical Education

Physical education is a vital part of a balanced school curriculum. Regular exercise improves physical and mental health, and there is growing evidence that it improves academic performance across the curriculum. Establishing good patterns of exercise in lower secondary school provides learners with the foundation of an active and healthy lifestyle. Learners will move for as much of each lesson as possible, with activities designed promote learners' confidence, self-esteem, cognitive abilities and social skills.



## Art & Design

Art & Design gives learners a platform to express themselves, sparking imagination, creativity and developing transferable skills. Students explore and push boundaries to become reflective, critical and decisive thinkers. They learn how to articulate personal responses to their experiences.

The CLSP course is taught through a broad range of investigative, art-making and reflective activities. These include a number of study areas, for example, painting, print-making, model making or digital art, but you can also apply the curriculum content to your local context, using available resources.





## Music

The Music programme focuses on the fundamentals of music in a practical way and cultivates a joy of music through participation in meaningful and enjoyable experiences. Students collaborate with others in purposeful and expressive ways through singing and playing instruments, nurture their individual and collective creativity and develop the knowledge, skills and attitudes necessary to contribute as musicians.

## Drama

The Drama programme focuses on improvisation, building confidence and encouraging students to take risks. It incorporates the use of movement, masks, the development voice and communication collaboratively and practically. Opportunities are provided for students to create and express ideas in a safe and positive setting.

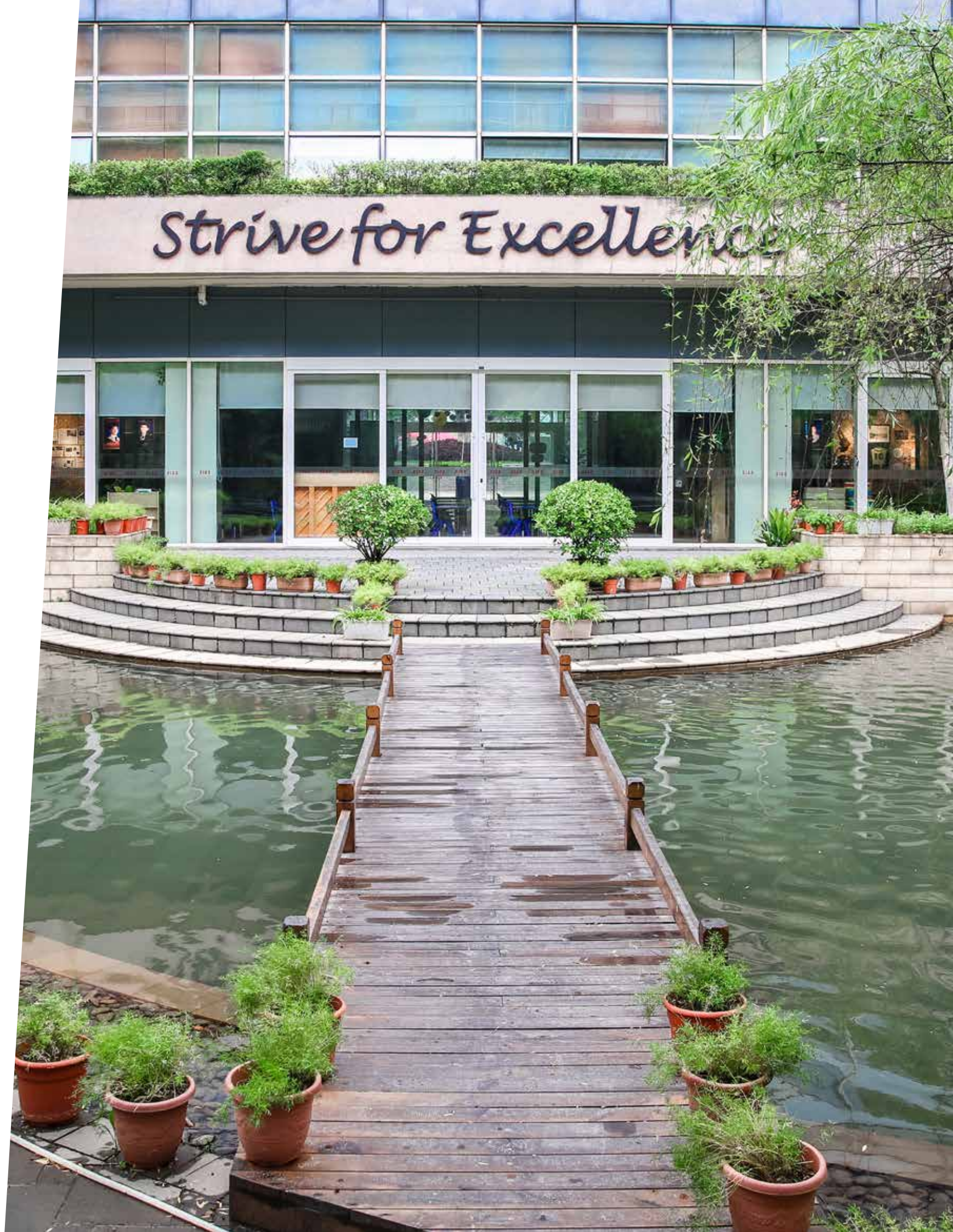




# Assessment

In addition to SSIS summative assessments, coursework and regular feedback, students will be assessed externally using the Cambridge Lower Secondary Checkpoint diagnostic testing service. Cambridge Lower Secondary Checkpoint tests have been designed to assess learners at the end of Cambridge Lower Secondary and will be conducted at the end of Grade 8. They are available in English, English as a second language, mathematics and science.

Cambridge Lower Secondary assessment tests are marked in Cambridge, UK and provide schools with an external international benchmark for learner performance, giving parents extra trust in the feedback they receive. Parents receive individual learner reports with score for the whole subject, for each main topic/skill and a list of the questions (and the sub-topics/skills) where the candidate's performance was particularly strong or particularly weak. Teachers can also compare a learner's results against their class while schools can compare their own results with other schools around the world.





## BEYOND CLSP

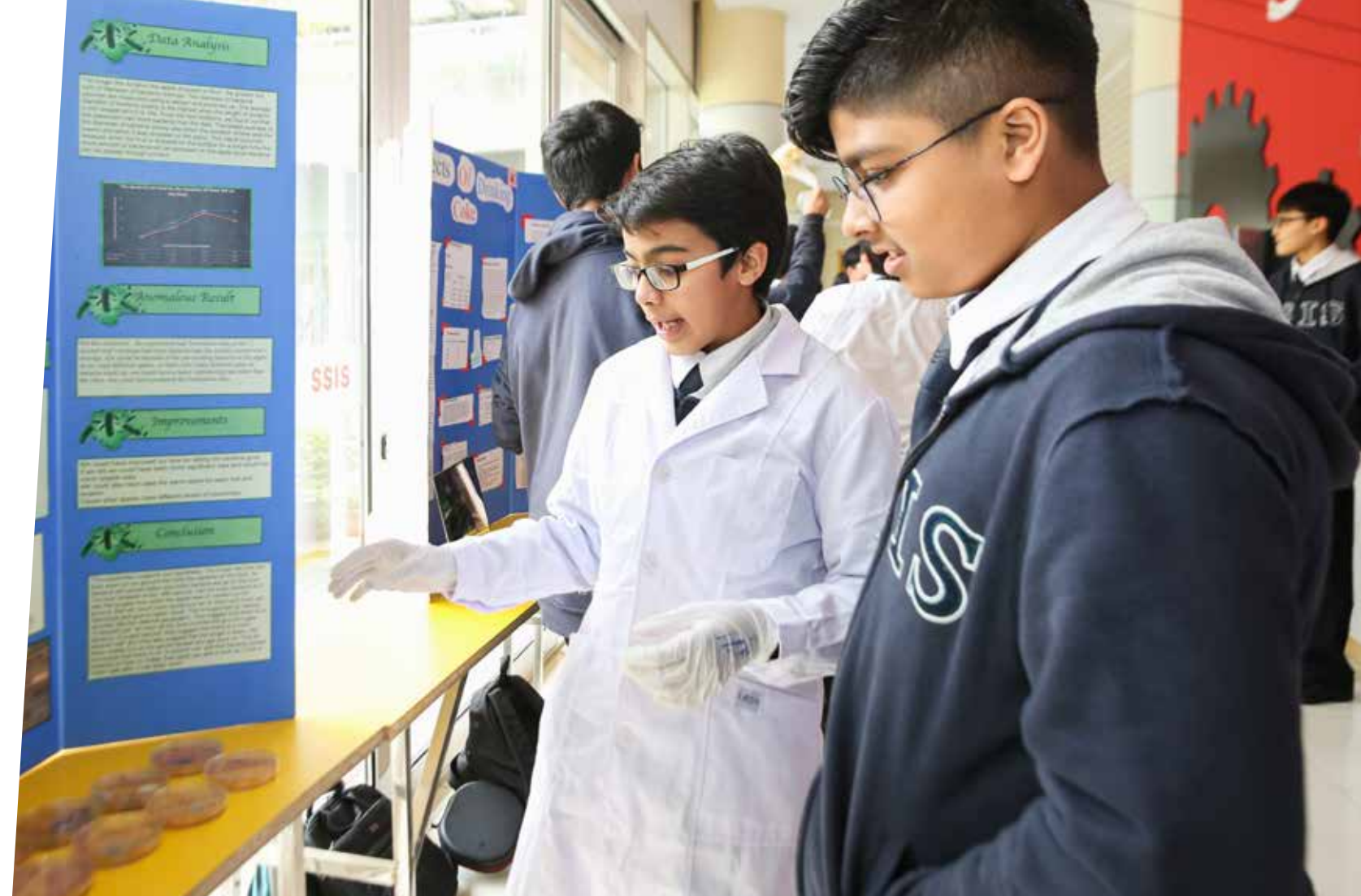
While the Cambridge Lower Secondary Programme provides our Grade 7 and Grade 8 students with the foundation they need for success in IGCSE, our teachers have enriched the programme with activities to highlight student achievements beyond the curriculum.

In Science, the students put their content knowledge and investigative skills to the test in Grade 8 with an annual Science Fair. Each student or pair of students generates their research question and then investigates the topic to produce a comprehensive Science Fair project in Term 2.

In Chinese, the students can look forward to a Chinese Singing Competition where they'll perform (in costume) a Chinese song either solo or with a group.

In English, the Poetry Slam is an engaging way to bring poetry alive for the students. Here they'll witness their school mates and teachers performing on stage at the end of the unit.

Lastly, we are excited about the STEAM and innovation space facilities. Here students can work on interdisciplinary projects that tie different subjects to technology and design. Overall, these enriching activities bring the curriculum alive and provide memorable experiences and connections for our young learners, while paving the way for success in IGCSE and beyond.





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