

## MATHEMATICS

### MATH 6

Sixth grade students learn to add, subtract, multiply and divide decimals and fractions. They then apply these skills while working with percents, ratios, proportion and probability. Students learn to gather, display and use statistics. They introduce to algebraic concepts. Geometry is studied throughout the year with an emphasis on drawing and measuring.

Textbook: Pre-Transitions Mathematics, Chicago Math Project

### MATH 7

Math 7 is designed to ensure that students have the necessary skills for success in Algebra I and beyond. Building on their understanding of counting and whole numbers, including fractions, students explore integers and rational numbers. The concepts of ratio, proportion, and percent are emphasized. Students learn to solve linear equations and inequalities and delve into functions and graphing. Geometry concepts are further developed as is work using statistics and probability. By the end of this course, the review of basic skills is complete and students will have been prepared for using those skills in more abstract operations. A scientific calculator is required for this course.

Textbook: Transitions Mathematics, Chicago Math Project

### MATH 8- ALGEBRA I

Algebra I follows Transition Mathematics and precedes Geometry. Geometry, statistics, and probability are integrated into the study of algebra. Reading and problem solving are emphasized throughout. Algebra is rich in applications. Real-life situations motivate and provide the settings for practice of algebra skills. The variety of content permits algebra to be embedded in applications settings. Units covered in 1st term include: Basic Concepts, Addition in Algebra, Subtraction in Algebra, Multiplication in Algebra, Division in Algebra, and Linear Sentences. 2nd term units include: Lines and Distance, Slopes and Lines, Exponents and Powers, Polynomials, Systems, Parabolas and Quadratic Equations.

A scientific calculator is required for this course.

Textbook: Algebra, Chicago Math Project

## SOCIAL STUDIES

### SOCIAL STUDIES 6

Social Studies will promote an understanding of the development of man, the growth of civilization and culture, and a study of early empires. Students will study in depth the following units: Early Humans and the Rise of Civilization, The Rise of City States, Ancient Egypt, Ancient Greece, and Ancient Rome. Geography will play an important part in each unit of study. Study novels will enhance certain units, as will oral presentations, power point presentations, timelines, and projects. Current events will tie in where applicable as students apply their knowledge of history to current issues.

Textbook: History Alive! The Ancient World Teachers' Curriculum  
Institute

### SOCIAL STUDIES 7

Social Studies 7 will develop an understanding of ancient cultures and their belief systems. Students will develop the ability to extract information from primary sources, and form opinions based on a critical examination of relevant information. They will understand the importance of technological development. They will also appreciate the importance of geography in the development of ancient cultures. Ancient China, Ancient India, Medieval Japan, The Fall of Rome, The Islamic Civilization, The Middle Ages in Europe, and The Renaissance will be introduced.

Textbooks: History Alive! The Ancient World Teachers' Curriculum  
Institute

Message of Ancient Days Houghton Mifflin  
Europe in the Middle Ages Pearson Learning Group

## **SOCIAL STUDIES 8**

This course is developed to introduce and develop relevant social study skills through the study of various topics and regions of the world. The five themes of geography will be studied while exploring the regions of Thailand, Asia, Middle East, Africa, North and South America, and Europe. Some of the goals and objectives include being able to interpret information, draw inferences, note cause and effect, state relationships between categories, and write summaries. In addition, the students will be able to arrange information in usable forms such as timelines, note taking, grouping data, and developing oral presentations. Lastly, the students will develop effective presentation skills using the different regions of the world content.

Textbook: World Explorer-People, Places and Cultures by James Kracht  
History Alive! Contemporary World Cultures Teachers'  
Curriculum Institute

## **PHYSICAL EDUCATION/HEALTH**

### **PHYSICAL EDUCATION 6-8**

The courses will involve the learner in a wide range of movement, knowledge, and skill-building experiences.

- Contribute to the learner's growing value system and his/her development of responsible attitudes and behavior essential to a healthy lifestyle.
- Promote understanding and appreciation for differences among people in physical activity settings.
- Develop the habit of choosing to regularly participate in physical activity as part of a health-enhancing personal fitness plan, and expand options for wise use of leisure time.

## **SCIENCE**

### **SCIENCE 6**

There are three 6<sup>th</sup> grade science units. The first unit is a study of mass, volume and density. The second unit focuses on plant propagation and identification. The third unit is on motion. Clear understanding of the metric system, accurate measurement, and participation within a lab group are emphasized.

Textbooks: Motion and Force Foss Program

### **SCIENCE 7**

Students work through several major themes including magnetism/ electricity, the brain, understanding the world around us (ecosystems) and water and the environment. The emphasis for 7<sup>th</sup> grade science is learning through inquiry (i.e., labs designed by students and/or open-ended labs which promote higher level thinking skills).

Textbooks: Electronics Foss Program

Human Brain and Senses Foss Program

### **SCIENCE 8**

Students in Earth Science will study the earth and space from a number of perspectives, including natural resources and human impact on the environment. Major units of study include maps, earth's resources, the restless earth, reshaping the land, oceanography, weather and climate, and astronomy. Students will engage in experiments and class discussions, along with numerous research projects. Critical thinking skills will be emphasized, along with effective communication of scientific ideas.

Textbook: Earth Science Holt Science & Technology

## **ESL ACADEMIC SUPPORT**

This course provides the opportunity for the students to receive academic support for their content courses. They learn subject-specific language skills and vocabulary, as well as study and research skills.

Textbook: Shining Star Pearson Longman

The physical education curriculum will be developmentally appropriate; that is, suitable for the developmental range of the learner in a group, but implemented with careful attention to the needs, interests, and developmental level of individual learners within the group. Learners are unique, each developing skills and understanding at different rates and from different experiences. The course will help the individual learner develop the ability to make wise and appropriate choices about physical activity now and in the future. There will be an emphasis placed on developing personal physical fitness.

### **HEALTH GRADE 6**

The purpose of the course is to provide students with information on aspects relating to social, physical and emotional changes of growing up. In the sixth grade this includes building and maintaining healthy relationships, learning about the body systems and becoming knowledgeable about how to like yourself and recognize the important people in your life. Students will also practice positive skills for interacting with their friends and family and how to develop and maintain life-long health habits.

### **HEALTH GRADE 7**

The purpose of grade 7 Health is to introduce the topic of drugs and alcohol to students. Students will develop knowledge of the various types of substances and their effects on physical, mental, emotional and social health and be able to adopt healthy alternatives. Students will learn to analyze data, record, differentiate and synthesize information, practice and recite refusal skills, and develop presentations on drug, smoking or alcohol topics.

### **HEALTH GRADE 8**

The purpose of grade 8 Health is to provide a thorough overview of aspects of physical, mental, emotional and social changes related to later adolescence. The main topic of the class is human sexuality. Topics relating to this study include HIV/AIDS, pregnancy, childbirth and developing healthy, responsible relationships.

Students will learn to collect, gather, organize and synthesize that information, draw conclusions, state facts, present research on a current health topic and recognize healthy behaviors and attitudes toward this aspect of health.

## MODERN LANGUAGES

### SPANISH 6-8

This beginning Spanish course will be taught using a wide range of media and styles. Based around the textbook series "Dime," we will also be doing cultural activities involving paired conversations, acting out scenarios, and discovering the culture of the Latin world! To develop competency, students will be given many opportunities to interact in Spanish. To help accomplish this, the class will often be taught in Spanish. This Spanish course will also be examining literature from Latin America and Spain.

Textbook: Dime text and workbooks. D.C. Heath

### JAPANESE 6-8

This course will introduce the basic skills of reading, writing, speaking, and listening in Japanese. The class will introduce Hiragana and study greetings, introductions and farewells. Other topics will be names, ages, telephone numbers and where you live, the family, likes and dislikes, morning routine, breakfast foods, and hobbies / leisure time and sports. The students will be able to read and write Hiragana, read and write 39 basic Kanji characters, write a basic paragraph in Japanese, speak and listen to basic level of Japanese and understand the basic grammatical structures.

Textbook: Ima! 1 CIS Heinemann

Workbook: Ima! 1 workbook  
Hiragana workbook

Textbook: Literature 8 McDougal Littell

Novels: Rice Without Rain, Clay Marble, Walkabout, Wild Children, Diary of Anne Frank, Habibi, Beowulf, Farewell to Manzanar, I am the Cheese

### ACADEMIC ENGLISH DEVELOPMENT (AED)

AED is recommended for non-native English language learners who have completed Advanced ESL, but still need to improve their proficiency the four skills of speaking, listening, reading and writing in English:

To achieve grade level proficiency in English

To build self confidence and enhance success in core classes

To prepare for the English level of high school courses

Textbook: Making Progress to First Certificate Cambridge University Press

### ENGLISH as a SECOND LANGUAGE (ESL)

Course offerings in English as a Second Language (ESL) are intended for students who do not speak English as a first or native language and do not meet the minimum level of English language proficiency required for their grade level. The ESL classes are designed to enhance English skills and provide subject-specific support to prepare students for the challenges of an English based curriculum.

Students develop the ability to listen to English speakers with understanding, to communicate effectively by speaking, to improve reading comprehension, to develop writing skills, to use grammar properly, and to expand their knowledge of vocabulary.

Textbooks: ESL1: Grammar 1 & 2 Oxford University Press

Cutting Edge 2 Cambridge University Press

ESLII: Grammar Express Pearson Longman

Cutting Edge 3 Cambridge University Press

ESL8: Grammar 3 Oxford University Press

## ENGLISH 7

Students will develop their skills in the four main areas: listening, speaking, reading and writing. Skills learned in language arts help to develop academic success in all subjects. The six traits writing assessment program is emphasized as part of a school-wide system to foster quality writing. Acquisition of a wider vocabulary is an important element of the course, and the All Write program is used to develop and enhance grammar and writing skills. The writing process of planning, prewriting, writing and editing is followed in all essays, assignments and projects. A study of literature is used to encourage appreciation of good writing, and to help develop a lifelong reading habit. Students will discuss character, plot development, and will review each novel that is studied. Some of the novels form a background to the Social Studies course.

Textbooks: English 7 Houghton Mifflin  
Bright Glory  
All Write

Study Novels: Max and Me and the Time Machine by Gary Geer and  
Bob Ruddick

Adam of the Road by Elizabeth Janet Gray  
Holes by Louis Sachar  
The Giver by Lois Lowry  
The Witch of Blackbird Pond by Elizabeth George Speare

## ENGLISH 8

This course serves to build upon and enhance the overall curriculum work already developed in seventh grade. Students will work to further develop critical thinking and writing skills to prepare them for academic independence needed to be successful in the high school English courses. A variety of writing projects that express their confidence as well as their freedom of thought will help them become clear, responsible, and productive writers.

## THAI for THAIS 6-8

In this course the student will develop and apply enabling strategies and skills to read and write as well as develop and apply strategies and skills to comprehend text that is read, heard, and viewed. The student will make connections through the use of oral language, written language, and media and technology.

- The student will apply strategies and skills to create oral, written and visual texts.
- The student will apply grammar and language conventions to communicate effectively.

Topics the students will study include: Thai history (Sukhothai-Ayudhaya – Thonburi – Ratanakosin eras), Thai laws and politics, social issues, Thai traditions, cultures and beliefs. The students will study grammar, structure, and vocabulary the Thai reading and writing process.

Textbooks: Grade level texts (required by the Thai Ministry of Education)  
Materials prepared for I.S.E. Thai students

## FINE ARTS & COMPUTER

### ART 6-8

Art is a major part of every civilization and is often the only remnants left by which historians and archeologists can study a culture. Learning to appreciate and understand the art is to gain an understanding of societies. The middle school art program will parallel the social studies curriculum. It will have two components- theory and studio exploration. Through theory, students will gain an appreciation of the basic principals behind the art of a specific society. Through studio exploration, students will be able to experience methods, materials and techniques similar to those used by the artisans.

### COMPUTER 6-8

The MS Computer course will cover a variety of concepts including designing and producing for the World Wide Web. Students will learn basic interactive design and technical skills for creating websites. An emphasis is placed on information architecture, navigation, and interface design. Also as part of the program, the students will learn software to support their other courses, such as Excel spreadsheet, Research and bibliography formatting, PowerPoint and print production. The program is run in the computer laboratory and focuses on lecture and practical based tuition through exercises, set tasks and project-based research.

### DRAMA 6-8

The students will be introduced to a variety of acting methods, verbal and non-verbal communication, story telling and public speaking. Students will be engaged in individual and group work. We will seek to build and develop skills required in performing arts.

## MIDDLE SCHOOL COURSES

### ENGLISH

#### ENGLISH 6

English will review verb tenses, grammar, vocabulary, punctuation and parts of speech. Students will learn to understand sentence and paragraph structures, and show the use and understanding of these in various types of writing (descriptive, persuasive and expository). Writing and reading will be continuous and progressive throughout the year. Creative writing will be developed through poetry and prose. Special emphasis will be given to the 6 Traits of writing, and revising and editing skills will also be developed. Independent reading will be an integral part of English 6. Classroom novels will be read and studied, some of which are related to topics studied in Social Studies. Through the reading and study of short stories and novels, students will learn and recognize the parts of a story plot, point of view, types of conflict, and writing techniques and styles. Outlining skills will be emphasized and used. Discussions and oral presentations will be utilized throughout the year.

Textbooks:     English 6 Houghton Mifflin  
                  Beyond the Reef  
                  Write Source 2000

Study Novels:

Dar and the Spear-Thrower by Marjorie Cowley  
The Egypt Game by Zilpha Keatley Snyder.  
Ulysses by Bernard Evslin  
The Bronze Bow by Elizabeth George Speare

## **COURSE SELECTION FOR THE 2009-2010 SCHOOL YEAR**

This booklet contains descriptions of courses offered in Grades 6-8. It should be used to familiarize the students and parents with the courses offered at ISE.

Using a combination of the regular seven block schedule and the flex schedule, students in grades 6-8 will be enrolled in a minimum of seven courses. In most cases, however, students will attend a class from each of the following subject areas:

English  
English as a Second Language  
Science  
Mathematics  
Social Studies  
Physical Education/Health  
Modern Languages  
Art  
Computer  
Music  
Drama

The students will gain an appreciation and an understanding of the scope of performing arts. As team-members, students will develop the skills necessary to present a short production.

### **MUSIC/BAND GRADE 6**

Students will begin training on an instrument in the Western band tradition. Skills will develop through regular practice and performing alone and in groups. Significant time will be spent ensuring an ability to decode musical notation. Students will also describe musical recordings and their own performances using appropriate terminology.

### **CONCERT BAND 7-8**

Students will be placed in ability-based groups that will perform appropriate music of various genres. Regular lessons and skill checkups will help each student make consistent progress throughout the year. These groups will use traditional Western band instrumentation and perform a few times throughout the school year.



## International School Eastern Seaboard

### Notes:

Dear ISE Parents and Students,

Welcome to the 2009-2010 school year. I hope that you will have a good year studying at ISE. We are glad that you are here for ISE has a strong academic program that will help you prepare for your future.

The faculty and staff are dedicated to working with the students. The mission of ISE is to prepare an international student population for higher education and lifelong learning by emphasizing higher level thinking skills, effective communication, global responsibilities, and personal wellness within a cooperative and supportive school community. We are dedicated to fulfilling this mission with every student.

Please read this booklet thoroughly. It will help you not only prepare for the next school year, but should be used in planning your secondary school program of studies. Many of our classes have pre-requisite courses, so you should decide with great care which classes you will take.

Our Middle School program is built around developing educational skills that will help you be successful in the future while exposing each student to a variety of classes in many subject areas. This approach will help you determine which classes you wish to take in high school. Your high school classes should support your goals for university study.

Have a good 2009-2010 school year. I expect you to study hard. I want you to make strong friendships in this international school. I also want you to appreciate your opportunity while at ISE, and work together with our great faculty to make your years at ISE fun, productive and a life-long learning experience for you.

Have a good year,

Dr. Robert W. Brewitt

Superintendent/Secondary School Principal



# International School Eastern Seaboard

A caring community  
dedicated to academic rigor.



## International School Eastern Seaboard

P.O. Box 6 Banglamung, Chonburi 20150  
Thailand

Tel. 66-38-372591 to 5

Email: [ise@ise.ac.th](mailto:ise@ise.ac.th) Website: [www.ise.ac.th](http://www.ise.ac.th)

2009 - 2010 MS  
Course Description Handbook