

Sixth Form Options 2025



**DUBAI
BRITISH
SCHOOL**
EMIRATES HILLS





Mr Sheridan Teasel

Headteacher

Dubai British School Emirates Hills

A thriving community with a values-based ethos and a strong academic pedigree



- 1,510 students on roll (3-18)
- Over 60 nationalities
- Broad UK-based curriculum leading to GCSE, BTEC and A level courses
- Holistic focus on every student

2025

A LEVEL & BTEC RESULTS



100% Pass Rate



51% Grade **A*-A**



81% Grade **A*-B**



95% Grade **A*-C**



44 UCAS Point Score



tāaleem
inspiring young minds



Our A level results place DBSEH in the top five schools in the UAE





Some of our recent alumni destinations

University of Cambridge
University of Oxford
Imperial College London
London School of Economics & Pol Sci
St Andrews University
University College London
Kings College London
University of Birmingham
University of Durham
University of York
University of Warwick
University of Manchester
University of Loughborough
University of Edinburgh
American University of Sharjah



Berklee School of Music
IE University, Madrid
University of Liverpool
Columbia University
New York University
Barnard College
Boston University
Marangoni (Paris)
Maastricht University
University of British Columbia
University of Southern California
University of Groningen
University of Amsterdam
Yonsei University



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Transition Support Team



Sheridan Teasel
Head of Secondary



Ben Crowder
Deputy Head (Whole School)



Jackie Baxter
AHT Inclusion



Emma Pennock
AHT Care & Wellbeing
Head of Sixth Form



Catherine McGurk
Assistant Head of Sixth Form



Michelle King
Head of Year 11



Ian Barfoot
University & Careers Counsellor

Mrs Emma Pennock Assistant Headteacher Head of Sixth Form



Sixth Form at Dubai British School

ASPIRE

ENJOY

dbseh_sports



ACHIEVE

Stepping Up: Changes from Year 11



Business Dress
Common Room
Increased Independence
Private Study Periods
Enhanced Careers Provision
Smaller Class Sizes
Leadership Opportunities

A Level and BTEC study habits

- In Year 12 students will have 6 lessons per week in each subject
- A Levels are a big step up from GCSEs
- Students are expected to complete significant amounts of independent study
- To achieve their potential, student should spend a similar amount of time studying out of class as in class. From the start of Year 12!
- Independent learning is great preparation for the transition to university



Leading Others



- Prefect Team
- Head Students
- Sports Leaders L3
- School Council
- Peer Mentor Team
- Head Peer Mentor
- Medics Society
- Newspaper Club
- English Literature Society
- Maths Society
- Psychological Society
- Fundraising Committee
- Eco Committee
- Extended Project Qualification (EPQ)
- Model United Nations
- Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme

Taster day



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Mr Ian Barfoot

University & Careers Guidance Counsellor

Advice to Year 11 families ...looking beyond the sixth form

University

- Benefits of independent living, immersion in a subject you love.
- Access to graduate jobs.
- Potential for further study: MSc, PhD, career in academia.
- BTEC/A-level choices may be important depending on which country you want to study in & degree course you wish to study (more on this in the next slide).

Or something else?

- Gap year (make it useful)
- Apprenticeship (can include a degree e.g. PWC)
- Employment
- Enlisting in uniformed services*

A VERY brief review of pros/cons of studying in...

UK:

- Established education system.
- Straightforward application process.
- Portable degrees.
- Ability to work whilst studying.*
- Easy entry with DBS qualifications.*
- Fee Status*

US:

- Established education system.
- Flexible degrees
- 'Open' admission requirements BUT can be complex process.
- Relatively expensive application process.

CANADA:

- Established education system.
- Ability to work whilst studying AND potential for visa/passport.
- 'Open' admission requirements.

AUSTRALIA:

- Established education system.
- Portable degrees.
- Not amenable to BTEC – may require foundation year.
- Apply with results.

UAE:

- Many campuses of long-established universities now opening.
- Potentially lower cost than studying abroad.
- Option to study abroad in yr 2/3/4.
- Pay careful attention to local entry requirements.*

MAINLAND EUROPE:

- Many courses taught in English
- Cheaper fees than UK, US, CAN.
- Check entry criteria carefully.*

GERMANY:

- Free tuition possible.*
- Ability to work and gain passport.*
- German language requirement.
- A-level choices prescriptive.*
- BTEC not recognised.



Mr Sheridan Teasel

Headteacher

A Level and BTEC courses

- Students choose 3 A Level or BTEC subjects from a choice of 24
- Students must meet entry criteria for A Level courses including:
 - A minimum of six Grade 5s or above at (I)GCSE to study any A Level(s)
 - A minimum of five Grade 6s or above at (I)GCSE to study three A Levels
 - Taking 4 A Levels is only suitable if your average GCSE grade is 8.0 or more
 - See Options Booklet for details
- Exploring the possibility of offering A Level Sociology from August 2026
 - If this is something you would choose, please return the form as soon as you can
- Year 12 assessments strongly influence University Predicted Grades
- The End of Year 12 Exams are the main determinant of University Predicted Grades

A Level and BTEC blocks

- Choose preferences freely on the form, free of any block structure
- The blocks will be built to accommodate as many first-choice preferences as possible
- **Example** of a block structure is below, but will change based on demand
- Final blocks will be built after 5th Dec based on preferences in forms received
- Most students will choose 3 subjects, maximum of one from each block

Block A	Block B	Block C	Block D	Block E
Maths	Economics	Chemistry	Physics (must be taken with Maths)	Media
English Literature	BTEC Double Business (must be taken with BTEC Business)	English Language	Psychology	BTEC Business
Geography	Art	Music	BTEC IT	Business Studies (A Level)
French	Biology	BTEC Sport	Spanish	Further Maths (must be as a fourth subject)
BTEC Travel & Tourism	History	Maths	BTEC Performing Arts	

Key Stage 5 Options milestones

- October & November - Careers guidance activities including Unifrog support
- Wednesday 5th November - Options Evening (parents and students)
- Rest of November - Students arrange to speak with staff
- Friday 7th November – Options Booklet, Options Form & ppt emailed to parents
- Wednesday 19th November - A Level and BTEC Subject taster Day
- Thursday 20th November – Year 11 Data Report published
- Friday 5th December - Options Forms due
- By mid-January 2026 – Blocks finalised and any issues notified
- After Mock Results – Course suitability conversations with students

Questions to ask others and yourself:

Ask:

- How is this subject assessed?
- What kinds of things will I learn about?
- What are the links between this subject and future careers and university options ?

Do:

- Consider what you find interesting and are passionate about
- Consider the range of skills you wish to develop

Next steps for students...

1. Use the **Taster Day** to get a feel for potential subjects
2. Review the **Options Booklet** carefully to check all information about a subject including entry criteria
3. **Speak with** teachers, your parents and guardians, and the Sixth Form leaders
4. Research future career pathways & discuss with **Mr Barfoot** as required
5. Carefully review your **report data** and focus on your **strengths**
6. Decide what's right for **you**, the student
7. Submit your choices through the form shared via email as soon as you have decided and no later than **Friday 5th December**
8. Course suitability discussions with leaders will happen after the January Mocks

SIXTH FORM

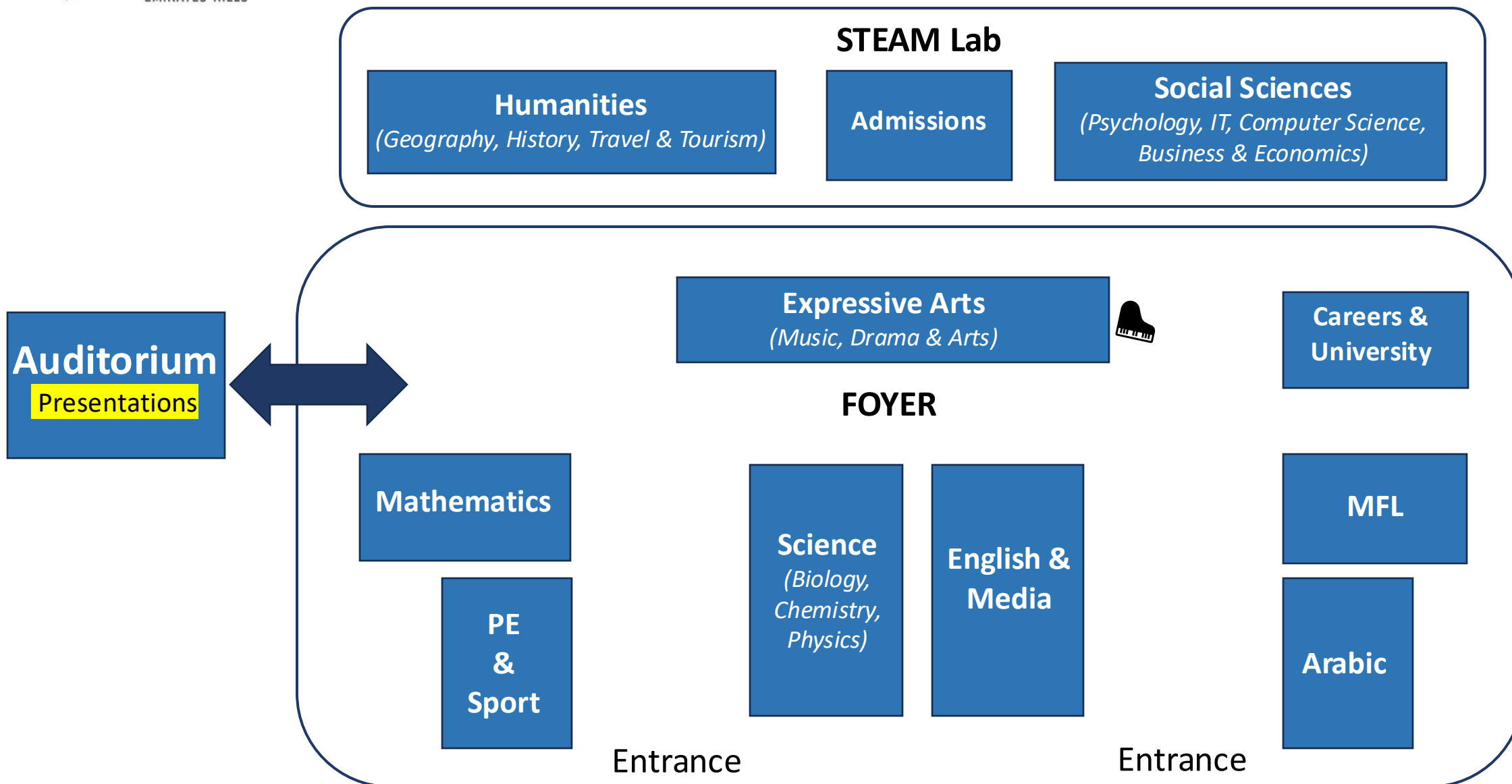
OPTIONS BOOKLET

2026-2027

- The Sixth Form Options Booklet contains detailed information about the courses on offer
- It can be found in the 'Sixth Form' section of our website (*About Us > Our Curriculum > Sixth Form*)



Subject Showcase Layout





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