

Ignite School Graduation Handbook



Academic Year
2024-2025

Our Vision

Our vision is for all young people to experience that learning has lasting value beyond their life at school.

Our Mission

Our mission is to know the need of every student, collaboratively creating a student-centered, sustainable 21st century learning environment that fosters leadership, social cohesion, creativity, responsibility and ambition providing a catalyst for abilities of lasting relevance to emerge.

Introduction

Ignite School provides an American curriculum within a framework of traditional Islamic values. It is Ignite School's overriding belief that students learn to their optimum in a caring, nurturing environment which recognizes the importance of the local culture and traditions. We believe a child's education is served best when his/her individual needs are met within a challenging and comprehensive curriculum. Our primary purpose is to develop responsible and well-rounded bilingual students who will be able to meet the challenges of the 21st century with confidence and anticipation. The High School curriculum builds upon prior skill and content learning from the elementary and middle grades. The High School curriculum at Ignite School is firmly rooted in the New York Next Generation Standards and the College Readiness Standards. Expectations for academic achievement are high, and instructional approaches are differentiated for each student based on learning style, strengths, and areas of needed support. To be granted an American High School Diploma, the student must complete all credits as per the Graduation Requirements.

The school offers career and guidance counseling to enable students to understand the graduation requirements and make the right choices regarding their course selections including electives and their respective credit requirements.

In keeping with the Graduation Requirements, the school offers courses within these domains:

- English.
- Arabic Language.
- Science.
- Mathematics.
- World Languages.
- Islamic.
- Social Studies.
- Physical Education.
- Visual/ Performing Arts.
- Choice of electives based on school offerings that include Advanced Placement (AP) courses.

Important Definitions

- **Graduation Requirements:**

Graduation Requirements are the set criteria of number of credit hours, courses, and national/international exam students need to take to pass high school.

- **Attainment:**

This refers to whether a student is working 'at the expected level' or 'working beyond the grade-level'.

- **Measure of attainment:**

Grade Bands and Grade Point Average. Defined according to performance level descriptors. AP courses have scale 5 and other courses have scale 4 GPA.

- **Authorized/licensed curriculum:**

The curriculum that the school has decided or been given the authority to deliver as a condition for it to operate within the UAE.

- **External curriculum related examinations:**

Examinations for a specific curriculum are taken at the end of the phase, and are set and marked externally, e.g. SATs, AP Exams, and IELTS.

- **Transcript:**

A transcript is the certificate that shows what courses a student has taken in high school, their grades, and Cumulative GPA.

Graduation Requirements

Subject	Credit Requirement	Notes
English Language Arts	4 Credits	
Mathematics	4 Credits	In Grade 12, students choose a math elective.
Science	4 Credits	In grade 12, students choose a science elective.
Social Studies & Humanities	3 Credits	
Arabic Language	4 Credits	
Islamic Education	2 Credits	
Physical Education	2 Credits	
World Languages	2 Credits	
Visual Arts	0.5 Credits	
Electives	4-5 Credits	Includes Math and science courses in grade 12

High School Tracks

There are two tracks in high school. Students can choose the tracks according to their career choices from the general or the Distinguished Achievement Program (DAP).

Graduation Requirements for General Track

Subject	Credit Requirement	Notes
English Language Arts	4 Credits	
Mathematics	4 Credits	In Grade 12, students choose a math elective.
Science	4 Credits	In grade 12, students choose a science elective.
Social Studies & Humanities	3 Credits	
Arabic Language	4 Credits	
Islamic Education	2 Credits	
Physical Education	2 Credits	
World Languages	2 Credits	
Visual Arts	0.5 Credits	
Electives	4-5 Credits	Includes Math and science courses in grade 12

Graduation Requirements for DAP Track (where all students are requested to take 3 AP courses).

DAP Tier 1:

Subject	Credit Requirement	Notes
English Language Arts	4 credits	
Mathematics	4 credits	Students will take AP CALCULUS AB
Science subjects	4 credits	AP Physics C: Electricity & Magnetism AP Physics C: Mechanics AP Chemistry or AP Biology
Social Studies & Humanities	3 credits	
Arabic Language	4 credits	
Islamic Education	2 credits	
Physical Education	2 credits	
World Languages	2 credits	
Visual Arts	0.5 credits	
Electives	4-5 credits	Includes Math and science course in grade 12 (any chosen subject, rather than the previously taken)

Graduation Requirements for DAP Track (where all students are requested to take the AP Capstone Diploma with a minimum score of 3 in AP seminar and AP research and 4 AP courses of their choice).

DAP Tier 2:

Subject	Credit Requirement	Notes
English Language Arts	4 credits	
Mathematics	4 credits	Students will take AP CALCULUS AB
Science subjects	4 credits	AP Physics C: Electricity & Magnetism AP Physics C: Mechanics AP Chemistry or AP Biology
Social Studies & Humanities	3 credits	
Arabic Language	4 credits	
Islamic Education	2 credits	
Physical Education	2 credits	
World Languages	2 credits	
Visual Arts	0.5 credits	
Electives	4-5 credits	Includes Math and science course in grade 12 (any chosen subject, rather than the previously taken), including AP Capstone Diploma (AP Capstone Seminar / AP Capstone research)

High School Courses and Electives

English

Course: English	Course Code	Credit	Grade	Prerequisite Criteria
English 9	ENG9	1	9	
English 10	ENG10	1	10	
English 11	ENG11	1	11	
English 12	ENG12	1	12	
Electives				
Creative Writing	CWRT	0.5	9-10	
Research & Debate	RS&DBT	0.5	9-10	
Journalism	JOUR	0.5	11	
Public Speaking	PSPK	0.5	11	

Note: 4 Credits is required (4 years)

Mathematics

Course: Mathematics	Course Code	Credit	Grade	Prerequisite Criteria
Algebra I	ALG1	1	9	
Geometry	GEO	1	10	
Algebra II	ALG2	1	11	
Electives				
Probability and Statistics	PROBA STAT	0.5	11	
AP Calculus AB	AP CAL AB	1	12	B+ and above in Algebra 2
Pre-Calculus	PRE-CAL	1	12	C+ and below
Statistics	STAT	1	12	B+ and above

Note: 4 Credits is required (4 years)

Physical Education

Course: Physical Education	Course Code	Credit	Grade
PHYSICAL EDUCATION 9	PE09	0.5	9
PHYSICAL EDUCATION 10	PE10	0.5	10
PHYSICAL EDUCATION 11	PE11	0.5	11
PHYSICAL EDUCATION 12	PE12	0.5	12
Electives			
Health and Fitness	HF	0.5	9-10

Note: 2 Credits required (2 years)

Arabic & World Languages

Course: Arabic	Course Code	Credit	Grade
Arabic as a First Language	ARA1	1	9
Arabic as a First Language	ARA2	1	10
Arabic as a First Language	ARA3	1	11
Arabic as a First Language	ARA4	1	12
(For Non-Native Speakers)			
Arabic as an Additional Language	ARB1	1	9
Arabic as an Additional Language	ARB2	1	10
Arabic as an Additional Language	ARB3	1	11
Arabic as an Additional Language	ARB4	1	12
World Language - Electives			
French	FRN 1	0.5	9-12
Spanish	SPN	0.5	9-12

Note: 4 Credits of Arabic is required (4 years) by MOE. 2 credits are required of World language.

Islamic Studies

Course: Religious Studies	Course Code	Credit	Grade
Islamic Education A9	ISA09	0.5	9
Islamic Education A10	ISA10	0.5	10
Islamic Education A11	ISA11	0.5	11
Islamic Education A12	ISA12	0.5	12
(For Non-Native Arab Muslim)			
Islamic Education B9	ISB09	0.5	9
Islamic Education B10	ISB10	0.5	10
Islamic Education B11	ISB11	0.5	11
Islamic Education B12	ISB12	0.5	12

Note: 0.5 credit per year is required by MOE. 2 Credits of Islamic Education is required (4 years)

Science

Course: Science	Course Code	Credit	Grade	Prerequisite Criteria
Biology	BIO	1	9	
Chemistry	CHM	1	10	
Physics	PHY	1	11	
Electives				
AP Biology	AP BIO	1	10-12	B+ and above in Biology
AP Chemistry	AP CHM	1	11-12	B+ and above in Chemistry
AP Physics C: Electricity & Magnetism	AP PHY (EM)	1	12	B+ and above in Physics
AP Physics C: Mechanism	AP PHY (M)	1	12	B+ and above in Physics
Environmental Science	ENV SC	0.5	9-10	
Health and Nutrition	HLT&N	0.5	9-10	

Note: 4 credits are required.

Social Studies

Course: Social Studies	Course Code	Credit	Grade	Prerequisite Criteria
US Social Studies	USSS	1	9	
World History	WRLD HIS	1	10	
Geography	GEOG	1	11	
Economics	ECON	1	12	

Note: 3 credits are required over 4 years.

Business

Course: Business	Course Code	Credit	Grade	Prerequisite Criteria
Marketing	MRK	0.5	11	
AP Microeconomics	AP MiEco	1	12	

Note: Students need to have 5.5 credits for electives over the 4 years.

ICT

Course: Information Technology	Course Code	Credit	Grade	Prerequisite Criteria
AP Computer Science Principles	AP COMP	1	12	B+ and above in Algebra 1
Artificial Intelligence	AI	0.5	9-11	
Mobile App Development	MB AP	0.5	9-10	
Network and Cyber Security	NTW CYS	0.5	11	

Note: Students need to have 5.5 credits for electives over the 4 years.

Visual Arts and Performing Arts

Course: Visual Arts & Creative Arts	Course Code	Credit	Grade
Intro to Graphic Design	INTRO GD	0.5	9-10
Advanced Graphic design	ADV GD	0.5	9-10

Note: 0.5 credit required by KHDA

DAP Tier 2 / AP Capstone Diploma:

Course: AP Capstone	Course Code	Credit	Grade
AP Capstone Seminar	AP CAP Sem	1	11
AP Capstone Research	AP CAP Res	1	12

What is an AP Course?

The College Board’s AP courses are college-level classes in a wide variety of subjects that you can take while still in high school. AP courses are usually more demanding than regular high school classes. Most AP courses are like first-year college courses. They offer students challenging course work and a taste of what college classes are like.

Why AP courses are important?

Taking AP courses and exams in high school could give student an advantage in university by letting them:

- Earn College Credit and Placement
- Save Money and Time
- Stand Out to university
- Keep Your Options Open

AP Exam Grading

The final score for each AP Exam is reported on a 5-point scale that offers a recommendation about how qualified a student is to receive college credit and placement.

Ignite School AP Courses

Ignite School offers various AP courses so the students can choose according to their career pathways. Students can start taking AP courses from grade 10. Some courses have pre-requisites, below is the table with the pre-requisite details:

Course: Mathematics	Credit	Grade	Prerequisite Criteria
AP Calculus AB	1	12	B+ and above in Algebra 2
AP Biology	1	11-12	B+ and above in Biology
AP Chemistry	1	11-12	B+ and above in Chemistry
AP Physics C (Electricity & Magnetism)	1	12	B+ and above in Physics
AP Physics C (Mechanism)	1	12	B+ and above in Physics
AP Environmental Science	1	10-12	None
AP Microeconomics	1	12	None
AP Computer Science Principle	1	11-12	B+ and above in Algebra 1
AP Capstone Seminar	1	11	B and above
AP Capstone Research	1	12	B and above

Career test

- We encourage our students to do a career test where they answer some questions related to their interest.
- The analysis also gives each interest a video to clarify the careers in this interest, and what to study for it.
- We let our students from grade 9 up to grade 12 do it and save their results in a school form, from where we can follow up with them in the counseling.

Career counseling and Pathways

- Guiding students to make curricular choices that best align with their interests and career plans.
- Career fairs/ career plans/ scholarship opportunities.
- Unifrog is used for college applications and to apply for university admissions, upload SAT scores, and personal statements to support the application process.
- Opportunities for Remediation and enrichment.
- Student survey for subject choices.
- Meeting with students with low grades and formulating a plan of action for success involving both the student and parent.
- Honors or G&T program.
- Make necessary schedule changes based on a student's abilities and career plans (ex. Prerequisites).
- Tracking courses students have completed.
- Send parents and students updates on their graduation status to their parents.
- Ensure students are aware of graduation requirements and college admissions.
- Assist students with completion of college applications.

The courses offered in high school prepared students to choose between different career pathways.

Some of the pathways are:

1. Medicine.
2. Engineering.
3. Technology.
4. Arts, Media, and Communications.
5. Entrepreneurship, Accounting, and Marketing.
6. Law Enforcement.

1. Medicine

Subjects that will help students in studying medicine in university are:

- AP Biology.
- AP Chemistry.
- Human development.
- Forensic Science.
- Organic Chemistry.

2. Engineering

Subjects that will help students in studying engineering in university are:

- AP Chemistry.
- AP Physics C.
- AP Calculus AB.
- Pre-Calculus.
- AP Environmental sciences.
- Astronomy.
- Earth and Space Science.

3. Technology

Subjects that will help students in studying technology in university are:

- Gaming.
- Introduction to Programming.
- Artificial Intelligence.
- Photoshop.
- Robotics.
- AP Computer Science Principles.
- Introduction to Cyber Security.

4. Art, Media, and Communications

Subjects that will help students in studying Arts in university are:

- Creative writing.
- French.
- Journalism.
- Fashion design.
- Graphic design.
- Public Speaking.
- Research Writing.

5. Entrepreneurship, Accounting, and Marketing

Subjects that will help students in studying Business studies in university are:

- Introduction to Business.
- Marketing.
- Advanced Marketing.
- Accounting.
- Advanced Accounting.
- Business Communication.
- Business Math.
- Business Research & Ethics.

6. Law Enforcement

Subjects that will help students in studying Law enforcement in university are:

- Public Speaking.
- Research Writing.
- Forensic Science.
- Journalism.

Equalization Requirements

Emirati students and non-citizens attending local and universities abroad
SAT 1 (450 in Math) exam as a minimum score
IELTS Band 5
TOEFL (written exam is 500 / computer exam is 173 / through internet 61)

Grade Reporting and Scale

Below is the grade reporting and scale for high school.

Letter Grade	Percent Grade	4.0 Scale
A+	97-100	4.0
A	93-96	4.0
A-	90-92	3.7
B+	87-89	3.3
B	83-86	3.0
B-	80-82	2.7
C+	77-79	2.3
C	73-76	2.0
C-	70-72	1.7
D+	67-69	1.3
D	65-66	1.0
D-	Below 65	0.5
E/F	Below 60	0.0
AP	An addition of 0.25 to the standard weighting	