

Language Programme at TISB

Languages taught at TISB are with the awareness of allowing students to have a choice of Modern Foreign languages. We have several languages on offer which includes Spanish, German, French, Mandarin and Hindi, both at the beginners' and advanced levels. A careful reading of the document that follows, depending on the grade your child is in, should allow for a considered choice.

Middle School-(6 to 8)

An overarching aim of teaching and learning languages in the Middle School is to enable the student to become a critical and competent communicator.

The aims of the teaching and learning of the middle school language programme are to:

- Develop a respect for, and understanding of, diverse linguistic and cultural heritages which encompasses the four essential linguistic skills, **reading, writing, speaking and listening**.
- Develop the student's communication skills necessary for further language learning, and for study, work and leisure in a range of authentic contexts and for a variety of audiences and purposes.
- Enable the student to develop an appreciation of a variety non-literary text and to develop critical and creative techniques for comprehension and construction of meaning.
- Enable the student to understand the nature of language and the process of language learning, which comprises the integration of linguistic, cultural and social components.
- Encourage an awareness and understanding of the perspectives of people from their own and other cultures, leading to involvement and action in their own and other communities
- Foster curiosity, inquiry and a lifelong interest in, and enjoyment of, language learning.

Languages must be chosen after considerable deliberation at middle school keeping in mind the beginner's level and the prerequisites at IGCSE and IB levels.

Chinese, German and Spanish are offered at the beginner's level only in grade 6.

Hindi and French are offered from grade 6 but students must have prior knowledge of the subject for at least 2 years. (Prior knowledge means basic skills in reading and writing, sentence structures, not mere awareness of alphabets)

IGCSE – (9 and 10)

The IGCSE foreign language course is accepted by universities as proof of linguistic ability and understanding and also encourages students to develop lifelong skills which include:

- The ability to use a foreign language as a means of practical communication
- Insight into the culture and civilisation of countries where the language is spoken

- A positive attitude towards language learning, towards the speakers of other languages, and towards other cultures and civilisations
- Techniques which can be applied to other areas of learning, such as analysis and memory skills
- A sound foundation for progression to employment or further study.

The languages offered at the IGCSE are the following:

Chinese, Spanish, Hindi and French

It is recommended that the students need a minimum of 2 years of prior knowledge in the language. (Prior knowledge means basic skills in reading and writing, sentence structures, not mere awareness of alphabets)

IB-XI & XII

Language Acquisition (Group-2):

आजीवनम् ज्ञानवर्धनम्™

The main aims and objectives of IB Language Acquisition are as follows:

1. To enable students to communicate effectively in the target language.
2. To enable students to acquire a wide range of vocabulary and use it competently in the target language.
3. To enable the students to develop inter- cultural understanding and appreciate the perspectives of people from various cultures.

Languages are offered at Ab initio and B level (HL & SL)

Ab initio: It is a beginner's course in the respective language. Students opting for Ab initio need not have any background knowledge in the language. This course is for students who are attempting to learn the language for the first time and there are no prerequisites in learning the language.

Languages offered at the Ab initio level: Spanish, French, German and Mandarin Chinese

B level (HL & SL) : Students opting for a language at the B level (HL or SL) should have studied the language for a minimum of four years.

Languages offered at the B level (HL & SL): French, Spanish and German is offered at the Standard Level B only (SL).

Hindi is offered at the Higher Level (HL) as well as Standard Level (SL).