



مدرسة برستين الخاصة  
PRISTINE PRIVATE SCHOOL

# Post 16 Options Booklet

## 2016 - 2017

Curriculum Information



**CAMBRIDGE**  
International Examinations

Cambridge International School

## Contents

Welcome to Pristine Private School.....	3
Pristine Core Values.....	4
Why post 16 Education? .....	5
POST 16 Curriculum.....	7
Enrichment Programmes.....	8
Entry Requirements.....	11
Subject Specific Requirements.....	12
Subjects of study available at PPS.....	13
Application form.....	14
Reference form for new students.....	15
Contract form.....	17



## Welcome to Pristine Private School

Pristine Private School (PPS) adheres to the guidelines laid out by the British National Curriculum and nurtures students from Foundation Stage to A-Levels. PPS was established in 1992 and is situated in the Al Nahda 2 area of Dubai.

At Pristine, we believe in providing students the opportunities to explore interests, develop a balance between academic proficiency and individual creativity and emerge as socially responsible individuals.

We are a school based on modern conceptual learning, which anticipates the future in all its readiness and shares it with tomorrow's generation. The school's philosophy is based on personalized attention through developmentally appropriate and challenging learning activities in order to encourage positive self-esteem and emotional well being of each child. It offers children an opportunity to learn and develop in a secure, creative and stimulating environment.

At Post-16 (Years 12 and 13) a wide range of courses is offered to prepare students for higher and further education, training and employment. We expect all students to select four AS courses for Year 12 then continuing to Year 13 to study three subjects at A2. It is important to think about future subjects of study when making your options choices so that a smooth transition may be made from one level of education to another

The post 16 curriculum is enriched by the Community Service Programme, Better learning partnership, Careers Guidance and Physical Education.

We are committed to educate our students with the skills to achieve their highest level of academic performance, while fostering positive growth in social/emotional behaviours and attitudes enabling each student to achieve a successful transition from childhood to adulthood.



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PRISTINE PRIVATE SCHOOL

**compassion**

**critical thinking**

**diversity**

**dedication**

**excellence**

**honesty**

**leadership**

**future ready**

**CORE VALUES**

PPS  
Pristine and Special

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## Why Choose To Extend Your Education Beyond IGCSE?

There are many reasons for extending your education beyond IGCSE:

- ✓ The desire to continue and transition to Higher Education,
- ✓ Improving qualifications already obtained,
- ✓ Gaining a wider range of experiences prior to committing yourself to a job or full time course of vocational study.

Whatever your reasons, think things through, establish clearly what has motivated you and set yourself a clear, realistic target you can aim for. You may wish to speak to your Academic Counsellor, Supervisor other professionals at school about your plans so that they may get involved.

## What Does Pristine Private School Offer You

### Progress to Post 16 Education

The Post 16 community is an integral part of the school and you will have many opportunities to play a full part in School life. As an older member of a community you have a lot to offer the younger members of the school - your experience, your abilities, your example and your time. How you decide to get involved and to what extent will depend upon you, but simply by establishing a mature presence in the school you influence the attitudes and expectations of younger students.

There is a very distinctive ethos of respect for the maturity of Post 16 students. We aim to respect the choice which has been made to continue studying and to forge a new relationship between students and teachers based on partnership in learning. We give considerable responsibility to our students and in return expect of them an adult approach to their work and environment.

There are also considerable opportunities for broadening your experience and developing important skills and qualities through the wide range of extra-curricular opportunities which you will find described in this booklet.

Here are some important features of our POST 16 classes:

- ☆ High quality of teaching and learning validated with the international results.
- ☆ Excellent links with Higher Education establishments around the world. The school has an annual career fair that gives students the opportunity to speak about future plans and meet national and international university representatives.
- ☆ Varied Leadership opportunities
- ☆ A Community Service programme that is certificated – Internal certification



Study at POST 16 level is highly demanding but also satisfying as it proves an opportunity to explore your own interest within subject areas as well as meeting the requirements of international examinations. It is expected that for each hour of instruction in class time you devote another hour out of class time to reviewing the subject matter. There is a marked difference to studying at Post 16. You are required to show a mature attitude in your studies and the extra opportunities open to you. Getting involved will ensure that you leave the school with the skills required for Higher Education or employment.

POST 16 students play an important part in the life of the school and through your presence, and more obviously, by participating in positions of leadership organizing clubs and societies for younger members of the school, you are expected to lead by example.

You are required to adhere to the School dress code for POST 16 and respect the need for rules and responsibilities. Doing so will ensure that the POST 16 community maintain the high status that it has within and outside of the school.

The POST 16 community is about achieving – both in personal and social development in addition to academic success. Teaching is even more of a partnership between students and staff. Community Service is a compulsory part of the programme and is a very important aspect of school life.

Attendance and punctuality are taken very seriously. 96% school attendance is mandatory. Whilst you study within the POST 16 community your teachers and the school leaders would be observing your academic progress, initiatives, attitude and the relationships that you develop with staff and peers. We are often asked for references and recommendation letters for onward study or employment and will be asked to comment on all of the above including attendance and punctuality. We therefore urge you to attend the school regularly and be on time for the school day and all lessons.

The '**A level**' is a 2 year programme; AS (Advanced Subsidiary) is completed in Year 12 and A2 in Year 13. Students must sit both parts of the course to gain a full A level. Students are required to study a minimum of 4 AS subjects in Year 12 and may choose only 3 for Year 13. Full guidance will be given to students that need help in choosing their subjects.

External examinations in most subjects will take place during May/June for Year 12 and Year 13. All examination entry fees are payable by parents.

### **Opting for the right course of study**

- Think about which qualification type or subjects might be required or helpful for the career you wish to pursue
- Think about which subjects you enjoy now but also consider new subjects you haven't experienced before but which sound interesting.
- Ensure that you do not exclude yourself from any University courses that you may wish to pursue (for example by having too few full A levels or the wrong subjects) and have the correct number plus combination of AS and A level subjects.
- Look carefully at the syllabus and the books (even if you have studied the subject earlier). Please refer to **www.cie.org.uk**
- Talk to your subject teachers about your strengths and be honest in assessing your strengths
- Be aware that there are some careers and courses that need particular 'A' Levels.  
For example:
  - Engineering / Technology need Mathematics and Physics
  - Medicine needs Biology, Chemistry and one other Science- Physics / Mathematics
  - Clinical Psychology / Counselling / Human Development / Law need Psychology and English
  - Business Management needs Economics, Business Studies and Accounting
- Prioritize your subjects in order of interest and value to you.
- Decide how you are going to organize your subjects across the two years.

***Your Research in choosing the subject is vital.***

Choose the subject that you will enjoy, stay motivated and the combination of which meets your future requirement. Some websites that might help you:

[www.careerswales.com](http://www.careerswales.com)

[www.ucas.com](http://www.ucas.com)

**By getting the best grades possible at IGCSE you will ensure you have a wide range of options available at Post 16.**



  
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PRISTINE PRIVATE SCHOOL  
**Enrichment Programme**

**Career Counselling**

***‘Encourage, Empower, Execute’***

The Counselling Department at Pristine Private School is concerned with the development of skills, attitudes and knowledge through a planned programme of learning experiences, assisting all students to make informed decisions about school and post school options.

Career Guidance provides a coordinated and comprehensive program of learning experiences which addresses the developmental needs of all students. Our focus is to encourage our students to explore the diverse options of study available to them by helping our students identify their own learning styles, aptitude and natural tendencies to effectively support and guide their educational and career decisions as they prepare for transition into young adulthood.

We empower them with the knowledge of various upcoming curriculum options and destinations of higher education through weekly assemblies and informative sessions held by field experts. Execution of their aspirations and goals are assisted with, as we are a student-centered support service: we offer one-on-one counselling appointments, consultations throughout the career planning process and achievement of goals through a variety of career exploration activities.

Career counselling takes care of various aspects like personal insight, support and an even better learning experience. Other than these, it helps in building high motivational level by understanding the individualistic needs. It ensures that every individual sets up specific goals and gives his/her best in achieving them. The best part about career counselling is that it inspires every individual to make a career for themselves in a field in which their interest and passion lies. By doing so, it aids every individual to know his/her own powers and that success lies nowhere else, but inside him/her.

**Special Advice to Parents**

As your child still decides he / she often turns to parents, teachers and adults with confused choices.

**Help your child prepare for a Career**

Encourage your child to talk about the future. Make them feel that it is alright to want to be anything they want to be. You may also want to discuss with your child how you would want his /her life in the future. Discuss how you agree and how you differ about his /her future.



Get him /her to visualize his/her dreams for the future. Relate his /her desires to an occupation that makes them possible.

Let the child revert to his/her dreams - his/her own qualities and things he/she thinks he/she will have to do to make these dreams come true. If he/she says he/she “wants to be happy” ask him/her what makes him/her happy and why. Point out that education can make dreams come true.

Finally celebrate the moments you share with your child. *Tell him /her that you will do all you can to help their dreams come true.*

### **Community Service Programme**

PPS believes that the most important responsibility is to create responsible and compassionate human beings who are well equipped to support and be a productive part of our community. With this objective in mind a formal Community Service Program (CSP) is in place and it is an integral part of the school curriculum.

CSP helps our POST 16 students to interact and forge links not only within the school community but also with the community at large. The activities planned under the CSP help to increase our students' participation in community service and also sensitizes students to the needs of the community at large. Every Post 16 student develops their personal skills and attributes by carrying out a variety of Community Service activities across the school as well as outside of school (e.g. Al Noor Centre for Special Needs and visits to SENSES, Labour camps etc...)

Our CSP is implemented as follows:

#### **Direct Volunteering:**

Students have a direct contact with those benefitting from the service. For example: mentoring at school; interacting with special needs students; visiting charitable organizations, adopting a Labour camp etc.

Example of this is the Better Learning Partnership where the POST 16 students visit the junior classes once a week and assist them in their academics. They help the junior students in reading, writing, mathematics, art, music and other activities.

#### **In-direct Fundraising:**

Students perform a service without having a direct contact with the beneficiaries. Usually resources/funds are collected to address a chosen issue. For example: toys, food and clothes, collection drives, fundraisers, environmental projects, Breast Cancer awareness and Natural disaster relief campaigns, etc.



### **Students' Voice:**

Student representatives educate the student body about a chosen issue every week through assemblies, skits or posters. The aim is to create awareness and hence try to address the cause of the issue. Examples of assemblies are – Breast Cancer Awareness, World Islamic Day, World Water Day, Earth Day etc.

Our Community Service Programme encompasses the following areas:

Visiting and serving at social organizations

Organizing fund raising activities at school

Assisting with cover duties

Registration with EEG & participation in their programmes

School environmental club

Charity drives

Character building workshops

Mentoring primary & junior Students

Volunteering for management of events

Hosting events at school

## Entry Requirements

Please note that the criteria for admissions to Year 12 are as follows:

- ✓ A minimum of 5B's (having achieved Subject Admission Requirements listed on page 12).
- ✓ A student applying to AS level should have a minimum C in IGCSE Mathematics and English.
- ✓ Fully completed Post 16 Application Form including affirmative reference letter from the school.
- ✓ An interview with the leadership team.
- ✓ A contract signed by the student and parents promising good behaviour and regular attendance.

Places for AS are not confirmed till **August 2016** when IGCSE results are received and confirmed.

Once you have received your IGCSE results, you will need to confirm your place by completing the remaining paperwork and paying the school fees.

**Kindly note that your place is not automatically confirmed, even if you have completed IGCSE from PPS.**

**Progress from AS to full A level is dependent on satisfactory completion of the Year 12 course and regular attendance.**

## Subject Specific Admission Requirements

**All students have to take the following compulsory subjects in Year 12:**

- Advanced Arabic for Arabs (School Assessed)
- Islamic Studies for Muslim students (School Assessed)

Subject	AS Level Entry Grade (IGCSE/GCSE)	A Level Entry Grade (AS)	Additional Comments
Accounting	B	C	B grade in Maths
Applied ICT	B	C	B Grade in Computer Studies / ICT and English (E2L)
Art & Design	C	--	C Grade in Maths and B in English (E2L)
Biology	A/A*	C	Must have studied this subject at IGCSE level
Business Studies	B	C	B Grade in English (E2L)
Chemistry	A/A*	C	Must have studied this subject at IGCSE level
Economics	B	C	B Grade in Maths and English (E2L)
English Language	B (E1L) A / A*(E2L)	C	B Grade in English 1 <sup>st</sup> Language or A/A* in English 2 <sup>nd</sup> Language
Mathematics	A/A*	C	Must have studied this subject at IGCSE level
Physics	A/A*	C	Must have studied this subject at IGCSE level
Psychology	B	C	B Grade in English (E2L)
Travel & Tourism	B	C	B Grade in English (E2L)
English Literature	C	C	C grade in English Literature

\*Please be informed that students who have done IGCSE Core paper in Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry and Biology are not eligible for entry into these subjects at AS Level.



### Selection of Subject Groups for AS Level Qualifications

Pristine Private School has undertaken the responsibility of preparing your ward for the AS Level Board Examination to be held in May / June 2017. Accordingly, the School is offering a range of qualifications based on student needs and the job opportunities available in the changing world. **AS level is a part of a progression of Cambridge International A level Qualification.**

**All students have to take the following compulsory subjects in Year 12:**

- **Advanced Arabic for Arabs (School Assessed)**
- **Islamic Studies for Muslim students (School Assessed)**

You can choose a maximum of **four** subjects. However, you can select only one subject from each column provided below.

OPTION 1	OPTION 2	OPTION 3	OPTION 4
PHYSICS	CHEMISTRY	BIOLOGY	MATH (P1 & S1)
ACCOUNTING	BUSINESS STUDIES	ECONOMICS	TRAVEL AND TOURISM
ENGLISH LANGUAGE	ART & DESIGN	ICT	PSYCHOLOGY
—	ENG. LITERATURE	—	ICT

Parents are requested to submit the following form completed in consultation with your ward at the earliest to reach the class teacher on **24<sup>th</sup> April 2016** positively.

Your support and encouragement will help us in making our programme successful.

Please note that the school reserves the option of withdrawing the subjects offered if there are not enough students opting for them.

Best regards,

Tasneem Usman  
Senior School Coordinator



**POST 16 APPLICATION FORM**

**Subject: Selection of Subjects for AS Level**

I, as a Parent, in consultation with my ward choose the following optional subjects for my ward:

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Parent: .....

Signature of Parent: .....

Name of Student: .....

Signature of Student: .....

Date: .....

- ***The decision of the management on the option selection shall be final and binding to all the applicants.***



**Post 16 Reference Form**

**Confidential Reference – to be completed by New Applicants**

**Name of Student:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Contact Number:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Email Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Name of the School last attended:** \_\_\_\_\_

Predicted Grades (fill in those subjects studied in the blank spaces)

Subject	Predicted IGCSE Grade (for students going into year 12)	Predicted AS grade (for students going into Year 13)	Teacher Name and Signature

**Note:** Shortlisted candidates will be required to attend an interview with the Senior School Coordinator/Principal along with the following documents:

- Transcripts IGCSE / AS Level
- Conduct Certificate
- Any special achievement records

Dear Teacher,

Please comment on the student's attitude towards his/her IGCSE studies, contribution to school life and their ability to cope with an A Level programme as well as punctuality and attendance. Your accurate view of the student will be highly appreciated for us to come to a decision.

Signature of Teacher:

Name:

Position:

School Address:

Phone Number:

Teacher's email

**Name and Signature of Head of School:** \_\_\_\_\_

**School Stamp:** \_\_\_\_\_

Both pages of this form should be returned directly to Pristine Private School.



**POST 16 Community Contract - 2016-2017**

**Student's Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Year:** \_\_\_\_\_

We understand that my son/daughter \_\_\_\_\_ has accepted a place at **Pristine Private School POST 16 Community** conditional upon the following requirements being met at all times.

\_\_\_\_\_ shall:

- Attend all school lessons and other activities within their Post 16 timetable regularly and punctually
- Attend assemblies as required
- Use any non-timetabled time for individual private study and better learning programme in allocated areas.
- Not leave the school site during lesson time unless previously agreed and discussed with the Senior School Coordinator in consultation with parents
- Wherever possible make routine appointments with the doctor, dentist etc. outside of school hours
- Adhere to the Post 16 Dress Code by being smart and presentable at all times
- Meet all deadlines set for homework and coursework for all subjects
- At all times set a good example to the younger students in the school
- Behave in an exemplary manner in accordance with the school's Behaviour Policy
- Respect his/her surroundings and recognise the right of other students to study in peace
- Notify the Class Teachers / Senior School Coordinator in case of absence
- Will use any study lessons effectively and be at the correct designated place
- Will complete the required community service hours during the designated days and complete the log book.
- Appear for all assessments and examinations.

We agree that \_\_\_\_\_ shall meet the above requirements at all times and understand that failure to do so will result in a meeting to discuss her/his continuing education to be a part of **Pristine Private school POST 16 Community**.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ (Parent)

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ (Student)

Parent's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Contact No: \_\_\_\_\_ Email ID: \_\_\_\_\_

