

Science Department policy Stage 6-8 CS

Nature of Subject:

In stage 6-8 science curriculum is designed in a way that helps students to think scientifically and develop practical skills alongside knowledge and understanding, which is vital for explaining the world around us.

Science curriculum covers main areas called 'strands' that work together so that we can teach science holistically:

- **Biology** – living things and how they interact.
- **Chemistry** – the study of matter.
- **Physics** – the interaction of matter and energy.
- **Earth and Space** – planet Earth, the wider Solar System and beyond.

In order to improve our students' skills in each topic, and to give them the chance to move smoothly to Stage 9-12, new policies and procedures have been set this year. They include adding more worksheets (Alternative to practical work) and moving some topics between stages 6-10.

Aims

As we believe in the important role of students in the learning process, we apply different methods of teaching and learning and provide them with different opportunities to practice critical thinking and inquiry-based learning.

Teaching Strategies

The curriculum is implemented in a way that gives the students confidence and interest in the scientific knowledge they learn according to their abilities, by focusing on scientific inquiry, differentiation, group work, problem solving and learning by doing.

Assessment Strategies

During the scholastic year, students will be assessed through different methods that are designed and planned in a way that meets the learning objectives that are covered.

In addition to the ongoing assessments, students will be assessed monthly as follows (**According to the Ministry of Education instructions**):

| | First Semester | | | Second Semester | | | Notes |
|---------------------------|----------------|----------|----------|-----------------|----------|----------|--|
| | Grade 6 | Grade 7 | Grade 8 | Grade 6 | Grade 7 | Grade 8 | |
| First month | 20 Marks | 20 Marks | 40 Marks | 20 Marks | 20 Marks | 40 Marks | |
| Second month | 20 Marks | 20 Marks | 40 Marks | 20 Marks | 20 Marks | 40 Marks | |
| Third month | 20 Marks | 20 Marks | 40 Marks | 20 Marks | 20 Marks | 40 Marks | Project:50 % of the mark+ 50% of the mark calculated through on going assessment |
| Mid-term exam/ final exam | 40 Marks | 40 Marks | 80 Marks | 40 Marks | 40 Marks | 80 Marks | |

Note:

All Students will sit for **three science exams** during each monthly assessment period.

Paper One: Biology (20 marks)

Paper Two: Physics (20 marks)

Paper Three: Chemistry (20 marks)

Note: Earth and space will be taught as part of the Chemistry & Physics classes.

The total mark will be calculated as follows:

Grade 6: (Paper 1+Paper 2+ Paper 3)/ 3

Grade 7: (Paper 1+Paper 2+ Paper 3)/ 3

Grade 8: (Paper 1+Paper 2+ Paper 3) *2/3

Teachers' Responsibilities

Teachers ensure a safe environment for our students to learn. We are not the main source of knowledge, we are working with our students to guide them and help them collect and understand the new knowledge they are learning.

- **Annual Planning**

Annual plans are set to show the skills and values our students will acquire at the end of each unit as well as how our teaching strategies meet the school's vision and mission.

- **Unit Planning**

In Stage 6-8, the units are planned in a way to show the lesson objectives, teaching strategies, activities and assessment methods. These plans are designed by the teachers and revised by the coordinators to make sure they are set in a way that meets our standards.

As the units are vertically integrated, some topics will be rearranged in the unit plans, taking into consideration students' cognitive development.

Student Responsibilities

Students play a crucial and active role in education. They have to show the interest and the ability to engage in different activities.

Students have to be well prepared for the science classes, they have to bring all the required material for their science classes.

Educational studies show the importance of taking notes on students' achievement. It helps our students to be more focused, well organised, able to remember and find connections between key concepts/ objectives discussed during the lessons.

Parents Responsibilities

Parents play an important role in the learning process, so we expect them to respond to any note from the teacher to be aware of all the difficulties and concerns their children have and to feel free to inform us when they face any problems, so we can solve them.

Homework Policy

Students will be given homework when needed. We discuss the textbook and the workbook questions at the end of each lesson or unit and answer them in the classroom.

Educational Resources

Our curriculum consists of a student's book, workbook and a variety of secondary resources (digital resources, booklets, worksheets and lab reports).

All resources will be uploaded monthly on LMS.