

# NEWSOME HIGH SCHOOL

A

Cambridge Academy /AICE School

Advanced International Certificate of Education (AICE)



For Incoming 9th Graders  
AICE Parent and Student  
Informational Handbook  
2023-2024



Cambridge Assessment  
International Education

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# What can Cambridge do for *YOUR* Incoming 9th Grader?



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Cambridge learners are  
Confident  
Responsible  
Reflective  
Innovative  
Engaged

# Cambridge AICE FAQs

## Q: What grade-level can take AICE Courses at Newsome?

A: Beginning in 2023–2024 Newsome High School will offer AICE Courses to incoming 9th graders ONLY. In 2024–2025 Newsome will open up a second phase of AICE courses to 10th graders.

## Q: What is AICE?

A: The Advanced International Certificate of Education (AICE) is an internationally recognized diploma awarded to students for the satisfactory completion of a series of academically rigorous courses specific to AICE in high school. Students who pass individual AICE exams will earn college credit for those exams passed. The AICE program is equivalent to IB...with the advantage of having flexibility to take AICE courses based on students strengths and interest.

## Q: What are the benefits of AICE?

A: AICE not only prepares students to enter college with up to 30 hours of credit, it also provides them with the skills required to be successful once there. In addition, students who earn the AICE Diploma will qualify for the Florida Academic Bright Futures Scholarship. See AICE Counselor for more information.

## Q: What do I have to do to earn an AICE Diploma?

A: Students must pass seven credits worth of examinations. At least one examination must come from each of the four subject groups: Mathematics and Sciences, Languages, Arts and Humanities, and Interdisciplinary Skills Based.

## Q: Do students have to earn the full AICE Diploma in order to earn college credits?

A: No. Colleges award credit on a subject-by-subject basis according to grades earned on individual examinations passed.

## Q: Do many universities give college credits for AICE exams passed?

A: Yes. University of Cambridge International Examinations publishes a list on their website (go to [www.cie.org.uk](http://www.cie.org.uk) click on the 'Recognition' tab and then scroll down to the 'Useful documents' section) of US universities that have provided written statements of their AICE recognition policy.

## Q: Do all of the schools in Florida accept AICE exams?

A: Yes. All of the colleges and universities in Florida honor AICE Exams and give credit for passing scores.

## Q: How many college credits can be earned through AICE?

A: Colleges and universities can award between 30 and 45 credit hours.

## Q: Does AICE help towards Florida Bright Futures?

A: If a student earns an AICE Diploma, complete 100 hours of community service, fills out the Florida Financial Aid Application then the student will automatically earn the Academic Scholars Award. You will not have to get the benchmark score on the ACT or SAT.

## Q: How do AICE examination grades compare with US Grading Scale?

Passing grades available on AICE exams range from A to E with A being the highest. Below is a comparison chart for US Grades, AP scores and Cambridge Grading Scale.

| US Grades | AP Scores | Cambridge Grading Scale | Cambridge Qualitative |
|-----------|-----------|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| A         | 5         | A*, A                   | EXCELLENT             |
| B+        | 4         | B                       | GOOD                  |
| B         |           | C                       |                       |
| C+        | 3         | D                       | SATISFACTORY          |
| C         |           | E                       |                       |
| D         | 2         | F                       | WEAK                  |
|           |           | G                       |                       |
| F         | 1         | U                       | UNGRADED              |

### Group 1: Science and Math

At Least 1 Point

### Group 2: Languages

At Least 1 Point

### Group 3: Arts and Humanities

At Least 1 Point

### Group 4: Interdisciplinary Skills Based Course

Optional: Max 2 Points

Core: Global Perspectives and Research  
**REQUIRED 1 Point**

4 Required  
+  
3 Choice  
=  
7 Points

### AICE Diploma Requirements

Total of 7 Points Required: at least 1 point from Groups 1-3; 1 point from Core; 3 points from learner's choice.

\*At Newsome High School, all Cambridge/AICE Academy students must start with General Paper and Thinking Skills. Newsome views these as Foundational Courses and critical to student success in future AICE courses.

Passing scores on all exams are required for the AICE Diploma.

# Earning the AICE Diploma

To earn an AICE Diploma students must pass 7 credits-worth of Cambridge Examinations.

At least 1 examination must come from each of the 5 groups.

Newsome offers the following courses:

| Group 1   | Group 2  | Group 3  | Group 4  |
|---|--|--|--|
| Math and Science  | Languages  | Arts and Humanities  | Interdisciplinary and Skills-Based   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Environmental Management</li> <li>Psychology*</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>English Language</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Digital Media and Design</li> <li>Media Studies</li> <li>Psychology*</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>General Paper</li> <li>Thinking Skills</li> </ul> |

- Students must also take the required course: Global Perspectives and pass the exam associated with it.
- Students can elect courses within our course offerings to fulfill any remaining requirements.
- ALL Newsome High School Cambridge Academy/AICE students MUST start with General Paper and Thinking Skills.

# WHY CAMBRIDGE/AICE?

## Why do Admissions Officers rate Cambridge so highly?

We asked some of the world's top universities, including Yale and Harvard, to tell us what they think about Cambridge qualifications.

**98%** said Cambridge qualifications give students excellent preparation for university

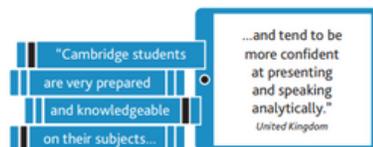
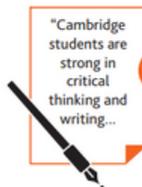
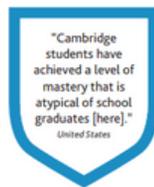
**95%** agreed Cambridge students think independently

**98%** said Cambridge qualifications help students succeed at university

**100%** agreed Cambridge students think logically and present coherent arguments

**100%** agreed Cambridge students have in-depth subject knowledge

**99%** agreed Cambridge students present reasoned explanations, understand implications and communicate them logically and clearly



## HOW DO CAMBRIDGE PROGRAMS PREPARE STUDENTS FOR THE FUTURE?

- We design programs that stretch, challenge and inspire students of all abilities.
- Our programs help students to develop deep subject knowledge, conceptual understanding and higher order thinking skills.
- AICE Program graduates had a higher GPA (3.46) whereas students coming from other acceleration mechanisms such as Advanced Placement (AP) and International Baccalaureate (IB) had an average GPA of 3.12 and 3.10 respectively.

## HOW DO CAMBRIDGE PROGRAMS HELP STUDENTS WITH COLLEGE?

- Cambridge qualifications are accepted and valued by employers and universities around the world, including MIT, Harvard, Oxford and Cambridge.
- They are recognized as qualifications that prepare and equip students with the skills they need to succeed both at university and beyond.

Over **2000** institutions worldwide in 95 countries accept Cambridge qualifications

Over **825** US universities accept Cambridge qualifications, including all the Ivy League

All UK universities accept Cambridge qualifications



### COLLEGE CREDIT

Students can earn college credit by examination.



### GREATER FLEXIBILITY

Students have a wide variety of courses to choose from and can incorporate AP and Dual Enrollment courses in their schedule.



### BRIGHT FUTURES ELIGIBILITY

Students who meet the criteria may be eligible for 100% Bright Futures.

**INCOMING 9TH  
GRADERS  
CAMBRIDGE  
ACADEMY  
INFORMATION  
NIGHT  
WEDNESDAY  
APRIL  
5TH  
2023  
6:00 PM  
NEWSOME  
HIGH SCHOOL  
AUDITORIUM**

**SAVE  
THE  
DATE**



**Cambridge Assessment  
International Education**

