

UPPER SCHOOL REPORT: June 2009

StudentX, Y11-4

Personal, Social and Health Education Semester Programme		
The PSHE Programme has focused on many important aspects of Personal Growth. It has promoted the belief that the cornerstone of healthy group dynamics is the establishment of Respect and Mutual Care. Students have considered themes of Stereotyping and Racial Tolerance. In the realm of Academic Endeavour they have focused on the relevance of Study Skills, Target-Setting, creating a Curriculum Vitae, Peer Mentoring and Stress Management techniques. The objective of the course is to prepare students to meet the academic and human demands of tertiary education, home and the workplace.		
Pastoral Comment	Pastoral Effort	7
StudentX enjoys History and IGCSE P.E. and has improved in her listening skills in class. She enjoys a variety of sports including Basketball, Girls Rugby and is on the Under 16 Hockey Team. She plays the piano and has participated in the School Choir and the School Show, Mamma Mia. She has received a Merit Certificate and a letter of commendation. She has maintained an excellent planner all year.		
Head of Year Comment		
StudentX has had a very successful year. She has impressed me with her involvement in school activities and her profile has certainly grown accordingly within the year group. I look forward to an even better final year of the IGCSE. Year 10 students are reminded that entry into the IB programme at BISJ is not automatic. It is conditional on good effort grades as well as on sound behaviour at the conclusion of year 11.		

The **Attainment** and **Effort Grades** are on a scale of 1 to 7 and indicate the student's performance against set criteria. The following descriptors apply to each grade level:

7 Excellent, 6 Very Good, 5 Good, 4 Satisfactory, 3 Mediocre, 2 Poor, 1 Very Poor

A more detailed description can be found on the school website.

The **Exam Grade** is on a scale of A to G, to reflect the scale used by the examination board for the final IGCSE grades. Grades C and above are referred to as higher level passes. Grades D to G are considered ordinary passes.

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Form Tutor(s):

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Head Teacher: Mrs Helen Mack

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Director: Mr Bruce Gamwell

UPPER SCHOOL REPORT: June 2009

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IGCSE English Language and Literature

The Year 10 English course covers the first year of work towards IGCSE English Language and IGCSE English Literature. Students focus on reading and directed writing, and also start to work on their coursework folder. They are introduced to their literature set texts and concentrate on gaining the skills required for critical literary analysis.

GRADE	
Subject Skills	
Shows understanding of texts studied	6
Writes accurately for a range of audiences and/or purposes	6
Analyses clearly	5
Speaks effectively	6
Listens effectively	6

Overall Attainment	6
Examination	C
Literature Examination	B
Overall Effort	7

Comment/Target for continued progress
StudentX is a delightful young lady in English and it has been a pleasure to teach her this year. She is always thoughtful, in both senses of the word, in her approach to the subject and she demonstrates a tremendous capacity for empathy. StudentX's maturity and balanced attitudes are rare and refreshing. StudentX's written work has generally been on the right track but she needs to develop her ideas further. In order to avoid the trap of presenting pure recount in examinations, she must ensure that she is focused on interpretation and analysis: why do authors make the choices they do and how do these choices affect readers?

Teacher: Mr D.

UPPER SCHOOL REPORT: June 2009

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IGCSE Mathematics Extended

The Y10 Mathematics Extended course follows the first year of the IGCSE Extended Mathematics programme. It covers all the necessary elements of Algebra, Measurement, Geometry, Arithmetic and Data Handling. A number of resources are used with particular emphasis placed on IGCSE Mathematics by D. Raynor. Students are assessed at regular intervals and are given a formal examination in May.

GRADE	
Subject Skills	
Knowledge and Understanding	5
Application and work ethic	7
Mathematical communication	7
Presentation	7

Overall Attainment	6
Examination	C
Overall Effort	6

Comment/Target for continued progress
StudentX has worked steadily this year and has gained pleasing results. She maintains a high standard in the presentation of her work and the layout of her answers shows good structure. She does need to show more steps in her answers and give reasons where appropriate. StudentX participates well in class discussions and is keen to succeed. I am pleased that StudentX is joining the new class in IGCSE International Mathematics which begins in September 2009.

Teacher: Mr M.

UPPER SCHOOL REPORT: June 2009

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IGCSE French

This year students have covered the following topics: school, future plans, home life, leisure, work and describing your town. They should be able to understand, respond to and communicate in spoken and written French about these topics in the present, past and future.

GRADE	
Subject Skills	
Listening	7
Speaking	7
Reading	7
Writing	7

Overall Attainment	7
Examination	A
Overall Effort	7

Comment/Target for continued progress
StudentX has worked well throughout the year and has achieved very good results. She has been a sensible pupil, and must do her best to continue to work hard, so as to go on to achieve real success in the future. StudentX needs to work more on her writing skills.

Teacher: Mrs R.

UPPER SCHOOL REPORT: June 2009

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IGCSE Arabic (First Language)

The principal aim of this course is to prepare students to sit the IGCSE examinations. A mastery of basic technical elements of Classical Arabic is to be achieved, such as speaking with precision, reading clearly and comprehending texts, spelling accurately, punctuating correctly, as well as dealing in depth with imagination, thoughts and feelings through the practice of rhetoric. Students perform a wide range of creative and directed writing, in addition to making comparisons between different works.

GRADE	
Subject Skills	
Understanding and Evaluation	7
Oral expression	7
Reading and comprehension	7
Written expression	6
Use of language	6
Literary insight	6

Overall Attainment	6
Examination	B
Overall Effort	7

Comment/Target for continued progress
StudentX is a pleasant and polite student who has progressed steadily this year and her assimilation of the aspects of this subject are getting stronger. Orally, she organises information effectively and presents arguments in an orderly way. She is a fluent reader, and a motivated and self-reliant student. Nevertheless the exam percentage was lower than I had expected. Reading plenty of literary and non-literary material will help her to acquire more awareness of significant details in syntax.

Teacher: Mrs Z.

UPPER SCHOOL REPORT: June 2009

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IGCSE Biology

The Year 10 Biology course covers the following topics: characteristics and diversity of life, cell structure, diffusion and osmosis, nutrition in plants and animals, transport in plants and animals, gas exchange, and respiration. Where possible students combine practical investigation with class discussion to enhance an understanding of the material covered.

GRADE	
Subject Skills	
Knowledge	6
Understanding and Application	6
Practical skills	6
Communication skills	6

Overall Attainment	6
Examination	B
Overall Effort	6

Comment/Target for continued progress
StudentX has demonstrated that she can grasp the concepts in Biology and she attains good marks in tests. She was 2% away from a grade A in the end of year examination. She listens and contributes intelligently to discussions in class and she focuses on tasks set, working until they are completed. I have found her to be an enthusiastic student with a positive attitude and I am very pleased with her progress.

Teacher: Mr R.

UPPER SCHOOL REPORT: June 2009

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IGCSE Business Studies

This has been the first year of a two-year IGCSE study programme to develop knowledge and an understanding of the environment in which business activities take place. Specific areas covered include, business and the environment in which it operates, business structures, the public sector, sources of finance, business finance, financial management tools, management structure of a company, communication within a business and management functions.

GRADE	
Subject Skills	
Knowledge of subject concepts	6
Application of theory to reality	6
Appropriate use of terminology	6
Participation in class discussions	5

Overall Attainment	5
Examination	C
Overall Effort	5

Comment/Target for continued progress
StudentX is a very polite student who has made some effort throughout the year. Unfortunately this was not reflected in her examination grade. She needs to consider questions carefully before answering them and participate more in our class discussions. Keep working StudentX!

Teacher: Mrs R.

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IGCSE History

Students are following the Cambridge I.G.C.S.E. History course. Initially, students covered topics on the Treaty of Versailles, the League of Nations and the origins of the Second World War. They then focused on the regional option on Russia and the USSR 1905 to 1941. The coursework from this option is to be submitted next year.

GRADE	
Subject Skills	
Knowledge	7
Writes Accurately for a Range of Audiences and/or Purposes	7
Communication Skills	7
Use of Historical Sources	5
Research and Organisation Skills	7
Originality and Insight	6

Overall Attainment	7
Examination	B
Overall Effort	7

Comment/Target for continued progress
StudentX has performed very well throughout the year. She has a clear grasp of the essential historical events we have studied thus far and can use these to construct plausible historical arguments. She has performed very well in a series of oral activities such as seminars, debates and paper presentations and I hope she can see the value in these. Her written work is always well structured and her results in the recent end of year examination were very creditable. Her result in Paper 2 shows that we need some more practice using historical sources in the coming academic year. I do feel that she needs to focus on her coursework which is due in September to ensure she achieves the highest grade which is her due.

Teacher: Dr D.

UPPER SCHOOL REPORT: June 2009

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IGCSE PE

The syllabus provides candidates with an opportunity to study both the practical and theoretical aspects of Physical Education. It is also designed to foster enjoyment in physical activity. The knowledge gained should enable candidates to develop an understanding of effective and safe physical performance.

The terminal examination is structured into three main topics: 1) Factors affecting performance 2) Health, Safety and Training and 3) Reasons and opportunities for participation in physical activity.

The practical side involves students selecting four activities from at least two of six categories in the syllabus.

GRADE	
Subject Skills	
Knowledge and Understanding	7
Skills and Techniques	5
Performance	5
Analysis of Performance	6
Organisation	7
Health related fitness	7

Overall Attainment	6
Examination	A
Overall Effort	7

Comment/Target for continued progress
StudentX has worked excellently in practical lessons. She is now identifying skills required for successful performance in her sporting selections. Although her games skills need work, she has shown the required effort to improve. She has also worked conscientiously in theory lessons gaining knowledge through class interaction. She had a pleasing end of term examination demonstrating good progress.

Teacher

UPPER SCHOOL REPORT: June 2009

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Physical Education Girls

The year 10 courses are designed to provide opportunities for students to exercise personal preferences in selecting activities. A range of team and individual games is offered and students are encouraged to undertake a variety of roles including, performer, choreographer, coach and official. Large group dynamics are explored in sports acrobatics or rhythmic gymnastics. Students undertake and monitor a health related exercise programme; extensive use is made of the fitness room, testing equipment and the nurse's expertise.

GRADE	
Subject Skills	
Volleyball	5
Athletics	6
Basketball	6
Hockey	7
Dance	7
Softball	6

Overall Attainment	6
Overall Effort	7

Comment/Target for continued progress
StudentX is an excellent sports person. She has shown some great performances this year displaying a high level of skill and concentration. She has been a wonderful team player showing great leadership all year. StudentX works hard to learn new skills and is also the sort of team player who looks to help others in her team. She is always a positive influence on others. StudentX, you have been fantastic to teach. I am sure you will continue to do well in PE next year.

Teacher: