



# Integrated Academic Pathways

YEARS 7-9





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20 years of IB excellence and over  
150 years of UK education

# Ardingly College, UK

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## AN HISTORIC LEADING UK SCHOOL

Ardingly College was founded in 1858 and moved to its current site, south of London and north of Brighton, in 1870. In 2020 the College celebrated its 150th anniversary on this site. As an outstanding K-12 UK co-educational private school we know what makes for the best of British education, including exceptional teaching at IGCSE and A Levels. Ardingly is a top 10 IB school, and top 2% for Value added at A Levels.

We provide an all-round education for boys and girls that prepares students to be World Ready. We excel in STEM, sports, art, music, and pastoral care for day and boarding students. Our ISI inspection reports evaluate us as outstanding in all aspects of K-12 education.

## INTERNATIONAL OUTLOOK

Ardingly College UK Year 12 and 13 students can choose between IB, A Level and BTEC pathways. As a school offering the IB we are intentionally international in our mindset, and we welcome around 20% of our students from over 30 different international countries.

The Integrated Academic Pathways are designed to help students adjust to life in a British boarding school while also strengthening their understanding of cultural contexts and enhancing their English proficiency through content and language integrated learning methodologies improving students' cognitive academic language proficiency. Ardingly College welcomes students from around the globe, bringing a rich international perspective to daily life.

All international students undergo an assessment upon applying to Ardingly College. Those joining in Years 7, 8, and 9 are expected to have at least mid-to-high B1 English proficiency. Students who need additional English language support receive lessons in small groups, replacing other language classes. The IAP acknowledges having students within the mainstream lessons as much as possible and is flexible with 2-5 periods of EAL lessons a week depending on a student's needs and proficiency in another language. While most students remain at Ardingly College for their entire secondary education, Ardingly College also accommodates those seeking a one-year or even one-term placement.



# Ardingly Location and Site

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Ardingly College is situated in an enviable location on the outskirts of Ardingly village, surrounded by 230 acres of outstanding natural beauty. It offers the best of all worlds; the surrounding beauty of the Sussex countryside, close proximity to the vibrancy of Brighton on the South Coast and the culture of London, and just 13 miles away from Gatwick Airport.



# ARDINGLY COLLEGE CAMPUS



# Integrated Academic Pathway (IAP)

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## WHO IS THE IAP FOR?

- Many students around the world aspire to study in the UK and in English, but some find it challenging due to their developing English proficiency.
- The Integrated Academic Pathways (IAP) is a structured program designed for students in Years 7-11 who are academically strong but require additional English support at Ardingly College.

## A typical IAP student

- Joins the course with an English level ranging from CEFR B1 to B2+.
- Is highly motivated, resilient, and eager to develop academic English skills.
- Enjoys cultural integration through the boarding house environment.
- Learns about British culture through trips and educational visits.
- Benefits from language-intensive learning that supports academic subjects.
- Follows a highly supportive and structured pathway at Ardingly College.
- Students who complete Year 11 may continue to IB or A-Level study in Years 12 and 13 (Sixth Form), preparing them for higher education.

## AIMS OF THE INTEGRATED ACADEMIC PATHWAY

- The IAP goes beyond basic language acquisition by incorporating Cognitive Academic Language Proficiency (CALP) activities, ensuring students are fully prepared for academic success. These activities focus on:
- Academic Writing & Research Skills – Students develop structured essays, reports, and analytical writing across subjects.
- Subject-Specific Vocabulary Building – Key terminology is explicitly taught to ensure understanding in mainstream lessons.
- Critical Thinking & Debate – Engaging in structured discussions and debates enhances logical reasoning, persuasive argumentation, and confidence in speaking.
- Literary Analysis & Extended Reading – Exposure to fiction and non-fiction texts strengthens reading comprehension, inference skills, and textual analysis.
- Exam & Assessment Preparation – Practice with past papers, structured revision strategies, and subject-specific scaffolding build confidence in formal assessments.
- Project-Based Learning – Students work on cross-curricular projects that integrate knowledge from multiple subjects, fostering independent research, creativity, and problem-solving skills.
- By focusing on both language fluency and academic proficiency, the IAP equips students with the skills to thrive in Ardingly and beyond.





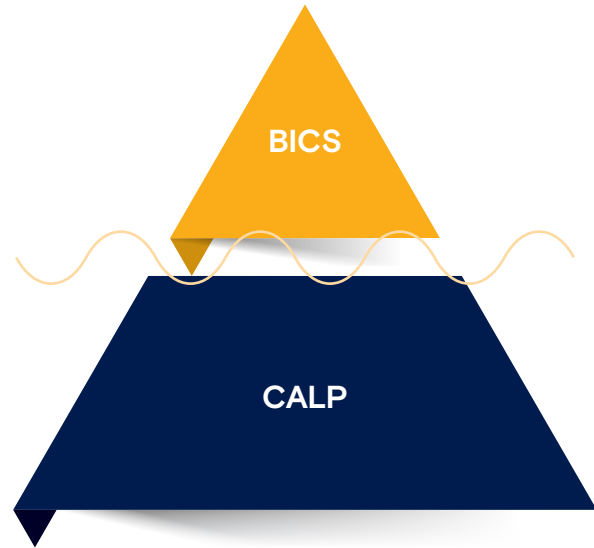
# IAP Pedagogy

## LANGUAGE ACQUISITION

- The IAP course is underpinned by prominent and well-established theory in language acquisition.
- Professor Jim Cummins, one of the most respected linguists in modern times, established a language acquisition theory known as BICS and CALP.
- One of the main purposes of this course is to accelerate CALP learning by giving students explicit instruction in the academic language needed to succeed in the UK curriculum.

### Basic Interpersonal Communication System (BICS)

Cognitively undemanding tasks that use everyday language such as talking to peers, the language used in the playground, talking about yourself and family, etc. This usually takes 1-2 years, possibly beginning with a 'silent period'.



1 A representation of Jim Cummins' model of language acquisition (1979)

### Cognitive Academic Language Proficiency (CALP)

More cognitively demanding language like that of the content of the classroom learning. This can take 5-7 years or more to develop, but the process will be speeded up attending the IAP.



## ACADEMIC SKILLS

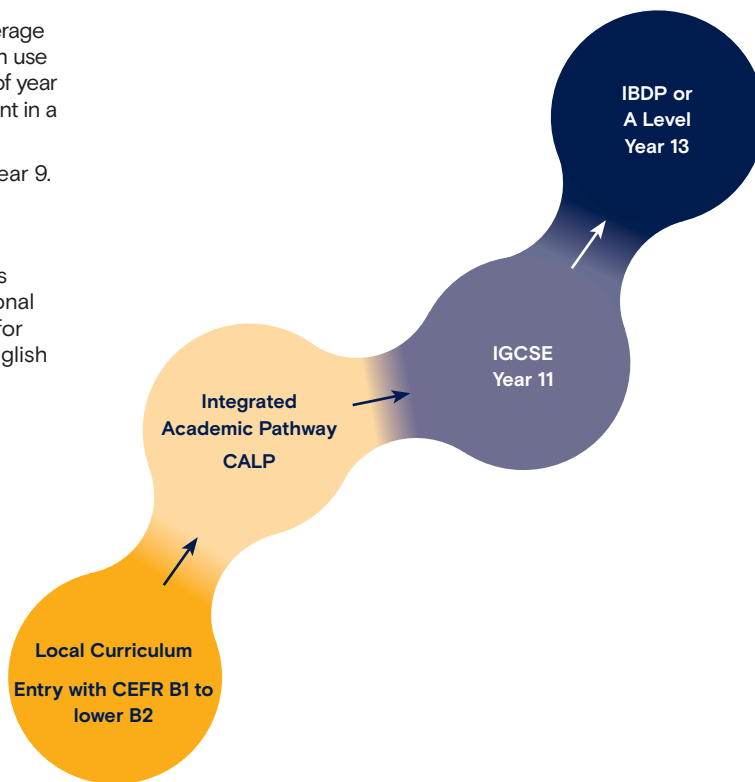
- The IAP course facilitates international students transition to a UK teaching and learning pedagogy.
- The distinction between this course and other ESL language learning courses is that we focus on the key features of specific language genres of the curriculum.
- An IAP student is not just learning English, but learning to speak and write in English as a historian, as a geographer, as a scientist etc.
- In addition to the development of vocabulary and grammar, the course uses a Talk4Writing approach to build up linguistic genres.
- Students will collaborate and communicate and apply their knowledge to real world situations, analyse and evaluate a range of different information, develop justify and argue a perspective, and reflect on processes and outcomes.



## A TYPICAL IAP STUDENT'S PATHWAY

After the 2023/2024 Academic Year:

- A year-long commitment to the IAP resulted in an average 47% improvement in listening and 31% improvement in use of English from an initial CEFR assessment to an end of year CEFR assessment, showcasing impressive development in a short span of time.
- 100% of students gained a place to proceed into Year 9.
- 75% of the students did not require any more EAL lessons for Year 9.
- This compelling evidence of the student's progress underscores the value and impact of the International Academic Pathway, making it an attractive option for international students seeking to enhance their English proficiency.



# IAP Teaching and Learning

## YEARS 7-11

- The World Ready EAL curriculum at Ardingly College is designed to equip international students with the language skills, academic literacy, and cross-cultural understanding needed to excel in an English-medium education.
- Across Years 7 to 9, students engage with Cognitive Academic Language Proficiency (CALP) activities that integrate subject knowledge with language development, preparing them for success in GCSEs and beyond.

## A GLOBALLY FOCUSED, ACADEMIC RIGOROUS CURRICULUM

- The World Ready EAL curriculum at Ardingly College is a transformative program that supports students in mastering English while excelling in academic subjects.
- By integrating CALP-based activities with real-world inquiry, the program ensures that students are not just language learners, but critical thinkers, effective communicators, and global citizens, fully prepared for the demands of GCSEs, A Levels, and IB study.



# A World Ready Curriculum

## YEAR 7: BUILDING FOUNDATIONS FOR GLOBAL UNDERSTANDING

- In Year 7, students explore themes of sustainability, culture, and creativity while developing core English language skills.
- Through engaging activities such as persuasive writing, travel brochure design, and ethical debates, students enhance their grammar, vocabulary, and academic thinking.
- CALP tasks, such as historical analysis and scientific reporting, support language development while reinforcing subject-specific knowledge in geography, history, and philosophy.

	Language Level	EAL Periods Per Week	Subjects Replaced	
YEAR 7	B1-B2	4 Periods	Latin (Classics)	Over 85% of time spent in mainstream
	B2+	2 Periods	Latin (Classics) plus either French/German/Spanish	Over 90% of time spent in mainstream



Period	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1	Design Technology	Art	French/German/ Spanish	Philosophy	History
2	Mathematics	French/German/ Spanish	English	Music	Mathematics
3	Computer Science	Philosophy	Chemistry	Biology	Science
4	Latin (Classics)	English	Science	Latin (Classics)	Geography
5	English	Mathematics	Mathematics	Drama	PSHE
Lunch					
6	Games	History	Games	Geography	Social Education
7	Games	Science	Games	Physics	Games
8	Enrichment Programme	Chapel	Enrichment Programme		

# A World Ready Curriculum

## YEAR 8: WORLD STUDIES

- The Year 8 World Studies course at Ardingly College enhances critical thinking, global awareness, and academic literacy through interdisciplinary themes.
- Integrating History, Geography, Philosophy, and Environmental Science, it helps IAP students improve English through subject-based learning. Topics include the partitioning of Africa, the abolition of the slave trade, the rise and fall of the British Empire, India's independence and partition as well as examining global issues such as Middle Eastern conflicts, sustainability and renewable energy sources, and future transportation.
- Through debates, presentations, and structured discussions, students refine their ability to express complex ideas. Writing tasks like explanations, discussions, and narratives prepare them for IGCSE and beyond.
- This dynamic curriculum ensures EAL learners gain confidence, academic expertise, and essential skills for an interconnected world.

	Language Level	EAL Periods Per Week	Subjects Replaced	
YEAR 8	B1-B2	5 Periods	Replaces Latin, French, and Spanish/German	Over 85% of time spent in mainstream
	B2+	3 Periods	Replaces Latin, and one other language (French/Spanish/German)	Over 90% of time spent in mainstream

Period	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1	Mathematics	Geography	History	Philosophy	Mathematics
2	Drama	English	Biology	Design Technology	Geography
3	PSHE	Art	Music	Science	English
4	Chemistry	French/EAL	English	English	History
5	Latin/EAL	Mathematics	Spanish/EAL	Spanish/EAL	Philosophy
Lunch					
6	Games	Computer Science	Games	Mathematics	Social Education
7	Games	Physics	Games	French/EAL	Games
8	Enrichment Programme	Chapel		Enrichment Programme	

# A World Ready Curriculum

## YEAR 9: EXPLORING GLOBAL CHALLENGES AND INNOVATIONS

- **Developing Academic Language & Critical Thinking:** Students enhance their ability to analyse global issues through debates, persuasive essays, and formal writing. They build academic vocabulary and refine argumentation skills.
- **Interdisciplinary Learning through History, Philosophy & Geography:** Students build academic vocabulary and refine argumentation skills through topics including society and identity, innovation and change, conflict and revolution, the power of language and leadership and politics.
- **Expressing Ideas with Precision & Creativity:** Through expository writing, speeches, and storytelling, students learn to structure arguments, evaluate, and communicate effectively across disciplines, bridging language learning with academic success.



	Language Level	EAL Periods Per Week	Subjects Replaced	
YEAR 9	B1-B2	4 Periods	Replaces two languages (French/German/Spanish)	Over 85% of time spent in mainstream
	B2+	2 Periods	Replaces one language (French/German/Spanish)	Over 95% of time spent in mainstream



Period	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1	Geography	Mathematics	English	Chemistry	Drama
2	English	Individual Project	Geography	Philosophy	English
3	Physical Education	English	Philosophy	French/EAL	Chemistry
4	Mathematics	Physics	History	Games	Biology
5	Biology	Spanish/EAL	PSHE	Games	Mathematics
Lunch					
6	Music	Games	French/EAL	Spanish/EAL	Social Education
7	History	Games	Mathematics	Design Technology	Computer Science
8		Physics			Art
9	Enrichment Programme	Chapel		Enrichment Programme	

## Beyond Year 9

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Ardingly College does not accept IAP students for Years 10 and 11, however, students who enter through the IAP who require EAL assistance can still receive 2-4 periods of support depending on their ability and other languages studied.

Years 10 and 11 does offer short term placements of one term. These students will be integrated into the full academic timetable and may receive 2-4 periods of EAL support depending on their needs and goals.



# Boarding and Pastoral Care

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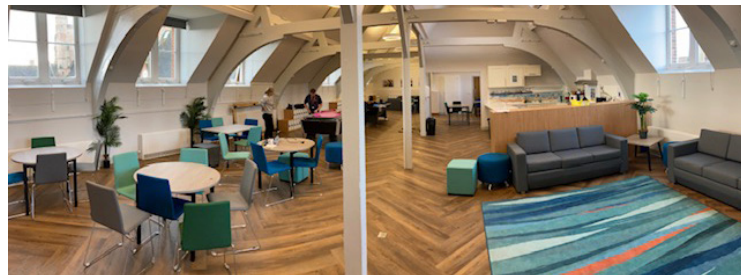
Our international boarders are quickly settled into House after having been greeted personally by the Housemaster. He will give you a tour of the building and show you to your room in our bespoke and newly renovated Boarding House. You will find there is always a warm welcome from our dedicated team of Pastoral staff, all of whom you will get to know very quickly as they help to navigate you through your educational experience at the College, tailoring it to your individual needs. During the time at School, our boarders come to lean on the direction, values, support, and guidance coming from the boarding community. There will be one-to-one mentoring from some of our older international boarders, all of whom will have gone through a similar experience of leaving home, travelling from various exciting destinations from across the globe and settling into a new environment.



## WEEKEND AND ACTIVITY PROVISION

Weekends at Ardingly College are full of fun activities and cultural experiences. Our international boarders are very lucky as they will be able to make full use of the on-site facilities which include:

- Tennis Courts
- Multipurposed Sports Halls to facilitate Basketball, Indoor Football, Netball, Boxercise etc.
- Swimming Pool
- Access to Strength & Conditioning Suite
- Access to Dance Studio
- Use of on-site Café
- Sunday Boarding Trips including Bluewater shopping, Theatre Trips, Ice Skating, Paintballing, Go-Karting etc.
- Saturday night Boarding 'Socials'





## Every individual every future

Every Ardingly student is known and valued as an individual. We seek to ensure every leaver is equipped to shape their own future in a rapidly changing world.



For further information please contact the Admissions team on 01444 893320 or email [registration@ardingly.com](mailto:registration@ardingly.com).

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