

# THE HIXS APPROACH: BLENDING EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING WITH INTERNATIONAL CURRICULUM



While Cambridge and IB are both very well designed curriculums that enjoy international recognition and respect, HIXS constantly tries to push the boundaries of what these curricula have to offer by introducing higher relevance through its experiential methodology. The curriculum structure of the international programme borrows the best age-appropriate curriculum integrated with our Mastery Strands that provide a unique edge to the HIXS Graduate. The student learning experience is further supported by student leadership opportunities and a culture of advisory.

HIXS offers the Cambridge Lower Secondary programme in its middle years (Grades 6 to 8) and IGCSE in Grades 9 and 10. The Cambridge curriculum provides a strong and a seamless transition to IBDP by providing substantial content and requisite skills in terms of breadth and depth in nine subjects or more to take on the challenge of the IBDP in Grades 11 and 12, where the high schoolers complete courses from six subject groups: three at the Higher level and three at the Standard level. At the core of the curriculum is Theory of Knowledge (TOK), Extended Essay (EE) and Creativity, Activity and Service (CAS), mandatory for every student to enable her/him to live up to the IB global standards. These core components make a student who has pursued the IBDP more college ready than any of her/his peers.

What differentiates the international curriculum is that while, it enables students to find their own lives reflected in the curriculum, it also allows them to use the curriculum as a window to understand and appreciate diverse perspectives. The international curriculum, by its very nature, demands a pedagogy that is student centric. Students work in collaboration with their peers and are engaged in research, project work and presentations that prepare them with essential skills.

HIXS augments the International Curriculum by incorporating its unique pedagogical practices and traits. These include:

### **EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING**

Through expeditions centred around the curriculum that makes student's learning meaningful and relevant, even while it is rigorous. This allows students to appreciate that learning is interdisciplinary and not divided into silos and experience richer learning all the way to Grade 12. Expeditions are seamlessly integrated through interdisciplinary subjects such as Global Perspectives, and Theory of Knowledge (TOK) and allow a deep dive into disciplines such as Mathematics, Science, English, Hindi, Modern Foreign Language and Information and Communication Technology. Learning expeditions require students to engage in sophisticated research, engage with the community in authentic ways, and present their high-quality products to legitimate audiences.

# FOCUS ON 'APPROACHES TO LEARNING' AND 'HABITS OF WORK'

Through deliberate strategies and skills that demonstrate the IB's explicit commitment to change the way our students are prepared for assessment and by inspiring the development of the IB learner profile attributes of a lifelong quest for learning.

# STUDENT LED FAMILY CONFERENCE (SLFC) AND PASSAGE PORTFOLIO

In order to create self-directed learners. During the SLFC at the end of every term, learners stand before their crew leader and parents and present their portfolio to share insights about their growth and readiness to move into the next term. The primary purpose of this process is to engage learners in assessing their own growth and learning, and presenting their journey to their respective crew teacher and parents.

### **USE OF PURPOSEFUL EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGY**

As technology is a powerful tool that has supported and advanced teaching and learning. HIXS uses its purpose-built learning management system and expects students to leverage technology to aid their learning process. Most assessments and course content are hosted on the cloud. The school also endeavours to work with students and parents to build healthy and sustainable digital citizenship habits.

# HIXS ASSESSMENT FRAMEWORK

Also ensures progression and continuity through the school and implements continuous evaluation and review of children's performance. The international curricula of Cambridge and IB place the highest priority on academic and research writing, oracy, transparency through measurable metrics and rubric, construct validity where assessments test the traits and abilities that they are intended to test, assessments that demonstrate international mindedness and evaluate higher order thinking skills as well as cognition and use of various means to measure a range of knowledge.

### **MASTERY STRANDS**

Are the anchor curriculum to achieve the HIXS graduate profile. The core of the curriculum in HIXS is the four vertical strands that every HIXS graduate is expected to master and Dedicated Centers of Excellence (COEs) have been established to promote these strands. Students experience these COEs through specialised modules or projects integrated into their everyday curriculum. These strands are-

### Human Framework Institute

We consider developing more mindful and socially-aware children as an essential aspect of building a more peaceful world. At HIXS, we integrate The Human FrameworkTM based on the specific needs of different age groups through: Stand-alone classes, such as Circle Time in primary grades and Crew (Advisory) Time in the middle and senior grades. The aim is to help students understand their own essence and motivations, develop healthy relationships with themselves and others around them, understand the purpose and meaning of life, and discover the contexts that shape them.

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### Design Thinking and Maker Engineering

Design thinking at HIXS manifests in classrooms in the form of Genius Hours, where students are encouraged to research real world problems and develop working prototypes of the solutions proposed, using the latest tech such as 3D printing, laser-cutting, wearable tech, etc. giving students opportunities to convert content knowledge into actionable outcomes.

# • Centre for Reading and Writing

HIXS views reading and writing as a group of cascading skills and is not limited to English. The capacity to read complex academic and literary pieces and write complex pieces for varying audiences is a critical 21st century skill that cannot be left to a 45-minute English period. This COE specialises in deploying evidence-based instructional strategies, granular assessments and best practices so that our students benefit from a differentiated and personalised literacy experience.

# Citizenship

HIXS promotes the core values of civic governance, community participation and representation. This COE aims to build student capacity – attitudes, skills, knowledge and frameworks of action and advocacy – essential to become engaged by active and informed citizens, by imparting the language of citizenship in the way we learn, discuss, debate, advocate and act on local, national and global issues.

### **ADVISORY**

Is a proven pedagogical tool to build a culture of learning among adolescent student communities. At HIXS, each student is assigned an advisory group along with a mentor/advisor who provide support in the learning process and help resolve issues. In the senior school, such advisories also form the foundation for college and career guidance process.

### COLLEGE AND CAREER COUNSELLING PROGRAMME

Is something HIXS has invested in thus incubated one of the most successful college placement cells in the country. The cell has strategically established relationships with admissions offices of top colleges and enabled our students' access to some of the most prestigious colleges and universities in both India and abroad. HIXS has a four-year long counselling programme that entails a

customised plan for each student based on skills, aptitudes, personality and aspirations and the programme also works closely with parents with an aim to build the mindset of strategic portfolio and CV building early on.

# STUDENT LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Ensure holistic development to make children ready to face the challenges of the world. Over the years, HIXS has developed a system of providing its students with numerous opportunities to pursue their hobbies and passions by engaging in various activities and competitions at national and international levels. The international curriculum's focus on extracurriculars allows us to provide great opportunities for student leadership.

**POWERED BY:** 



# **INTERNATIONAL PRIMARY CAMPUS**

DLF Phase 5, Gurugram

# **INTERNATIONAL MIDDLE AND SENIOR CAMPUS**

Heritage Xperiential Learning School, Sector 62, Gurugram

info@hixs.org | Tel: 8882178996 | www.hixs.org