

Straits International School Rawang Curriculum Overview Year 8 Autumn Term 2.1 2024/2025

Autumn Term 2.1	What are we learning?	What KUS will we gain?	What will excellence look like?
Mathematics	Unit 7 Fractions Unit 8 Shapes & Symmetry Unit 9 Sequences and Functions	Recognise fractions that are equivalent to recurring decimals. Compare and order positive and negative fractions. To perform calculations involving subtractions of mixed numbers, multiply an integer by mixed numbers and simplify calculations containing fractions. To identify the symmetry of regular polygons and describe the hierarchy of quadrilaterals. To know and use the formula for the circumference of circle. Knowing that pi is the ratio between the circumference and the diameter of a circle and the formula for the circumference. To find the connection between the number of vertices, faces, edges, and drawing elevations of a 3D shapes. Learn how to generate a sequence with term to term and position to term (nth term) rule using patterns and sequence of numbers. To work out the input and output values of a function machines and write functions as an equation.	Students can master the advanced mathematical concepts and applying them effectively. Students will confidently recognise equivalent fractions and recurring decimals, compare and calculate with positive and negative fractions, and perform operations with mixed numbers. They will demonstrate precision in identifying polygon symmetry, describing quadrilateral hierarchies, and understanding 3D shapes' properties. Mastery includes using formulas for circles, generating sequences, and solving function machines. Excellence is by fluently apply mathematical reasoning, connections, and problem-solving in real-world contexts.
How will this be assessed?		Class discussions, mental maths, minor assessments.	
First Language English	Poetry and Writing Skills	Students will learn to choose words carefully and use vivid details to make their writing clear and engaging. They will explore how structure, tone, and figurative language enhance meaning. Students will also explore	Excellence in poetry will look like students analysing poems with depth, showing a clear understanding of themes, emotions, and the writer's use of language, structure, and techniques. Their own writing will be creative, precise, and emotionally engaging, using

	the analytical framework of literature – with a focus on clear and effective communication.	vivid imagery, strong word choices, and thoughtful structure to convey meaning effectively.
How will this be assessed?	Students will be assessed through various formative assessment opportunities, including PEA paragraphs, presentations, and collaborative group work. The summative assessment will be a formal writing task with a focus on analysis.	
English as a Second Language Unit 4: Advertising Unit 5: Science	Learn and use vocabulary to talk about advertising; read about and analyse three advertisements; describe and discuss an advert; listen to and analyse a report about the psychology behind supermarket layouts; discuss the success of a well-known brand; role-play conversations about adverts on a school noticeboard; write an advertisement; present a plan for an outing, an activity or an improvement to the school recreation area; read an extract from a classic story of American fiction; write a dialogue for a story. Learn about Costa Rica's natural resources and how they are used; make predictions about how energy will be generated in the future; do a quiz to find out how eco-aware you are; understand and use detailed information about water; discuss the importance of rainforests; role-play a debate about the environment; write an informative account about natural resources; write a presentation about energy in your country; create a poster for an environmental issue; read speeches by an environmental campaigner; write a short speech about an environmental issue.	Read and discuss advertising; listen and identification the key points for the psychology of shopping read and answer the comprehension questions of the history of the polo shirt; role-place conversations about adverts using persuasive words; write an advertisement about a new product. Listen and answer comprehension question about a natural paradise; read about generating energy and categorise the advantages and disadvantages; Interview a friend with survequestions and report the findings; Listen and complete some notes; write an essay about natural resources.

How will this be assessed?		Teacher/self-assessment, presentation, speaking tasks, projects, group work	
English as an Additional Language (EAL)	Unit 2: Our Society	Explore people's opinions about their city and discuss ways to improve a neighbourhood; examine the pros and cons of living in the countryside versus the city; brainstorm ideas for making a positive impact in your community; consider the qualities that make a country a great place to live. Learn about a school that incorporates happiness lessons into its daily routine; write a letter to the town council; complete a project; and engage with poems written by school students, including one reflecting on childhood memories.	Students will confidently express well-reasoned opinions about their city or town and critically analyse articles on neighbourhood improvement and the advantages and disadvantages of urban and rural living. They will propose innovative and practical ideas for making a positive impact in their community and use contextual clues effectively to understand unfamiliar words. Students will thoughtfully contribute ideas on promoting happiness in schools, collaboratively brainstorm ways to improve their neighbourhood, and create a detailed, well-structured plan for a charity event. Additionally, they will engage deeply with poetry, analysing language, imagery, and themes with insight and originality, showcasing their ability to connect literary elements to broader social and personal contexts.
How will this be assessed?		Teacher/self-assessment, presentation, speaking tasks, projects, group work	
Science	Light and Magnetism	Students will explore the nature and behaviour of light, understanding how we see, the principles of reflection and refraction, and phenomena such as dispersion and colour. The speed of light and its variations across different mediums will be investigated, along with the concept of total internal reflection. Students will also trace the evolution of scientific ideas about light and explore its practical applications in devices such as	Excellence will be demonstrated when students can describe and apply the laws of reflection and refraction, explain dispersion and colour formation, and link the behaviour of light to practical applications like cameras and the human eye. They will analyse magnetic properties, map magnetic fields, and explain how electromagnets function and are used in everyday life. Students will also design and evaluate experiments on electromagnets, demonstrating clear data analysis and consideration of variables and risks.

	cameras and the human eye, understanding how these technologies mimic or enhance natural vision. In magnetism, students will examine the properties of magnets, the concept of magnetic fields, and the creation and use of electromagnets. Students will also analyse the practical uses of electromagnets in technology, such as in cranes, motors, and medical devices. They will also conduct experiments to test the properties of electromagnets, carefully considering variables, risks, and the representation of their findings in tables and graphs, developing skills in scientific investigation and analysis.	
How will this be assessed?	Minor Assessment, Worksheets, Projects, Experiments	le u carrette
History	By studying the Stuart dynasty, the English Civil War, and Oliver Cromwell, Year 8 students learn about the tensions between monarchy and Parliament, the causes of the Civil War, and how it shaped Early Modern Britain. They explore key events like Charles I's execution, the rise of Cromwell, and the establishment of the Commonwealth, gaining insights into political and religious conflicts of the time. Students also examine how the Civil War influenced ideas about democracy, leadership, and individual rights.	Excellence in this topic is shown by a strong understanding of the causes, events, and consequences of the English Civil War, supported by detailed knowledge of people like Charles I and Cromwell. Students who excel can analyse different perspectives on the monarchy, Parliament, and Cromwell's rule, forming balanced, evidence-based conclusions. They can also explain the long-term significance of these events and communicate their ideas clearly in written and verbal work.
How will this be assessed?	Worksheets, presentations, Minor Assessment	

Enterprise	Legal obligations Ethical considerations	Understanding the key legal responsibilities businesses must adhere to (e.g., employment laws, consumer protection, health and safety regulations, data protection). Why legal compliance is essential for business sustainability and societal trust. Identifying potential legal risks in business plans and operations. Developing strategies to ensure business practices align with legal requirements. Understanding key ethical principles (e.g., fairness, integrity, transparency, corporate social responsibility). The importance of balancing profit motives with social and environmental responsibilities. Analysing business decisions to identify ethical implications and propose responsible solutions.	Explain complex legal concepts clearly and applies them appropriately to various business scenarios. Evaluate the impact of legal compliance on business operations and long-term sustainability. Create clear, actionable compliance strategies tailored to specific business contexts. Identify ethical dilemmas in real-world or case-study scenarios and provides well-reasoned explanations of potential consequences. Evaluate complex scenarios, considering multiple stakeholders' perspectives. Propose innovative, responsible solutions to ethical challenges that go beyond surface-level responses.
How will th	nis be assessed?	Teacher/self-assessment, presentation, speaking tasks, pro	jects, group work
ICT	Computational Thinking: Programming Languages	Knowledge: Students should understand the purpose and structure of pseudocode, the role of selection and conditional statements in programming, and the functioning of basic searching algorithms like linear and binary search. Understanding: They should grasp how pseudocode translates logical problem-solving into structured instructions, how selection (decision-making) influences algorithm flow, and how conditional statements and algorithms operate in programming contexts.	Excellence is demonstrated by designing efficient and optimized pseudocode and algorithms. Students should also be able to debug and refine their solutions to ensure robustness.

	 Skills: Students develop the ability to: Write and interpret pseudocode for simple and complex problems. Apply selection constructs and conditional logic to solve problems. Analyze and implement searching algorithms. Transition pseudocode into functional code using text-based programming. 	
How will this be assessed?	Minor Assessment, Worksheets, Project	
Malay Language Unit 10: Membeli Belah	In Unit 10: Membeli-belah (Shopping), students will focus on vocabulary related to shopping, such as pasar (market), kedai (shop), harga (price), barang (item), and bayar (pay). They will learn how to talk about their shopping experiences, discussing places they shop, what they buy, and how they make their choices. Students will practice how to ask for prices using questions like "Berapa harga ini?" (How much is this?), and how to express their intention to buy something, such as "Saya ingin membeli ini" (I would like to buy this). They will also role-play real-life shopping scenarios to build confidence in using the language for practical, everyday interactions.	 Expanding Shopping Vocabulary: Students will learn key words related to shopping, such as types of stores, items, and payment terms. Asking for Prices: Students will confidently ask about prices and understand how to use common phrases for inquiring about costs. Describing Shopping Experiences: Students will be able to discuss where they shop, what they buy, and how they make purchasing decisions. Practicing Transaction Dialogues: Students will practice simple dialogues for buying items, including asking for the price and expressing interest in purchasing. Building Confidence in Everyday Conversations: Through role-play, students

How will the	Intermediate: Sickness (疾病): Learn names of illnesses, how to ask about health, and things to avoid when sick. School Facilities (学校设施): Describe your school facilities. School Subjects (学校科目): Talk about subjects studied at school, number of friends, and daily homework.	Speaking practice, quiz, reading and writing assignment Advanced: 在这单元,学生会认识不同人的生活轨迹,透过阅读不同的文章去了解不一样的人生,并对各种课题展开讨论。 Intermediate: • Knowledge: Understand vocabulary for illnesses, school facilities, and subjects. • Understanding: Form meaningful sentences to describe health, school environment, and study habits. • Skills: Speak, write, and comprehend information on these topics confidently.	will gain confidence in handling typical shopping situations in Malay. nt, and presentation. Advanced 学生将阅读一些有关生活故事的文章如:《生活中的"小镜头"》、《全球最年轻女机长》等,从而探讨文中的相关的知识点以及提高学生的写作技巧。 Intermediate: • Fluently discuss health, school facilities, and subjects in full sentences. • Write detailed and accurate descriptions with proper grammar and vocabulary. • Respond thoughtfully to comprehension tasks and participate actively in conversations.
How will th	nis be assessed?	Group discussion, homework and assessment. Students will gain knowledge of various cultural art forms and their significance. They will understand how art is used	Students' ability to create artwork that thoughtfully reflects the cultural elements they studied,
Art & Design	Inspiring Modern Artwork Through Cultural Practices	to communicate cultural traditions, stories, and social values. Students will also develop practical skills in using materials and techniques specific to each culture, enhancing their creative ability and technical proficiency.	demonstrating both an understanding of tradition and personal creativity. Their work will show high technical skill in using the chosen techniques, originality in adapting these techniques, and a clear connection to the cultural context.
How will th	nis be assessed?	Presentation and Minor Assessment	

Music	Variations	This unit focuses on developing students' understanding of theme variation. It begins with exploring how to modify an existing theme using fundamental elements of music and simple musical devices. Students will learn essential composition techniques to create and apply different variations, enhancing their creativity and musical skills.	Excellence will be demonstrated by the ability to understand and apply Variation Form, creatively altering a theme or melody in diverse musical ways across different variations.
How will th	nis be assessed?	Quiz, Worksheet, Assessment	
PE		Basketball: Students will develop essential basketball skills, including dribbling with control, accurate passing, and effective shooting techniques. Through gameplay, they will learn teamwork, strategic thinking, and court awareness, enhancing their decision-making and collaboration skills. Volleyball: Students will gain foundational knowledge of volleyball, focusing on digging, setting and serving techniques. They will also learn the basic rules of the game, fostering an understanding of gameplay and the importance of teamwork. These skills will improve their hand-eye coordination, communication, and ability to participate confidently in the sport.	 Passing: Delivers accurate, well-timed passes under various conditions, using different techniques to maintain ball movement and create scoring opportunities. Shooting: Consistently accurate from various positions, with proper form and the ability to perform effectively under pressure. Dribbling Under Pressure: Maintains control and composure while dribbling in high-pressure situations, using both hands effectively and adapting to defensive challenges. Gameplay: Demonstrates advanced court awareness, quick decision-making, and strong teamwork, making strategic contributions on both offense and defense. Volleyball:

