Times Edu

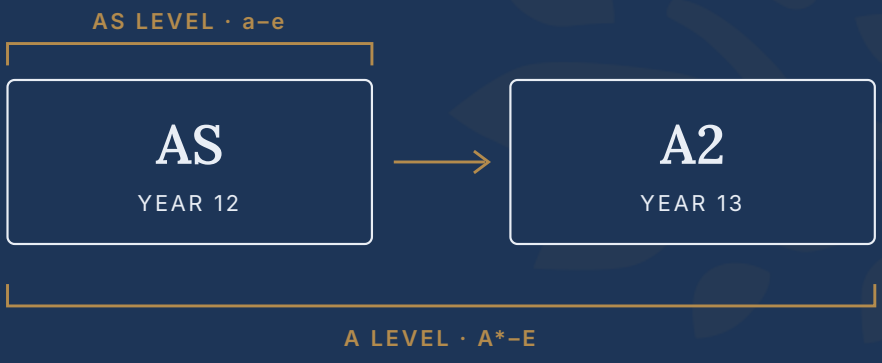
Learn today · Lead tomorrow

PRE-UNIVERSITY PROGRAMME · AGES 16–19

AS & A Level

Three subjects in depth — a passport to universities worldwide.

Cambridge International · Pearson Edexcel IAL · Programme brochure



AGES	DURATION	GRADES
16–19	2 years	A* – E

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01

The programme on one page

A Level is the two-year pre-university programme of the British system, used for admission by universities in the UK, Australia, Canada, Singapore, the USA and beyond. Students usually choose three subjects (a fourth when ability allows) and study each in real depth.

In Vietnam, the two most common awarding bodies are Cambridge International (AS & A Level) and Pearson Edexcel (International A Level, IAL). The content is comparable, but the exams are organised differently — something families need to understand before planning.

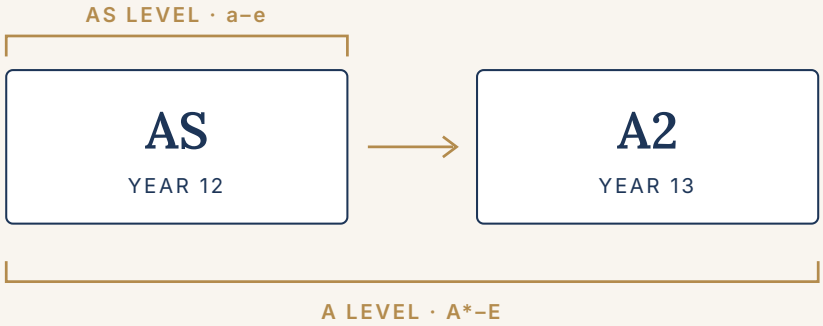
AWARDING BODIES	Cambridge International (AS & A Level) · Pearson Edexcel (IAL)
AGE · YEAR	16–19 · Year 12–13
DURATION	Two years: AS (year one) and A2 (year two)
NUMBER OF SUBJECTS	Usually three; four for very strong students
GRADES	A Level: A* to E · Cambridge AS Level: a to e
CAMBRIDGE SESSIONS	May–June and October–November; one-sitting or staged routes
EDEXCEL IAL SESSIONS	January, May–June and October (varies by subject); unit-by-unit exams with unit resits
ENTRY	Usually IGCSE or equivalent in related subjects

> HOW TIMES EDU READS THIS PROGRAMME
>
> *The step from IGCSE to A Level is bigger than many families expect: deeper content, more independent study, and top grades that depend on analysis and evaluation rather than recall. The exam route — AS first, or everything at the end — needs to be settled in the first year.*

02

Structure & assessment

A Level is split into two halves: AS Level (year one) and the remainder of the A Level (A2, year two). The two awarding bodies organise these halves differently:



The two halves of A Level: AS and A2

A Cambridge: three routes

(1) AS Level only, as a qualification in its own right. (2) AS in the first year, carried forward and completed in a later session, subject to Cambridge's rules and time limits. (3) All A Level papers in the same session, usually at the end of the course.

B Edexcel IAL: unit by unit

Each subject is made up of separately examined units, banked until enough units are complete to cash in a grade. There are several sessions a year and any unit can be resat — more flexible, but it needs a plan to avoid spreading too thin.

C Grades and thresholds

A* exists only for the full A Level. Thresholds are published after each session, so the plan aims at secure content and criteria-based exam technique, not at a threshold.

03

The journey, term by term

SUMMER AFTER IGCSE

Bridging (Pre-AS)

Close the gaps left by IGCSE — algebra for Maths and Physics, essay writing for Economics and Business — and build an independent study routine.

YEAR 12

AS Level

Cover AS content and settle the exam route. If AS is sat this year: timed mocks before the May–June session.

YEAR 13 · TERM 1

A2 & university applications

Study A2 content alongside university applications. AS results and progress tests support the school's predicted grades.

YEAR 13 · TERM 2

Rehearsal

Full-course past papers, corrections against the mark scheme and focused revision. Final exams in May–June.

AUGUST

Results & enrolment

Results arrive; university offers are confirmed. If needed, we plan a resit in the next available session.

04

Who this programme suits

A GOOD FIT WHEN

- Students who have completed IGCSE (or equivalent) and are aiming for universities in the UK, Australia, Singapore, Canada or Europe.
- Students with clear strengths in one group of subjects who prefer depth over breadth.
- Students taking A Level at an international school who need extra support in one or more subjects.

WORTH A SECOND LOOK WHEN

- The student is not yet secure at IGCSE level in the chosen subject — close those gaps before starting AS content.
- The family wants a broad programme with many subjects and required activities — the IB Diploma may suit better.

05

Alongside other programmes

Many families weigh several international pathways at once. The table sets the four programmes Times Edu supports side by side so the structural differences are clear — the shaded column is the programme in this brochure.

	IGCSE	THIS PROGRAMME A Level	IBDP	AP
AWARDING BODY	Cambridge	**Cambridge · Pearson Edexcel**	International Baccalaureate	College Board
AGES	14–16	**16–19**	16–19	High school, usually Grades 10–12
DURATION	2 years	**2 years (AS + A2)**	2 years (DP1 + DP2)	About 1 year per course
SUBJECT CHOICE	Usually 7–9, set by school	**3 in depth, sometimes 4**	6 across groups + TOK, EE, CAS	Course by course, no set number
GRADES	A*–G	**A*–E · AS: a–e**	1–7 per subject · maximum 45	1–5
EXAM SESSIONS	May–June and Oct–Nov	**Cambridge: May–June, Oct–Nov · IAL: Jan, May–June, Oct**	May or November	First two weeks of May
ASSESSED COURSEWORK	Practical, speaking or coursework in some subjects	**Practical papers or coursework in some subjects**	Internal Assessment in every subject, plus EE and TOK	Mostly final exams; a few courses include projects or portfolios
STRENGTH	Broad foundation before pre-university study	**Depth in the student's strongest subjects**	Breadth, interdisciplinary thinking and research	Flexibility; supports US university applications

Three questions for choosing the right programme

1

Where, and what, does your child want to study?

The target country and course decide required subjects, grade levels and when results are needed.

2

Depth or breadth?

Students who are strong across many subjects and enjoy writing often suit the IB; students with clear strengths in a few subjects often thrive with A Level.

3

What does the current school teach?

Following the school's own programme avoids running two curricula at once — Times Edu supports rather than replaces it.

06

Subjects we support

Times Edu supports the A Level subjects most often taken by students in Vietnam, mainly on Cambridge syllabuses, with Edexcel IAL support in some subjects. Awarding bodies are never mixed within one subject.

CODE	SUBJECT	NOTE
9709	**Mathematics**	Pure, Mechanics, Probability & Statistics
9231	**Further Mathematics**	For students heading to Maths, Engineering or Physics
9702	**Physics**	Includes a practical skills paper
9701	**Chemistry**	Includes a practical skills paper
9700	**Biology**	Includes a practical skills paper
9708	**Economics**	Multiple choice, data response and essays
9609	**Business**	Case studies and essays
9618	**Computer Science**	Includes a practical programming paper
9990	**Psychology**	

> Other subjects (languages, social sciences) and the matching Edexcel IAL specifications are confirmed during consultation, depending on available teachers. Times Edu also offers a Homeschool A Level package for students studying full-time at home and sitting exams as private candidates — described in a separate brochure.

07

Gaps we see most often

01

The step up from IGCSE

Students with A* at IGCSE can still struggle at A Level: volume and depth rise sharply while classroom time does not.

WHAT WE DO

A short bridging phase at the start and between-session assignments that build independent study habits.

02

Analysis and evaluation

In essay subjects, the top marks sit in argument and evaluation. Students used to listing points tend to stall at middle grades.

WHAT WE DO

Paragraph-by-paragraph argument structure, criteria-based marking and reading the marks together with the student.

03

Choosing the exam route late

AS first or all at the end affects study rhythm, applications and resit options. Deciding late squeezes the plan.

WHAT WE DO

Exam-route advice at the start of Year 12, aligned with the family's application deadlines.

04

Three subjects at once

Three demanding subjects plus university applications make it easy for one subject to slip until the exams.

WHAT WE DO

One plan across all three subjects, with staggered progress checkpoints so they never land in the same week.

08

How a learning plan is tailored

There is no "standard" number of sessions for every student. A Times Edu plan is built from three variables and can be adjusted at every progress checkpoint.

01

Starting point

The diagnostic shows what must be re-taught from the foundations and what only needs exam-technique practice.

02

Time to the exam

Two years or three months decides the weekly rhythm, the order of topics and when past-paper practice begins.

03

Independent study

Work with answer keys can be practised independently on a weekly plan. Work marked against criteria — essays, explanations, practical write-ups — always involves a teacher.

Four things we never cut

1. Teacher-marked components (coursework, Internal Assessment, the Extended Essay) always receive full guidance.
2. Speaking and criteria-based writing are always practised with a teacher, never replaced by self-study.
3. Practical work and experimental data handling always include direct guidance.
4. Students below Grade 9 always follow a full plan, never a shortened one.

09

How Times Edu works with your child

Every student enters a programme from a different starting point. So Times Edu does not begin with a textbook — we begin by understanding the student, and only then decide what to teach, for how long, and how progress will be measured.

1

Orientation conversation

An advisor learns about the student's school, university goals, planned exam session and the time they realistically have each week. This is not a sales call — if the programme is not the right fit, we will say so.

2

Subject diagnostic

The student sits a diagnostic written by Times Edu for each subject. The result shows which topics are secure, which have gaps and which skills are pulling marks down. It is not converted into an official grade.

3

Personal learning plan

From the diagnostic, the lead teacher proposes the number of sessions, the weekly rhythm and the progress checkpoints. A quotation accompanies the plan and lists every fee clearly.

4

Learn and practise

One-to-one or small-group lessons; in-person or online is confirmed when the timetable is set. Every session includes independent work, homework and an error log so the same mistake is not repeated.

5

Measure progress & rehearse

Regular progress tests and timed mock exams, marked against the mark scheme. Results are used to adjust the plan, never to rank students.

10

What parents receive

Diagnostic read-out

A topic-by-topic and skill-by-skill reading of the result: strengths, gaps and what to work on first.

Learning plan

Number of sessions, weekly rhythm, progress checkpoints and when exam practice begins.

Checkpoint reports

Progress reports to parents at the checkpoints set out in the contract, with teacher comments.

Mock exam results

Timed mock results on our internal scale, with an error analysis and adjustments for the next stage.

11

The lines we hold

No grade guarantees	We do not promise or predict official exam results. What we commit to is the process: an accurate diagnosis, a clear plan and honest progress measurement.
No ghost-writing	For coursework, Internal Assessment, the Extended Essay or school essays, teachers guide method and give practice marking — they do not write, choose topics for, or submit work on behalf of students.
No exam registration on your behalf	Exam entries are made by the school or an authorised exam centre. Times Edu reminds families of key deadlines and documents.
Internal scales stay internal	Diagnostic, progress test and mock scores use Times Edu's internal scale; they are not official marks or grades.

12

Frequently asked questions

Q · Cambridge or Edexcel IAL?

Neither is "easier". Cambridge has fewer, larger sessions; Edexcel IAL splits subjects into units with unit resits. The choice usually depends on the student's school and the exam centres available to the family.

Q · Can a student sit A Levels independently, outside a school?

Yes, as a private candidate through an authorised centre, though some practical papers require a centre able to run them. Confirm the exam centre before finalising subjects and papers.

Q · Can AS results be used in university applications?

AS results (if sat in Year 12) can be real evidence alongside the school's predicted grades. Requirements vary by university.

Q · How long does one A Level subject take?

It depends on the starting point and the exam route. Times Edu proposes a number of sessions after the diagnostic rather than one figure for everyone.

Times Edu

NEXT STEPS

Start with a conversation

We listen to your family's goals first, then propose a plan.

1 **Contact Times Edu**

Message us on Zalo or leave your details on our website to book an orientation conversation.

2 **Take the diagnostic**

The student sits a subject diagnostic; any fee is stated clearly beforehand.

3 **Receive the plan & quotation**

Your family receives the read-out, a proposed plan and a quotation to consider — with no obligation.

WEBSITE

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ZALO

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Programme information is compiled from the awarding bodies' public documents as of October 2026 and may change. Syllabuses, subject guides and official notices from the awarding body are the final reference. Times Edu is an independent education provider and does not represent any awarding body. Fees are not included in this brochure; they are quoted with each student's learning plan.

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