FP YEAR 7-8 CURRICULUM BOOKLET

2025 - 2026



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Introduction

At Nexus, we aim to nurture and support every learner's emotional, physical, creative and intellectual needs in order that they can achieve academic success and become globally responsible citizens. In addition, we promise to treat our learners as individuals and offer them an innovative and progressive environment which will allow them to attain their goals.

Achievement of the best possible examination results and admission to the most appropriate tertiary education or place of employment is one of these goals. So, too, is the full realisation of all of a learner's talents; the appreciation of the value of hard work, the development of independent critical thinking, and the mastering of skills, competence in languages and digital literacy, for example, that are essential in the modern world.

English Language and Learning Support teams assist learners who are experiencing particular learning difficulties, allowing them to be successful and access our curriculum.

Our English Language programme offers learners a broad and balanced educational experience with project based learning and extra-curricular opportunities designed to cater for the specific needs, interests, talents and aspirations of learners from a wide range of cultural backgrounds. Our learners are challenged, supported and nurtured by experienced and highly qualified educators to achieve their full potential as young adults and future global leaders.

This booklet contains an overview of our Foundation Programme (FP) curriculum for Year 7 and Year 8.

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The FP Year 7 and 8 Curriculum

The Foundation Programme (FP) curriculum has been designed as a preparatory programme to support those learners who have had little to no exposure to the English language. The FP will facilitate the building of a solid foundation of both conversational and academic English language enriched by vocabulary, grammar, academic based projects and trips. The purpose of which is to support the seamless transition from the programme into Nexus' mainstream MYP curriculum.

This interactive programme fosters ample opportunities to develop proficiency, fluency, accuracy and interrelated academic learning by building on the fundamentals of phonemic and phonological awareness, with social and subject specific objectives and guidance. Learners are taught by EAL specialists and subject specialists in specialist facilities. They move around the School and participate in some mainstream classes to enable them to put their language learning into practice.

The learning in this programme is framed by inquiry, action and reflection, or more simply, 'asking, doing and thinking'. Although the programme focuses on the acquisition and development of English language pertaining to the four skills: listening, speaking, reading and writing, to ensure that our learners receive a broad and balanced curriculum and to prepare them for integration into Nexus dynamic mainstream programme, Mathematics, Science and Individuals and Societies are offered as part of the programme.

To facilitate the routines, expectations and positive experiences of our learners in the mainstream programme, FP will also be a 10 months programme. This is to ensure that those enroled on the FP programme are able to assimilate the expectations and standards both academically and socially of all learners at Nexus International School (Singapore). This includes accessing our co-curricular programme, our integrated assemblies, our immersive school activities and school trips.

To ensure a holistic programme is being offered, other non-intensive subjects such as Physical Health Education (PHE), Visual and Performing Arts and Life Skills are included into the programme. By including these varied subjects, the School aims to promote the health, wellbeing and safety of all our learners, sustain higher energy and motivation throughout the entire school day while prioritising English language acquisition.

MYP Tier 4 (Foundation Programme)

*29% in mainstream

Immersive English taught by EAL		Discrete	Mainstream			
English	Science	I&S	PHE	Maths	Arts	Tutor / PSHE
20 hours	6 hours	5 hours	4 hours	6 hours	6 hours	2 hours

^{*}The arts lessons will be on a carousel and the learners will do blocks of Visual Art, Drama and Music in a mainstream teaching group.

SCOPE AND SEQUENCE

The scope and sequence of the programme is to facilitate the learners development of their world through collaborative learning, by engaging in intercultural learning to inform their language learning and to participate in project based learning to promote cross-curricular learning.

The focus of the learning will be around the topic of The World. The learners will explore their world - who they are, their family, their body, food and culture, global perspectives (the environment, society, history and geography) and life skills. They will also learn about time, distance, power, beliefs and values and routines.

ASSESSMENT AND REPORTING

Learners are assessed regularly in a variety of ways appropriate to the subject and the type of learning being undertaken. For example, learners will complete end-of-topic tests, complete placement tests which enable us to monitor their progress and be observed preparing creative work. Feedback is given to learners as a regular feature of their learning in the classroom.

Reports will be inline with mainstream and be published each semester and there will be face to face learning conferences in Term 1 and Term 3. Maths and Arts will be graded using MYP criteria and Science, Individuals and Societies and Immersive English will be assessed through listening, reading, writing and speaking. Similar content to the mainstream will be covered in Science and Individuals and Societies to help learners when they transition to the mainstream.

In mainstream subjects, learners are tracked against their personal CAT 4 data. CAT 4 scores are an indicator of how a learner should be performing and are based on a large sample of international learners with a similar profile. Nexus aims to personalise tracking of each learner's progress rather than expect whole cohorts to achieve the same level. This data does not limit the attainment of any learner and is used to initiate conversations around capabilities and explain to learners how they are progressing, and how they can be even more successful.

World-Class Instructional Design and Assessment (WIDA)

World-class Instructional Design and Assessment (WIDA) is a comprehensive assessment tool that is used to baseline test all our multilingual learners and to properly monitor and gauge the progress our learners are making within their English language proficiency journey. All learners enroled in the FP will be WIDA tested at the beginning of the programme (August). Their progress in English will be assessed using WIDA and other tests throughout the year to enable the School to comprehensively assess and track their progress. Essentially we are aiming to move learners from basic English users to proficient English users who access their full curriculum in English and express themselves confidently in English and can socialise in English.

	ENTRY	EXIT
YEAR	CEFR	CEFR
7	A1	C1
8	A1	C1

Desc	Description of Proficiency Level		
1	Entering: Knows and uses minimal social language and visual and graphic support		
2	Emerging: Knows and uses some social English and general academic language with visual and graphic support		
3	Developing: Knows and uses social English and some specific academic language with visual and graphic support		
4	Expanding: Knows and uses social English and some technical academic language		
5	Bridging: Knows and uses social English and academic language working with grade-level material		
6	Reaching: Knows and uses social and academic language at the highest level measured by this test		

All learners enroled in our EAL Programmes - Intensive Provision, Additional Provision, FES and FP will be WIDA tested at the beginning of the programme. Their progress in English will be assessed using WIDA and other tests throughout the year to enable the School to comprehensively assess and track their progress.

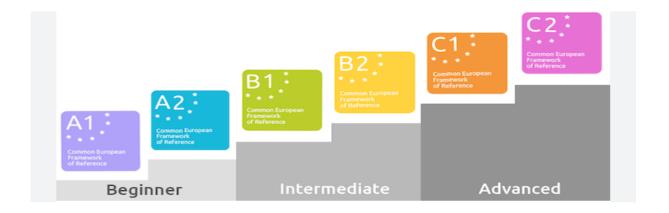
English Acquisition and the Common European Framework (CEFR)

The School also refers to the The Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR) to access and track the learners' progress.

The Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR) is an international standard for describing language ability. It describes language ability on a six-point scale, from A1 for beginners, up to C2 for those who have mastered a language.

It is an expectation that learners enroled on FEP are beginners (A1). Through this programme the School aims to accelerate the acquisition and proficiency of learners in the four skills: listening, speaking, reading and writing. Learners will be expected to understand and use basic, everyday conversational English and expressions, can introduce themselves, talk about members of their family and have enough vocabulary to describe their city. In terms of writing, they should be able to write simple sentences, however, the correct spelling and grammar may be present.

By the end of the 10 months programme, learners will graduate if they have achieved proficiency in the four skills. Further, reduced support may be required for learners who are at the intermediate levels and learners who are at the advanced levels will transition straight to mainstream



Subject Group Assessment Criteria

Subject	А	В	С	D
English	Listening	Speaking	Reading	Writing
Interdisciplinary Learning	Disciplinary grounding	Synthesising	Communicating	Reflecting

HOME LEARNING

Home learning is important because it provides learners with:

- An opportunity to follow the passions and interests they develop in things they are learning;
- Consolidation and fluency-building opportunities that build subject confidence;
- Inquiry and investigative opportunities to deepen knowledge and challenge themselves;
- Vital practice of Approaches to Learning (ATL) skills such self-management and organisation.

Home learning will be relevant and have clear learning intentions that are related to curriculum goals. Most parents/legal guardians expect their children to undertake home learning, and it is one way we develop a strong learning-focused relationship between learners, teachers and parents/legal guardians. Home learning provides an opportunity to share formative feedback and help a learner reach their goals. The amount of home learning is not fixed and will increase as the learner exits the Foundation English Programme and adopts more inquiry based learning There is an expectation that Secondary learners will become more independent and autonomous as they move up the school, prioritising different subject demands and deadlines.

Home learning is shared with learners and parents/legal guardians through Canvas and deadlines will allow learners to complete it to the best of their ability. Home learning will never be set for the next day, there will always be a few days between setting and submission. Home learning does not always have to be written and subject areas will select activities that best support the curriculum goals.

Ultimately learners will need to apply learning to new and unfamiliar contexts to be successful. Home learning provides these opportunities. For it to be useful, both teachers and learners must use the information gained to adjust teaching and learning to meet the learner's needs.

Parents/legal guardians should support their child/ward to complete home learning by encouraging them to do the work at a regular time each night, in a suitable location free from distractions. By helping the child/ward to understand what is expected and checking what home learning has been set, parents/legal guardians can gain an insight into what is being learned and help their child/ward feel the family is part of the learning journey. Discussing learning rather than tasks in the home environment strengthens the connections between home and School and ultimately empowers the learner. A literature-rich home environment which encourages additional practice of the English four skills: listening, speaking, reading and writing will help to consolidate the work done in School. Work should always be authentically completed by the learner and not be plagiarised or the work of an adult at home. If your child / ward is struggling with a task please let the class teacher know. It is never the intention to set home learning that causes undue anxiety.

ATTENDANCE

It is self-evident that attendance and achievement at School go hand in hand.

We expect all learners to attend school every day that classes are provided. The only reasons for not attending are medical and genuine emergencies. Families should strive not to plan family holidays during term times and should always request leave in advance of any planned absence.

An attendance roll is taken at the start of each day and attendance records are maintained on our School Information Management System. Learners who hold a Student's Pass will have their absence reported to Immigration and Checkpoints Authority (ICA) should their attendance fall under 90%. Families should advise the School, in advance, when their child/ward is not able to attend. The School contacts families in the case of unexplained absences.

TUTOR GROUPS

Learners are placed in a small tutor or homeroom group. Tutors are the first point of contact for learners experiencing difficulties, or for parents/legal guardians with any concerns.

Learners are taught in the same teaching groups for the whole school day. The groups are arranged following consideration of a number of factors, including gender and nationality.

LEARNING RESOURCE HUB (LRH) - SUPPORTING THE CURRICULUM

Learners are timetabled to visit the Learning Resource Hub (LRH) each week during their English lessons. Learners are encouraged to change their reading books, taught how to select appropriate reading material, and are encouraged to share and discuss their reading choices. Time is set aside for reading for pleasure. The LRH supports the School in the facilitation of recreational and reading development, and learners are welcome to visit the LRH at lunchtimes and after school.

RESIDENTIAL TRIPS

The mandatory Residential Trips are an integral part of the Secondary School curriculum and contribute to the fulfilment of the School's mission statement. They provide learners with an opportunity to develop through experience. One of the main aims is to involve them in activities and situations that they may not have experienced before and which encourage them to think about the values that they are applying and the attitudes they adopt.

Each trip, and its related activities, is planned to accomplish the following aims:

- Exploration of cultural, historical or physical environments with specific targets linked to the School's curriculum setting;
- Reinforcement of self-esteem and positive interaction amongst peers and staff outside of the classroom environment;
- Encourage team-building and leadership skills;
- Demonstrate service to the community.

Trips week will likely take place in Term 1 of the Academic Year. The destinations for this trips may be the following:

- Year 7 Malaysia
- Year 8 Indonesia

Those learners who do not attend the residential trip will be expected to remain at home with their family as there will not be any provision for teaching provided. In addition to the residential trips, our learners will be afforded the opportunity to participate in a number of field trips so that they can both practice and consolidate their language and newly acquired life skills.

RECREATION AND CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES (CCAs)

Learners are encouraged to become involved in a number of activities during lunch break and after school. The specific activities offered vary from time to time, but include sports, drama, art, music and other creative pursuits. The School's website hosts all the information about our Education Outside The Classroom (EOTC) programmes.

LEADERSHIP

The School provides many leadership opportunities for learners that empower learners to lead in a whole variety of contexts including whole-school events and learner-led initiatives. There are also a range of other opportunities for learner leadership from charity initiatives begun and led by learners, to Duke Of Edinburgh International Award Scheme, to the Learner Council or leading assemblies, to service with younger learners and the community. Opportunities to be involved with Lead Learners are advertised in the Learner Bulletin.

Foundation English

The aims of Foundation English are to encourage and enable learners to:

- Use English language as a vehicle for thought, creativity, reflection, learning, self-expression, analysis and social interaction
- develop the skills involved in listening, speaking, reading, writing, viewing and presenting in a variety of contexts
- develop critical, creative and personal approaches to studying and analysing literary and non-literary texts
- explore and analyse aspects of personal, host and other cultures through literary and non-literary texts
- explore English language through a variety of media and modes
- develop a lifelong interest in reading
- apply linguistic and literary concepts and skills in a variety of authentic contexts.

The Foundation English is an immersive module which facilitates the acquisition of English language to prepare our learners both socially and academically for life both in and outside of the classroom. Our learners are afforded opportunities to learn about their world by experiencing it. To enable our learners to improve their fluency and proficiency in the four skills: listening, speaking, reading and writing.

This module uses the National Geographic dynamic framework for English to support our learners in discovering who they are, and what they may become in the future. Using real-world content about people and places from around the world, we will teach the language and skills necessary to enable our learners to:

- Develop language proficiency
- Sharpen listening skills
- Practice speaking
- Expand vocabulary
- Improve reading comprehension
- Build vocabulary

Learners will have access to National Geographic's interactive platform 'Spark' so that they continue their learning outside of the classroom. Spark has further materials for the learners to access in addition to vocabularies, songs, online quizzes and end of unit tests. Each learner will receive a user ID and password so that they can access the platform.

ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

Component	Description
Speaking and listening	A wide range of individual, paired and group activities are assessed throughout each year, progressing in challenge through Year 7 and 8.
Written coursework	Learners are assessed for writing across a range of complex tasks throughout the year. The work takes a wide variety of forms and genres from essays, letters and creative stories, to blogs and interactive multimedia presentations.
Reading	Learners are encouraged to read a wide range of fiction and non-fiction texts including novels, short stories, biographies, poems, Newspaper articles and as well as media texts. They are encouraged to select stories of interest, read for pleasure and reflect on the themes, vocabulary and narrative structures.
Vocabulary*	Learners will be exposed to and learn Tier 1 and Tier 2 vocabulary - basic, high-frequency works which are used in everyday language. Sight words, nouns, verbs, adjectives, prepositions, articles and early reading words.
Grammar*	Learners will employ adverbs of frequency, comparative and superlative adjectives, countable and uncountable nouns in their language and writing. Past, present, continuous and verbs used to inform writing and grammar rules will be learned.
Comprehension*	Learners will develop their language comprehension to be able to understand the different elements of spoken or written language, like the meaning of words and how words are put together to form sentences. Language comprehension is one of the building blocks of reading comprehension.

^{*} These components are assessed through the four skills by way of observation, conversational and formal spoken practice, written tasks, project based learning and in-class tests (for example spellings and end of unit vocabulary tests).

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Year 7 Year 8 The learner should be able to read and understand The learner should be able to communicate straightforward texts, such as newspaper articles fluently and effectively, using language appropriate to the situation. and magazines. In terms of speaking, our learners should be able to Learners should be able to use their English have basic conversations in English, and can for social purposes, such as expressing introduce themselves and others. opinions, engaging in debates and discussing a variety of topics with others. T Our learners must also be able to write short Our learners should also be able to express essays on topics that they know well, use their thoughts and feelings clearly, responding appropriate grammar and vocabulary, and be able to correct some of their own mistakes. appropriately to what they hear. In addition, they should be able to give clear instructions, Students at this level should also be familiar with follow instructions and offer advice. some basic idioms and collocations in English. Learners should be able to write detailed text on complex topics. This includes developing an argument and providing evidence for their points. They should also be able to structure their text

well, using cohesive devices and linking

- words, which help them to present their ideas in a logical and coherent way.
- They should also be able to use a wide range of vocabulary, including both general and specialist language.

SUBJECT SPECIFIC LEARNING COMPONENT

Cross-curricular or interdisciplinary learning involves establishing patterns of information between different academic subjects. It offers a creative way of developing knowledge, understanding and practical skills through a study of interconnected topics. It is also an opportunity for our learners to further develop their language, understanding and take ownership of their learning by applying concepts learned in one area with another.

To ensure that our learners receive a broad and balanced curriculum and to prepare them for integration into Nexus dynamic mainstream programme, Mathematics and Science are offered as part of the programme.

To ensure a holistic programme is being offered, other non-intensive subjects such as Physical Health Education, Visual Arts and Life Skills are included into the programme.

Science

The Year 7 to 8 curriculum is inquiry-based and designed to encourage thought and creativity in order to develop the necessary skills through a coordinated series of topics based on experimental and practical science. The skill areas are:

- Scientific knowledge and understanding
- Manipulating scientific apparatus
- Experimental design and investigation
- Data collection, processing and presentation
- Analysis and modelling
- Appreciation of the role of Science in the wider world

To check the learners' understanding and application of the concepts, there will be formative assessments conducted during class time and a group project.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Year 7

- The scientific method: ask a question, form a hypothesis, test the hypothesis, analyse data, and draw conclusions measurements using scientific equipment and lab safety
- Physical and chemical matter changes
- How living things work, Structure and function of living.

Year 8

- Energy and Movement
- Communication through waves
- Different chemicals, periodic table and how they make up our world
- Atoms, molecules, compounds
- Chemical Reactions

- Systems within as well as outside our atmosphere and how they affect each other.
- Adaptation and Inheritance
- Human body and the internal systems
- Forces and motions in sports

Mathematics

The aims of Mathematics are to encourage and enable learners to:

- enjoy mathematics, develop curiosity and begin to appreciate its elegance and power;
- develop an understanding of the principles and nature of mathematics;
- communicate clearly and confidently in a variety of contexts;
- develop logical, critical and creative thinking;
- develop confidence, perseverance, and independence in mathematical thinking to solve problems;
- develop powers of generalisation and abstraction;
- apply and transfer skills to a wide range of real-life situations, other areas of knowledge and future developments;
- appreciate how developments in technology and mathematics have influenced each other;
- appreciate the moral, social and ethical implications arising from the work of mathematicians and the applications of mathematics;
- appreciate the international dimension in mathematics through an awareness of the universality of mathematics and its multicultural and historical perspectives;
- appreciate the contribution of mathematics to other areas of knowledge;
- develop the knowledge, skills and attitudes necessary to pursue further studies in mathematics;
- develop the ability to reflect critically upon their own work and the work of others.

To enable teachers to monitor the learners progress, they will have formative and summative assessments through the course. Learners will also have access to online platform IXL where they have the opportunity to consolidate their learning of concepts and test themselves.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Year 7	Year 8
 Mathematical language and forms of representation 	Polygons: angles, symmetry. measurementsAlgebraic expressions
Number patterns	 Linear and nonlinear sequences
 Factors and multiples 	 Data types : discrete, continuous
 Number operations 	Gradient
 Operations with positive & negative 	 Experimental and theoretical probability

Visual Arts

The aims of Visual Arts are to encourage and enable learners to:

- understand the relationship between art and its contexts
- develop the skills necessary to create and to perform art
- enjoy lifelong engagement with the arts
- explore the arts across time, cultures and contexts
- express ideas creatively
- reflect on their own development as young artists
- Show and identify how ideas, feelings and meanings are expressed in art;
- critically evaluate their own work, then modify and refine it to realise their intentions;
- Learn and use specialist art vocabulary

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Year 8 Patterns in Print Application of inspiration of culture to design into Artwork Exploring perspective and composition through creating landscape artwork. Year 8 Creating sculpture based on personal ideas, culture and experiences Creating art for change with an environmental focus.

Physical and Health Education (PHE)

The aims of Physical and Health Education are to encourage and enable learners to:

- participate effectively in a variety of individual and team activities and/or sports
- understand the value of physical activity
- achieve and maintain a healthy lifestyle
- collaborate and communicate effectively
- build positive relationships and demonstrate social responsibility
- reflect on their learning experiences

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Year 7 & 8

- Net Games
- Striking and Fielding Games
- Physical Literacy activities
- Invasion Games
- Fitness and well-being

Life Skills

The aims of the Life Skills programme is to encourage and enable learners to:

- develop executive functioning skills
- participate in a range of activities that will support the development of interpersonal skills
- think critically and creatively,
- improve their decision making
- problem solve
- build positive relationships
- further develop their communication skills
- goal set
- build resilience

Life Skills is not formally assessed. Learner participation, comprehension and engagement will be done through observation, presentations and projects and quizzes.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Year 8 Year 7 Me, myself and I Me, myself and I Building healthy relationships Building healthy relationships Positive thinking and emotional regulation Positive thinking and emotional regulation Interpersonal skills Stress management Communication Effective communication Conflict Management Conflict Management Decision making Critical and creative thinking **Executive Functioning** Decisions, decisions, decisions Goal setting Goal Setting Resilience Navigating adversity (resilience)

Resources

Link	What is it?	Curriculum Links
National Geographic SPARK	Spark is National Geographic's interactive online platform. Learners can access the platform to learn deeper about grammar, language rules and to practise and test themselves	Language and Literature
British Council Teens	A website that supports learners to develop their English language through reading, writing and listening practice, tips for exams, grammar and vocabulary exercises, games and videos.	Individuals and Societies, Global Perspectives, Language and Literature, science,
Cambridge Dictionary	The most popular and comprehensive online dictionary and thesaurus. Includes meanings and definitions of words with pronunciations and translations	All
Newsela	Learners can access engaging authentic texts with customisable activities and set the lexicon to their reading level.	Individuals and Societies, science, Language and Literature, Global Perspectives, design, science, art,
Ted Talks Education	High quality, video based lessons that span all topics and can be organised by age group.	All
Deepl translation tool	A translation device that is more accurate than Google Translate.	All
Rewordify	A free online tool to simplify reading activities for faster comprehension and teach difficult words.	All
<u>Britannica</u>	Articles that can be set at three different reading levels	Individuals and Societies, Global Perspectives, Language and Literature, Design, Science, Art
<u>Lexile</u>	Check the reading level of a text	All
Quizlet	Practice vocabulary and add images to aid comprehension	All
The Day	A cross curricular resource of newspaper articles at 5 different levels	All
Common Lit	Comprehensive literacy programme with thousands of free reading lessons	Language and Literature, Global Perspectives, Individuals and Societies, design, science, art

Nexus Library Resources	A link to the Nexus Library website and all the linked resources	All
KS3 Maths	BBC Bitesize - KS3 Mathematics	
<u>IXL</u>	IXL - Maths online site	
KS3 Science	BBC Bitesize - KS3 Science	
KS3 Arts	BBC Bitesize - KS3 Art	