

# Grades 11 & 12

ABIS  
PARENT  
INFORMATION  
EVENING

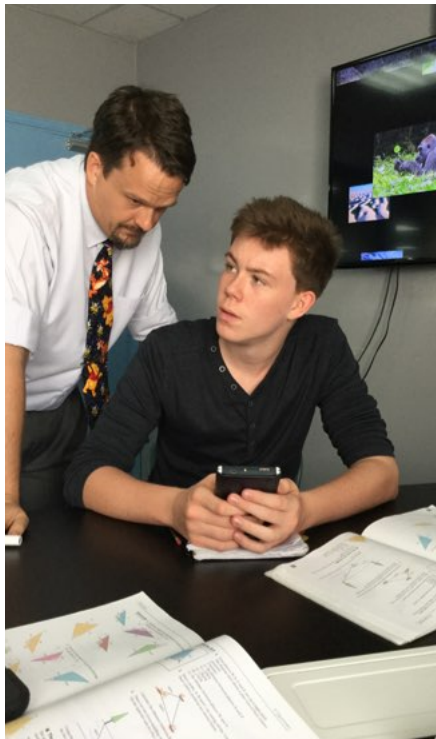


## Welcome to Grades 11 & 12

ABIS proudly offers the gold standard: IB Diploma

Grade 11 and 12 participate in the IB Diploma Programme (DP), an academically challenging and balanced programme of education with final examinations, that prepares students for success at university and life beyond. The programme, which was established in 1968, has gained significant recognition and respect from the world's leading universities.

IB Diploma Programme students must choose one subject from each of five groups (1 to 5), ensuring breadth of knowledge and understanding in their best language, additional language(s), the Social Sciences, the Experimental Sciences and Mathematics. They must all take an Arts subject or a second group 1-5 subject choice. Students also write a 4000 word Extended Essay, take a TOK course and are involved in CAS experiences. The maximum score available is 45 points - 7 points for every subject (6 in total) and 3 points for TOK and EE combined.



## About Al Batinah International School

ABIS was founded in 2007 by Sohar Aluminium to meet the needs of the growing expat community in Sohar. It has been a busy few years with the school growing steadily and with authorisation in the International Baccalaureate Primary Years Programme, IGCSE and most recently the IB Diploma Programme.

The school is committed to providing all our students with the very best opportunities for learning and personal growth.

**Challenge Yourself, Involve Yourself, Be Your Best**

# Helping your child

## How can I support my child's learning?

### Our Grades 11 & 12 Team



Abby Brewer  
Pastoral  
Coordinator  
English &  
Literature/English  
B



Jon Adams  
Mathematics &  
Pamoja  
Coordinator



Leo Thompson  
DP Coordinator/  
Secondary Team  
Leader



Lina Hurst-  
Mawasse  
Science



Jorge Lopez  
Science



Mina Znaidi  
Arabic



Ann Turton  
Art



Françoise  
Cerdan  
French



AdbuNabi Utman  
Islamic Studies



Eric Griebenow  
Music



Liz Jurkowski  
History & Global  
Perspectives



Briar Chatterjea  
Dance

### 1. Talk to your child about their learning.

The more you are involved in their learning at school, the more likely they are to connect their learning in the classroom to the outside world.

### 2. Check in frequently on the Broadcaster.

The school and your child's teachers will be using the Broadcaster on a regular basis to communicate with parents. Please make regular visits.

### 3. Ensure balance in your child's life

Their lives outside of school have a direct impact on how they perform in school and vice versa. Therefore, outdoor exercise, proper sleep and eating well are also key factors in academic success.

### 4. Communicate with teachers.

As mentioned previously, please do not hesitate to approach your child's teachers

directly with questions and comments.

### 5. Celebrate your child's successes.

The more involved in their learning, the more you will be able to recognize their growth and development and be able to praise it.

### 6. Be aware of your child's homework.

Student homework is posted to their calendars, which can be viewed on their websites.

The students' websites are an integral part of teaching and learning. Children and teachers update the websites regularly with samples of work, videos, photos and reflections on their processes and successes. We encourage parents to visit their child's website often.

## Independent Learners

A key component of the ABIS mission is to foster independent learning in our students. We believe that a cornerstone of 21st century education is empowering students to plan and manage their own learning as much as possible. From the Personal Project in Grades 7 and 8, through to Global Perspectives in IGCSE and the Extended Essay in IB, we put this belief into practice.



CAS, which stands for creativity, activity and service, is one of the core elements of the Diploma Program. By allowing students to pursue their own interests in a supervised forum, CAS helps them to develop the non-academic, holistic aspect of their lives. The CAS program will last from September of 11th grade to April of 12th grade, requiring a weekly commitment from our students that covers a balance of experiences in all three strands, including at least one month-long CAS project. Students will maintain a portfolio through Managebac, our online system, to demonstrate that they are meeting all requirements. While not graded, CAS is a diploma completion requirement, as well as a great way for students to extend their learning beyond the classroom.

## Theory of Knowledge

The Theory Of Knowledge (TOK) course is core to the educational philosophy of the Diploma Programme. It offers students the opportunity to reflect critically on different ways of knowing (WOKs) and diverse areas of knowledge (AOKs) and to consider the role and nature of knowledge in their own culture and in the cultures of others. In addition, the course prompts students to be aware of themselves as thinkers, to connect their subjects together, and to connect their learning to the world. It is a course on critical, reflective thinking that overlaps with several areas of philosophy. Students are assessed by an internally marked Presentation (worth a third) and an externally marked Essay (worth two thirds).

## Extended Essay

The Extended Essay (EE) is a mandatory core component of the IB Diploma Programme. It is a research paper of up to 4,000 words giving students an opportunity to conduct independent research into a topic that interests them. It is a self-directed process that is teacher supported and guided. Students must be academically rigorous (using proper referencing) and demonstrate inquiry skills, as well as use the methods and terminology of the subject (in any of the 6 groups) that they choose to write the essay in. It is mostly written during the summer holiday of Grade 11 and 12.

For more information to go to:

[www.ibo.org/en/programmes/diploma-programme/what-is-the-dp/](http://www.ibo.org/en/programmes/diploma-programme/what-is-the-dp/)

## Keeping in touch

### How will the school communicate with me?

#### 1. Through the Broadcaster

The Broadcaster is the main way of the school communicating with parents. You will find the the Broadcaster at <http://abisoman.com/broadcaster>.

The password for parents is, unsurprisingly, "parents".

#### 2. E-mail Updates

Starting in the next few weeks, parents who have provided us with their e-mail addresses will receive weekly updates from the school summarizing relevant materials posted on the Broadcaster

#### 3. SMS

The school operates an SMS information system which provides important updates about events through your phone. If you do not receive these messages please check with reception.

#### 4. E-mail

Occasionally, teachers may contact you directly by e-mail. Please ensure that the school has an up-to-date e-mail address on file.

#### 5. Telephone

If your child is sick or we need direct assistance from you about a matter related to your child we will contact you by telephone.

#### 6. Face to face

Of course, when possible we'll try to have a chat!



ABIS is pleased to extend our course offerings with online courses offered by Pamoja Education. Pamoja is the only provider approved by the IB to teach Diploma Programme courses online. Students taking an online course will receive 4 hours per week during the school day and should also expect homework.

As the Site-Based Coordinator, Jon Adams supports students with weekly meetings to help set meaningful and realistic time management goals. Mr. Adams is also the liaison between ABIS parents and Pamoja's teachers. If you have questions, please contact Mr. Adams. e-mail: [j.adams@abisoman.com](mailto:j.adams@abisoman.com)

## Homework In Secondary School

Grade Level	7	8	9	10	11	12
Total HW minutes per school day	70	80	90	100	110	120
Total time per week	350 minutes	400 minutes	450 minutes	500 minutes	850 minutes (weekends & study periods)	900 minutes (weekends & study periods)

## Assessment In Secondary School

Below is the equivalency chart that appears on all ABIS secondary reports. The purpose of the chart is to align the marking between the IB grading scale (7-1) and the IGCSE marking scale (A-F), with universal descriptors. Official ABIS reporting marks use the IB scale.

IB Numerical Level	Description	Alphabetical score
7	Outstanding ( <b>significantly above average</b> )	A+
6.5	Working towards a 7	A
6	Very good ( <b>well above average</b> )	A-/B+
5.5	Working towards a 6	B
5	Good ( <b>above average</b> )	B-/C+
4.5	Average Level of Achievement	C
4	Approaching ALA	C-/D+
3.5	Working towards a 4	D
3	Needs improvement	D-/E+
2.5	Working towards a 3	E
2	Significant improvement needed	E-/F+
1.5	Working towards a 2	F
1	At beginner level	F-/G

Average IB subject score

Official IGCSE pass mark

Target here and above