Bermuda Department of Education

THE RESPONSE -
IN PREPARATION FOR IMPLEMENTING

THE CAMBRIDGE INTERNATIONAL EXAMINATIONS (CIE) PROGRAMME

30th June 2009

Prepared by

CURRICULUM & ASSESSMENT
STAFF DEVELOPMENT
STUDENT SERVICES

Cambridge Implementation
26th June, 2009

Dear Teachers:

I was very pleased to announce, in May, that the Bermuda Public School System will be adopting the Cambridge International Curriculum as the basis for teaching English, Mathematics and Science in our primary, middle, and senior schools.

The adoption of the Cambridge International Curriculum represents the most significant step taken in the last ten years to improve public education in Bermuda. The Cambridge Curriculum has four phases, each of which dovetails into the next, beginning with Primary (age 5-11), Lower Secondary (age 11-14 - the equivalent of our middle schools), Middle Secondary (age 14-16 - the equivalent of S1 and S2), and Upper Secondary (age 16-19).

While the delivery of the new curriculum will not begin until September 2010, there is much to be accomplished between now and then. This is an ambitious plan, but it is one which can and will work. We have to accept that any serious educational reform requires swift, sharp and sometimes upsetting action to improve student outcomes. As we move through this time of change, I ask each of you to provide whatever assistance you can to your colleagues who are responsible for the implementation of the curriculum.

The decision to adopt the Cambridge Curriculum represents a pivotal moment in the history of public education in Bermuda. We must keep our focus on the outcomes we want for our children – improved learning and preparing our young people for tertiary education and the world of work.

As you enjoy your summer break, please take whatever time you can to familiarize yourself with the Cambridge International Curriculum. Information on the curriculum can be found at www.cie.org.uk.

Thank you for your efforts this school year, and we all look forward to beginning the new school year in September refreshed, revitalized, and ready to rededicate ourselves to our children and our future.

Sincerely,

The Hon. Elvin G. James, JP, MP
Minister of Education
## Professional Development Schedule

1st, 2nd & 3rd September 2009

### 1st September 2009

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Workshop Title</th>
<th>Participants</th>
<th>Venue</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Keynote Address:</strong> Orientation to Cambridge International Examinations (CIE) Programme Introduction to Unlocking the Power Standards**</td>
<td>All Educators: Principals, Deputies, Teachers, Education Officers, Mentors, Counsellors, Librarians, Educational Therapists, Para-Educators</td>
<td>Fairmont Southampton Resort</td>
<td>8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Presented by: Leadership and Learning Center/Bermuda Cambridge Cadre Trainers</strong></td>
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</table>

### 2nd & 3rd September 2009

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Workshop Title</th>
<th>Participants</th>
<th>Venue</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Unlocking the Power Standards</strong></td>
<td>All: Preschool, Primary, Middle and Senior School Teachers, Principals, Deputies, Mentors Librarians, Education Officers</td>
<td>Fairmont Southampton Resort</td>
<td>8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>If you have access to a Laptop and/or flash drive, bring them along to the training.</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Presented by: Leadership and Learning Center/Bermuda Cambridge Cadre Trainers</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Improving Counselling Services</strong></td>
<td>All School Counsellors</td>
<td>Elbow Beach Hotel</td>
<td>8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Presented by: LeeAnn Simmons</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Workplace Performance</strong></td>
<td>All: Educational Therapists Educational Therapist Aides The Educational Centre Staff</td>
<td>Elbow Beach Hotel</td>
<td>8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Presented by: Dr. Judith Bartley</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Sharpening the Saw</strong></td>
<td>All Para-Educators</td>
<td>Elbow Beach Hotel</td>
<td>8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Presented by: Dr. Lorna Postlethwaite</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Content Specific Workshop</strong></td>
<td>All: Dance Teachers Music Teachers Theatre Teachers Visual Arts Teachers</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Presented by: TBA</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Content Specific Workshop</strong></td>
<td>All: Physical Education Teachers including Adaptive PE Teachers</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Presented by: Darrin Lewis</strong></td>
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</table>
Engaging Classroom Assessments: Making Standards Work Seminar Series

The first day of this three-day seminar will show Bermuda Ministry of Education teachers, administrators, curriculum coordinators, and anyone involved in implementing standards in the K-12 classroom how to identify and “Unwrap” Power Standards. Throughout the next two days, participants use “Unwrapped” Power Standards to design performance assessments and scoring guides. Standards-based performance assessments are an effective means to improve student performance in the classroom and on high-stakes standardized tests. Participants will learn why performance tasks with accompanying rubrics for assessing student proficiency are so powerful. Participants will see the compelling research that links writing across the curriculum with higher standardized test scores. In addition to designing a standards-based performance assessment ready for use in the classroom, participants will receive practical tools for effective standards implementation.

Learning Objectives:

During this three-day interactive seminar, Bermuda Ministry of Education teachers and administrators will:

- Learn a proven process for identifying Power Standards.
- “Unwrap” the Power Standards and determine “Big Ideas” contained within those standards.
- Write these Big Ideas as “Essential Questions” to guide instruction and assessment.
- Create the first draft of an “Unwrapped” standards-based performance assessment that includes the following components: interdisciplinary standards, engaging scenarios, performance tasks, and task-specific rubrics or scoring guides.
- Understand the critical content and skills in the wording of academic content standards.
- Discover clarity of what students must know and be able to do to more effectively plan instruction and assessment by unwrapping standards.
- Learn strategies for aligning instruction and assessment to Bermuda Ministry of Education standards.

Required resources:

- Making Standards Work Training Manual
- Power Standards by Larry Ainsworth
- Making Standards Work by Douglas B. Reeves, Ph.D.
- “Unwrapping” the Standards by Larry Ainsworth

The Leadership and Learning Center
University of Cambridge International Examinations (CIE) is the world’s largest provider of international qualifications for 14–19 year olds. CIE is a part of the University of Cambridge and a not-for-profit organisation.

**CIE Mission Statement:** Our mission is to work in partnership with education providers worldwide to deliver high-quality and leading-edge assessment services. We aim to be the preferred international provider of assessment services in the world through harnessing potential, lasting partnerships, high quality, charitable status and innovation.

**Developing Successful Students:** CIE was formally established in 1998 to provide high-quality, leading-edge qualifications that meet the ongoing demands of employers and educators across the world.

CIE offers a range of internationally recognised qualifications, both academic and vocational, which have been designed to develop successful students worldwide. These include general qualifications including Cambridge IGCSE, Cambridge International A Level, Cambridge O Level and Cambridge Pre-U, a new post-16 qualification, plus a range of vocational Cambridge International Diplomas.

**Supporting Teachers:** Teachers who are well supported are able to offer the best education possible and develop successful students. CIE offers teachers an extensive programme of training events and services, providing professional development and support including online training, face-to-face training, e-learning and training via video conferencing.

*Information included in this section was extracted from the Cambridge International Examinations (CIE) website.*

**Equivalency Chart**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>-country</th>
<th>4 – 5 years</th>
<th>5 – 11 years</th>
<th>11 – 14 years</th>
<th>14 – 16 years</th>
<th>16 – 18 years</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bermuda</td>
<td>Preschool</td>
<td>Primary</td>
<td>Middle</td>
<td>Senior</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Preschool</td>
<td>Primary 1 - 6</td>
<td>M1 - M3</td>
<td>S1 - S2</td>
<td>S3 - S4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CIE</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>Primary</td>
<td>Lower secondary</td>
<td>Middle secondary</td>
<td>Upper secondary</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>Stages 1 - 6</td>
<td>Years 7 - 9</td>
<td>Years 10 - 11</td>
<td>Years 12 - 13</td>
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<tr>
<td>UK</td>
<td>Reception</td>
<td>Key Stage 1</td>
<td>Key Stage 2</td>
<td>Key Stage 3</td>
<td>A/AS level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Years 1 - 2</td>
<td>Years 3 - 6</td>
<td>Years 7 - 9</td>
<td>Years 10 - 11</td>
<td>Years 12 - 13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USA/Canada</td>
<td>Pre K</td>
<td>K- Grade 5</td>
<td>Grades 6 - 8</td>
<td>Grades 9 - 10</td>
<td>Grades 11 - 12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

CAMBRIDGE INTERNATIONAL PRIMARY PROGRAMME (CIPP) - P1-P6

What is the Cambridge Primary Curriculum Programme?

• The Cambridge International Primary Programme is comprised of several elements, it has been designed specifically with international schools in mind. The core of the programme is the Primary Curriculum Framework. This framework provides the learning goals for each stage.

• The Cambridge International Primary Programme provides a framework for teaching the core subjects of English, mathematics and science. The English and mathematics Curriculum Frameworks comprise a series of progressive objectives that describe development of essential literacy and numeracy skills but allow for use of local and national content and cross-subject activities. The Science Primary Curriculum Framework provides a structure for developing scientific enquiry, i.e. teaching students to think like scientists, as well as suggested topics for content-based learning.

What are the benefits of the Primary Programme?

• Foundation for secondary education. The Primary Programme aids identification of a student’s strengths and weaknesses and can be used to support learning and development. The Primary Programme progresses students seamlessly into middle years curricula, such as Cambridge Checkpoint and IGCSE.

• External benchmark. The Primary Programme provides teachers with an external benchmark to inform their teaching and easily measure students’ progress over time. It also allows detailed, structured reporting to parents.

• International curriculum. Appropriate and relevant internationally, the Primary Programme has been designed to be culturally sensitive. The structure of the Programme encourages teachers to use their own materials, bringing in local, national and international examples.

• Flexibility. The Primary Programme complements a range of teaching methods and curricula.

What are the Primary Progression Tests?

The Cambridge Primary Progression Tests provide valid external assessment of knowledge and skills in English and mathematics. The tests are:

• available for primary stages 3, 4, 5 and 6
• marked by teachers using CIE full mark schemes and marking guidance
What are the Cambridge International Primary Achievement Tests?

The Cambridge International Primary Achievement Tests are for students at the end of their final year of primary education. Tests are available in three core subjects: English, mathematics and science, and:

- are marked by teachers
- CIE will moderate a sample of scripts, process the results and issue students with Statements of Achievement

What makes the Cambridge International Primary Programme ‘international’?

- The Curriculum Framework provides a solid foundation in mathematics, English and science that is relevant and useful to students and teachers across the world. The assessment materials have been developed carefully to ensure that there is no bias resulting from question context or colloquial language and the Programme structure allows full flexibility for teachers to include resources that are directly relevant to their students and the local context.

What resources does CIE publish in support of the Primary Programme?

- There are a variety of methods of support offered for centres and teachers enrolled on the Primary Programme:
  - **Primary Teacher Support Website:** The website includes Schemes of Work, a discussion group and Progression Tests (tests, mark schemes and test analysis software).
  - **Classroom Activities for the Cambridge International Primary Programme.** These books are available in English, mathematics and science from CIE Publications.
  - **Planning the Effective Delivery of the Cambridge International Primary Programme booklet.** This booklet has been produced to provide support for teachers as they implement the Cambridge International Primary Programme.

Is there training available to support the Primary Programme?

- CIE plan to extend their teacher professional development services to the Primary Programme. The intention is to make some training available online and some available on a face-to-face basis based on regional demand. These two approaches will be complementary.

**CAMBRIDGE LOWER SECONDARY PROGRAMME (CLSP) - M1-M3**

What is the Cambridge Lower Secondary Curriculum Framework?

- The Cambridge Lower Secondary Curriculum Framework is the core of the Cambridge Lower Secondary Programme. The framework provides the learning goals for each stage for English, Mathematics and Science.
What are the Cambridge Lower Secondary Progression Tests?

- The Cambridge Lower Secondary Progression tests are a series of tests covering stages 7 and 8.
- The teachers can use Progression tests at the end of the year or at any point during the year as many times as they require.
- For each subject, English, mathematics and science, each test has two papers of 45 or 60 minutes duration (mathematics has a third short paper for assessing mental skills).

The Progression Tests and Analysis Tool can be used by teachers to enhance their teaching and reporting.

How do Cambridge Checkpoint tests relate to the Cambridge Lower Secondary Programme?

- The Cambridge Checkpoint tests can be taken independently of Lower Secondary, or alternatively as a conclusion to Lower Secondary. The Lower Secondary Curriculum Framework covers all the learning objectives tested through Checkpoint which provides a suitable standardised test for use at the end of stage 9. The Checkpoint tests are available in May and October and are set and marked by CIE.

CAMBRIDGE MIDDLE SECONDARY (IGCSE) - S1-S2

What is the Cambridge IGCSE?

- Cambridge IGCSE is an international curriculum that develops students' skills in creative thinking, enquiry and problem solving, and gives them excellent preparation for the next stage in their education.
- Schools can offer any combination of subjects. Each subject is certificated separately. Over seventy (70) subjects are available.
- Schools worldwide have helped develop Cambridge IGCSE. It incorporates the best in international education for students at this level. It develops in line with changing needs, and is regularly updated and extended. Cambridge IGCSE teachers can draw on excellent resources, training and advice from subject experts.
- Cambridge IGCSE has wide recognition from higher education institutions and employers around the world as evidence of academic ability.

UPPER SECONDARY (A/AS LEVELS) - S3-S4

What are Cambridge International A/AS Levels?

- Cambridge International A/AS Level is an internationally benchmarked qualification, taken in over 125 countries. Every year, thousands of Cambridge International A Level students gain places at good universities worldwide. Universities worldwide recognize Cambridge International A/AS Level as an excellent preparation for a university education. Some US universities give up to a year's credit as a result.
- Cambridge International AS Levels have half the content of the corresponding Cambridge International A Level and may be completed in one year. Schools can offer Cambridge International AS Level as a qualification in its own right or as a stage on the way to Cambridge International A Level.
- International A and AS Level examination sessions occur twice a year.
**What is the Cambridge Pre-U Diploma?**

- Students may take individual Cambridge Pre-U subjects, however, if they successfully study three Principal subjects, in combination with completing an Individual Research Report and compiling a Global Perspectives portfolio, over two years, they will be awarded the Cambridge Pre-U Diploma.

**Teacher Certification**

**What can Teachers and Trainers do with the Certificate?**

- The prime purpose of the Certificate is to provide a framework for developing and enhancing teaching and training skills. The most important direct benefit is therefore the impact on the quality of teaching and learning. Other benefits include career development as completing the Certificate is proof of one’s commitment to and since involvement in continuing professional development.

**What is the Certificate for Teachers and Trainers?**

- CIE provides a well-established programme of professional development courses and services for teachers giving teachers the knowledge and skills they need to help students succeed in CIE examinations.

**For whom is the Certificate suitable?**

- The Certificate is designed for continuing professional development of candidates who are in teaching and training roles. It is suitable for all those who wish to develop and update their professional skills and knowledge in the field of teaching and training.

**What educational level do candidates need before starting the Certificate?**

- There are no specific requirements. The Certificate is designed to be as accessible as possible. However, the Certificate is a Professional Level qualification: prospective candidates and their Centres need to be confident that they can meet the performance, skills and knowledge requirements as set out in the syllabus and assignment guidelines.

**What is the structure of the Certificate?**

- Candidates must complete three activities. These are:
  - developing a new teaching approach
  - facilitating active learning
  - reflecting on practice
- These activities form the basis for the Certificate assignment.

*Information included in this section was extracted from FAQ sections of the Cambridge International Examinations (CIE) website.*
Bermuda Department of Education

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY LINKS

These links will allow you to access sections of the Cambridge International Examination (CIE) website. Alternatively you can browse the website.

Qualifications
Examination Information for students and teachers
Past test papers for Checkpoint tests, information on IGCSE, Ordinary and Advanced Level Exams

Home Page
http://www.cie.org.uk/
About CIE
http://www.cie.org.uk/aboutcie
code of practice PDF (see left side of this page) http://www.cie.org.uk/aboutcie/facts/#
Qualifications
http://www.cie.org.uk/qualifications
Teaching (& training)
http://www.cie.org.uk/qualifications/teacher
Recognition
http://www.cie.org.uk/qualifications/recognition/
http://www.cie.org.uk/qualifications/recognition/faqs
Validation
http://www.cie.org.uk/qualifications/validation
Heads & principals
http://www.cie.org.uk/profiles/heads
Teachers
http://www.cie.org.uk/profiles/teachers
Teacher support website demonstration
http://www.cie.org.uk/profiles/teachers/support/teacher_support_demo
http://www.cie.org.uk/profiles/teachers/profdev
Parents
http://www.cie.org.uk/profiles/parents
Students
http://www.cie.org.uk/profiles/students
Ministries
http://www.cie.org.uk/profiles/ministries
Ministry training
http://www.cie.org.uk/profiles/ministries/training
Assessment
http://www.assessnet.org.uk/
CAMBRIDGE INTERNATIONAL PRIMARY PROGRAMME (CIPP) - P1-P6

Primary Programme  http://www.cie.org.uk/qualifications/academic/primary/cipp
Primary resources  http://www.cie.org.uk/qualifications/academic/primary/cipp/resources
Primary FAQ’s  http://www.cie.org.uk/qualifications/academic/primary/cipp/faqs
CIPP Tests  http://www.cie.org.uk/qualifications/academic/primary/cipp/tests
ICT starters  http://www.cie.org.uk/qualifications/academic/primary/ictstarters/overview
http://www.cie.org.uk/qualifications/academic/primary/ictstarters/faqs

CAMBRIDGE LOWER SECONDARY PROGRAMME (CLSP) - M1-M3

Overview  http://www.cie.org.uk/qualifications/academic/lowersec/lsp
Resources  http://www.cie.org.uk/qualifications/academic/lowersec/lsp/resources
FAQ’s  http://www.cie.org.uk/qualifications/academic/lowersec/lsp/faqs
Tests  http://www.cie.org.uk/qualifications/academic/lowersec/lsp/tests
Primary and Middle ICT starters  http://www.cie.org.uk/qualifications/academic/primary/ictstarters/overview

CLSP CHECKPOINT TEST

Overview  http://www.cie.org.uk/qualifications/academic/lowersec/checkpoint/overview
Resources including past papers for each checkpoint test (English, mathematics, science)  http://www.cie.org.uk/qualifications/academic/lowersec/checkpoint/resourcelist
Recognition  http://www.cie.org.uk/qualifications/academic/lowersec/checkpoint/recognition
FAQ’s  http://www.cie.org.uk/qualifications/academic/lowersec/checkpoint/faqs

CAMBRIDGE MIDDLE SECONDARY (IGCSE) - S1-S2

Overview  http://www.cie.org.uk/qualifications/academic/middlesec/igcse/overview
ICGSE brochure  right side bar of same link as above
Subjects  http://www.cie.org.uk/qualifications/academic/middlesec/igcse/subjects
IGCSE Recognition  http://www.cie.org.uk/qualifications/academic/middlesec/igcse/recognition
Statistics  http://www.cie.org.uk/qualifications/academic/middlesec/igcse/statistics

UPPER SECONDARY (A/AS LEVELS) - S3-S4

Advanced Level  http://www.cie.org.uk/qualifications/academic/uppersec/alevel/overview
AICE  http://www.cie.org.uk/qualifications/academic/uppersec/aice
Syllabus  http://www.cie.org.uk/qualifications/academic/uppersec/aice/syllabus
Recognition  http://www.cie.org.uk/qualifications/academic/uppersec/aice/recognition
Pre-University  http://www.cie.org.uk/qualifications/academic/uppersec/preu
FAQ’s  http://www.cie.org.uk/qualifications/academic/uppersec/preu/faqs
http://www.cie.org.uk/qualifications/academic/uppersec/alevel