

The ICE Strands of Interaction – Year 7

Term 1: Ways of Learning

Students will be learning about the backgrounds to the different subject areas and the ways and methods of studying and learning used at secondary school level. They will learn about our expectations as a College and the different ways that they will be assessed and expected to work. Critical aspects such as effective group work, independent study and homework skills, health and safety rules and conducting kind and effective relationships with others will be established and explored.

Big Question:

What does it mean to be a successful and supportive learner at IVC and beyond?

Term 2: Communities and our place in them

In all subject areas there will be a focus on how we are part of a single community as well as a number of wider ones; how the knowledge and skills we are acquiring are used or useful in those communities, and how we can be skilled and effective members of society and the community. Social and work related skills will be explored, as will local issues related to the city and immediate communities we live in.

Big Question:

How does what we are learning apply to our community and the people in it?

Term 3: The Ingenuity of Individuals

In this unit the main area of interaction will be in exploring how individuals have made or can make significant contributions in the different subject areas. This will involve learning about great achievements, but also looking at how a person can grow, develop and find enjoyment through gaining and applying a range of knowledge and skills. There will be an emphasis upon how to succeed and secure personal goals and targets. We will also look at a range of individuals who have made a big impact on humanity.

Big Question:

What can an individual do to make a difference in the world?

Term 4: Environments

The physical, natural and built environment will be the area of interaction during this part of the year. Learning will seek a deeper understanding and appreciation of the beauty and potential of the places we live in and share, as well as discovering unusual or new environments. Issues of protection and preservation of the environment will be important, as will understanding how a subject or knowledge interacts with the context in which it emerges or is studied.

Big Question:

How do our environments shape our understanding of the world?

Term 5: Our health and societies

The final area of interaction will be around exploring how a healthy body and mind is essential for happiness and success. Issues of health and well-being will be important, as will the ways that governments and societies work to support or hinder this. Topics will help students learn about the potential of the human body and the need for us all to be tolerant and aware of one another's needs and differences.

Big Question:

What do we need to be healthy, happy and successful in life?

Term 6: Reflection and Revision

This term will involve revision and preparation for the end of year examinations, including extended project work in some subject areas.

Big Question:

How can I be successful in my end of year examinations?

The ICE Strands of Interaction – Year 8

Term 1: One world

In this unit students will be learning about the Global Village and about the similarities and differences there are between different cultures and religions. Issues that will be explored will include tolerance of others and their beliefs, how to avoid conflict, the pressure upon resources, globalisation and how we all fit together on the planet. It will also explore the technology behind and the advantages and disadvantages of the World Wide Web.

Big Question:

Is our world getting bigger or smaller, more connected or more divided?

Term 2: The old, the new and the future

Students will investigate past, present and future in this strand. This will involve gaining an understanding of the progression of time, how it has shaped our society and technology and where we will go from here. Students will investigate how we can take knowledge from what has gone past and apply this knowledge to create a successful future. They will explore the barriers to change and what skills we will require for the 21st century.

Big Question:

How, when and why does change occur?

Term 3: Shapes, structures and rules

In all subject areas there will be a focus on the shapes, structures and rules that govern our everyday lives; how these are developed and applied; what can happen, for good or ill, if they are not followed. They may also explore practical rules, systems and structures within subject areas. This will allow students to gain a greater insight into areas such as law, philosophy, programming and architecture. It will also allow them to develop a greater appreciation of how to work together as a team and the theories that can underpin this.

Big Question:

What are the shapes, structures and rules that affect our lives?

Term 4: Ideas and beliefs

In this unit students will learn about how important ideas and concepts are developed and their significance. This may be through the work of individuals, wider movements, or how opinions are expressed and shared. Ethical, moral and spiritual beliefs will be explored and students will be encouraged to think about, celebrate, share or express their own ideas and beliefs. The strand will likely build on the ideas introduced in 'One World'.

Big Question:

How and why do ideas and beliefs influence and shape the world we live in?

Term 5: Cambridge

Students will explore Cambridge's importance, influence and impact upon society and the world. They will consider what it has given us as a legacy, what it promises for the future and how this global city can have a profound effect on our lives at IVC. Cambridge will be used as an inspiration and stimulus for a number of different activities and investigations. This strand is likely to involve research and knowledge acquisition specific to our local area.

Big Question:

How does Cambridge influence us and the wider world?

Term 6: Reflection and Revision

This term will involve revision and preparation for the end of year examinations, including extended project work in some subject areas.

Big Question:

How can I be successful in my end of year examinations?