

WHAT WE LOOK FOR AT THE APPROVAL VISIT

When we visit your school, we look at four aspects and discuss your needs with you. The areas we discuss with you are:

- **Management and leadership**

- The principal is suitably qualified, competent and experienced in educational leadership.
- School leaders (and the governing body, where relevant) demonstrate a commitment to the successful introduction of international qualifications and have clear objectives for doing so.
- Senior staff is committed to a programme of school improvement and developing staff and students.

- **Teaching and learning**

- The school has appropriate numbers of staff in management, teaching and support functions.
- The staff has appropriate qualifications to deliver Cambridge education programmes and qualifications successfully.
- Teaching approaches in your school take into account diverse learning styles and individual student needs.
- The school has a clear approach to developing its teachers and other staff.

- **Educational values**

- The culture of the school is learner-centered and helps students to become confident, enquiring and resourceful learners.
- You promote international awareness through the curriculum and other activities.
- Relationships between staff and students are positive, demonstrate mutual respect and the school has established consistent expectations of behavior.
- The culture in your school involves self-evaluation and review to enable improvements.

- **Physical environment**

- Your school premises are conducive to learning, with a positive environment for students and adequate to deliver the curriculum.
- Some Cambridge syllabuses (e.g. art and design, music, languages, physical education, sciences) require schools to have specific resources and facilities to support the teaching, learning and assessment. If you wish to offer these subjects, please review the syllabus and specific requirements before applying to offer the subject.

- **Library or learning resources:** adequate to support the delivery of the requested curriculum, including reference, non-fiction and fiction. You should also have dedicated resources to support the professional development of your teaching staff.

- **ICT:** an appropriate number of computers are available, as well as printers, scanners and internet connectivity.

- **Health and safety, first aid procedures and fire equipment:** we usually expect to see a fire certificate from the local authorities as evidence of a minimum safety standard for the school.

- **Secure storage arrangements for question papers and other examination materials:** we ask all Cambridge Schools to maintain the integrity and security of our qualifications and assessments

by handling and storing all examination materials in a proper and secure manner as defined by us. We must be confident that arrangements at the school for the secure storage of examination materials meet our regulations at the time of the school visit.

- **Facilities available for holding the examinations:** Your school needs adequate accommodation for holding examinations for the number of candidates you have.