



Faith, knowledge, and THE FUTURE

ABDULLAH JAMAN

Principal and Managing Director

Guidance International School & Wheaton International School



"We're not just teaching students to pass exams — we're teaching them to lead with integrity, empathy, and purpose."

In a world racing toward AI and automation, Guidance International School stands out for teaching something timeless — values. Here, the Cambridge curriculum meets Islamic principles, creating a learning space where young minds grow sharper and hearts grow stronger.

MAIN VISION OF THE SCHOOL

Our vision is to nurture a generation of well-rounded, morally grounded, and intellectually empowered global citizens who combine academic excellence with strong ethical values. We aim to create an environment where students not only achieve outstanding academic results but also grow as confident, compassionate, and responsible individuals — equipped to lead and contribute positively to society.

COMBINING ISLAMIC VALUES WITH CAMBRIDGE EDUCATION

We believe that faith and modern education complement one another. Our curriculum blends the rigorous, inquiry-based Cambridge framework with core Islamic values such as honesty, discipline, empathy, and social responsibility — woven seamlessly into daily school life. Students learn Qur'anic principles, Islamic manners, and moral conduct alongside science, mathematics, and literature, developing both intellectual depth and spiritual strength.

HOW WE STAND OUT FROM OTHER CAMBRIDGE OR IB SCHOOLS IN DHAKA

Our institution is unique in its holistic approach. While many schools focus solely on academics, we integrate character education, Islamic values, global exposure, leadership development, and life skills into every aspect of learning. We maintain a close-knit, student-centered



community where each child's strengths and challenges are individually supported. Moreover, our "no private tutor-needed" policy — backed by strong academic mentoring — ensures that learning remains meaningful and self-sufficient within school hours.

ENSURING QUALITY TEACHING AND TEACHER DEVELOPMENT

Teacher quality is the cornerstone of our

success. We invest heavily in continuous professional development through workshops, mentorship programs, peer observations, and training led by both local and international experts. Teachers receive regular coaching on innovative pedagogy, assessment literacy, classroom management, and digital integration. Ongoing performance monitoring and feedback keep teaching standards consistently high and globally competitive.

TECHNOLOGY ENHANCING CLASSROOM LEARNING

We view technology as an enabler, not a replacement, for effective teaching. Smart classrooms use interactive boards, digital content, and educational platforms to make lessons dynamic and engaging. Students are introduced early to coding, robotics, and STEM projects, nurturing problem-solving, logical thinking, and creativity. By blending technology with traditional teaching, we prepare learners for a rapidly evolving digital future.

SUPPORTING EVERY STUDENT — FROM THE GIFTED TO THOSE WHO STRUGGLE

We follow a differentiated instruction model to identify and address each learner's needs through ongoing assessment and observation. Gifted students participate in enrichment programs, advanced projects, and leadership roles, while those who require extra help receive personalized academic support, remedial sessions, and emotional counseling. Our counselors and pastoral care team work closely with families to ensure every child feels supported, valued, and capable of reaching their full potential.

CO-CURRICULAR AND LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Our co-curricular program is vibrant and diverse — from debate and sports clubs to science fairs, business quests, entrepreneurship challenges, and cultural festivals. Students take on leadership roles as prefects, house captains, and student council members, learning decision-making, teamwork, and responsibility. These experiences build essential life skills that complement academic excellence and prepare them for real-world leadership.

PREPARING STUDENTS FOR GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP

Global citizenship is woven throughout our curriculum via international collaborations, cultural exchanges, and engagement with global issues. Students participate in global competitions, online collaborations, and leadership summits. Teaching focuses on critical thinking, intercultural understanding, and ethical decision-making — preparing students to navigate and contribute confidently to an interconnected world.

UPCOMING PLANS AND EXPANSION

We are expanding into a state-of-the-art boarding campus designed to deliver a complete academic, spiritual, and personal growth experience. The new facilities will feature advanced STEM labs, innovation hubs, art and media studios, and global exchange programs. Additionally, new academic streams — including Entrepreneurship, AI & Robotics, and Global Leadership modules — will equip students with the skills needed for the industries of the future.

Why A-levels feel like the REAL BOSS BATTLE



BY TAGABUN TAHARIM TITUN

After months of hard work, many students breathe a sigh of relief when their O-Level exams are finally over. Mir Zayem Abdulllah from Vision Global School recalls feeling proud at first. But soon he realised that A-Level study was not just a repeat of O-Level. It turned out to be an entirely new challenge that demands real maturity and independent thinking.

In other words, the jump to A-Levels feels easier on the surface until students realise that both the pace and the depth have stepped up. For a while, Mir treated A-Levels like an extension of O-Levels, but he quickly learned that teachers expected him to plan, organise, and study much more on his own. The freedom that once felt exciting started to feel overwhelming until he learned to manage it.

A DEEPER LEVEL OF STUDY

One of the biggest changes students experience is the increased depth of the curriculum. Instead of taking eight or more subjects at O-Level, most now narrow down to three or four. At first, that seems like a relief. However, each subject becomes far more detailed and conceptually rich. Fewer subjects create a false

sense of ease. In reality, every topic demands deeper understanding, critical thought, and the ability to connect different ideas. Khondoker Wazed Kader, a student of Dhanmondi Tutorial, found this out quickly. "I thought covering only a few subjects meant less work," he says, "but each book was much thicker and the topics were harder, so I actually spent more time studying."

This depth is exactly what Cambridge International emphasises. The A-Level syllabus is designed to help students build a deep understanding of their chosen fields while encouraging

independent learning. As a result, many students report that they rely heavily on textbooks, online resources, and practice papers. These are the tools which they might have used only occasionally during their O-Level years.

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A level student, Vertical Horizon

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