STADIRA STUDY DESK · DECISION CHECKLIST

A Levels or IB Diploma?

One evening, one page. Fill it in together, parent and student.

Cambridge A Levels

- 3–4 subjects you choose, no compulsory ones
- Deep study, about 360 hours each
- Mostly final exams · grades A* to E
- June and November sessions

IB Diploma

- 6 subjects from 6 groups, maths compulsory
- Core: TOK, 4,000-word Extended Essay, CAS
- Coursework in every subject · 45 points max
- May (most schools) or November

1. Three degrees we are considering

Degree and university	Subjects and grades it asks for (A Level / IB)
1.	
2.	
3.	

2. How the student learns best (tick one in each row)

☐ Leans A Levels	☐ Leans IB
☐ Knows the degree they want	☐ Still deciding between several fields
☐ Prefers final exams	☐ Prefers coursework spread over time
☐ Would rather avoid long essays	☐ Enjoys research and writing
☐ Wants to drop maths or languages	☐ Happy to keep maths and two languages
☐ Needs time for one big sport or art	☐ Enjoys clubs, service and variety

3. Questions for the school (tick when answered)

- ☐ Which subjects and levels actually run?
- ☐ Last year's results, per subject
- ☐ Teachers' experience with the programme
- ☐ Further Maths or AA Higher Level offered?
- ☐ Support for EE, CAS or applications
- ☐ Last date to change subjects or levels
- ☐ Where last year's leavers went
- ☐ Full two-year cost, with exam fees
- ☐ Exam session used
- ☐ Help for students who fall behind

4. Do not forget

- ☐ South Africa? Cambridge routes usually need two languages: check IGCSE languages count.
- ☐ Engineering, physics or maths? Ask about Further Maths, or AA at Higher Level.
- ☐ Read the latest entry page for every course: requirements change each year.

5. Our decision:

☐ Cambridge A Levels ☐ IB Diploma Subjects: _____