

# FALCON COVE MIDDLE SCHOOL CAMBRIDGE PROGRAM FAQ



#### **Vision Statement**

"Motivate and lead students in becoming citizens of the world who will continuously show compassion to others, respect, work cooperatively, and foster their thirst for knowledge and positive change."

# What is the Cambridge Program?

The Cambridge Program is an internationally recognized course of study for academically talented and motivated students. It is referred to as AICE (Advanced International Certificate of Education) at the high school level, and "Cambridge – Secondary I", at the middle school level. The program operates under the sponsorship of Cambridge University in England and offers a wide range of classes. In the United States, there are more than 250 Cambridge Schools since the inception of the American program in 1990, and it has been in operation at Falcon Cove since 2014.

### What is the focus of the Cambridge program at Falcon Cove?

The Cambridge courses aim to assist students in becoming a productive contributor to society. Each course makes continuous connections between the curriculum taught in class and the global and social issues surrounding us.

### What courses are included in the Cambridge program?

The program includes three core academic subjects – English, Social Studies and Science with the scope extending each subsequent year. Students will take the high school level Biology as their science course in 8<sup>th</sup> grade along with the opportunity to take Global Perspectives for high school credit. Student's math placement will be determined by their math abilities.

## What is the difference between the Cambridge program and the Gifted program at FCMS?

The Cambridge program adheres and follows the curriculum of the Cambridge University and enhances the Broward County curriculum and the Florida Standards. The Gifted program enriches the Broward County curriculum with additional resources and strategies for Gifted Learners, while meeting the requirements of the Florida Standards.

# If the student is currently in the Gifted Program and transfers to the Cambridge Program, will he/she still be considered Gifted?

Yes. A student who has been identified as Gifted will always be considered a Gifted Learner by the district and the Cambridge teachers will continue to follow the student's education plan (EP). However, the actual placement in school will be in the Cambridge classes that contain both Gifted and High Achieving students.

### Who qualifies to join the Cambridge Program at Falcon Cove?

Students that are zoned for Falcon Cove MS are welcome to apply to the program. However, it is recommended that students have scored both a 4 or 5 on the FSA Reading and Math state assessment and have earned an A or A/B grade point average. Students also need to have good attendance and good background knowledge of current global events. Please make sure to apply online and to apply prior to the deadline of March 13, 2020.

#### If I join Cambridge, do I have to stay with the program my entire tenure at FCMS?

No. We would like every student who joins the program to complete at three years, however, should circumstances arise, students may transfer in/out of the program at the end of the academic year. The program is fluid accepting new students at the beginning of each year based on availability, and each case is addressed independently.

#### What is unique about the Cambridge Program at FCMS?

We pride ourselves on treating the Cambridge students and faculty as a family and foster a culture of respect and academic excellence. We continuously bring the world around us into the classroom and relate topics taught to global and social events. As such, we host field trips that are theme based and materialize for the students the content taught in the classroom. Examples of such trips include, state park excursions for science exploration, history tours and literary reviews, just to name a few. Our students participate in many group and team projects exploring their academics centered on these global themes and issues.

For any further questions or assistance, please contact your student's grade level Guidance Counselor:

6<sup>th</sup> Grade Dr. Zalman (754) 323-3226

7<sup>th</sup> Grade Mr. Showers (754) 323-3232

8<sup>th</sup> Grade Ms. Dempsey (754) 323-3235