



Pearson Edexcel International Advanced Level Sciences (inc. Psychology)

Onboarding Guide

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Introduction

Welcome to Pearson

Onboarding Guide

We have created this step-by-step guide to assist teachers with preparing to deliver Pearson Edexcel International Advanced Level Sciences successfully.

We hope that you find this helpful.

If you have any feedback or questions on this guide, please do let us know on teachingscience@pearson.com

Tel: +44 (0) 344 463 2535 (Teaching Services team | Mon - Fri, 8am - 5pm GMT)

Step 1: Find our qualifications webpage

The screenshot shows the Pearson website header with navigation links: SUBJECTS | QUALIFICATIONS | SUPPORT | ABOUT US | CONTACT US. Below the header is a dark blue navigation bar with two tabs: 'Subjects A-Z' and 'About Edexcel IALs'. A blue arrow labeled 'Step 1' points to the 'About Edexcel IALs' tab. Below the navigation bar is a breadcrumb trail: Home > Our qualifications > International Advanced Levels. The main heading is 'International Advanced Levels'. Below the heading is a search bar with the text 'Find an International Advanced Levels subject' and a link 'EXPAND ALL'. Below the search bar is a row of 26 buttons labeled with letters A through Z. Below the row of buttons is a paragraph of text: 'Pearson Edexcel International AS/A Levels (IAL) are globally recognised qualifications which open doors to top universities worldwide. Available for 21 subjects, they have a modular structure, yet remain comparable to GCE AS/A levels, as confirmed by NARIC, the national agency responsible for providing information and expert opinion on qualifications and skills worldwide.' To the right of the paragraph is a button that says 'Sign up to receive the latest news'.

This is located [here](#).

There are two tabs at the top.

The first tab, “Subject A-Z” can be used to access the webpages for all subjects that we offer

The second tab “About Edexcel IALs” provides an FAQ about the qualification including details on university recognition, progression and the use of bilingual dictionaries.

N.B. At this point, you may wish to simultaneously get setup on [Edexcel Online](#) (see step 9) which is a portal to a range of services as this can take a while to process. Your Exams officer should be able to set this up for you.

Step 2: Locate the subject webpage

From the “Subjects A-Z” tab you will be able to select the subject you are interested in. For example, click **B** for Biology and then click Biology. You will see a pop-up window that provides you with the linear or modular option.

The screenshot shows the Pearson website's navigation bar with the Pearson logo, a search bar, and links for SUBJECTS, QUALIFICATIONS, SUPPORT, ABOUT US, and CONTACT US. Below the navigation bar, there are tabs for "Subjects A-Z" and "About Edexcel IALs". A breadcrumb trail indicates the path: Home > Our qualifications > International Advanced Levels. The main heading is "International Advanced Levels". Below this is a search bar with the text "Find an International Advanced Levels subject" and a link for "EXPAND ALL". A horizontal row of letters from A to Z is displayed, with 'B' highlighted. Underneath the letters, the following subjects are listed: Biology, Business, and Business, Administration and Law sector - view all.

For convenience, the subject pages for all IAL Science qualifications are provided below.


IAL Biology	IAL Chemistry
IAL Psychology	IAL Physics

Step 3: Download the specification

The specification can be found on the top left corner of the respective subject webpages linked in the table on the previous page. This is the key document which you should use to find out what your students need to learn, what they will be examined on including practical and mathematical skills and how they will be examined. Examination authors make use of this (**not the textbook**) when creating exam questions. Use it to plan your lesson content.

International Advanced Levels Chemistry (2018)

Specification



First teaching: **September 2018**
First external assessment: **2019**

Our International Advanced Subsidiary and Advanced Level Chemistry has been developed to be engaging for international learners and to give them the necessary skills to support progression to higher education or further study in chemistry, as well as to a wide range of other subjects.

DOWNLOAD

PDF | 3.9 MB

Step 3


Register your interest

Find out more about Pearson Edexcel International qualifications and sign up to receive the latest news.

Let us know


Course materials

- Specification and sample assessments (2)
- Exam materials (403)
- Teaching and learning materials (51)



Teaching support and training

- Training sessions
- Results support
- Grade boundaries



Published resources

To support effective classroom delivery, we've developed a range of published resources for the new Edexcel International Advanced Level (IAL), with a strong focus on progression, recognition and transferable skills - allowing learning in a local context to a global standard.

Learn more

Step 6

News and updates


[See more](#)

May 2026 Teaching Science update | **5 May 2026**

May 2026 International Science Qualification News | **4 May 2026**

April 2026 Teaching Science update | **6 April 2026**

Useful documents

 International Advanced Level Science Subject guide (PDF | 1.4 MB)

Step 5

Tim Lawrence

Psychology and international Science

Email : teachingscience@pearson.com

Facebook : [-Psychology Facebook group for teachers](#)
[-International Science Facebook group for teachers](#)

Phone : +44 (0) 344 463 2535
(Teaching Services team | Mon - Fri, 8am - 5pm GMT)

- Sign up for subject advisor updates
- Visit the customer support portal
- Visit your community groups
- Book an appointment with your subject advisor
- Connect on LinkedIn

Step 4

You may find it useful to refer to past paper questions, mark schemes and examiner reports to gain clarity on the depth required for each specification point by clicking on **Exam materials** in the “Course materials” box or by going on to **Exam Wizard** (see Step 9).

Step 4: Know how to get advice & sign up to subject updates and network

The contact details of Tim Lawrence, our International Sciences Subject Advisor, is located below the specification.

It is highly recommended that you [sign up](#) for the monthly subject updates he provides so that you can be the first to know about any new support materials or important updates. While you are here you might as well catch up with the most recent update which can be found in the “News and updates” box on the right.

You can [email](#) him for any queries you have in relation to the scientific content of our specifications, resources or administration of the qualification.

You can also [book](#) an appointment with him.

You may also find it helpful to discuss issues or share resources with your peers using our [Facebook](#) group.

Step 5: Review useful documents

There is a box located at the bottom right or left (depending on the qualification) called “Useful documents”.

If you are a subject teacher, it would be a good idea to review the [International Advanced Level Subject Guide](#). This provides the breakdown of the topics covered in each unit and an overview of the support we provide.

If you are a Head of Department or Exams officer, you may also wish to review the [Pearson Edexcel International welcome pack](#). For further information specific to carrying out our examinations, please click [here](#).

Step 6: Order published resources

There is a box located at the bottom right of the subject webpage with a [link](#) to all the published resources for the qualification.



Menu

[Home](#) > [British curriculum](#) > [Secondary curriculum](#) > [International A Level](#) > [Science](#)

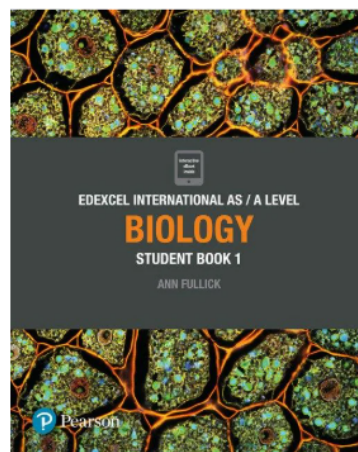
Pearson Edexcel International Advanced Level Science

| Available in print and digital

Curriculum: British

Ages: 16-19 years

Developed for the latest International A Level Science specifications, these resources are specifically designed for international students, with a strong focus on progression, recognition and transferable skills, allowing learning in a local context to a global standard.



This includes a student textbook, lab book, online teacher resource pack and [Power Starters](#). Whilst we do highly recommend them, these are optional and not required for course delivery.

Power Starters are for students who are about to start their International A Level (IAL) courses and acts as a bridge between International GCSE Science and IAL Science. They are fast, focused and flexible programmes which provide the prerequisite skills and knowledge required to access the course effectively. It is available in a teacher led and student led format

Access the [free preview site](#) to find out how it can help you ensure that your students get the best start into each unit of their IAL Science qualifications.

The Biology/Chemistry/Physics [Online Teacher Resource Packs](#) has detailed lesson plans, accompanying presentations, worksheets, end of topic test, answers to the student book as well as teacher notes, student worksheets and technician notes for the core practicals.

The Psychology [Online Teacher resource pack](#) includes practice exam papers, mark schemes for the mock papers, summative (practice) assessments, exam practice PowerPoints, mapping document, glossary of key terminology and case Studies.

Step 7: Attend training

- a) Attend the “Getting Ready to Teach Biology/Chemistry/Physics” and Understanding Assessment and Improving Delivery “**Live** webinar training sessions which are provided free of charge.

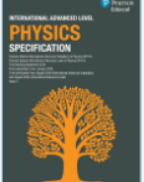
You can do this by clicking on the “training sessions link” in the “Teaching support and training” box on the right of the subject webpage and then select “GCSE and A levels, International GCSE and International A Level”.

Specification Course materials News

Home > Our qualifications > International Advanced Levels > Physics (2018) [Subscribe](#) [Sign In](#)

International Advanced Levels Physics (2018)

Specification



First teaching: **September 2018**
First external assessment: **2019**

Our International Advanced Subsidiary and Advanced Level Physics has been developed to be engaging for international learners and to give them the necessary skills to support progression to higher education or further study in physics, as well as to a wide range of other subjects.

DOWNLOAD

PDF | 1.3 MB

Register your interest

Find out more about Pearson Edexcel International qualifications and sign up to receive the latest news.

[Let us know](#)

Course materials

- ▶ Specification and sample assessments (3)
- ▶ Exam materials (395)
- ▶ Teaching and learning materials (40)

Teaching support and training

- ▶ Training sessions
- ▶ Results support
- ▶ Grade boundaries

Published resources

To support effective classroom delivery, we've developed a range of published resources for the new Edexcel International Advanced Level (IAL), with a strong focus on progression, recognition and transferable skills – allowing learning in a local context to a global standard.

[Learn more](#)

News and updates

[See more](#)

May 2026 Teaching Science update | 5 May 2026

Tim Lawrence
Psychology and International Science

Email : teachingscience@pearson.com

Facebook : [Psychology Facebook group for teachers](#)
[International Science Facebook group for teachers](#)

Phone : +44 (0) 344 463 2535
(Teaching Services team | Mon - Fri, 8am - 5pm GMT)

- ▶ [Sign up for subject advisor updates](#)
- ▶ [Visit the customer support portal](#)
- ▶ [Visit your community groups](#)
- ▶ [Book an appointment with your subject advisor](#)
- ▶ [Connect on LinkedIn](#)

This will take you to our [Professional Development Academy](#).

Select “Secondary International” and filter by subject and by level (choose Key stage 5)

Whilst in the Professional Development Academy, you may find it helpful to complete the [self-paced online courses](#) such as “Pearson Edexcel Ready! Understanding Pearson Edexcel Exams” and “Pearson Edexcel Ready! Teaching Pearson International GCSE & International A Levels”.

b) If none of the live sessions timings work for you, or the self-paced course are too generic, you can access all previous webinars by clicking on “Teaching and learning materials” in the “Course materials” box on the right of the webpage. This will result in the drop-down menu shown **below**. Click on “**Past training content**”. You can access all the presentation materials there.

The screenshot shows the Pearson website interface for International Advanced Levels Physics (2018). The navigation bar includes 'Specification', 'Course materials', and 'News'. The breadcrumb trail is 'Home > Our qualifications > International Advanced Levels > Physics (2018)'. The main heading is 'International Advanced Levels Physics (2018)'. Below this, the 'Course materials' section is active. On the left, there are filters for 'CATEGORIES' (Teaching and learning materials (40) is selected) and 'CONTENT TYPE' (All is selected). On the right, the 'Teaching and learning materials (40)' dropdown menu is open, showing options like 'Exemplar material', 'Guide', 'Mapping document', 'Past training content' (marked as NEW), 'Scheme of work', 'Skills for learning and work', 'Specimen paper and mark scheme', and 'Student guide'. Two blue arrows point to 'Guide' (labeled 'Step 8') and 'Past training content' (labeled 'Step 7b').

You can also watch past recordings of training webinars for [Biology](#), [Chemistry](#), [Physics](#) and [Psychology](#) at your own convenience on our [YouTube channel](#).

Step 8: Plan Your Course

Course Planners

Whilst on the “Teaching and learning materials” tab, click on “Guide” on the drop-down menu for a free 2-year course planner that is based on 60 teaching weeks and 240 guided teaching hours, i.e. 6 x 45-60min lessons per week.

For convenience, the course planners for all IAL Science qualifications are provided below.

Biology	Chemistry
Psychology	Physics

Scheme of Work

There is also a “Scheme of work” tab with a free accompanying editable scheme of work providing matching lessons to the course planner and suggested activities for each lesson and links to related resources. The textbook pages that are related to the lesson are specified under the “suggested resources” column.

Note that this scheme of work is not as detailed as the one found in the [online teacher resource pack](#).

For convenience, the scheme of work for all IAL Science qualifications are provided below.

Biology	Chemistry
Psychology	Physics

Mapping Document

If you are switching over from a different awarding organization, we have [mapped](#) our Biology, Chemistry and Physics specifications against those of other awarding organizations so that you can see what differences are there between what you used to teach and what you will now need to teach and can either save, discard or edit your old resources as necessary.

Running practicals and developing practical skills

If you are about to set up a brand-new lab in a completely new school, you may find the "[Laboratory Setup Guide](#)" under the "**Guide**" tab, useful. Do ensure that you consider the health and safety legal requirements of your country.

Under the same tab, you will find a "Practical Guide" for Biology, Chemistry and Physics sciences giving you a brief overview of each practical, key questions you should ask students during the practical, key skills that students should be developing as well as answers to the questions in the student version of the practical guide.

For your convenience, these are collated below:

Teacher guide	Student Guide
Biology	Biology
Chemistry	Chemistry
Physics	Physics

Also, in the "Guide" tab is the "[International A Level in Chemistry, Biology and Physics Core Practical Playlist](#)".

This provides a link to a YouTube video demonstration for each core practical so that you and your students can see how the practical should be carried out before carrying it out yourself. It is also very useful for revision.

Developing Mathematical Skills

Whilst on the Guide tab and Student Guide tab, you will have noticed the Teacher Mathematics Support Guide and the Student support Mathematics Guide which we hope you will find useful in helping your students develop some of the most tested maths skills.

For your convenience, these are collated below:

Teacher guide	Student Guide
Biology	Biology
Chemistry	Chemistry
Physics	Physics

Step 9: Ensuring that your students are well-prepared for examinations

Edexcel Online (EOL)

Edexcel Online is our self-service portal for centre staff. It also gives teaching staff access to various services including online booking for training events. Your Edexcel Online username and password will also give you access to locked Exam Materials, Exam Wizard, Access to Scripts and Results Plus. For further information on how to get it setup, click [here](#).

Under the Teaching and Learning materials tab, you will find Exemplar material and Topic Guides. This will help you ascertain the depth that you need to go to for the content listed in the specification.

In Biology, you will also find a “FAQ tab” which has information on how to tackle the pre-release scientific article question and the “Scientific article” tab where you can download articles from all past exam papers.

Exemplar Material

This provides you with marked student work to see what examiners expect of students.

Topic Guides

This provides strategies for helping you teach students the trickier topics. For Psychology, this is found under the “Guide” tab.

Exam Materials

This can be found on the main subject page in the Course materials box



Or located by using the filter on the left of the page with the Teaching and Learning materials.

Course materials

FILTERS

Teaching and learning materials (59)

SORT BY Latest

CATEGORIES

- Specification and sample assessments (4)
- Exam materials (162)
- Teaching and learning materials (59)

EXPAND ALL

Assessment guidance

You will find all previous past exam papers, mark schemes and examiner's reports here. These are very useful when planning lessons to help you identify common errors made by students and to show examples of good vs poor responses for students to learn from.

Exam Wizard

However, an even more useful tool for doing this is [Exam Wizard](#). This is a free database of all past exam questions which can be filtered by specification point and assessment objective. This can be used to select questions to complete in lessons for exam practice for specific topics or question types or create end of topic tests or mock examinations or to determine the depth required for a particular specification point.

Results Plus

When your students have sat their examinations, you can tweak your course planning and schemes of work for the following year or plan targeted revision for students taking resits by using our free question level analysis tool called [Results Plus](#).

For further guidance on how to use Exam Wizard and Results Plus, have a look at this [video](#).

Access To Scripts

Results Plus is best used in conjunction with our free [Access To Scripts](#) service where having obtained permission from your students, you may download their marked scripts on results day so that you can see exactly what made them perform less well on certain questions and also select work that is good and poor and use them in lessons.

Stationery

For information about calculators, see [here](#). For information about bilingual dictionaries, see JCQ's [Instructions for Carrying out Examinations](#). Note that simple bilingual dictionaries that meet the conditions set out in 14.1-14.8 are allowed for all IAL Science examinations. For queries about all other stationery, see [here](#).