




# Pearson Edexcel International GCSEs

A guide for schools

Modern qualifications for globally  
minded students



 SCAN ME

# Choosing Pearson Edexcel as your school's International GCSE partner

Helping your students select their International GCSE options is a key moment in their schooling; it's an important time in learners' lives and we want to reassure you that with Pearson as your qualifications partner, you can be sure both you and your students are setting yourselves up for future success.

In this guide, you'll learn more about who we are, the recognition and progression our Pearson Edexcel international qualifications enjoy and the International GCSE options (including onscreen assessment and modular routes) available to your learners.

We wish you the best of success for your International GCSE journey!

“The students find the Pearson Edexcel content engaging and motivating because it covers the broad aspects of the subject but also allows for individual choice leading to more interest. There is no doubt that the standards of the Pearson Edexcel qualification are high and attaining a good grade requires hard work. Once the learners are used to the examination structure and style, they enjoy the format. Pearson Edexcel delivers clear examination results and outcomes based on international qualifications which help learners achieve their education goals. Ultimately, Pearson Edexcel qualifications enable students to gain entry into a variety of different universities.”

Douglas Nupen, Head of Academics,  
Academia International School

## Inside this guide

### Contents

- 2 About International GCSEs
- 3 Approved and accredited qualifications
- 4 Pearson Edexcel International GCSEs
- 5 Modern, progressive qualifications
- 6 Preparing students for the future
- 7 Grading and awarding
- 8 Teaching and assessment support
- 10 Student and teacher resources
- 12 Subject choice
- 14 English Language, English Literature and English as a Second Language
- 16 Sciences and Computer Science
- 18 Mathematics and Pure Mathematics, Business, Economics
- 20 History, Geography, Accounting and Global Citizenship





# About International GCSEs

## Recognised worldwide for academic excellence

International GCSEs are globally recognised academic qualifications typically studied by students aged 14 to 16. They are equivalent, grade-for-grade, to UK GCSEs and are designed specifically for international learners.

Like UK GCSEs, International GCSEs provide learners with the skills and knowledge they need to progress onto A levels, International A levels, onto university and into global careers.

Students typically take 6 to 10 subjects, with approximately 120 guided learning hours across a two-year period of study. These numbers can vary according to country, school, student and future academic plans.

## Progression routes

International GCSEs provide a strong foundation for progression to a range of post-16 qualifications, including International A levels (IAL®), accepted by over 650 leading universities worldwide, International BTECs, and the IB Diploma.

### Typically:




























- 14–16 for students aged 14–16
- 2 Yr studied across a two-year period
- 120 taught across 120 guided learning hours, per subject
- 6–10 6–10 subjects are chosen.

# Approved and accredited qualifications

International GCSEs are recognised as part of the Regulated Qualifications Framework (RQF) in England and Northern Ireland, and must be awarded by an awarding body, or qualifications provider, that is recognised by Ofqual in England.

The table below shows the main awarding organisations for academic school qualifications.

The solid ticks indicate the regulated GCSE and A level qualifications providers, and the lighter ticks denote the international approach.

	Primary	Lower secondary	GCSE	International GCSE	BTEC	International A level	BTEC
							
							
							
							
							
							

### Good to know

Higher education institutions, universities, and employers recognise the International GCSE qualification itself, not the awarding organisation. What matters to them is the qualification's academic standard and rigour, which is accepted as equivalent to UK GCSEs for further study and employment around the world.



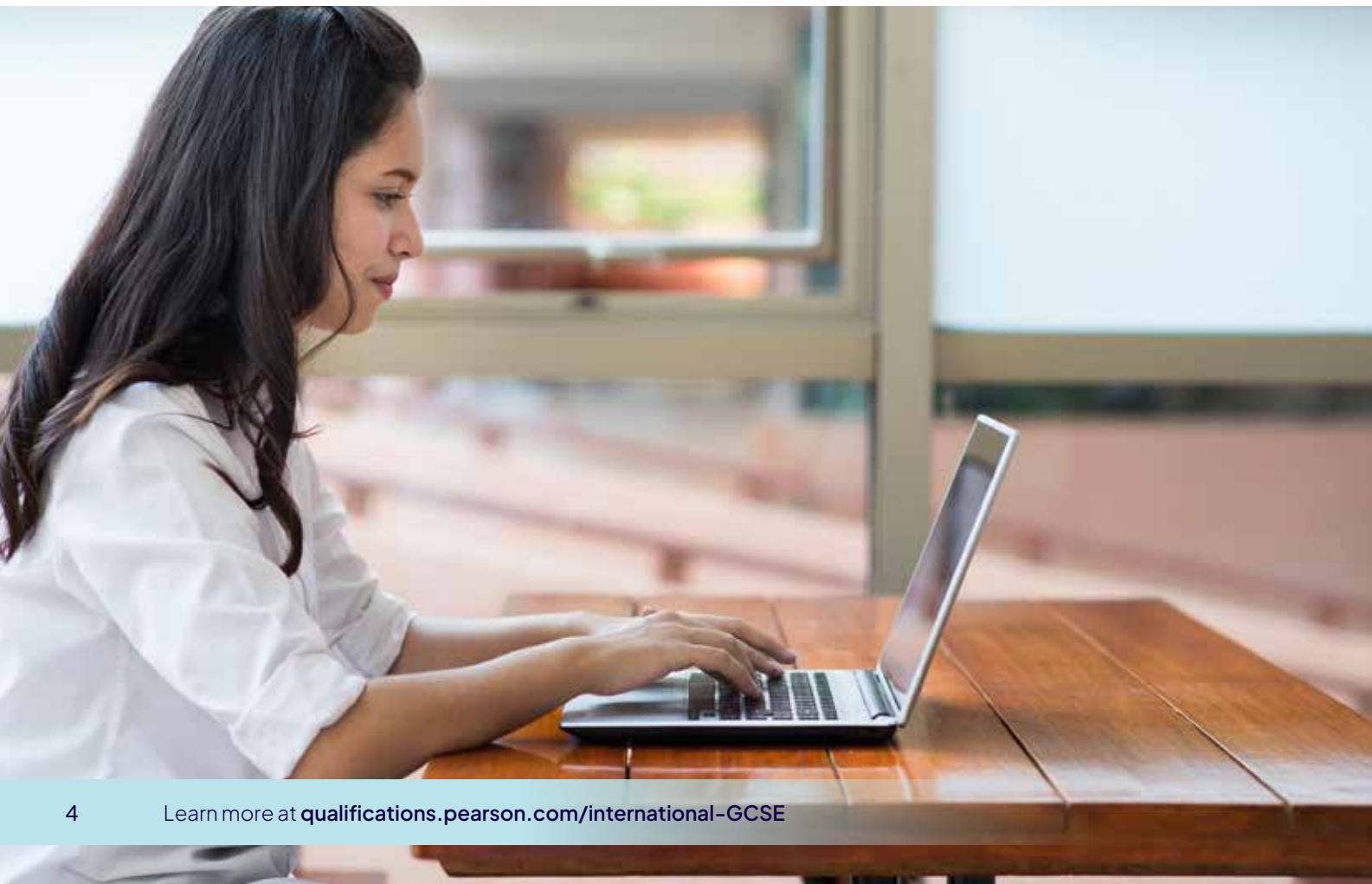
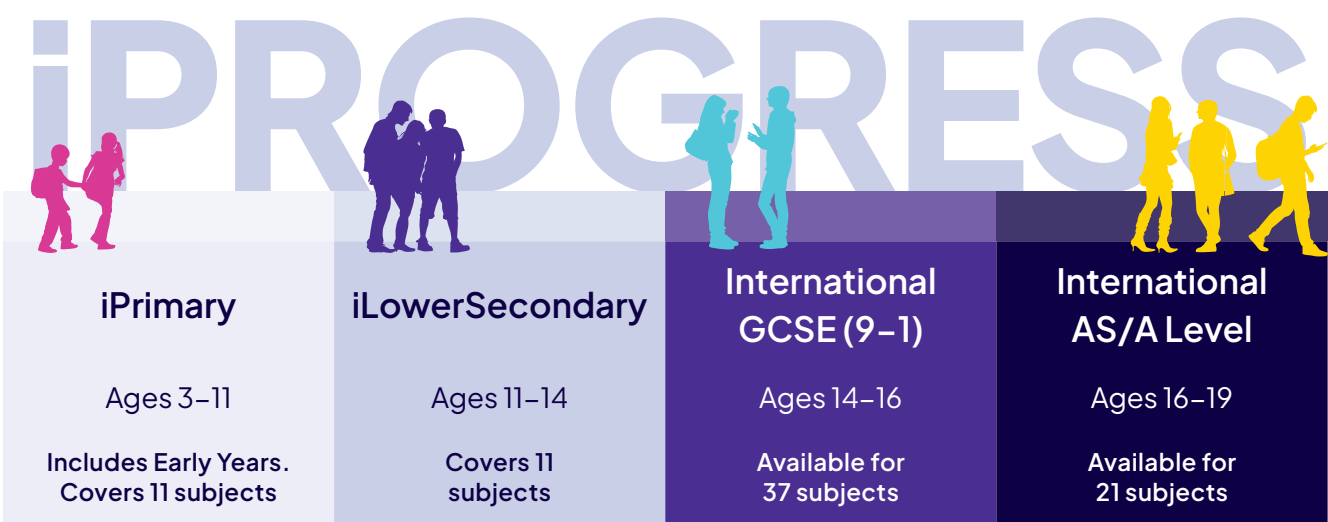


# Pearson International GCSEs

## A consistent learning experience

Pearson International GCSE qualifications are available in 37 subjects and taken by thousands of students in more than 110 countries. They are part of iProgress, our complete series of academic qualifications for 3- to 19-year-old students at international schools following UK or international curricula.

At every stage, the iProgress continuum delivers a consistent learning approach with world class support, assessments and teaching and learning resources for students and teachers, everywhere in the world.



## Modern, progressive qualifications

To meet the changing demands of world economies, Pearson Edexcel International GCSE qualifications have evolved to meet the requirements of university and employment and the needs of more students.

Ecctis and the study confirmed the comparability in qualification size, content, learning outcomes, and assessment to GCSE and linear International GCSE. No matter which route students choose, the final qualification awarded will be International GCSE.

### A choice of modular or linear assessment\*

International GCSEs have traditionally been linear in their approach – this means all the exams are sat in one go at the end of the 2-year programme of study. In 2023, we introduced a modular approach which means the exams can be taken throughout the 2-year programme of study.

Modular assessment breaks the course into separate units, with exams taken at the end of each unit. This structure offers flexibility, allowing students to sit exams when they are ready and to retake individual units if needed. It can reduce exam pressure and support confidence, particularly for students who benefit from staged assessment. In contrast, linear assessment requires students to take all exams at the end of the course, providing a more traditional, cumulative evaluation.

Both routes cover the same content, take the same time to study, have the same exam duration and maintain equivalent standards. Modular International GCSEs have been benchmarked by

### A choice of onscreen or paper-based assessment\*

Onscreen assessment provides a flexible alternative to traditional paper-based exams for International GCSEs. Since 2022 thousands of students worldwide now take exams onscreen in a range of subjects. The onscreen format can enhance the exam experience by aligning how students naturally work, for example typing, and providing them with a range of accessibility tools (for example type size, colour, and note taking).

#### Good to know

Pearson Edexcel are the only awarding organisation to offer a choice of assessment routes (linear or modular) and a choice of assessment formats (onscreen or paper-based). This provides you with more flexibility to meet the needs of more students and enhance your school's offer.

\*Only Pearson Edexcel offers both linear and modular assessment routes, as well as the option of onscreen or paper-based examinations.

# Recognised worldwide for academic excellence

## Equipping learners with transferable skills and knowledge

Pearson Edexcel International GCSEs are designed to instill and embed the skills that help learners grow into resilient, curious and globally connected young adults.

Opportunities to develop transferable skills such as problem solving, critical thinking, leadership and collaboration, are integrated throughout each of our Pearson Edexcel International GCSE qualifications to ensure learners have the skills and knowledge they need to progress onto the next level of study, such as International A levels.

For example, the strong focus on critical thinking in Pearson Edexcel International GCSE Science helps prepare students for studying this subject at International A level.

And the approach taken in Pearson Edexcel International Maths GCSE provides students with a comprehensive grounding in the range of content they will encounter at International A level.



## From International GCSE to flexible, modular A levels, BTECs or the IB Diploma

Pearson Edexcel International GCSE qualifications are excellent preparation for Pearson Edexcel International A levels (IAL®), International BTECs, our popular, career-focused qualifications developed in partnership with employers, or the IB Diploma.

As the next step up from International GCSE, International A Levels are designed for students aged 16–18 who want to progress to the best universities around the world. They use the popular and flexible modular approach which means exams are taken at the end of each unit of study or throughout the programme of study when students feel prepared and ready.

We work closely with higher education institutions around the world to secure recognition for our qualifications and are proud to confirm that IALs are recognised and accepted for entry to more than 650 leading universities worldwide.

### Good to know

Pearson Edexcel International GCSEs are excellent preparation for Pearson Edexcel International A Levels (IAL®), International BTECs or the IB Diploma, and progression onto the world’s top universities.

Over 650 higher education institutions worldwide recognise and accept Pearson Edexcel International A level qualifications for entry onto undergraduate degree courses.

©IAL is a registered trademark of Pearson Education Ltd in the UK and other countries.

# Grading and awarding

## About the 9–1 grading scale

In 2014, the UK Government introduced a nine-point grading scale (9–1) to raise standards and recognise top-performing students. This replaced the traditional A\*–G grading. After consultation with international schools, Pearson Edexcel chose to follow the 9–1 grading scale to ensure comparability for our international students.

Since then, millions of GCSEs and International GCSEs have been awarded using the 9–1 grading scale, making it the most used and recognised grading scale for this qualification worldwide.

### Good to know

Pearson Edexcel International GCSE qualifications are equivalent to and benchmarked, grade for grade, against UK GCSEs, so you can be confident that they are recognised and respected across the world. They offer increased differentiation for your top learners (a grade 9 represents a higher level of attainment than A\*) and will deliver the progression for your learners that you want to see.

GRADING STRUCTURE	OLD GRADING SCALE
The <b>grade 9</b> represents a new level of attainment and has been introduced to differentiate your top performing students.	A*
The bottom of the <b>grade 7</b> broadly aligns with the bottom of the grade A.	A
There’s greater differentiation in the middle of the scale, <b>with three grades 6, 5 and 4</b> rather than two grades (B and C).	B
The bottom of the <b>grade 4</b> broadly aligns with the bottom of the grade C.	C
The bottom of the <b>grade 1</b> broadly aligns with the bottom of the grade G.	D
	E
	F
	G
	U

“I not only recommend the International GCSE system because of their 9–1 grading scale due to having an extra grade to differentiate the top tier students, but also because this system is recognized globally therefore it opens up more opportunities for students to study at university abroad.”

John Andrew Tampubolon, International GCSE (9–1) student at Al Yasmina School, Abu Dhabi.



# Teaching and assessment support

Successful curriculum implementation and qualification delivery requires an ecosystem of support, services and resources. From expert guidance via local consultants and subject advisors, to robust planning tools, professional development opportunities, and post-exam insights, our support spans the full teaching and learning cycle. Whether you're getting started, preparing for exams, or analysing results, Pearson is here to help you succeed with confidence.



Support	Resources and Services	Planning, Learning & Teaching	Exam Preparation & Assessment	Results Support
Your Support Team	In region, local Pearson Consultant	✓	✓	✓
	Subject Advisors	✓	✓	✓
	Customer Service team and portal		✓	✓
Course Materials	Getting Started Guides	✓		
	Mapping documents	✓	✓	
	Specifications	✓	✓	
	Lesson plans	✓		
	Schemes of Work (SOW)	✓		
	Samples Assessment Materials (SAMs)	✓	✓	
	Exemplar material	✓	✓	
	Past Papers	✓	✓	
	Mark Schemes		✓	
Training + Professional Development	Getting started	✓		
	Understanding assessment and improving delivery*	✓	✓	
	Exam insight			✓
	Enhancing teaching and exam success*	✓	✓	
	Exam Officer Training		✓	✓
Exam Services	ResultsPlus results analysis tool		✓	✓
	ExamWizard mock exam and test generator		✓	
	Access to Exam Scripts (ATS)			✓
Published Resources	Student Books (print and eBook)*	✓	✓	
	Teaching materials and platforms (print and digital)*	✓	✓	

Resources and services may vary by qualification and subject. \*Additional cost. All other support is included in your exam fees.

# Exam and results services

In addition to teaching and learning support, your school will be supported with every aspect of exam administration, from approval, through to exam entries, to post exam services. You'll also get access to unbeatable exam tools and services to help you access rich insights on your students and school performance.



ResultsPlus is Pearson's powerful results analysis tool designed to help schools gain deeper insights into student performance. It provides detailed breakdowns of exam results, highlighting strengths and areas for improvement at both individual and cohort levels. This enables teachers to tailor their teaching strategies, target revision more effectively, and support students in achieving better outcomes.



ExamWizard is an online test-building platform that gives teachers access to a large bank of past Pearson exam questions. With filtering options by topic, level, and question type, it allows for the creation of tailored mock exams, homework tasks, or revision activities. It's an efficient way to reinforce learning and assess progress in line with actual exam standards.

ACCESS TO SCRIPTS (ATS)

Access to Scripts allows schools to view scanned copies of their students' marked exam papers. This transparency helps educators understand how marks were awarded, identify common errors or misconceptions, and provide more focused feedback. It's a valuable tool for internal moderation and supporting professional development through real-life examples of student responses. It also helps schools and students make informed decisions about applying for a review of marking and moderation where grades can stay the same, go up or go down.

PEARSON MOCKS SERVICE

The Pearson Mocks Service provides schools access to Pearson Edexcel onscreen exam papers for use in mock examinations which are then marked or moderated by Pearson examiners. Results are uploaded to ResultsPlus (see above) for detailed item-level analysis, helping teachers pinpoint areas for improvement. The service reduces teacher workload, ensures consistent and reliable marking, and supports data-driven teaching strategies. The onscreen option offers a secure solution with results typically returned within 14 days.





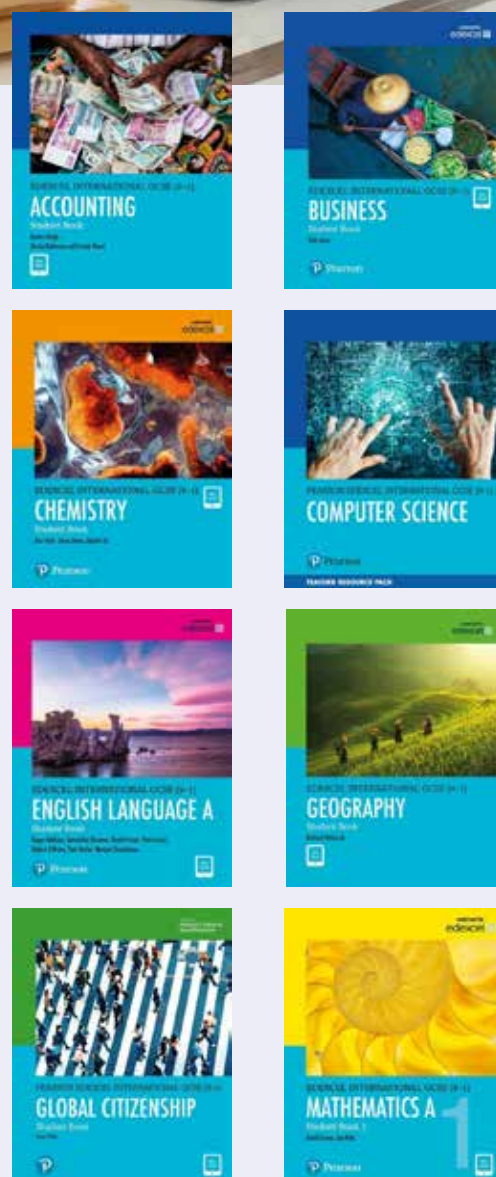


## A wide range of teaching and learning resources

### Written specifically to support our qualifications

As well as offering International GCSE qualifications and assessments to help international students make progress in their lives, we also provide a range of digital and print resources, specifically written to support our Pearson Edexcel International GCSE (9-1) specifications.

These include student books, revision guides, eBooks and online teaching resources to support many of our International GCSE qualifications.



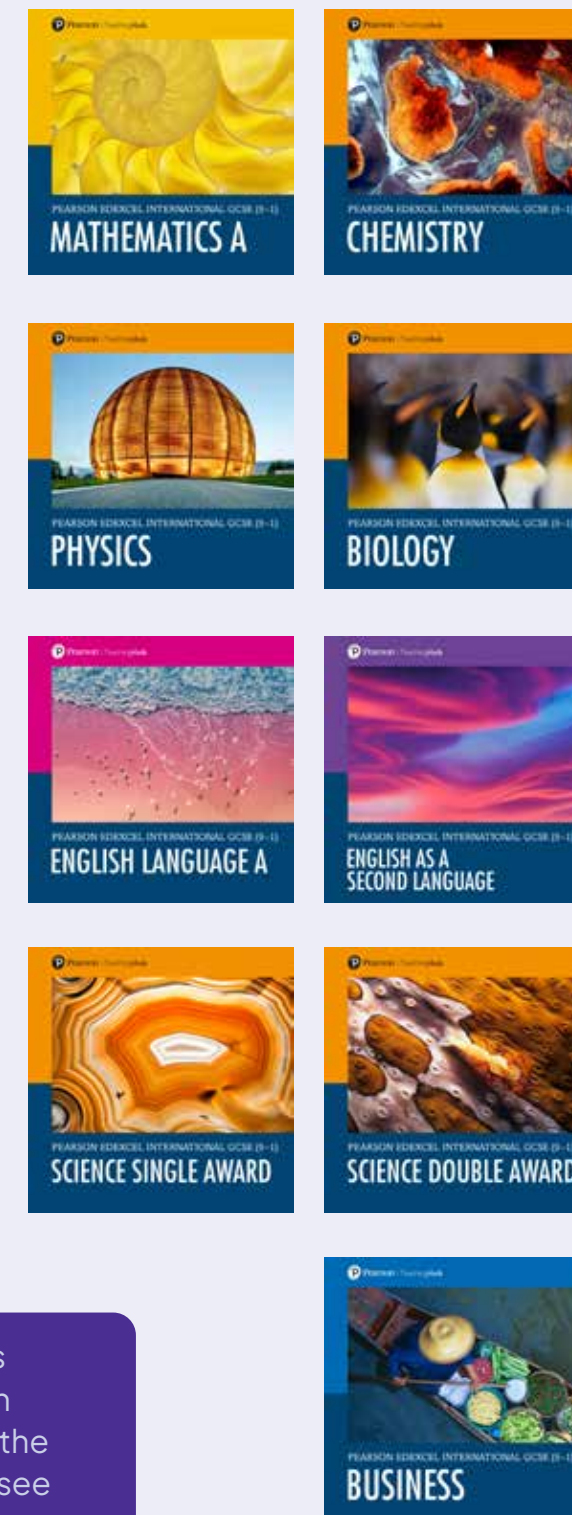
## International GCSE Teaching Hubs

### Unlock teaching and learning excellence with the ultimate, end-to-end programme for International GCSE.

The International GCSE Teaching Hubs ensure consistent teaching and learning excellence by providing a complete package for schools, with gold standard lessons, assessment preparation and practice, and professional development modules.

Each course contains meticulous, step-by-step lesson plans, multimedia resources and carefully curated assessment tools, providing teachers with the support they need to teach International GCSEs consistently, creatively and with complete confidence.

Now available for English as a Second Language, English Language A, Mathematics A, Biology, Physics, Chemistry, Business, Single Award Science, and Double Award Science



“...it has been a valuable resource for teachers to facilitate learning activities in class that remain consistent across multiple sets of the subject in the same year group, and for students to be able to see standardisation in classroom experiences across these groups too. Students have shown higher levels of involvement and enthusiasm in their own efforts due to the richness and variety available.”

Mahesh Warriar, Head of Chemistry - Epsom College, Malaysia



# Subject choice

## Subject selection for International GCSE

The subjects your school chooses to offer will depend on your overall academic programme, the profile of your students, and any curriculum requirements specific to your country.

When selecting subjects, aim for breadth and balance across academic disciplines – sciences, humanities, languages, and creative fields – to support students’ holistic development. Your International GCSE choices should also align with your wider school programme, including the curriculum for 11–14-year-olds, A Level options, and typical progression routes.



## UK National Curriculum requirements

In the UK, schools have to following the national curriculum and teach a range of subjects at 14–16 (GCSE/International GCSE) although not all subjects will be examined.

Compulsory core subjects: English Language, Mathematics, and Science (either a single or double award or separate sciences/triple award – Biology, Chemistry, Physics).

Statutory subjects but not always examined unless chosen by students as a GCSE option: Computing, Citizenship, Physical Education (PE), Religious Education (RE), Relationships, Sex and Health Education (RSHE).

Schools must also offer at least one subject from each of the following areas and students typically choose 3–5 optional subjects in addition to the core:

- Arts (e.g. Music, Drama, Art & Design)
- Humanities (e.g. History, Geography)
- Design & Technology
- Modern Foreign Languages (e.g. French, Spanish, German)

**Good to know**

As a guide, each subject requires approximately 120 guided teaching hours across a two-year period and students typically choose 6–10 subjects at International GCSE.

# International GCSE options

## Find out more about each qualification

The following pages provide more information on a selection of subjects. All subjects are available as linear, paper-based exams. In addition, the following table shows where there is also a choice of modular and onscreen assessment.

Pearson Edexcel qualification	Page	Onscreen availability	Modular availability	Exam availability
Accounting	14		✓	January, June, and November
Arabic (First Language)	See online			January, June, and November
Art and Design	25			January and June
Bangla	See online			January, June, and November
Bangladesh Studies	See online			January and June
Biology	20		✓	January, June, and November
Business	14	✓		January, June, and November
Chemistry	20		✓	January, June, and November
Chinese	See online			January, June, and November
Commerce	15		✓	January, June, and November
Computer Science	23	✓ (from 2027)		January and June
Economics	15	✓	✓	January, June, and November
English as a Second Language	17	✓ (from 2026)	✓	January, June, and November
English Language A	16	✓	✓	January, June, and November
English Language B	16			January, June, and November
English Literature	17	✓	✓	January, June, and November
French	See online			January, June, and November
Further Pure Mathematics	19			January, June, and November
Geography	24	✓ (Pilot)	✓	January, June, and November
German	See online			January and June
Global Citizenship	25	✓		January and June
Greek (First Language)	See online			January and June
History	24	✓	✓	January, June, and November
Human Biology	22			January, June, and November
ICT	23	✓ (from 2026)		January, June, and November
Islamic Studies	See online	✓		January and June
Mathematics A	18		✓	January, June, and November
Mathematics B	18			January, June, and November
Pakistan Studies	See online	✓		January and June
Physics	21		✓	January, June, and November
RE/Religious Studies	See online		✓	January and June
Science (Double Award)	21		✓	January, June, and November
Science (Single Award)	22			January and June
Sinhala	See online			January and June
Spanish	See online			January and June
Swahili	See online			January and June
Tamil	See online			January and June



# International GCSE options: Business subjects

## International GCSE (9-1) Business

The Pearson Edexcel International GCSE (9-1) Business qualification is designed to be truly international in context supporting progression to International A levels (IAL®) in Business/Economics, BTEC National in Business and the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme.

Assessment can be taken in one exam series, at the end of the programme of study (linear) or throughout the course as individual modules (modular).

There are two examination papers, Paper 1: Investigating small businesses and Paper 2: Investigating larger businesses.

Onscreen assessment is available for this qualification as an alternative assessment format.

## International GCSE (9-1) Accounting

The Pearson Edexcel International GCSE (9-1) Accounting qualification is designed to provide students with greater opportunities to demonstrate their skills and knowledge of accounting. The specification and question papers are engaging and accessible for students and the material is appropriate and relevant for progression, building a solid foundation in accounting.

Assessment can be taken in one exam series, at the end of the programme of study (linear) or throughout the course as individual modules (modular). There are two examination papers. Paper 1: Introduction to Bookkeeping and Accounting and Paper 2: Financial Statements.

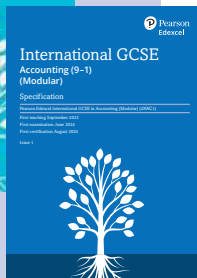
### What will you study?

- Business activity and influences on business
- People in business
- Business finance
- Marketing
- Business operations



### What will you study?

- The accounting environment
- Introduction to bookkeeping
- Introduction to control processes
- Preparation of financial statements
- Accounting for end of period adjustments



# International GCSE options: Business subjects

## International GCSE (9-1) Economics

The Pearson Edexcel International GCSE (9-1) Economics qualification aims to extend students' knowledge by broadening and deepening their skills. Students will read sources to interpret and evaluate economic information, develop an understanding of economic concepts and apply these concepts to real-life situations.

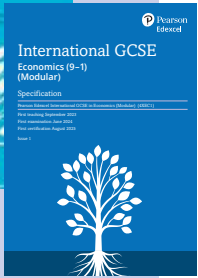
Assessment can be taken in one exam series, at the end of the programme of study (linear) or throughout the course as individual modules (modular).

There are two examination papers, Paper 1: Microeconomics and Business Economics and Paper 2: Macroeconomics and the Global Economy.

Onscreen assessment is available for this qualification as an alternative assessment format.

### What will you study?

- The market system
- Business economics
- Government and the economy
- The global economy



## International GCSE (9-1) Commerce

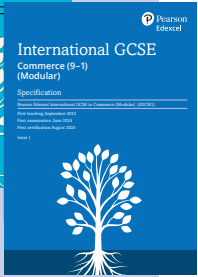
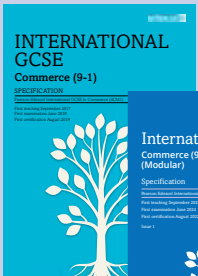
The Pearson Edexcel International GCSE (9-1) Commerce qualification is designed to extend students' knowledge by broadening and deepening skills. Students will read sources to interpret and evaluate business information, write extended responses, respond appropriately to a range of question types, and develop an understanding of commercial concepts and apply these concepts to real life situations.

Assessment can be taken in one exam series, at the end of the programme of study (linear) or throughout the course as individual modules (modular).

There are two papers, Paper 1: Commercial Operations and associated risks, and Paper 2: Facilitating commercial operations.

### What will you study?

- Commercial Operations
- Commercial Risk
- Finance for Commerce
- Aids for Commerce



# International GCSE options: English

## International GCSE (9–1) English Language A

The Pearson Edexcel International GCSE (9–1) English A qualification features a relevant, up-to-date and engaging selection of texts ranging from British heritage to modern international and builds a foundation for students wishing to progress to Pearson Edexcel International A Level (IAL®) in English Language, or equivalent qualifications.

Assessment can be taken in one exam series, at the end of the programme of study (linear) or throughout the course as individual modules (modular).

There are two exam papers, or one mandatory exam paper and a choice of an additional examined or non-examined assessment. Students may also take an optional spoken language endorsement.

Onscreen assessment is available for this qualification as an alternative assessment format.

### What will you study?

- Non-fiction texts and transactional writing
- Poetry and prose text and imaginative writing
- Spoken language (optional)



## International GCSE (9–1) English Language B

The Pearson Edexcel International GCSE (9–1) English B qualification aims to extend students' knowledge by broadening and deepening their skills in reading and responding to materials from a variety of sources, making comparisons between texts and analysing how writers achieve their effects and construct and convey meaning in written language.

There is one examination paper. Students may also take an optional spoken language endorsement.

### What will you study?

- Reading and analysing selections from a range of texts
- Exploring and developing transactional writing skills
- Exploring and developing discursive, narrative, and descriptive writing skills



# International GCSE options: English

## International GCSE (9–1) English Literature

The Pearson Edexcel International GCSE (9–1) English Literature qualification is designed to extend students' knowledge by broadening and deepening their skills to read and respond to a wide range of literary texts from around the world. They will develop an appreciation of the ways in which authors use literary effects and the skills needed for literary study and explore authors' use of language to create effects and find enjoyment in reading literature.

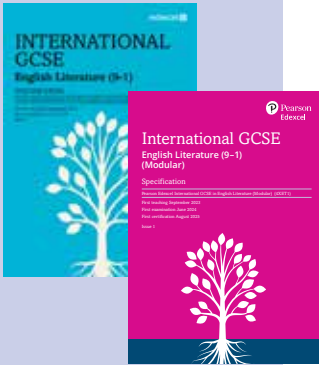
Assessment can be taken in one exam series, at the end of the programme of study (linear) or throughout the course as individual modules (modular).

There is one mandatory exam paper and a choice of an additional examined or non-examined assessment.

Onscreen assessment is available for this qualification as an alternative assessment format.

### What will you study?

- Poetry and modern prose
- Modern drama and literary heritage texts



## International GCSE (9–1) English as a Second Language

The Pearson Edexcel International GCSE (9–1) English as a Second Language qualification is designed for students obtaining their education through English as a medium of instruction or for students studying English in order to enhance their future educational or employment prospects. Achievement in this qualification is benchmarked against the Council of Europe's Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR).

There are four examination papers.

Onscreen assessment will be available for this qualification as an alternative assessment format from 2025.

### What will you study?

- Reading
- Writing
- Listening
- Speaking





# International GCSE options: Maths

## International GCSE (9-1) Mathematics A

The Pearson Edexcel International GCSE (9-1) Maths A qualification is designed to extend students' knowledge by broadening and deepening their mathematical skills, developing problem-solving skills by translating problems in mathematical or non-mathematical contexts, developing reasoning skills by presenting arguments and proofs and making deductions and drawing conclusions from mathematical information.

Assessment can be taken in one exam series, at the end of the programme of study (linear) or throughout the course as individual modules (modular). There is a Foundation and Higher tier for this qualification and two equally weighted examination papers per tier.

### What will you study?

- Numbers and the number system
- Equations, formulae and identities
- Sequences, functions and graphs
- Geometry and trigonometry
- Vectors and transformation geometry
- Statistics and probability



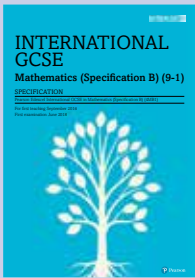
## International GCSE (9-1) Mathematics B

The Pearson Edexcel International GCSE (9-1) Maths B qualification is designed to be closer to a more traditionally structured Mathematics curriculum.

There is a Higher tier only, consisting of two examination papers. The first is 1.5 hours in length with shorter questions, the second is 2.5 hours in length with more in-depth questions.

### What will you study?

- Number
- Sets
- Algebra
- Functions
- Matrices
- Geometry
- Mensuration
- Vectors and transformation geometry
- Trigonometry
- Statistics and probability



# International GCSE options: Maths

## International GCSE (9-1) Further Pure Maths

The Pearson Edexcel International GCSE (9-1) Further Pure Mathematics qualification is designed to stretch and challenge high-achieving students and enable them to gain an additional maths qualification. It extends and deepens knowledge covered in the Pearson Edexcel International GCSE (9-1) Mathematics A specification.

There are two examination papers.

### What will you study?

- Number
- Algebra and calculus
- Geometry and trigonometry



Qualifications information provided on this page is subject to change. Please always refer to our website for the latest information on each International GCSE qualification.

Qualifications information provided on this page is subject to change. Please always refer to our website for the latest information on each International GCSE qualification.



# International GCSE options: Science

## International GCSE (9-1) Biology

The Pearson Edexcel International GCSE (9-1) Biology qualification is designed to engage students and give them skills that will support progression to further study in biology and a range of other subjects, in biological sciences and elsewhere.

Assessment can be taken in one exam series, at the end of the programme of study (linear) or throughout the course as individual modules (modular).

There are two examination papers.

### What will you study?

- The nature and variety of living organisms
- Structures and functions in living organisms
- Reproduction and inheritance
- Ecology and the environment
- Use of biological resources



## International GCSE (9-1) Chemistry

The Pearson Edexcel International GCSE (9-1) Chemistry qualification is designed to engage students and give them skills that will support progression to further study in chemistry and a range of other subjects, in chemical sciences and elsewhere.

Assessment can be taken in one exam series, at the end of the programme of study (linear) or throughout the course as individual modules (modular).

There are two examination papers.

### What will you study?

- Principles of chemistry
- Inorganic chemistry
- Physical chemistry
- Organic chemistry



# International GCSE options: Science

## International GCSE (9-1) Physics

The Pearson Edexcel International GCSE (9-1) Physics qualification is designed to engage students and give them skills that will support their progression to further study in physics, physical science and other related subjects. It includes an exciting new Astrophysics topic.

Assessment can be taken in one exam series, at the end of the programme of study (linear) or throughout the course as individual modules (modular).

There are two examination papers.

### What will you study?

- Forces and motion
- Electricity
- Waves
- Energy resources and energy transfers
- Solids, liquids and gases
- Magnetism and electromagnetism
- Radioactivity and particles
- Astrophysics



## International GCSE (9-1) Science (Double Award)

The Pearson Edexcel International GCSE (9-1) Science (Double Award) qualification is for students who wish to study all three sciences but in the curriculum time of two International GCSEs. Students study two-thirds of the content of each of Biology, Chemistry and Physics International GCSE, are assessed separately on the three sciences, and are awarded two International GCSE grades in Science.

Assessment can be taken in one exam series, at the end of the programme of study (linear) or throughout the course as individual modules (modular). If students take a linear assessment approach, there are three exams. If they take a modular assessment approach, there are six shorter exams.

### What will you study?

- See Biology, Chemistry and Physics sections for the list of topics.



Qualifications information provided on this page is subject to change. Please always refer to our website for the latest information on each International GCSE qualification.

Qualifications information provided on this page is subject to change. Please always refer to our website for the latest information on each International GCSE qualification.



# International GCSE options: Science

## International GCSE (9-1) Science (Single Award)

The Pearson Edexcel International GCSE (9-1) Science (Single Award) qualification is for students who wish to study all three sciences but in the curriculum time of one International GCSE. Students study one-third of the content of each of Biology, Chemistry and Physics International GCSE, are assessed separately on the three sciences, and are awarded one International GCSE grade in Science.

There are three examination papers. Paper 1: Biology, Paper 2: Chemistry, and Paper 3: Physics.

### What will you study?

- See Biology, Chemistry and Physics sections for the list of topics.



## International GCSE (9-1) Human Biology

The Pearson Edexcel International GCSE (9-1) Human Biology qualification equips students with a comprehensive understanding of human biology, enabling them to apply biological principles in diverse contexts, develop practical skills within ethical boundaries, critically evaluate information, and effectively communicate findings, preparing them for further studies in biology and related fields like health and social care.

There are two examination papers.

### What will you study?

- Cells and tissues
- Biological molecules
- Movement of substances in and out of cells
- Bones, muscles and joints
- Coordination
- Nutrition and energy
- Respiration
- Gas exchange
- Internal transport
- Homeostatic mechanisms
- Reproduction and heredity
- Disease



# International GCSE options: IT

## International GCSE (9-1) Computer Science

The Pearson Edexcel International GCSE (9-1) Computer Science qualification is designed to provide students with the opportunity to operate confidently in today's digital world and apply computational thinking in context. They will be encouraged to design, implement and test programs that provide solutions to problems, helping prepare them for higher education where practical knowledge and experience will be required.

There are two examination papers, Paper 1: Principles of Computer Science and Paper 2: Application of computational thinking. Paper 2 is carried out on a computer system using a programming language of choice.

### What will you study?

- Problem solving
- Programming
- Data
- Computers
- Communication and the internet
- The bigger picture



## International GCSE (9-1) ICT

The Pearson Edexcel International GCSE (9-1) ICT qualification provides students with the opportunity of operating confidently in today's digital world. It is a useful, practical qualification which will provide skills needed in further education and work.

There are two examinations. One is a written paper, and the other, a practical assignment.

### What will you study?

- Digital Devices
- Connectivity
- Operating Online
- Online Goods and Services
- Applying Information and Communication Technology
- Software Skills



# International GCSE options: Science

## International GCSE (9-1) Geography

The Pearson Edexcel International GCSE (9-1) Geography qualification aims to extend students' knowledge by broadening and deepening skills. Students will develop and apply a holistic range of knowledge and understanding of geographical concepts and skills, including fieldwork. They will present and analyse data, draw conclusions and evaluate information from different sources, and develop awareness of global issues and challenges.

Assessment can be taken in one exam series, at the end of the programme of study (linear) or throughout the course as individual modules (modular). There are two papers: Paper 1: Physical Geography, and Paper 2: Human Geography

Onscreen assessment will be available for this qualification as an alternative to the current assessment format from May 2025.

### What will you study?

- Physical geography
- Human geography



## International GCSE (9-1) History

The Pearson Edexcel International GCSE (9-1) History qualification aims to extend learners' knowledge and understanding by broadening and deepening skills. Students will explain, analyse and make judgements about historical events and periods studied using second order historical concepts. They will use a range of source material to comprehend, interpret and cross-refer sources, and analyse and evaluate historical interpretations in the context of historical events studied.

Assessment can be taken in one exam series, at the end of the programme of study (linear) or throughout the course as individual modules (modular). There are two papers: Paper 1: Depth Studies, and Paper 2: Investigation and Breadth Studies.

Onscreen assessment is available for this qualification as an alternative to the current assessment format.

### What will you study?

- Selected periods and/or aspects of history
- Historical sources
- How to organise and communicate knowledge
- Making historical judgements



Qualifications information provided on this page is subject to change. Please always refer to our website for the latest information on each International GCSE qualification.

# International GCSE options: Humanities and Art

## International GCSE (9-1) Global Citizenship

The Pearson Edexcel International GCSE (9-1) Global Citizenship qualification is designed to help students develop an understanding of key changes affecting societies across the world, enabling them to have a global outlook and understand diverse points of view. It will support them to become global citizens and understand how they can affect positive change, and is ideal for students who are internationally mobile or wish to study and work in fields that require a global outlook.

There is one examination paper.

### What will you study?

- Politics and governance
- Economic development and the environment
- Culture and community
- Technology



## International GCSE (9-1) Art and Design

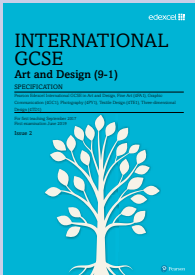
The Pearson Edexcel International GCSE (9-1) Art and Design qualification allows students to gain awareness of the purposes, intentions and functions of art, craft and design, use creativity and imagination to express individual thoughts, develop and refine original ideas from initiation to realisation, critically analyse their own work and the work of others, and build confidence to take risks, experiment and learn from mistakes.

There are two components: Component 1: Personal Portfolio, and Component 2: Externally-set Assignment. Students choose one title (see below) and work in the same title for both components.

### What will you study?

One of five titles:

- Fine Art
- Graphic Communication
- Photography
- Textile Design
- Three-dimensional Design



Qualifications information provided on this page is subject to change. Please always refer to our website for the latest information on each International GCSE qualification.



# About Pearson qualifications

Pearson's qualifications heritage stretches back over 150 years and our qualifications are offered in more than 110 countries worldwide. We also mark over 10 million exam scripts per year on behalf of the UK Department for Education. Pearson Edexcel is regulated by Ofqual, the UK's qualifications regulator, ensuring our curricula meet the highest standards and our exams follow carefully controlled procedures at every stage of their development, delivery, marking and reporting.

Learn more about our qualifications at [quals.pearson.com](https://quals.pearson.com)

## Pearson for International Schools

Whether you're a teacher inspiring achievement in the classroom, a parent supporting your child's learning journey, or a school owner seeking the best outcomes for your students, we can support you with our inspiring and proven international curriculum, qualifications and published resources.

Learn more about how we support international schools at [pearson.com/international-schools](https://pearson.com/international-schools)



SCAN ME