

Welcome to the **March** edition of the **Edexcel International Update** newsletter.

## Keeping you informed every step of the way

This edition brings you updates about Pearson's Edexcel qualifications for international schools, including: International Advanced Levels, International GCSEs and GCSE and GCE A level reform. It also provides information on how grade boundaries are set through a video, lists all of the teacher training events we are running in March, April and May this year and provides links to two new education insight blogs from Pearson. Read the latest news below.

**We encourage you to share this newsletter with all teachers at your school.**

### MARCH 2016

International Advanced Levels | International GCSE | GCSE and GCE A level reform

How are grade boundaries set? | Teacher training events | Pearson blog | Contact us | Advice

## International Advanced Levels

### Seven new subjects for first teaching in September 2016

We are delighted to announce that draft Specifications and Sample Assessment Materials are now available to download online for the seven new subjects we are introducing for first teaching in September 2016:

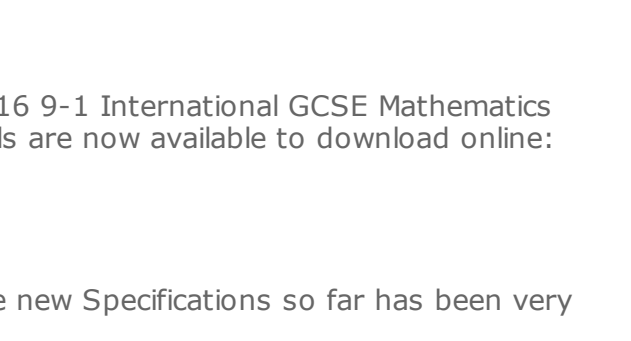
IAL (2016) <b>Applied ICT</b>	IAL (2016) <b>Arabic</b>	IAL (2016) <b>French</b>	IAL (2016) <b>Geography</b>
IAL (2016) <b>German</b>	IAL (2016) <b>Greek</b>	IAL (2016) <b>Spanish</b>	

Final Specifications and Sample Assessment Materials for these subjects will be available online by the end of April.

### Please take part in our online subject expert panels

To contribute to the ongoing development of these qualifications, including content topics, assessment models and teacher support materials, please sign up to take part in our Edexcel IAL online subject expert panels by completing this [online form](#).

If you are interested in teaching IALs at your school from September 2016, please complete this [online form](#) and we will be in touch to support you.



## International GCSE

Now available: Edexcel 2016 9-1

International GCSE Mathematics A and B

We are delighted to announce that the final Edexcel 2016 9-1 International GCSE Mathematics A and B Specifications and Sample Assessment Materials are now available to download online:

- International GCSE (2016) [Mathematics A](#)
- International GCSE (2016) [Mathematics B](#)

The feedback we have received from teachers about the new Specifications so far has been very positive...

**"Transformations of graphs and solving trigonometric equations are topics that are brand new to this syllabus and will also provide stretch and challenge for higher ability students. These topics however will give students wishing to study A level Maths a stronger foundation and close the gap between A level and International GCSE."**

Jenny Shek, Maths Teacher

**"Students would make the transition to AS and A2 further Maths very easily. If students were not going to pursue their Maths beyond L2 this qualification would be a significant asset in most other subjects."**

Debbie Kennedy, Maths Teacher

### Coming soon: Edexcel 2016 9-1 International GCSE English and Mathematics published resources

To support effective classroom delivery, we are also delighted to announce that we are currently developing a range of published resources for the new Edexcel 2016 9-1 International GCSE qualifications in English and Mathematics.

The resources have been specifically created for the new 9-1 grading scale, with progression, international relevance and support at their core.

Each resource includes a fully integrated **Progression Map tool**, which allows for a quick and easy formative assessment of student progress, linked to guidance on how to personalise learning solutions, helping students make the best progress they can.

They also include the embedded **transferable skills** that are needed for progression into higher education and employment, explicitly signposted, allowing students to understand, and engage with, the skills they're gaining. The timeline below shows when some of these new resources will be available.

Qualification	First teaching date	Resource availability
Edexcel 2016 9-1 International GCSE in English Language A	Available for first teaching in September 2016	<a href="#">Student book – available in August 2016</a>
Edexcel 2016 9-1 International GCSE in English Language B	Available for first teaching in September 2016	<a href="#">Student book – available in December 2016</a>
Edexcel 2016 9-1 International GCSE in English Literature	Available for first teaching in September 2016	<a href="#">Student book – available in August 2016</a>
Edexcel 2016 9-1 International GCSE in Mathematics	Available for first teaching in September 2016	<a href="#">Student book 1 – available in August 2016</a> <a href="#">Student book 2 – available in January 2017</a>

Over the coming months, we will be in touch to provide you with more detailed information about these published resources.

### Edexcel 9-1 International GCSEs: Subjects available for first teaching in September 2017

Please [visit our website](#) to see a full list of all updated Edexcel 9-1 International GCSE subjects available for first teaching in September 2017, with first assessment in May / June 2019.

Note that all our current Edexcel International GCSE subjects will continue to be available until a last assessment date of May / June 2018, with a final retake only opportunity in January 2019 for subjects with current January availability.

### Please take part in our online subject expert panels

Thanks to all of you who have taken part in our online subject expert panels so far, your feedback is helping to shape the updated Edexcel 9-1 International GCSE qualifications.

**We encourage you to continue to participate in our online subject expert panels. To get involved, please complete this online form**

For more information about planned updates to Edexcel 9-1 International GCSE qualifications from 2016 and 2017, including the new 9-1 grading scale, please visit our [website](#), download our new Edexcel 9-1 International GCSE [brochure](#) or read our [frequently asked questions](#) document.

If you are interested in teaching Edexcel 9-1 International GCSEs at your school from September 2016, please complete this [online form](#) and we will be in touch to support you.



## GCSE and GCE A Level reform

### 18 new Edexcel 2016 GCSE and GCE A levels now accredited by Ofqual

We are pleased to announce that **18 new Edexcel 2016 GCSE and GCE A levels** have now been accredited by Ofqual for first assessment in 2018:

Edexcel 2016 GCSEs (9-1)	Edexcel 2016 GCE A levels
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>GCSE <a href="#">Art and Design</a></li> <li>GCSE <a href="#">Citizenship</a></li> <li>GCSE <a href="#">Computer Science</a></li> <li>GCSE <a href="#">Drama</a></li> <li>GCSE <a href="#">Geography A</a></li> <li>GCSE <a href="#">Geography B</a></li> <li>GCSE <a href="#">History</a></li> <li>GCSE <a href="#">Music</a></li> <li>GCSE <a href="#">PE</a></li> <li>GCSE <a href="#">Science</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>GCE A level <a href="#">Drama</a></li> <li>GCE AS level <a href="#">Drama</a></li> <li>GCE A level <a href="#">Geography</a></li> <li>GCE AS level <a href="#">Geography</a></li> <li>GCE A level <a href="#">Music</a></li> <li>GCE AS level <a href="#">Music</a></li> <li>GCE A level <a href="#">PE</a></li> <li>GCE AS level <a href="#">PE</a></li> </ul>

These qualifications are supported by a broad range of teaching and learning materials, including 'Getting Started' guides, course planners and student guides. To find out more, please visit our [website](#).

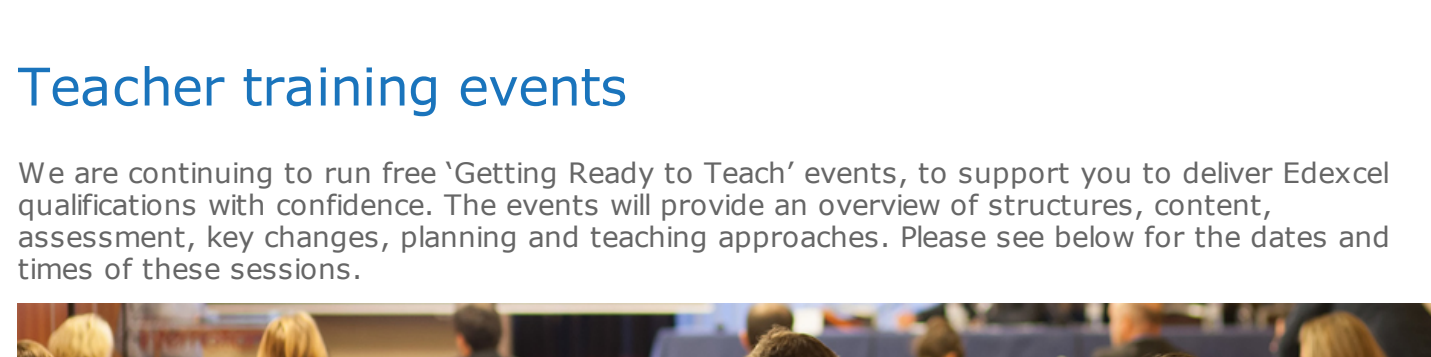
If you are interested in teaching Edexcel GCSEs and GCE A levels at your school from September 2016, please complete this [online form](#) and we will be in touch to support you.

## How are grade boundaries are set?

We set new grade boundaries each time a new exam or assessment is completed. They indicate the minimum number of marks students need to achieve to get a particular grade.

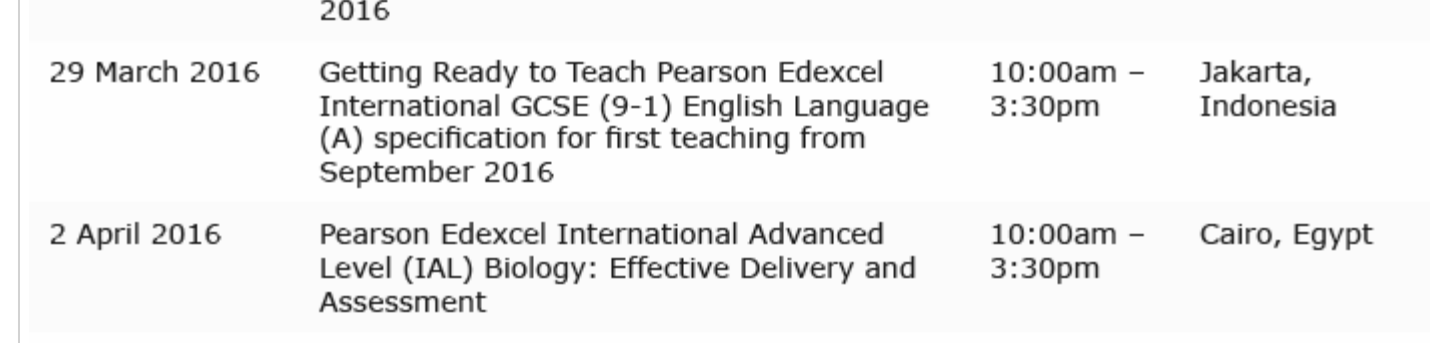
[The video](#) below explains how we set grade boundaries to ensure that students are awarded grades that fairly reflect their performance.

We are proud of the fact that our exam marking processes have been shown to produce exceptionally reliable results, with the fewest grade changes on re-marking of the leading UK awarding organisations over the past 2 years – demonstrating that at every stage, **Edexcel qualifications maintain the highest standards.**



## Teacher training events

We are continuing to run free 'Getting Ready to Teach' events, to support you to deliver Edexcel qualifications with confidence. The events will provide an overview of structures, content, assessment, key changes, planning and teaching approaches. Please see below for the dates and times of these sessions.



Date	Event	Time	Location
29 March 2016	Pearson Edexcel International GCSE English as a Second Language (ESL): Effective Delivery and Assessment	10:00pm – 3:30pm	Chennai, India
29 March 2016	Getting Ready to Teach Pearson Edexcel International Advanced Level (IAL) Greek specification for first teaching in September 2016	3:30pm – 5:30pm	Online
29 March 2016	Getting Ready to Teach Pearson Edexcel International GCSE (9-1) English Language (A) specification for first teaching from September 2016	10:00am – 3:30pm	Jakarta, Indonesia
2 April 2016	Pearson Edexcel International Advanced Level (IAL) Biology: Effective Delivery and Assessment	10:00am – 3:30pm	Cairo, Egypt
4 April 2016	Pearson Edexcel International Advanced Level (IAL) Biology: Effective Delivery and Assessment	10:00am – 3:30pm	Amman, Jordan
10 April 2016	Pearson Edexcel International Advanced Level (IAL) Physics: Effective Delivery and Assessment	10:00am – 3:30pm	UAE, Dubai
11 April 2016	Getting Ready to Teach Pearson Edexcel GCSE Science specification for first teaching from September 2016	10:00am – 3:30pm	UAE, Dubai
13 April 2016	Pearson Edexcel International Advanced Level (IAL) Physics: Effective Delivery and Assessment	9:30am – 3:00pm	Doha, Qatar
14 April 2016	Pearson Edexcel International Advanced Level (IAL) Physics: Effective Delivery and Assessment	9:30am – 3:00pm	Muscat, Oman
17 April 2016	Pearson Edexcel International Advanced Level (IAL) Physics: Effective Delivery and Assessment	9:30am – 3:30pm	Dhaka, Bangladesh
17 April 2016	Getting Ready to Teach Pearson Edexcel International GCSE (9-1) English Language (B) specification for first teaching from September 2016	9:30am – 3:30pm	Dhaka, Bangladesh
17 April 2016	Pearson Edexcel International Advanced Level (IAL) Physics: Effective Delivery and Assessment	9:30am – 3:30pm	Kuwait City, Kuwait
17 April 2016	Getting Ready to Teach Pearson Edexcel International GCSE (9-1) Modern Foreign Languages specification for first teaching from September 2016	9:30am – 3:30pm	Dubai, UAE
18 April 2016	Pearson Edexcel International Advanced Level (IAL) Mathematics: Effective Delivery and Assessment	9:30am – 3:30pm	Dubai, UAE
20 April 2016	Getting Ready to Teach Pearson Edexcel International Advanced Level (IAL) Arabic specification for first teaching in September 2016	8:00am – 10:00am	Online
21 April 2016	Pearson Edexcel International Advanced Level (IAL) Mathematics: Effective Delivery and Assessment	9:30am – 3:00pm	Manama, Bahrain
21 April 2016	Getting Ready to Teach Pearson Edexcel GCSE English Language specification for first teaching from September 2015	12:00pm – 2:00pm	Online
21 April 2016	Pearson Edexcel International Advanced Level (IAL) Physics: Effective Delivery and Assessment	9:30am – 3:30pm	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
25 April 2016	Getting Ready to Teach Pearson Edexcel International GCSE (9-1) English Language (A) specification for first teaching from September 2016	10:00am – 3:30pm	Dubai, UAE
25 April 2016	Getting Ready to Teach Pearson Edexcel International Advanced Level (IAL) Applied ICT specification for first teaching in September 2016	8:00am – 10:00am	Online
28 April 2016	Getting Ready to Teach Pearson Edexcel International Advanced Level (IAL) Arabic specification for first teaching in September 2016	8:00am – 10:00am	Online
4 May 2016	Pearson Edexcel International Advanced Level (IAL) Accounting: Effective Delivery and Assessment	10:00am – 3:30pm	Macau, China
6 May 2016	Pearson Edexcel International Advanced Level (IAL) Mathematics: Effective Delivery and Assessment	9:30am – 3:00pm	Colombo, Sri Lanka
12 May 2016	International Advanced Level (IAL) Chemistry: "Principal Examiner for a day" – how IAL's work	9:30am – 3:00pm	Male, Maldives
14 May 2016	Getting Ready to Teach Pearson's new Edexcel AS and A levels in French	10:00am – 3:30pm	Limassol, Cyprus
17 May 2016	Getting Ready to Teach Pearson's new Edexcel AS and A levels in MFL (French/ German/Spanish) – Teaching and learning strategies for film and literature	8:00am – 10:00am	Online
18 May 2016	Getting Ready to Teach International GCSE (9-1) Mathematics (A & B) specifications for first teaching September 2016	10:00am – 3:30pm	Dhaka, Bangladesh
20 May 2016	Pearson Edexcel International GCSE Mathematics B (current specification): Effective Delivery and Assessment	9:30am – 3:00pm	Yangon, Myanmar
21 May 2016	Getting Ready to Teach Pearson Edexcel International Advanced Level (IAL) Greek specification for first teaching from September 2016	10:00am – 3:30pm	Nicosia, Cyprus
23 May 2016	Getting Ready to Teach Pearson Edexcel International GCSE (9-1) Mathematics (A & B) specifications for first teaching September 2016	10:00am – 3:30pm	Colombo, Sri Lanka

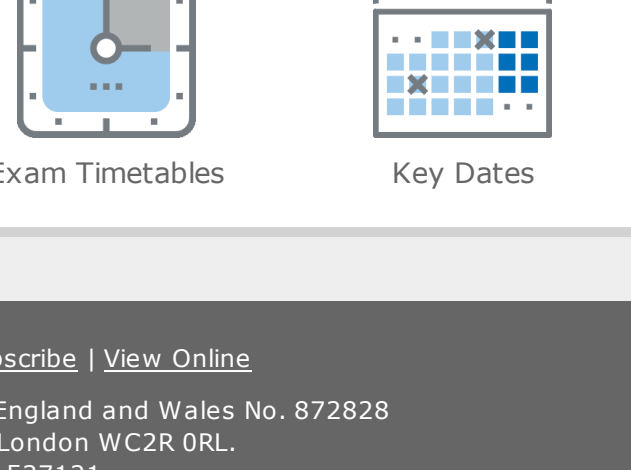
[Book your place today!](#)

## Pearson blog

Edexcel qualifications are from Pearson, the world's leading learning company. Every day, educators and thought-leaders from across the globe share their views on the latest developments in education on the Pearson blog. The latest articles include:

[Intelligence Unleashed: an argument for AI in education](#)

[Intelligence Unleashed: the full report](#)



To read more articles and to join the conversation, [visit and bookmark the Pearson blog.](#)