Qualification Guidance

GCSEs (or a recognised equivalent)

You will need Grade C or above in English, maths and science (combined award or physics, biology or chemistry) or a recognised equivalent. You will need to show us your certificates. The regulations do not allow us to accept provisional result slips or a letter from your school saying you passed your exams.

GCSE recognised equivalents* are:

- GCE O, AO, OA Level Pass
- GCE O, A Level C or Above
- CEE Grade 1-3
- CSE Grade 1
- GCSE Equivalence Test (not Level 2 literacy/numeracy test)
- Access to Teaching

(*For further details of equivalent qualifications see appendix 1)

If you have mislaid your certificate you can get a certifying statement of results from the exam board. If your exam board no longer exists, don’t worry as another of the boards will have taken your results into their records. Please see below for a list of awarding bodies. You will need to contact the relevant board and let them know where you took the exam and they will tell you if they have your records. If they do they can send you a certifying statement of results. The exam board may make a charge for this service.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Awarding Body</th>
<th>Web Reference</th>
<th>Former Examination Boards</th>
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</thead>
</table>
Associated Lancashire Schools Exam Board  
Joint Matriculation Board  
North West Regional Examinations Board  
Northern Examinations and Assessment Board  
Northern Examinations Association  
Northern Regional Examinations Board  
South Eastern Regional Examinations Board  
South Western Regional Examinations Board  
The West Yorkshire and Lindsey Regional Examinations Board  
Yorkshire & Humberside Regional Exams Board |
<p>| Northern Ireland Council for the Curriculum, Examinations and Assessment (NICCEA) | <a href="http://www.ccea.org.uk/gcs.e.html">www.ccea.org.uk/gcs.e.html</a> (follow ‘Administration’ link) | Northern Ireland Examinations Board |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Provider</th>
<th>Website</th>
<th>Accepted by</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Edexcel</td>
<td><a href="http://www.edexcel.org.uk/studying/studyingeditorial.aspx?id=83064&amp;ciid=176823">www.edexcel.org.uk/studying/studyingeditorial.aspx?id=83064&amp;ciid=176823</a></td>
<td>East Anglian Examinations Board, London Regional Examinations Board, Metropolitan and Middlesex Regional Examinations Board, University of London Regional Examinations Board</td>
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<tr>
<td>OCR</td>
<td><a href="http://www.ocr.org.uk/OCR/Website/Data/Publication/Forms/Application/applications52136.pdf">www.ocr.org.uk/OCR/Website/Data/Publication/Forms/Application/applications52136.pdf</a></td>
<td>East Midland Regional Examinations Board, Midland Examining Group, Oxford and Cambridge Schools Examinations Board, Southern Regional Examinations Board, Southern Universities’ Joint board for Schools Examinations, The West Midlands Examinations Board, University of Cambridge Local Examination Syndicate, University of Oxford Delegacy of Local Examinations</td>
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<tr>
<td>Welsh Joint Education Committee (WJEC)</td>
<td><a href="http://www.wjec.co.uk/certificate.pdf">www.wjec.co.uk/certificate.pdf</a></td>
<td>University of London Regional Examinations Board, London Regional Examinations Board, Metropolitan and Middlesex Regional Examinations Board, University of London Regional Examinations Board</td>
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Equivalency Testing

Guidance for Early Years Teacher Programme applicants

To enable candidates to meet the GCSE (or recognised equivalent) qualification requirements for the Early Years Teacher Programme, Best Practice Network work with Equivalency Testing (EQT), who provide English, mathematics, biology and combined science (biology, chemistry and physics) equivalency tests which are nationally recognised and accepted by colleges, universities and other HEIs.

Please follow the link below for further information, where you can also find available testimonials from previous candidates who have sat these tests.

www.equivalencytesting.com

Length of exams

- English exam - 2hrs
- Maths exam - 2hrs 30min (1 hour 15 minutes for a calculator based paper and 1 hour 15 minutes for the non-calculator paper)
- Science exams - 2hrs

Cost

- For preparation (home study) and exam - £440
- Exam only - £145
Preparation (Home study)

If candidates require tuition the testing company does provide this. A correspondence course designed to be completed within 16 weeks but can be completed in less time should you require.

The material in the home study course is designed to cover all the topics on the syllabus.

There are 12 sections of work and you are asked to attempt each section, with the aid of the revision guide, to the best of your ability.

On the completion of each home work you should post back to your designated tutor for marking, they mark and return the work with the strengths and weaknesses clearly outlined

On completion of 10 sections you will need to contact the Equivalency Testing office to book your exam.

This is a linear programme and therefore no marks will be carried forward to your final result.

If you feel you need only a small amount of revision, then the BBC bite size website is very helpful. [www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize](http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize).

Exam setting

It is possible to sit the examination (under exam conditions) in a nursery, school or childcare setting ET would need authorisation from one of the following:

- Head Teacher
- Deputy Head
- Exam Officer
- Nursery Manager

They must firstly agree to receive, administrate and invigilate your exam on a specified date and time of your choice. Once the date and time has been agreed, you need to submit your application form for processing along with payment at least 10 working days before your exam date.

It is also possible to sit the exam at the EQT head office. The office is located 20mins from London Liverpool Street Station. They administer 4 to 5 exam sittings per day and exam results are available on the same day.

Please note there are no exams in the month of August.

Outline of steps to book your equivalency test

- The applicant needs to request an information pack from Equivalency Testing by phone or email.
- Once the applicant has decided upon a date for the exam they need to contact EQT direct to book the test.
- Test papers are usually sent a week in advance of the test date to the named invigilator, once the test is completed the test papers must be signed and returned to EQT who aim to confirm results (direct to the candidate) within 14 days of completion.
- EQT will invoice the participant/setting directly for the test fees.
- Once results have been confirmed, a copy of the certificate will need to be forwarded to Best Practice Network, by post/fax or email.
- EYTP places cannot be secured without Best Practice Network receiving confirmation that all qualifications have been achieved.
For overseas qualifications

If you took your qualifications overseas, we may be able to accept these if they are a recognised equivalent of GCSEs at grade C or above.

Please refer to the following document. It lists numerous countries in alphabetical order and the qualifications from that country. We are able to accept any that are red or yellow in the key (GCSE or A/ AS Level equivalent-

http://www.londoninternational.ac.uk/sites/default/files/entrance_qualifications.pdf

If your qualification does not appear on the list, you may need to contact NARIC for a letter of comparability (please see below for more details) or take an Equivalency Test.

NARIC Guidance Information

The comparability information supplied by UK NARIC is designed to assist you when applying for jobs or courses in the UK. The Letter of Comparability or Career Path Report can be presented to employers or institutions as supporting information, together with your CV or application form, as confirmation of the recognition of your overseas qualifications in the UK. This will enable potential employers or admitting institutions to make informed decisions about the suitability of your qualification(s) for the job or course for which you are applying.

Letter of Comparability

The UK NARIC letter of comparability is a nationally recognised document that states the comparability for individuals with overseas' awards to the UK’s qualification frameworks. It is used by universities, colleges, employers and Government departments and agencies to enable them to assess the individual's qualifications, skills and competencies.

A letter of comparability states, in English, what your overseas qualifications equate to in the UK. A more detailed comparison of the content of a course and equivalent level is available through the Career Path report.

How to apply

Apply online - it's quicker and cheaper- go to:

http://www.naric.org.uk/index.asp?page=60

NARIC requires the following in order to process your enquiry:

- a photocopy of your certificate(s) together with final transcript(s)
- a covering letter with your contact details and stating the purpose of your enquiry
- a copy of a certified translation in English if necessary
- a self-addressed envelope with correct postage paid if the letter is for a UK address. (If the postal address is outside the UK you do not need to provide postage.)

You can apply either online or through the postal service for this service.
Please send your application to:

UK NARIC
Oriel House
Oriel Road
Cheltenham
GL50 1XP
UK

Please ensure that all cheques are made payable to ECCTIS Ltd.

Translation Waiver Scheme

Is your qualification certificate/award in English? If not, then you could take advantage of NARIC’s Translation Waiver Scheme. For a select group of languages you do not need to provide a translation but you will need to pay a fee for one of our trained linguists to process your documents in the original language. The fee for this service is £30.00 (£35.25 including VAT)

How long does it take & cost**?

Depending on the urgency of your enquiry we offer three levels of service:

- Fast track plus: 24 hour turnaround - £200. (£235 including VAT)
- Fast track: 48 hour turnaround - £150. (£176.25 including VAT)
- Standard: 10 - 15 working day turnaround - £40.00. (£47 Including VAT)

**Please check with NARIC for up to date pricing information**
## Appendix 1: GCSE recognised equivalents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Examining body</th>
<th>Equivalent Qualification</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| English                                | Any UK board                        | • CSE in English, English language or English studies, at grade I  
• CEE in English, at grades I, II, or III  
• A2/AS-level in English language or English literature (but not an O-level pass achieved at A-level sitting) |
| AEB (now AQA)                          |                                     | • OA-level in English language (professional and business use)  
• A-level in English language and literature                                                                                                           |
| JMB/NEAB (now AQA)                     |                                     | • OA-level in additional English  
• University entrance test in English for speakers of other languages  
• O-level in humanities                                                                                                                                       |
| SEB: Scottish certificate of education |                                     | • Until 1985, C or above on the ordinary grade  
• In or after 1986, grade 3 or above on the standard grade  
• Higher grade English  
• Grade C or above in the certificate of sixth-year studies in English                                                                               |
<p>| Irish Republic awards                  |                                     | • In or after 1975, leaving certificate in English language at grade C or above (ordinary) or at grade D or above (honours)                              |
| European baccalaureate                 |                                     | • Pass in English as a mother tongue or English as a foreign language                                                                                     |
| International baccalaureate           |                                     | • Higher or subsidiary level in English language at grade 4 or above                                                                                     |
| BTEC                                   |                                     | • Any first, national or higher national certificate or diploma in English                                                                                     |
| Open University                        |                                     | • A pass in any undergraduate course prefixed with the letter 'A' or 'D'                                                                                      |
| University of London Examinations and Assessment Council |                  | • Certificate of attainment in English at level 4 or above                                                                                                    |
| RSA                                    |                                     | • Stage III (advanced) in English                                                                                                                                |
| University of Cambridge English for speakers of other Languages |                  | • Business English certificate (higher) or Certificate of English language skills (higher)                                                                 |
|                                        |                                     | • International English language testing system (IELTS): band score 6 or above                                                                                |
| Edexcel                                |                                     | • IGCSE in English language or English literature                                                                                                           |
| CIE                                    |                                     | • IGCSE in English language or English literature                                                                                                           |</p>
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<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
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</table>
| Maths                 | Any UK board                          | • GCE O-level in mathematics (including 'O' in SCE)  
• CSE in mathematics, at grade I  
• CEE in mathematics, at grades I, II, or III O-level or AO-level in additional mathematics  
• A2/AS-level (or O-level achieved at A-level sitting) in mathematics or in any A-level subject with mathematics in its title  
• A2-level in statistics (but not an O-level pass achieved at A-level sitting)  
• AO in statistics, additional statistics or pure mathematics with statistics |
| AEB (now AQA)         |                                       | • O-level in commercial mathematics, general mathematics, modern mathematics, technical mathematics, or technical (building) mathematics               |
| London                |                                       | • AO-level in applicable mathematics, mathematics and theoretical mechanics, pure mathematics and probability                                           |
| EG                   |                                       | GSCE in mathematical studies                                                                                                                               |
| O & C                |                                       | • O-level in general mathematics  
• AO-level in mathematics for biology                                                                                                                         |
| JMB/NEAB (now AQA)   |                                       | • O-level in commercial mathematics  
• AO-level in mathematical studies                                                                                                                               |
| SUB                   |                                       | • O-level in commercial mathematics and statistics                                                                                                         |
| SEB: Scottish certificate of education |                               | • Until 1985, C or above on the ordinary grade  
• In or after 1986, grade 3 or above on the standard grade  
• Higher grade mathematics  
• Grade C or above in the certificate of sixth-year studies in mathematics                                                                                       |
| Irish Republic awards |                                       | • In or after 1975, leaving certificate in mathematics at grade C or above (ordinary) or at grade D or above (honours)                                      |
| European baccalaureate |                                     | Mathematics                                                                                                                                               |
| International baccalaureate |                                 | • Higher or subsidiary level in mathematics at grade 4 or above                                                                                           |
| ONC/D                |                                       | • Science, mathematics or technology are acceptable in principle, but the pattern should be scrutinised to ascertain equivalence                          |
| BTEC/TEC/BEC         |                                       | • Higher national certificate or diploma award in mathematics  
• Any national certificate or national diploma award that incorporates a pass with merit or distinction in mathematics at level 1 or higher  
• A technician studies certificate that incorporates a pass with merit or distinction in mathematics at level 1 (The actual content and combination of the modules studied may also determine whether a qualification is considered to be equivalent.) |
<p>| BEC/TEC             |                                       | • Higher national certificate or diploma award in mathematics, statistics and computing; or in computing                                                   |
| Open University       |                                       | • A pass in any undergraduate course prefixed with the letter 'M' or 'T'                                                                              |
| Edexcel              |                                       | • IGCSE in mathematics                                                                                                                               |
| CIE                  |                                       | • IGCSE in mathematics                                                                                                                                |</p>
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| Science | All primary or key stage 2/3 entrants are required to have achieved a standard equivalent to a grade C in the GCSE examination in a science subject. | • GCE O-level or A2/AS-level (including O in SCE) in any science subject (physics, chemistry, biology, human biology, general science, geology)  
• CSE in any science subject, at grade I  
• Zoology AZ-level |
|         | Any UK board   | • First diploma in science: pass with merit or distinction  
• Science modules from the national diploma: pass with merit or distinction (The actual content or combination of modules studied may also determine whether a qualification is considered to be equivalent.) |
|         | BTEC           | • A pass in any undergraduate course prefixed with the letter’s’ |
|         | Open University| • IGCSE in science (double award)  
• IGCSE in biology, chemistry or physics |
|         | Edexcel        | • IGCSE in biology, chemistry or physics  
• IGCSE in physical science, coordinated sciences or combined science |
|         | CIE            | • IGCSE in biology, chemistry or physics  
• IGCSE in physical science, coordinated sciences or combined science |