

# Acceptable GCSE Equivalencies

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The below list is compiled by York St John University's Admissions department, on the advice and guidance of the Department for Education and Skills, the Qualifications and Curriculum Authority, and the Training and Development Agency for Schools.

This will apply for all courses unless otherwise stated. The qualifications shown below are not exhaustive and are reviewed regularly. It is the University's decision based on the advice from the above named bodies to determine whether candidates meet the minimum acceptable GCSE or equivalent requirements. If you are in any doubt as to whether you meet these criteria, please contact the Admissions team at [admissions@yorks.ac.uk](mailto:admissions@yorks.ac.uk) and we will be happy to discuss this further.

To study undergraduate or postgraduate teacher training courses (namely undergraduate Primary Education, or postgraduate Primary Education or postgraduate Secondary Education including Schools Direct routes) you must hold GCSE English, Maths, and Science at a minimum of grade C/Level 4 or equivalent. Applications undertaking GCSE resits or equivalencies will be considered based on the pending predicted grade.

The following qualifications are UK qualifications, and are accepted as meeting our GCSE requirements. Please note that GCE O-, AO-, and OA-Level qualifications **must be pass grades** (which are normally A, B, or C). CSE grades must be at grade 1. CEE grades must be I, II, or III.

**All qualifications listed must be achieved at grades that are equivalent or comparable to a grade C/level 4 at GCSE level.**

This list is not exhaustive and is for guidance purposes only. Any queries regarding the contents of this document should be directed to the Admissions Manager, by emailing [admissions@yorks.ac.uk](mailto:admissions@yorks.ac.uk)

**Please note: For International equivalencies please see the International pages of our website.**

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## English GCSE

### *Any UK Board*

- CSE in English, English Language, or English studies
- CEE in English
- A2/AS level in English language or English literature. Not including any O-level passes achieved at A-level sitting

### *AQA (or AEB, JMB, NEAB)*

- OA-level in English language (including for professional and business use)
- A-level in English language **and** literature
- OA-level in additional English
- University entrance test in English for speakers of other languages
- O-level in Humanities

### *SEB*

- **Pre-1985 only** C or above in ordinary grades of the Scottish certificate of education
- **Post-1986** grade 3 or above in the standard grade of the Scottish certificate of education
- Higher grade English
- C or above in English in the certificate of sixth year studies

### *Irish Republic Awards*

- **Post-1975** C or above (ordinary) in the leaving certificate in English language
- **Post-1975** D or above (honours) in the leaving certificate in English language

### *European Baccalaureate*

- Pass in English as a foreign language or mother tongue

### *International Baccalaureate*

- Higher or subsidiary level English language at grade 4 or above

### *BTEC*

- Any first/national/higher national certificate or diploma in English

### *Open University*

- Pass in any undergraduate programme with the prefix '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*

*All qualifications on this list are accepted **for non-native English speakers only***

- Higher Business English certificate
- Higher Certificate of English language skills
- International English Language Testing System (IELTS) at grade 6 or above **unless otherwise stated**

## *Edexcel*

- IGCE in English language or literature at grade C or above

## *CIE*

- IGCE in English language or literature at grade C or above

## *Access to Higher Education Diploma*

- Inclusion of English level 2 or GCSE equivalent within a full completed Access qualification

## **Mathematics GCSE**

### *Any UK Board*

- GCE O-level in Mathematics, including 'O' in SCE
- CSE in Mathematics
- CEE in Mathematics
- O-level or AO-level in Additional Mathematics
- A2/AS level in Mathematics, or any A-level qualification with Mathematics in the title
- O-level achieved in Mathematics achieved at A-level sitting
- A2 level Statistics, but **not** O-level pass achieved at A-level sitting
- AO in Statistics, Additional Statistics, or Pure Mathematics with Statistics

### *AQA (or AEB, JMB, NEAB)*

- O-level in Commercial Mathematics, General Mathematics, Modern Mathematics, Technical Mathematics, or Technical (Building) Mathematics
- AO-level in Mathematical Studies

### *London*

- AO-level in Applicable Mathematics, Mathematics and Theoretical Mechanics, Pure Mathematics and Probability

## *SEG*

- GCSE in Mathematical Studies at grade C or above

### *O&C*

- O-level in General Mathematics
- AO-level in Mathematics for Biology

### *SUB*

- O-level in Commercial Mathematics and Statistics

### *SEB*

- **Pre-1985** C or above in the ordinary grade of the Scottish certificate of education
- **Post-1986** grade 3 or above in the standard grade of the Scottish certificate of education
- Higher grade Mathematics
- C or above in Mathematics in the certificate of sixth year studies

### *Irish Republic Awards*

- **Post-1975** C or above in ordinary Mathematics in the leaving certificate
- **Post-1975** D or above in honours Mathematics in the leaving certificate

### *European Baccalaureate*

- Mathematics

### *International Baccalaureate*

- Higher or subsidiary Mathematics at grade 4 or above

### *BTEC/TEC/BEC*

- Higher national certificate/diploma in Mathematics
- Any national certificate/diploma that incorporates a pass with merit or distinction at level 2 or higher in Mathematics
- Higher National Certificate (HNC) or Higher National Diploma (HND) in Mathematics, Statistics and Computing, or Computing

### *Open University*

- A pass in any undergraduate course with the prefix 'M' or 'T'

### *Edexcel*

- IGCSE in Mathematics

### *CIE*

- IGCSE in Mathematics

### *Access to Higher Education Diploma*

- Inclusion of Mathematics level 2 or GCSE equivalent within a full completed Access qualification

### **Science GCSE**

#### *Any UK Board*

- GCE O-level in any Science subjects (Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Human Biology, General Science, Geology)
- CSE in any Science subject
- Zoology A2 level

#### *BTEC*

- Pass with merit or distinction in first diploma in Science
- BTEC Applied Science level 2

#### *Open University*

- A pass in any undergraduate course with the prefix 'S'

#### *Edexcel*

- IGCSE in double award Science
- IGCSE in any single award Science subject (Physics, Chemistry, Biology)

#### *CIE*

- IGCSE in any Science subject (Physics, Chemistry, Biology)
- IGCSE in Physical Science, Coordinated Sciences, or Combined Science

#### *OCR Nationals*

- OCR Cambridge National Science Level 2 achieved at Certificate or Diploma level

### *Access to Higher Education Diploma*

- Inclusion of Science level 2 or GCSE equivalent within a full completed Access qualification

### **Functional and Key Skills**

Please be aware that the University will not accept Functional or Key Skills qualifications in any subject in lieu of a GCSE grade C or above, or equivalent. This includes Level 2 Adult Numeracy and Literacy qualifications.

## Course specific requirements

### *Primary Education and PGCE courses, including Schools Direct*

- GNVQ Science (Intermediate)
- GCSE in Human Physiology and Health
- GVS Applied Science
- GCSE Additional Science grade C or above
- OCR Level 2 National Certificate in Science
- BTEC First Diploma in Science or BTEC level 2 Diploma

**We do not accept the QCFBEC (Extended Certificate) for Science.**

**We do not accept the BTEC level 2 Certificate in Science, BTEC First Certificate or OCR level 2 Award in Science.**

### *BHSc Occupational Therapy*

- BTEC First Certificate in Applied Science
- FETAC Level 5 Award is acceptable in conjunction with Irish Leaving Certificate with English, Mathematics, and Science
- Irish Leaving Certificate must have a minimum of 4 Irish Higher level passes at grade C, including English language. English, Maths, and Science must be at ordinary level if not at higher
- Open University module K101 'An Introduction to Health and Social Care' is acceptable in lieu of Science GCSE
- Access course for GCSE Science but must be a relevant field

### *BHSc Physiotherapy*

- GCSE Additional Science at grade C or above
- International Baccalaureate with Higher Level Biology at grade 6 or above
- University Foundation courses will be assessed on a case by case basis, but generally a minimum overall mark of 65% or above
- Access course for GCSE Science but must be a relevant field

**We do not accept an Access Course in lieu of the GCSE English and Maths for Physio, Occupational Therapy or Nursing**