



School of Education GCSE Equivalent Qualification for Teacher Education Courses

The equivalencies included in this documents apply to the following courses:

- PGCE Primary
- School Direct Primary PGCE
- PGCE Secondary
- School Direct Secondary PGCE

To meet national statutory guidance for entry on to a teacher education course you will need to evidence your attainment at the following levels:

Course	GCSE English Language	GCSE Maths	GCSE Science
PGCE Primary	4	4	4
School Direct Primary PGCE	4	4	4
PGCE Secondary	4	4	
School Direct Secondary PGCE	4	4	

UK qualifications equivalent to GCSE grade 4

GCSE		CSE	O level
2017 onwards	Pre 2017		
9/8	A*		
7	A		A
6/5	B		B
4	C	1	C

The following pages provide information on the qualifications that will be accepted as equivalent to GCSE for teacher education courses at the University of Nottingham in English Language, maths and science.

GCSE English Language

For teacher education courses at the University of Nottingham the following qualifications will be accepted as equivalent to GCSE English Language.

Any UK board

- CSE in English, English language or English studies at grade 1
- CEE in English at grades I, II or III

OA-level

- AEB (now AQA) in English language (professional and business use)

iGCSE

- grade A*-C

BTEC

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



Irish Republic awards

- In or after 1975, leaving certificate – Ordinary level English grade O1 to O4
- In or after 1975, leaving certificate – Higher level English grade H1 to H7

Scottish awards

SCEEB/SEB/SQA

- Until 1985, grade C or above on the Scottish Certificate of Education
- In or after 1986 grade 3 or above on the Standard Grade Scottish Certificate of Education
- From 2000, grade A*-C on the Scottish Qualification Certificate Intermediate2
- From 2015, grade A*-C on the Scottish Qualification Certificate National5
- Between 1970 and 2002, Certificate of 6th Year Studies (CSYS)
- Scottish Certificate of Education, Higher or Advanced Higher
- Scottish Qualification Certificate, Higher or Advanced Higher

International Baccalaureate

- English A1 or A2, Standard or Higher level, grade 4 or above
- English B, Higher level, grade 4 or above
- English B, Standard level, grade 7 or above

European Baccalaureate

- Grade 6 or above

University of London Examiners and Assessment Council

- Certificate of Attainment in English at level 4 or above

Applications will be considered on a case by case basis in the following circumstances:

- Applicants holding GCSE English literature at grade C or above but not English language
- Applicants holding A or AS level English but no GCSE certificate

IELTS¹ is not accepted as equivalent to GCSE for entrance onto a teacher education course.

¹ For some internationally educated applicants IELTS may be an additional requirement, for example to satisfy UKVI English language criteria. Required level: 6.5, (no less than 6.0 in any element)



GCSE Mathematics

For teacher education courses at the University of Nottingham the following qualifications will be accepted as equivalent to GCSE mathematics.

Any UK board

- CSE in mathematics at grade 1
- CEE in mathematics at grades I, II or III
- O level or AO level in additional mathematics

Alternative mathematics O and O/A levels by examination board

- 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
- Oxford & Cambridge O-level in general mathematics
- JMB/NEAB (now AQA) O-level in commercial mathematics and AO-level in mathematical studies
- SUB O-level in commercial mathematics and statistics
- SEG GSCE in mathematical studies

iGCSE

- grade A*-C

BTEC

- Any first, national or higher national certificate or diploma in mathematics

Irish Republic awards

- In or after 1975, leaving certificate – Ordinary level mathematics grade O1 to O4
- In or after 1975, leaving certificate – Higher level mathematics grade H1 to H7

Scottish awards

SCEEB/SEB/SQA

- Until 1985, grade C or above on the Scottish Certificate of Education
- In or after 1986 grade 3 or above on the Standard Grade Scottish Certificate of Education
- From 2000, grade A*-C on the Scottish Qualification Certificate Intermediate2
- From 2015, grade A*-C on the Scottish Qualification Certificate National5
- Between 1970 and 2002, Certificate of 6th Year Studies (CSYS)
- Scottish Certificate of Education, Higher or Advanced Higher
- Scottish Qualification Certificate, Higher or Advanced Higher

International Baccalaureate

- Mathematics, Standard level, grade 7 or above
- Mathematics, Higher level, grade 4 or above

European Baccalaureate

- Grade 6 or above



GCSE Science

For primary teacher education courses at the University of Nottingham the following qualifications will be accepted as equivalent to GCSE Science.

Science subjects are considered to be: Additional Science, Additional Applied Science, Biology, Chemistry, Physics, General Science, Geology, Human Health and Physiology.

Any UK board

- CSE in any science subject at grade 1
- O level or A2/AS level in any science subject (biology, chemistry, physics)

iGCSE

- grade A*-C

BTEC

- Any first, national or higher national certificate or diploma in science

Irish Republic awards

- In or after 1975, leaving certificate – Ordinary level science grade O1 to O4
- In or after 1975, leaving certificate – Higher level science grade H1 to H7

Scottish awards

SCEEB/SEB/SQA

- Until 1985, grade C or above on the Scottish Certificate of Education
- In or after 1986 grade 3 or above on the Standard Grade Scottish Certificate of Education
- From 2000, grade A*-C on the Scottish Qualification Certificate Intermediate2
- From 2015, grade A*-C on the Scottish Qualification Certificate National5
- Between 1970 and 2002, Certificate of 6th Year Studies (CSYS)
- Scottish Certificate of Education, Higher or Advanced Higher
- Scottish Qualification Certificate, Higher or Advanced Higher

International Baccalaureate

- Science, Standard level, grade 7 or above
- Science, Higher level, grade 4 or above

European Baccalaureate

- Grade 6 or above

If you do not hold GCSE or equivalent certificates

If all or part of your qualifications are from outside the UK you may be asked to provide NARIC Statement of Comparability. Please see the [NARIC website](#) for more information.

The university offers equivalency tests in maths and English for applicants to a teacher training courses at the University of Nottingham. We do **not** accept equivalency tests other than those administered by the university.