



Equivalencies to GCSE English Language or Welsh Language and Mathematics C grade for entry to Initial Teacher Training Education

Since September 2022 all ITE programmes in Wales require applicants to have a minimum C grade or equivalent in English Language or Welsh language and Mathematics at GCSE to be eligible to apply for entry to ITE courses. For courses of Primary programmes, a minimum C grade in GCSE Science is also required.

A grade 4 will be accepted as equivalent to the C grade requirement from the reformed GCSE's within England.

Both Mathematics and Numeracy at grade C will be accepted as equivalent to Maths from the changes within GCSE's in Wales.

Equivalency testing is no longer accepted in Wales. Qualifications being considered should be equivalent to a GCSE Grade C.

In order for a qualification to be recognized it must be awarded by a recognised awarding body that has awarding powers. It must be deemed equivalent to a C grade in English Language or Welsh Language, Mathematics and Science at GCSE.

Notes:

- Key Skills and Essential Skills qualifications in Application of Number and Communication are not sufficient to meet the requirements for entry to ITE.
- A GCSE Statistics Grade C is not an acceptable equivalent qualification.

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Equivalent overseas qualifications

- The National Academic Recognition Information Centre (NARIC) provides guidance on whether an overseas qualification is comparable in standard to a given UK qualification but decisions about suitability for entry to ITE programmes remain at the discretion of ITE partnerships.
- There is a requirement that applicants are able to demonstrate equivalent qualifications at a level above C grade GCSE English Language or Welsh Language and Mathematics.

English language or Welsh Language Achievement:

English Language or Welsh Language Achievement	GCSE C grade equivalence guidance
CSE	Grade 1
GCE O level	English Language/Welsh Language C grade or grade 4 or above.
IGCSE/ Cambridge International Level 2	English Language/Welsh Language C grade or grade 4 or above.
A2	E grade or above in A2 English language/Welsh Language.
AS	C grade or above in AS English Language /Welsh Language.
Scottish Certificate of Higher Education	Grade C or above at National 5, or grade C or above at Highers, or grade E at Advanced Highers. In or after 1986 , grade 2 or above on the standard grade of the Scottish certificate of education. Until 1985 , B or above on the ordinary grade of the Scottish certificate of education. Grade B or above in the certificate of sixth-year studies in English.
Irish Leaving Certificate	Prior to 2017 Grade C3 or above at Ordinary or Grade D or above at Higher. From 2017 onwards O3 or above at Ordinary or H6 or above at Higher.
International English language testing system (IELTS)	IELTS band score 6.0. overall and minimum of 5.5.0 in each component in the 'academic' IELTS test.
BTEC	Pearson BTEC (QCF)/OCR/NQF – First, National or Higher National Diplomas dependent on level of study and achievement. Pass in English
Open University	May be considered dependant on modules completed. Minimum of 20 credits at OU Level 1 (HE L4) in English modules <i>Please contact Admissions.</i>

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Certificate of Higher Education or University credits	May be considered dependant on modules completed. Minimum of 20 credits at L4 in English modules <i>Please contact Admissions.</i>
Essentials English for Teaching (USW)	This module is equal to 20 credits at higher education level 4.
English language skills Abersystwyth	Creative writing forms part of this module. This module is at CQFW Level 4. This module is 10 credits. No Certificate is awarded, a transcript of results is available.

Please Note: This is not an exhaustive list.

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Mathematics Achievement:

Mathematics Achievement	GCSE C grade equivalence guidance
GCE O level	C grade or grade 4 or above in Mathematics
IGCSE/ Cambridge International Level 2	C grade or grade 4 or above in Mathematics.
A2	E grade or above in A2 Mathematics or any A2 level subject with Mathematics in its title. E grade in A2 Statistics
AS	C grade or above AS in Mathematics, statistics, additional statistics or pure Mathematics.
Scottish Certificate of Higher Education	Grade C or above at National 5, or grade C or above at Highers, or grade E at Advanced Highers. Until 1985 , C or above in Mathematics on the ordinary grade of the Scottish certificate of education. In or after 1986 , grade 2 or above on the standard grade of the Scottish certificate of education. Grade C or above in the certificate of sixth-year studies in Mathematics.
Irish Leaving Certificate	Prior to 2017 Grade C3 or above at Ordinary or Grade C or above at Higher. From 2017 onwards O3 or above at Ordinary or H6 or above at Higher.
BTEC	Pearson BTEC (QCF)/OCR/NQF – First, National or Higher National Diplomas dependent on level of study and achievement. Pass in Mathematics
Open University	May be considered dependant on modules completed. <i>Please contact Admissions</i> Minimum of 20 credits at OU Level 1 (HE L4) in Mathematics modules
Certificate of Higher Education or University credits	May be considered dependant on modules completed. Minimum of 20 credits at L4 in Mathematics modules <i>Please contact Admissions</i>
Essential Mathematics for Teaching (USW)	This module is equal to 20 credits at higher education level 4.
Introduction to Mathematics 2 (Abersystwyth University)	This module is at CQFW Level 3. This Module is 10 credits. No Certificate is awarded, a transcript of results is available.

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Science Achievement:

Science Achievement	GCSE C grade equivalence guidance
GCE O level	C grade or above in Science, Applied Science, Additional Science, Physics, Biology or Chemistry.
IGCSE/ Cambridge International Level 2	C grade or above in Science, Applied Science, Additional Science, Physics, Biology or Chemistry.
A2	E grade or above in A2 Science, Applied Science, Additional Science, Physics, Biology or Chemistry.
AS	C grade or above in A2 Science, Applied Science, Additional Science, Physics, Biology or Chemistry.
Scottish Certificate of Higher Education	Grade C or above at National 5, or grade C or above at Highers, or grade E at Advanced Highers. Until 1985 , C or above in Science on the ordinary grade of the Scottish certificate of education. In or after 1986 , grade 2 or above on the standard grade of the Scottish certificate of education. Grade C or above in the certificate of sixth-year studies in Science.
Irish Leaving Certificate	Prior to 2017 Grade C3 or above at Ordinary or Grade C or above at Higher. From 2017 onwards O3 or above at Ordinary or H6 or above at Higher.
BTEC	Pearson BTEC (QCF)/OCR/NQF – First, National or Higher National Diplomas dependent on level of study and achievement. Pass in Science.
Open University	May be considered dependant on modules completed. Minimum of 20 credits at OU Level 1 (HE L4) in Science modules
Certificate of Higher Education or University credits	May be considered dependant on modules completed. Minimum of 20 credits at L4 in Science modules
Essentials Science for Teaching (USW)	This module is equal to 20 credits at higher education level 4.

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Declaration:

It is for ITE Partnerships to agree between themselves the details of this list and not the Welsh Government. The following Universities/Partnerships have endorsed this document.

Signed and agreed by the following ITE Partnerships Autumn 2023



Cardiff
Metropolitan
University

Prifysgol
Metropolitan
Caerdydd

Cardiff
Partnership
for Initial Teacher Education

Partneriaeth
Caerdydd
ar gyfer Addysg Gychwynol i Athrawon



PRIFYSGOL
BANGOR
UNIVERSITY



PRIFYSGOL
ABERYSTWYTH
UNIVERSITY



Prifysgol Cymru
Y Drindod Dewi Sant
University of Wales
Trinity Saint David

Yr Athrofa
Centre for Education
Addysg i Gymru | Education for Wales



The Open University
Y Brifysgol Agored
Wales Cymru

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