

PEARSON EDEXCEL GCE / IAL / GCSE / IGCSE
CAMBRIDGE ASSESSMENT INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION GCE / IGCSE

General Information 2018 – 2019

(Position as of November 2018)

1. INTRODUCTION

Examination	Full Name	Target	Level
IAL	International Advanced Level Examinations	International Candidates	AS / A - Level
GCE	General Certificate of Education Examinations	International Candidates	O-level AS / A – Level
IGCSE	International General Certificate of Secondary Education Examinations	International Candidates	Single Level
GCSE	General Certificate of Secondary Education Examinations	Mainly UK Candidates	Single Level

2. RECOGNITION AND EQUIVALENCE OF GCE / GCSE / IGCSE

- a. Grade E or above in all HKALE# A-level and AS-level subjects is generally recognized as equivalent to an A-level pass and an AS-level pass respectively in a British International GCE.
- b. Grade C or above in most HKCEE# subjects is generally recognized as the equivalence of an O-level pass in a British International GCE.
- c. Given below is a rough comparison table between HKCEE 2007 language subjects (i.e. English Language and Chinese Language) and British IGCSE:

HKCEE levels	5*	5	4	3
IGCSE grades	A*	A	B	C

- d. The Universities and Colleges Admissions Service (UCAS) in the UK has included the Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education (HKDSE) in the UCAS Tariff system and the qualification is recognized as comparable to the British GCE A-level. For details, please visit the following HKEAA website:
http://www.hkeaa.edu.hk/en/ir/recognition_of_hkeaa_qualifications/overseas_studies/United_Kingdom/
- e. The above information is for **reference only**. In general, it is for individual users of qualifications to define their own threshold levels of performance for admission/recruitment purposes.

The Hong Kong Certificate of Education Examination (HKCEE) and The Hong Kong Advanced Level Examination (HKALE) was offered the last time in 2011 and 2013 respectively.

3. AWARDING BODIES

The HKEAA administers GCE, IAL, GCSE and IGCSE on behalf of two UK examination boards:

Examinations	Examination Board	Website
GCE / IAL / GCSE / IGCSE	Pearson Edexcel	www.edexcel.com
GCE / IGCSE	Cambridge Assessment International Education	www.cambridgeinternational.org

4. ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

No specific requirements.

5. REGISTRATION

(A) GCSE CHINESE EXAMINATION

Only GCE / IAL / GCSE / IGCSE participating schools of the HKEAA can apply as a sub-centre to enter their students for GCSE Chinese examination via the HKEAA. Such schools must be on the registered school lists of the Education Bureau. When a school applies to the HKEAA to become a participating school, a copy of the registration certificate and fees certificate issued by the Education Bureau should be attached to the application.

The participating schools should also register with the examination board, Edexcel, as a sub-centre via the HKEAA. The application charge and the annual registration fee will be waived if the schools apply to become sub-centres attached to the HKEAA. The examination materials for the speaking assessment should be submitted to Edexcel through the HKEAA.

Schools who are interested in becoming Edexcel sub-centres and entering their students for the GCSE Chinese examination should complete and submit the International Academic Centre Approval Form to the HKEAA before 1 September in the year preceding the Examination. Prior to the approval, Edexcel may arrange a one-off sub-centre inspection to ensure the school is suitable for teaching and conducting the speaking assessment of the specification upon request by Edexcel.

(B) GCE / IAL / IGCSE EXAMINATIONS**(a) School Candidates**

School candidates should submit their entry forms through their school heads. Schools wishing to present candidates for the GCE / IAL / GCSE / IGCSE examinations must be a registered school with the Education Bureau. Schools may write to the HKEAA to apply for becoming a GCE / IAL / GCSE / IGCSE participating school. A copy of the registration certificate and fees certificate issued by the Education Bureau should be attached to the application. Registration details will be sent to all GCE / IAL / GCSE / IGCSE participating schools before the scheduled registration period.

(b) Private Candidates

Private candidates should submit their entry forms to the HKEAA. Registration in-person will take place at Hong Kong Examinations and Assessment Authority, San Po Kong Office, 17 Tseuk Luk Street, San Po Kong, Kowloon. About one day before the postal registration period, the Entry Form and the "Notes for Persons Entering for the Examination" will be available at the HKEAA web-site (www.hkeaa.edu.hk) and the following offices:

San Po Kong Office : 3/F, 17 Tseuk Luk Street, San Po Kong, Kowloon
(Registration & Distribution of Entry Forms)

Wanchai Office : 12/F, Southorn Centre, 130 Hennessy Road, Wanchai, Hong Kong
(Distribution of Entry Forms **ONLY**)

(C) REGISTRATION PERIOD

Examinations	Examination Period	Registration Period				
		School Candidates (through school)		Private Candidates		
		In-person	Online Registration	By Post	In-person	Online Registration
Pearson Edexcel GCSE (Chinese only)	May / June 2019	Early December 2018	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Pearson Edexcel IGCSE	January / February 2019	Mid-September 2018	Early to Mid-September 2018	Early September 2018	Mid-September 2018	Early to Mid-September 2018
	May / June 2019	Early December 2018	Late November to early December 2018	Late November 2018	Early December 2018	Late November to early December 2018
Pearson Edexcel GCE AS / A Level	May / June 2019	Early December 2018	Late November to early December 2018	Late November 2018	Early December 2018	Late November to early December 2018
Pearson Edexcel IAL AS / A Level	January / February 2019	Mid-September 2018	Early to Mid-September 2018	Early September 2018	Mid-September 2018	Early to Mid-September 2018
	May / June 2019	Early December 2018	Late November to early December 2018	Late November 2018	Early December 2018	Late November to early December 2018
Cambridge International IGCSE	October / November 2018	Early July 2018	Late June to early July 2018	Late June 2018	Early July 2018	Late June to early July 2018
	May / June 2019	Early December 2018	Late November to early December 2018	Late November 2018	Early December 2018	Late November to early December 2018
Cambridge International, GCE O-level, GCE AS/AL	October / November 2018	Early July 2018	Late June to early July 2018	Late June 2018	Early July 2018	Late June to early July 2018
	May / June 2019	Early December 2018	Late November to early December 2018	Late November 2018	Early December 2018	Late November to early December 2018

6. SYLLABUSES / PAST QUESTION PAPERS

Copies of the Syllabuses and Past Question Papers for the GCE / IAL / IGCSE Examination are available for purchase at the Publications Unit, Hong Kong Examinations and Assessment Authority, G/F, 17 Tseuk Luk Street, San Po Kong, Kowloon. Syllabuses are also available on the examination boards' websites.

7. RANGE OF SUBJECTS OFFERED THROUGH THE HKEAA (TO BE CONFIRMED BY THE EXAMINATION BOARDS)

The HKEAA only administers GCE, IAL, IGCSE and GCSE subjects which have general demand in Hong Kong.

PEARSON EDEXCEL GCE A / AS LEVEL

Subjects	May / June	Remarks
AS-Level and A-Level (Modular):		2008 Specification
Arabic	✓	
Chinese #	✓	
Government & Politics #	✓	
Greek	✓	
Japanese	✓	
Mathematics #	✓	
Further Mathematics #	✓	
Pure Mathematics #	✓	
AS-Level and A-Level (Linear):		AS level is a standalone qualification and no longer contributes to A level qualification.
Business (2015 Specification)	✓	
Economics (2015 Specification)	✓	
Psychology (2015 Specification)	✓	
Chinese (2017 Specification)	✓	
Further Mathematics (2017 Specification)	✓	
Politics (2017 Specification)	✓	
Statistics (2017 Specification)	✓	

May / June 2019 is the final re-sit opportunity for Chinese, Mathematics and Government & Politics subjects at their legacy modular specifications. Only those existing candidates who have previously sat the unit(s) and entered respective cash-in code(s) will be eligible for a final re-sit opportunity in May / June 2019. AS-level candidates will also not be allowed to enter A-Level units to achieve A-Level qualification in May / June 2019. Candidate who wishes to enter the re-sit for Chinese, Mathematics and Government & Politics subjects **MUST** present their copy of Candidate Statement of Provisional Result and / or Certificate in-person at San Po Kong office. No online registration will be allowed for final re-sit examinations.

PEARSON EDEXCEL IAL A / AS LEVEL

Subjects	January / February	May / June	Remarks
Arabic	✓	✓	2016 Specification
Business ^	✓	✓	Please note the transition from legacy 2013 specification to new 2018 specification (https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-international-advanced-levels/international-advanced-level-from-2018/key-dates-and-faqs.html). As not all units will be available in each series, candidates should refer to the Entry Form for the specific unit we offer. Please note that it is not possible to combine unit results from the legacy 2013 specification with the new 2018 specification, apart from Mathematics. Contents and assessments are different.
Mathematics	✓	✓	
Economics	✓	✓	
Biology ^	✓	✓	
Chemistry ^	✓	✓	
Physics ^	✓	✓	
Law	N/A	✓	
Accounting	✓	✓	2015 Specification
English Language	✓	✓	
English Literature	✓	✓	
History	✓	✓	
Psychology	✓	✓	

^ Legacy 2013 Specification must not be taken with the redeveloped 2018 Specification in the same examination series. The result of these subjects at their legacy 2013 Specification would not be able to combine with the redeveloped 2018 Specification. May / June 2019 is the final sitting of legacy AS-Level and A2-Level examinations. Candidates must enter all contributing units of their intended AS/A-Level qualification(s) and enter all eligible cash-in code(s) by May / June 2019.

CAMBRIDGE ASSESSMENT INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION – GCE A / AS LEVEL

Subjects	May / June	October / November	Remarks
A-Level only:			
Accounting	✓	✓	
Arabic	N/A	✓	
Business	✓	✓	
Chinese	N/A	✓	
English Language	✓	✓	
Economics	✓	✓	
Geography	✓	✓	
History	✓	✓	
Mathematics	✓	✓	
Further Mathematics	✓	✓	
Psychology	✓	✓	
Sociology	✓	✓	
Tamil	N/A	✓	
AS-Level only:			
Arabic Language	N/A	✓	
Chinese Language	N/A	✓	
English Language	✓	✓	
French Language	✓	✓	
History	✓	✓	
Spanish Language	✓	✓	
Tamil Language	N/A	✓	

EDEXCEL GCSE / IGCSE

Subjects	GCSE 2017 Specification	IGCSE Specification	
	May / June	May / June	January / February
Accounting		✓	✓
Arabic (First Language)		✓	✓
Biology		✓	✓
Human Biology		✓	✓
Business		✓	N/A
Chemistry		✓	✓
Chinese (Cantonese / Mandarin)	✓	✓	N/A
Commerce		✓	✓
Economics		✓	✓
English Language (Specification A, Route 1)		✓	✓
English Language (Specification B)		✓	✓
English as a Second Language		✓	N/A
English Literature		✓	✓
French		✓	N/A
German		✓	N/A
History		✓	N/A
Mathematics (Specification A / B)		✓	✓
Further Pure Mathematics		✓	✓
Physics		✓	✓
Religious Studies		✓	N/A
Science (Double Award)		✓	✓
Spanish		✓	N/A
Tamil		✓	N/A

Note:

- 1 The IGCSE examinations are held in May / June examination series with some subjects available in the January examination series.
- 2 The GCSE Chinese examination involves internally conducted speaking assessment, and therefore will only be offered to **candidates of schools which have registered with Edexcel as an HKEAA sub-centre**. Schools which are interested in becoming an HKEAA sub-centre should contact the HKEAA at 3628 8761 and submit the registration application **before 1 September in the year preceding the examination**.
- 3 The new 9-1 grading scale (with 9 as the top grade) and new specifications for a range of subjects are introduced from May / June 2019.
- 4 For details of the specifications,
 IGCSE Subjects: <http://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-international-gcses-and-edexcel-certificates.html>
 GCSE Chinese: <http://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-gcses/chinese-2017.htm>

Subjects	IGCSE		GCE O-level	
	October / November	May / June	October / November	May / June
Accounting	✓	✓		
Arabic			✓	N/A
Arabic (First Language)	✓	✓		
Biology	✓	✓		
Business Studies	✓	✓		
Chemistry	✓	✓		
Chinese (First Language)	N/A	✓		
Economics	✓	✓		
English (First Language)	✓	✓		
English as a Second Language	✓	✓		
Environmental Management	✓	✓		
French (Foreign Language)	✓	✓		
Geography	✓	✓		
Hindi as a Second Language	✓	N/A		
History	✓	✓		
Literature (English)	✓	✓		
Mathematics	✓	✓		
Additional Mathematics	✓	✓		
Nepali			N/A	✓ note 2
Physics	✓	✓		
Religious Studies	✓	N/A		
Russian (First Language)	N/A	✓ note 2		
Sociology	✓	✓		
Tamil			N/A	✓

Note:

1. Please note that the HKEAA only offers the registration of an entry for the A*-G grading scale for Cambridge International IGCSE, it is not then possible to switch to the 9-1 grading scale under the HKEAA.
2. The final examination for current syllabus for Russian (First Language) (Subject code: 0516) and Nepali (Subject code: 3202) will be conducted in May / June 2019.

8. ENQUIRIES

Telephone No.: 3628 8761 / 3628 8787 Facsimile No.: 3628 8790
 E-mail Address: ie3@hkeaa.edu.hk Website: http://www.hkeaa.edu.hk/en/ipe/gce_gcse_igcse_ial/