

COMMUNITY LANGUAGE ENTRY EXAMS

(Languages, conditions of entry & fees)

GCSE & A Level qualifications in lesser taught languages (Community Languages):

Following the reform of GCSE and A level qualifications, the exam boards announced in March 2015 that they would not be continuing to offer GCSE and A level qualifications in a number of smaller, 'lesser-taught' languages. Since then the government has worked with Ofqual and the exam boards to secure agreement that these important subjects will not be dropped and that qualifications will continue to be provided. The following community languages (in addition to French and Spanish taught at EGS) will now continue to be offered at GCSE and A level: **Chinese, German, Italian, Russian, Arabic, Modern Greek, Gujarati, Bengali, Japanese, Modern & Biblical Hebrew, Panjabi, Polish, Portuguese, Turkish and Urdu.** (see list and exam board attached)

How does it work if I want my son to be entered for one of the community languages at EGS?

Students willing to be entered for a community language exam:

1. can only be entered if EGS can provide an examiner (for the speaking component) to conduct the exam.
2. can only be entered when they are in Year 11.
3. must provide evidence (for example a letter or a marked written assessment from a language school or/and tutor) and/or sit an initial written assessment.
4. Must inform the Head of MFL and the exam officer at the beginning of the academic year (when the student is in Year 11) and submit a letter of application with evidence of written assessment (see bullet point 1)
5. must go to the Exam Officer between the 1st November and 1st of December to inquire about the fees and get the adequate paperwork.
6. will have to pay exam fees by the 15th December.

If the above criteria are fulfilled, then the Exam Officer will enter students for the exam in December.

There are exams fees involved and must be paid up front. There is an admin fee of but the rest of the fees can vary according to the exams components. All GCSE exams have 4 components which include an oral exam (see fees breakdown below). Fees must be paid by the 15th of December and all paperwork duly filled in must be returned to the Exam Officer by 15th of December.

EGS cannot provide lessons for students who are entered for one of the community languages but can give advice about the exam (practicalities, components, topics to work on, how the exam is conducted...etc...). The oral exams are conducted in April/ May and students are notified their exact date by Easter.

Fees:

- Admin fees: £15
- Oral exam fees: £40
- Components fees (GCSE) between £13 and £18 per component (usually 4 components)
- Component fees (A-Level) £50 approx. per paper (usually 2-3 papers)

Any further inquiry please contact the school.

List of languages and exam boards:

- **2016 (2018)** French, German, and Spanish will be available as reformed GCSEs and A levels for first teaching in September 2016, first awards 2018.
- **2017 (2019)** Chinese, Italian and Russian at GCSE and A level will be reformed for first teaching in September 2017, first awards 2019.
- **2017 (2019)** Bengali, Modern Hebrew, Panjabi, Polish (all offered by AQA), Arabic, Greek, Japanese and Urdu (all offered by Pearson) will be available at GCSE for first teaching in September 2017, first awards 2019.
- **2018 (2020)** Bengali, Modern Hebrew, Panjabi, Polish (all offered by AQA), Arabic, Greek, Japanese and Urdu (all offered by Pearson) will be available at A level for first teaching in September 2018, first awards 2020.
- **2018 (2020)** Gujarati, Portuguese, Turkish, at GCSE & A level, and the Biblical Hebrew GCSE (Pearson); Biblical Hebrew A level (AQA) will be available for first teaching in September 2018, first awards 2020. *NB: OCR will continue to offer existing qualifications for award up to 2019.*