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International GCSE English as a Second Language (4XES2) – CEFR Level

Dear Sir/Madam,

The purpose of this letter is to provide key information for university admissions departments to aid recognition of language proficiency in the International GCSE English as a Second Language 4XES2 qualification.

This is a second language English qualification and is intended for learners where English is not their first language.

To support transparency and reflect broad alignment with international standards, the four assessed language skills—reading, writing, listening, and speaking—have been referenced against the CEFR and GSE framework. This aims to give candidates and admissions officers an indication of their proficiency for each skill in line with widely recognised benchmarks.

	Reading		Listening		Writing		Speaking	
GCSE grade	CEFR level	GSE	CEFR level	GSE	CEFR level	GSE	CEFR level	GSE
9	C1	76-85	C1	76-85	B2+	67-76	B2+	67-76
8	B2+	67-76	B2+	67-76	B2+	67-76	B2+	67-76
7	B2	59-67	B2	59-67	B2	59-67	B2	59-67
6	B1+	51-59	B1+	51-59	B1+	51-59	B1+	51-59
5	B1	43-51	B1	43-51	B1	43-51	B1	43-51
4	A2+	36-43	A2+	36-43	A2+	36-43	A2+	36-43
3	A2	30-36	A2	30-36	A2	30-36	A2	30-36
2	A1	22-30	A1	22-30	A1	22-30	A1	22-30
1	Pre A1	10-22	Pre A1	10-22	Pre A1	10-22	Pre A1	10-22

If you have any questions about International GCSE English as a Second Language, please Contact Support.

Yours sincerely,
Pearson Edexcel

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