

## NOTICE TO CENTRES

FAO: Heads of Centre/Heads of Department/Exams Officers – General Qualifications

Date: September 2015

Subject: GCSEs, AS and A Levels reformed for first teaching in September 2015

### Is your centre teaching the new reformed OCR GCSE (9–1), AS and A Level qualifications this September?

The first tranche of the new reformed GCSE (9–1), AS, and A Levels are available for teaching in England and Northern Ireland\* (see below for exceptions in Northern Ireland) from September 2015. If your centre is teaching a two-year GCSE (9–1), AS or A Level, or a one-year AS Level course this year (15/16) in any of the tranche 1 subjects, you need to be teaching the new reformed specifications.

#### GCSE (9–1)

In tranche 1 new GCSE (9–1) qualifications have been developed in English Language, English Literature and Maths, as follows:

GCSEs					
Subject	Current/Legacy GCSEs	Final Assessment (first time entries)	Retake (TBC)	New GCSE (9–1)	First Assessment
English	English - J350 English Language - J355	June 2016	November 2016	<a href="#">English Language (9–1) - J351</a> <a href="#">English Literature (9–1) - J352</a>	June 2017
	English Literature - J360	June 2016	N/A		
Mathematics	Mathematics A - J562 Mathematics B - J567	June 2016	November 2016	<a href="#">Mathematics (9–1) - J560</a>	June 2017
	Applications of Mathematics - J925	June 2016	N/A		
	Methods in Mathematics - J926				

**Please note:** in line with direction from the Department for Education and Ofqual, the combined GCSE English has not been redeveloped as part of GCSE reform. Separate GCSE (9–1) qualifications will be available in English Language and English Literature for first teaching in September 2015.

## AS and A Levels

A range of new reformed AS and A level qualifications have been developed in tranche 1, with our new stand-alone AS Level qualifications designed to be co-taught with the first year of the A Level. The subjects reformed in tranche 1 are as follows:

GCE AS and A Level					
Subject	Current Qualifications	Final Assessment (first time entries)	Retake (TBC)	New Reformed Qualifications	First Assessment
<b>Art &amp; Design</b>	Art and Design - H160 / H560	June 2016	June 2017	<a href="#">Art and Design - H200 / H600</a> [See specifications for details of specialist pathways and entry codes]	AS Level - June 2016  A Level - June 2017
<b>Business</b>	Business Studies - H030 / H430	June 2016	June 2017	<a href="#">Business - H031 / H431</a>	AS Level - June 2016  A Level - June 2017
<b>Computer Science</b>	Computing - H047 / H447	June 2016	June 2017	<a href="#">Computer Science - H046 / H446</a>	AS Level - June 2016  A Level - June 2017
<b>Economics</b>	Economics - H061 / H461	June 2016	June 2017	<a href="#">Economics - H060 / H460</a>	AS Level - June 2016  A Level - June 2017
<b>English</b>	English Language - H069 / H469 English Literature - H071 / H471 English Language and Literature - H073 / H473	June 2016	June 2017	<a href="#">English Language - H070 / H470</a> <a href="#">English Literature - H072 / H472</a> <a href="#">English Language and Literature - H074 / H474</a>	AS Level - June 2016  A Level - June 2017
<b>History</b>	History A - H106 / H506 History B - H108 / H508	June 2016	June 2017	<a href="#">History A - H105 / H505</a>	AS Level - June 2016  A Level - June 2017
<b>Psychology</b>	Psychology - H168 / H568	June 2016	June 2017	<a href="#">Psychology - H167 / H567</a>	AS Level - June 2016  A Level - June 2017
<b>Science</b>	Biology - H021 / H421 Chemistry A - H034 / H434 Chemistry B (Salters) - H035 / H435 Physics A - H158 / H558 Physics B (Advancing Physics) - H159 / H559	June 2016	June 2017	<a href="#">Biology A - H020 / H420</a> <a href="#">Biology B (Advancing Biology) - H022 / H422</a> <a href="#">Chemistry A - H032 / H432</a> <a href="#">Chemistry B (Salters) - H033 / H433</a> <a href="#">Physics A - H156 / H556</a> <a href="#">Physics B (Advancing Physics) - H157 / H557</a>	AS Level - June 2016  A Level - June 2017
<b>Sociology</b>	Sociology - H181 / H581	June 2016	June 2017	<a href="#">Sociology - H180 / H580</a>	AS Level - June 2016  A Level - June 2017

## **Intention to Teach**

September 2015 is the start of a significant programme of change to the UK curriculum and, as such, we need to collect additional information from centres about the specifications that will be taught from 2015. We're referring to this process as 'intention to teach' and we'll be asking for information about which of our new specifications you'll be teaching at your centre, the size of the cohort, and a contact name and email address for the subject. You'll receive an e-alert in September with a link to the online form and instructions on how to complete it. And, as this is the first year we're asking for this information, if you complete the form by the 10 October, you'll be entered into a prize draw to win an iPad.

Our aim is to help you at every stage of the introduction of a new specification and we're working hard to provide a practical package of support in close consultation with teachers and other experts. To find out more about our resources and support please visit the qualification pages for the new reformed qualifications on the [OCR website](#).

For the latest news and guidance on the reform of general qualifications please visit our dedicated [GCSE and A level reform](#) pages on the OCR website.

\* DENI requirements for GCSE English Language and AS/A Level sciences in Northern Ireland are different to requirements in England. Centres in Northern Ireland will need to take the reformed [CCEA](#) specifications in these subjects. To support centres with the transition to the reformed CCEA specifications, we have extended our GCSE English Language (NI) (J345) and AS/A Levels in Biology (H020 / H420), Chemistry A (H032 / H432) and Physics A (H156 / H556) in Northern Ireland (last assessment summer 2017). For further information about the extension arrangements, please see the qualification pages on the OCR website.

For further guidance on general qualification reform in Northern Ireland and Wales and contact details for our dedicated Ireland and Wales Customer Support team, please see the [Ireland and Wales](#) area of the OCR website.

If you have any other queries about this notice, please call our Customer Contact Centre on 01223 553998 or email [general.qualifications@ocr.org.uk](mailto:general.qualifications@ocr.org.uk).