

# April Newsletter 2025 GCSE, AS and A level French, German and Spanish

Welcome back after the Easter break!

The Modern Foreign Languages Team at WJEC hope that you have had a chance to recharge your batteries and enjoy some spring sunshine! As we begin the busy summer term, we thought we would share some things with you. Please take a few moments to browse the newsletter for useful information and reminders.

# Key dates for 2025

The Assessment Window for conducting GCSE and GCE Speaking Examinations runs from Monday 1st April until Tuesday 6th May 2025. Centres are reminded to upload their recordings to Surpass within 2 working days of completing the speaking exams. The upload/submission deadline for Vocational Languages (Language Pathways and GBC) is 5th May. Please take a few moments when uploading work to check that everything required is being submitted. This will ensure candidates' work can be sampled and moderated smoothly at this very busy time.

# **GCSE**

### MFL speaking assessments

### Information for centres accessing GCSE set allocations for candidates

The list allocating a set number to each candidate for the GCSE MFL speaking assessments can be accessed on <u>Portal</u>. Please note that this information is confidential and must not be shared with candidates prior to the assessment.

Select the blue tab at the top of the Portal landing page entitled **ENTRIES** and scroll down the menu to find **GCSE MFL - Set Allocation**. Select the session, paper (language and tier) to view the set allocation list for your candidates. When you press the **PDF** icon to print out the list, the teacher and the candidate authentication forms will also be printed. The printed information must be stored confidentially and securely until required for the Speaking assessments.

#### Component 1 quidance documents

We advise centres to download the <u>GCSE Component 1 Teacher Guidance</u> and to complete the checklist at the end of the document.

Following the speaking assessment, the MFL Centre Form must be signed and dated by each candidate and the teacher. Both the MFL Centre Form and the set allocation list must be scanned and uploaded to the Surpass site after the final assessment has taken place. An additional teacher/administrator key code is provided for this. Several forms can be uploaded using the same key code if the list needs to be copied for different teaching groups or teachers.

The Component 1 exam papers can be accessed **three working days** before the date of your first exam, however they must be kept securely at the end of each day.

#### Component 2 Listening exams

Centres are reminded that there is an option to download mp3 tracks from <u>Portal</u> for listening exams. Please call **029 2026 5154** one working day before the date of the exam to receive the download code.



#### Component 4 Writing exams

Please note that following a review of the 2024 Summer series, we will be reverting to the previous version of the Specification (2018-2023) regarding optionality in the French, German and Spanish GCSE Component 4 Writing assessments. The specifications are available on the French/German/Spanish subject pages.

For the final assessment opportunity in 2025, Component 4 will return to:

- no optionality for Question 3 on the Foundation Tier
- Question 2 on the Higher Tier will have two options from the same broad theme
- the original assessment time; Foundation Tier will be 1 hour 15 minutes and Higher Tier will be 1 hour 30 minutes.

This amendment does not affect any previous adaptations to improve accessibility in MFL specifications, including the removal of the regulatory requirement for assessments to use words outside of vocabulary lists and the regulatory permission to gloss where necessary. Further details of these previous amendments from 2023 are available on the Overview tab on our <a href="French/German/Spanish">French/German/Spanish</a> subject pages.

### Final Assessment Opportunity

The final assessment opportunity for Eduqas GCSE French/German/Spanish will be Summer 2025. There will be no resit opportunity in 2026.



# AS and A level

#### Speaking assessments

For the AS and A level Component 1 Speaking assessments there are some useful documents available in the 'NEA speaking' section under the *Key Documents* tab on the <u>website</u> subject pages. These include:

- MFL Centre Form
- Edugas A level IRP Pro Forma
- Preparing Learners for Component 1 A level Edugas
- Edugas AS Component 1 instructions for teacher examiners

Following the speaking assessment, the MFL Centre Form must be signed and dated by each candidate and the teacher. Centres must scan and upload the MFL Centre Form and the IRP Pro Forma to Surpass after the final assessment has taken place. An additional teacher/administrator key code is provided for this. Several forms can be uploaded using the same key code if the list needs to be copied for different teaching groups or teachers. Please contact E-Assessment@Edugas.co.uk with any queries.

The AS Component 1 teacher conducted exam papers can be accessed **three working days** before the date of your first exam. However, they must be stored securely at the end of each day.

#### AS and A level Component 2 Listening exams

Centres are reminded that there is an option to download mp3 tracks from Portal for listening exams. Please call **029 2026 5336** one working day before the date of the exam to receive the download code.

### **Revision Support for Candidates**

There are a range of digital resources available on the **Resources** tabs on the Eduqas website subject pages for GCSE <u>French</u> / <u>German</u> / <u>Spanish</u> and GCE <u>French</u> / <u>German</u> / <u>Spanish</u>.

Exam Walk Throughs (EWTs) are a free resource for both GCSE and GCE. These comprise visual and audio PowerPoint guides to the exams, put together by our experts. They are designed with the learner in mind to be used independently as part of remote or blended learning. Equally, teachers might find it useful to use as a group activity in class.

Teaching and Learning Guides are resources that continue to be available, produced by our experts as a suggested approach for using our online resources for teachers of French, German or Spanish. The aim is to provide flexible comprehensive support for teachers.

Exemplar candidate work is available on the 'Exemplar' tab of the subject pages of the website along with the marks and examiner feedback, leading you through a review of the exam questions. They will also include guidance on how examiner comments can be removed so that the materials can also be used as a teaching resource.

#### Access to past papers, mp3 files and mark schemes

Here is a reminder how to access the materials for Wales MFL GCSE/GCE on Portal:

Log on to the WJEC Portal. At the top of the screen click on the 'Resources' drop-down menu and select 'Past Papers and Marking Schemes'. This will bring up an options box; please choose the relevant information:





# Vocational Language Qualifications

#### **Global Business Communication**

A circular was sent to centres in December 2024 to confirm that the assessment approach has been updated for the NEA for the Global Business Communication qualifications. The published briefs are available from the <u>Portal</u> and will remain live for the lifetime of the qualification, they will not be replaced bi-annually. Please see our website for full details including specification and Sample assessment materials: <u>Global Business Communication Webpage</u>.



## **GBC Key Dates**

Centres are reminded that the deadline for the submission of marks onto IAMIS for all NEA work is 5<sup>th</sup> May 2025. Please refer to the <u>Internal Assessment Mark Input System step by step guide</u> for further information. Once IAMIS has generated a candidate sample list, work will need to be uploaded onto the <u>Surpass</u> system.

The candidate and assessor packs for the above NEA Units are available for download from <u>Portal</u>. The Unit 4 exams for French, German and Spanish will take place on **Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> June**.

#### **GBC Online Mock examinations**

Mock online exams are available for all centres entering for Unit 4 GBC in 2025. Please contact <u>E-Assessment@wjec.co.uk</u> for details.



# Language Pathways

These qualifications offer learners the opportunity to get formal recognition for their language learning. Students produce evidence to demonstrate their language competence from a choice of three different themes which is internally assessed and externally moderated.

Available in a range of levels (Entry Level, Level 1 and Level 2) and languages:

French Mandarin Italian

German Japanese Spanish Cornish

# Language Pathways Training and Support

In October 2024 we ran a <u>training and support CPD</u> looking at task design, assessing and exemplar materials. This is now available to watch and download in the <u>Training>On Demand Courses</u> area of the website. Centres may check suitability of tasks by contacting the Subject Officer using the details below.

# Language Pathways Summer Series 2025

The deadline to upload all candidate marks for Language Pathways onto IAMIS is the 5<sup>th</sup> May; centres are reminded that they must upload the candidate work, a task sheet and the candidate declaration form for each candidate selected in the sample (those candidates showing 's' next to their names). Failure to do so will mean that the work cannot be moderated. Please refer to the Internal Assessment Mark Input System step by step guide for further information.

For more information please see our webpage <u>Language Pathways</u> or contact <u>languages@wjec.co.uk</u>

## **Contact Us**

Should you have any questions or wish to seek advice please contact the MFL Team at Eduqas on: <a href="mailto:languages@eduqas.co.uk">languages@eduqas.co.uk</a>

Jo Vincent

Subject Officer GCSE Spanish AS/A level Spanish languages@edugas.co.uk

Naomi Taylor

Subject Officer GCSE/AS/A level German languages@edugas.co.uk Angharad Williams

Subject Officer AS/A level French Vocational Qualifications L1/2/GCSE Latin languages@edugas.co.uk

Kelly Gipson

Subject Officer GCSE French

languages@wjec.co.uk