

## **Pearson Edexcel spring 2022 update from Sheena Newland, Languages Subject Advisor**



10 February 2022

Dear ALL members,

I hope this busy term is going smoothly for you so far. I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself and to share a spring update with you.

### **Introductions**

As the Languages Subject Advisor at Pearson, I am here to support teachers with Edexcel language qualifications. My role also includes delivering training, promoting language learning and advising on MFL-related matters and developments.

I am an experienced MFL teacher with 17 years of secondary classroom experience teaching French and Spanish. I studied French and Italian at university and have spent time living in both countries, including several years working at Poitiers University in France.

I also have a background in digital publishing and spent eight years working for Teachit, first as Languages Editor and then as Senior Content Lead. I joined Pearson Edexcel in September 2021 and am looking forward to meeting you in person at future languages events.

### **New GCSEs in French, German and Spanish**

On 14 January 2022, the DfE and Ofqual published the long-awaited results of their consultation on the revised content and assessment for French, German and Spanish GCSEs.

It has now been confirmed that these will be introduced for first teaching from September 2024. Students currently in year 7 will therefore be the first to sit these examinations in May/June 2026.

We recently ran an online Network event to keep teachers informed and the [slides](#) are now available on our website.

Read the consultation outcomes:

[DfE subject content response](#)

[Ofqual assessment decisions](#)

## **Summer 2022 amendments**

Please check the summer 2022 support tabs of the relevant subject qualification pages of our website for the specific amendments that apply. You can navigate to the language qualifications that you teach from our [languages landing page](#), for example to check the [French](#), [German](#) and [Spanish](#) GCSE summer 2022 support.

### **Advance information (AI)**

AI was published on 7 February 2022 to help your students focus their revision time and is specific to each language qualification. You can download quick links to the languages that you teach [here](#) or look on the summer 2022 support pages.

### **Other amendments**

Details of other changes as they apply to specific language qualifications – for example, optionality and vocabulary restrictions/glossing for GCSE languages – can also be checked on the summer 2022 support tabs.

### **Grading**

In summer 2022, all awarding bodies will set grade boundaries based on a profile that reflects a midpoint between 2021 and pre-pandemic grading, in line with [Ofqual guidance](#). This is designed to provide a safety net for students, to reflect the disruption this cohort has experienced during the course.

### **Contingency and support**

Guidance on contingency arrangements and more support is available on our website:

- [Summer 2022 support page](#)
- [FAQ page](#)
- [Drop-in sessions on summer 2022 assessments in March and April](#)
- [January 2022 update for GCE and A level languages](#)
- [January 2022 update for international languages qualifications](#)

### **New diversity and inclusion resource**

If you are interested in diversifying the MFL curriculum, you will love our [new teaching resource on Mexico](#). It explores the tension between cultural appreciation and appropriation when celebrating *Día de los Muertos*. It also highlights some less well-known aspects of Mexican culture, including the colonial narrative, Aztec language and poetry, and indigenous activism.

[Explore more resources in our 'Why languages matter' collection.](#)

## Keep in touch

Please don't hesitate to get in touch if you have any questions or would like more support.

Best wishes,

Sheena

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