

Newsletter – April 2025

GCSE and GCE 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 the batteries and enjoy some spring sunshine with loved ones! 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

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.

Staff Changes in the Languages Team

Kimberley Epton, Liza-Maree Quintal and Steve Patten have all joined the team as Subject Support Officers from December 2024 to March 2025. We welcome them all and look forward to working together.

GCSE

MFL speaking assessments

Information for centres accessing the set allocations for candidates

The list allocating a set number to each candidate for the GCSE MFL speaking assessments can be accessed on [Portal](#). 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 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.

Unit 1 Guidance

We advise centres to download the [WJEC GCSE Unit 1 Instructions for Teacher Examiners](#) 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 Unit 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.

Unit 2 Listening Exams

Centres are reminded that there is an option to download mp3 tracks from [Portal](#) for listening exams. Please call **029 20265 154** one working day before the date of the exam to receive the download code.

Made-for-Wales GCSEs in French, German and Spanish – teaching from 2025

For further information, and to keep up-to-date with the latest developments, please visit our new qualification pages: [French](#), [German](#), [Spanish](#).

Professional Learning

Many of you will have attended our live specification walk-throughs and qualification/Q&A briefings in November 2024. You will find the resources from this event, including the FAQ document on the new qualification pages, under training (on demand courses).

Specifications, Sample Assessment Materials and the *Guidance for Teaching* documents in French, German and Spanish are available on the new qualification homepages.

Blended learning resources in French, German and Spanish for learners will be available in the summer term. These will include activities and knowledge organisers to support them with the new aspects of the assessments.

Face-to-face Professional Learning courses, designed to support you to deliver the new specifications, have been taking place in 12 locations across Wales between February 14th and April 7th 2025. The FAQ document from these events will be available on the website shortly.

Exam and NEA Walk-throughs will be available in the summer term 2025 via the WJEC Portal secure website. The aim of these resources is to support you and your learners to understand the structure of question papers/NEA briefs, question types, assessment objectives and marking methods.

Final Assessment Opportunities: Wave 1 Qualifications

Summer 2026 will be the final full assessment opportunity for the qualifications listed below:

- C00/0792/5 WJEC Level 1/Level 2 GCSE in French 3800QS
- C00/0796/7 WJEC Level 1/Level 2 GCSE in German 3820QS
- C00/0797/0 WJEC Level 1/Level 2 GCSE in Spanish 3810QS

There will be a resit opportunity for the examinations available in January 2027, subject to demand. This will only be available to post-16 candidates who have previously cashed-in the qualification prior to January 2027. From September 2025, learners must not be entered into these legacy GCSEs in Year 10, in subjects where reformed GCSEs are available.

GCE

Speaking assessments - support for centres conducting Unit 1 and Unit 3 exams

For the Unit 1 and Unit 3 Speaking there are a range of guidance materials available in the 'NEA speaking' sections of the [website](#) subject pages. These are designed to support teacher examiners who will be conducting the speaking assessments this year. These include:

- [WJEC AS Unit 1 Instructions for Teacher Examiners](#).
- [WJEC A level Unit 3 Instructions for Teacher Examiners](#)
- a recording of AS MFLs - Speaking Guidance on effective speaking responses and conducting the oral exam Unit 1 [online CPD](#)
- a recording of A Level MFL: Teacher Conducted Speaking Unit 3 [online CPD](#)
- a scripted PowerPoint [Guide to Unit 3 Speaking](#)
- an on-demand scripted PowerPoint [AS/A level teacher conducted speaking assessment training Spring 2024](#)

Following the speaking assessment, the [MFL Centre Form](#) must be signed and dated by each candidate and the teacher. The **MFL Centre Form** and the **IRP Pro Forma** 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 AS Unit 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. Centres should note that there is no requirement to send your IRP Pro Forma documents to the WJEC by email or by post.

GCE Unit 2 and Unit 4 Listening

Centres are reminded that there is an option to download mp3 tracks from Portal for listening exams. Please call **029 20265 336** one working day before the date of the exam to receive the download code.

Revision Support for Candidates

There are a range of useful digital resources available on the **Resources** tabs on the WJEC website subject pages for GCSE [French](#) / [German](#) / [Spanish](#) and GCE [French](#) / [German](#) / [Spanish](#).

Exam Walk Throughs (EWTs) are a free resource for both GCSE [French](#) / [German](#) / [Spanish](#) and GCE [French](#) / [German](#) / [Spanish](#). These comprise visual and audio PowerPoint guides to the exams, put together by our experts and designed with the learner in mind for independent use or as part of remote or blended learning.

Teaching and Learning Guides are free resources that are 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.

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 following:

Subject	French / German / Spanish / GBC
Brand	WJEC
level	GCSE/ GCE
Type of Document	All
Year	All
Language	English/Welsh

Next newsletter

The next issue will be sent out in the Autumn. In the meantime, if you have any questions, please get in touch.

Jo Vincent

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

Angharad Williams

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

Naomi Taylor

Subject Officer GCSE/AS/A level German
languages@wjec.co.uk

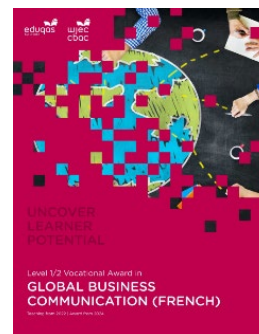
Kelly Gipson

GCSE French
Subject Officer
languages@wjec.co.uk

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 [Portal](#) 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: [Global Business Communication Webpage](#).



GBC Key Dates

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

The candidate and assessor packs for the above NEA Units are available for download from [Portal](#). The Unit 4 exams for French, German and Spanish will take place on **Thursday 12th June**.

GBC Online Mock Examinations

Mock online exams are available for all centres entering for Unit 4 GBC in 2025. Please contact E-Assessment@wjec.co.uk 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
German	Japanese
Spanish	Cornish
Italian	

Language Pathways Training and Support

In October 2024 we ran a [training and support CPD](#) looking at task design, assessing and exemplar materials. This is now available to watch and download in the [Training>On Demand Courses](#) 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 **5th 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 [Language Pathways](#) or contact languages@wjec.co.uk

Next newsletter

The next issue will be sent out in the Autumn. In the meantime, if you have any questions, please get in touch.

Jo Vincent

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

Angharad Williams

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

Naomi Taylor

Subject Officer
GCSE/AS/A level German
languages@wjec.co.uk

Kelly Gipson

GCSE French
Subject Officer
languages@wjec.co.uk