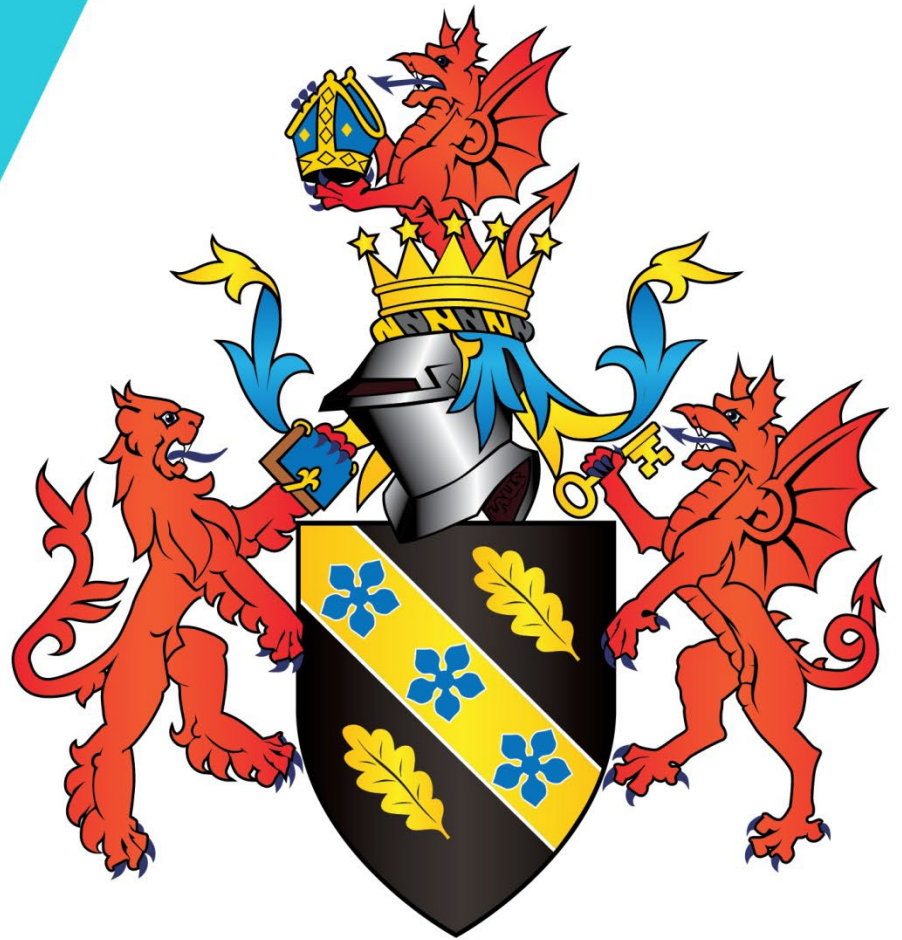




Prifysgol Cymru  
Y Drindod Dewi Sant  
University of Wales  
Trinity Saint David



# English Language Entry Requirements for Academic Study

University of Wales Trinity Saint David

# English Language Entry Requirements for Academic Study

(January 2023)

## 1. Introduction

This policy outlines the range of ways in which the English language entry requirements of the University of Wales Trinity Saint David (UWTSD) may be satisfied by international students studying in the UK and online for the purpose of academic study leading to an award of the University. In addition, candidates may also be required to satisfy any government-set English language requirements: for example, for study in the UK, candidates will be required to evidence that they meet the requirements of the UKVI.

## 2. Automatic qualification

Candidates may automatically satisfy the English language entry requirements of the University for academic study if they:

- I. Have successfully completed a recognised undergraduate or postgraduate qualification<sup>1</sup> at a recognised institution in the UK or a majority English language speaking country (as listed in the UK immigration rules).
- II. Have successfully completed within the last 30 months a recognised undergraduate or postgraduate qualification<sup>2</sup> at a recognised institution through the medium of English other than in a majority English language speaking country (as listed in the UK immigration rules). Certificates, transcripts and/or documents stating language of delivery and assessment plus successful pass of interview with UWTSD English Language Assessor may be required by the University prior to an offer being made.
- III. Have successfully completed with the last five years a recognised qualification in the subject of English or, where approved by the University, qualifications with significant embedded English language (certificates and certain levels of attainment may be required)
- IV. Have successfully completed with the last three years a recognised undergraduate or postgraduate qualification taught online through the medium of English awarded directly from a recognised institution within the UK. (This does not include qualifications delivered via overseas satellite campus')
- V. Are considered to be native English speakers through citizenship of a majority English speaking country as detailed in the UK immigration rules.

- Antigua and Barbuda
- Australia
- The Bahamas
- Belize
- Canada
- Dominica
- Grenada
- Guyana
- Ireland
- Malta
- New Zealand
- St Kitts and Nevis
- St Lucia
- St Vincent and the Grenadines
- Trinidad and Tobago
- United States of America

<sup>1</sup> Including CertHE, HNC, DipHE, HND, Foundation Degree, Bachelor's degree, Grad Cert/Dip, PGCert, PGDip, Master's Degree, Doctoral level qualification.

<sup>2</sup> Including Cert HE, HNC, DipHE, HND, Foundation Degree, Bachelor's Degree, Grad Cert/Dip. PGCert, PGDip, Master's Degree.

### 3. English Language Tests

For candidates who do not automatically qualify under the criteria set in 2 above, the University will consider a range of English language tests and qualifications deemed appropriate for academic study that are used widely across the Higher Education sector.

The University does not normally accept certificates that are more than two years beyond the date of issue, and the University uses online or direct verification services to ensure that the certificates received are valid.

The following tests may satisfy the above requirements:

- Cambridge English: C1 Advanced. Formally known as Cambridge English Advanced (CAE)
- Cambridge English: B2 Business Vantage and C1 Business Higher (for Business and cognate disciplines only)

- Cambridge English: C2 Proficiency. Formally known as Cambridge English: Proficiency (CPE)
- International English Language Testing System (IELTS) Academic taken at an authorised test centre.
- Pearson Test of English Academic (PTE Academic) taken at an authorised test centre.
- TOEFL iBT Taken at an authorised test centre.
- Wales Academic Language Test (Wales ALT)
- Trinity ISE II and III Tests undertaken from within the UK at a UKVI approved Test Centre
- Certain specific qualifications where the University has benchmarked the use of that qualification against use in the UK Higher Education sector and / or its own previous experience of student performance.
- Language Cert International ESOL SELT B2 or C1
- International Baccalaureate (IB)
- Cambridge IGCSE

Where the use of another institution's English language test is proposed for applicants not requiring entry to the UK, as an alternative to one of the English language tests listed above, unless already approved by the University, details of the qualification may be submitted to the University to undertake an exercise to consider approving the test. An administrative charge may be payable to the University to undertake the exercise.

## 4. Levels of Achievement

The University considers approximate equivalent scores within Levels defined by the Common European Framework for language (CEFR) for the English language proficiency tests listed above and mapped in Appendix 1:

CEFR Level B1: Study at Level 3

CEFR Level B2: Undergraduate degrees and any study at Levels 4, 5 and 6.

CEFR Level B2: Taught postgraduate study at Level 7 and 8 (including DBA and Professional Doctorate qualifications).

CEFR Level B2: Postgraduate research degrees at Level 8.

Within these levels the University has set Overall, Benchmark and/or Minimum Scores for English language entry requirements, although some collaborative partners may have agreed other scores for specific programmes of study.

## 5. Cambridge English: C1 Advanced

Study at Level 4 and above (undergraduate and postgraduate) plus Doctor of Business Administration and Professional Doctorate programmes only: Minimum Score of 169 or above overall with at least 162 or above in each component part.

## 6. Cambridge English: Business Certificates

These include the following Business English Certificates and may be accepted for business and cognate disciplines only:

- Cambridge English: B2 Business Vantage (BEC Vantage). Minimum score of 169 or above overall with at least 162 in each component part.
- Cambridge English: C1 Business Higher (BEC Higher). Minimum score of 169 or above overall with at least 162 in each component part.

## 7. Cambridge English Proficiency

This test is set at CEFR Level C2, therefore a pass may be acceptable at all levels of entry.

## 8. International English Language Testing System (IELTS)

IELTS Academic for UKVI test is accepted.

IELTS Academic (non UKVI) may be accepted under certain circumstances

IELTS General training is not accepted.

The University recommends all applicants to undertake an IELTS Academic test for UKVI. Applicants who complete an Academic test at a non UKVI recognised test centre may still be considered.

The Overall Score for Level 3 study is minimum of IELTS 4.5 (with a Minimum Score of 4.0 or above in each of the components) Please note that some courses at this level may require a higher Minimum Score for academic reasons.

The Overall Score for Levels 4 to 7 (undergraduate and postgraduate) study as well as DBA and Professional Doctorate programmes is IELTS 6.0 (with a Minimum Score of 5.5 or above in each of the components). Please note that some courses at this level may require a higher Minimum Score for academic reasons.

The Overall Score for Level 8 Research only degrees (PhD) study is IELTS 6.5 (with Minimum Score of 5.5 in listening and speaking and Minimum Score 6.5 in reading and writing components).

## 9. Pearson Test of English (PTE Academic)

PTE Academic UKVI taken at a UKVI test centre is accepted.

PTE academic taken at a non UKVI test centre may be accepted under certain circumstances

PTE Academic Home Edition is not accepted

Level 3 study: PTE Academic UKVI Minimum Score of 43 required in all four components.

Level 4 to Level 7 (undergraduate and postgraduate) study as well as DBA and Professional Doctorate programmes Minimum Score of 59 required in all four components.

## 10. TOEFL iBT

TOEFL iBT taken at an authorised test is accepted

TOEFL iBT Home Edition may be accepted under certain circumstances

Only accepted for Level 4 to level 7 study as well as DBA and Professional Doctorate programmes. An overall minimum score of 72 is required with the following minimum scores in each of the following communicative skills:

Reading – Minimum Score of 18

Listening -Minimum Score of 17

Writing -Minimum Score of 17

Speaking – Minimum Score of 20

English language scores must be met in a single test. We do not accept TOEFL MyBest Score to meet our English language requirements.

## 11. Wales Academic Language Test (Wales ALT)

This test is an internal English language test conducted by the University.

The Overall Score for Levels 4 to 7 (undergraduate and postgraduate) study as well as DBA and Professional Doctorate programmes is Wales ALT 6.0 (with a Minimum Score of 5.5 or above in each of the components). Please note that some courses at this level may require a higher Minimum Score for academic reasons.

The Overall Score for Level 8 Research only degrees (PhD) study is Wales ALT 6.5 (with Minimum Score of 5.5 in listening and speaking and Minimum Score 6.5 in reading and writing components).

## 12. Trinity College London

Trinity College of London ISE II or III qualifications taken at designated UKVI test centre within the UK and therefore defined as a Secure English Language Test (SELT) are accepted.

These tests are recognised for all levels of study.

The University will accept a Trinity College of London ISE II pass overall with a merit or above in each component part.

The University will accept a Trinity College of London ISE III with a pass overall and with passes or above in each component part.

## 13. Language Cert International ESOL SELT B2 or C1

Must be undertaken at a UKVI recognised test centre.

Minimum score in all four components 33/50 required.

## 14. International Baccalaureate

The University will require Higher Level 5 or Standard Level 5 Language A or Higher Level 5 or Standard Level 5 Language B



## 14. Cambridge IGCSE

Minimum Grade C (grade 4) in IGCSE in English as a Second Language satisfy the English Language proficiency requirement for undergraduate study.

## 16. Accepted Specific Qualifications

The University regularly reviews the English Language qualification it accepts in line with general use in the UK Higher Educations sector and its own experience of student performance. This can be aligned to planned recruitment activity on a country-by-country basis. Following a review of both past performance of students from certain countries and a review of UK Higher Education sectoral practice the following country specific qualifications are accepted.

**Table of Specific qualifications**

Qualification	Level
Botswana BGCSE, English	Grade C or above
Cameroon GCE O Level	Grade C or above
HKDSE Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education	Level 4 in English Language (with a minimum of Level 3 in each skill) plus successful pass of interview UWTSD English Language Assessor.  This is an interim arrangement for admissions 2023-2024 and is subject to review.
Indian Standard XII, English Language with the exception of Punjab and Haryana exam boards.	Overall pass mark 70% or above
Malaysian 119 syllabus (UCLES)	Grade C or above
Norway Vitnemal	Grade 4 in English
Ugandan Certificate of Education UCE	Grade 6 or above

SQA HND Business	Pass plus successful pass of interview with UWTSD English Language Assessor
Nigeria and Ghana WAEC	Grade C6 English or above for all levels of study

## 17.Reviewing the Policy

The University regularly reviews the English language qualifications that it accepts, and the above policy may change in line with student performance and developments in the sector.

