

What qualifies as equivalent level Qualifications / Certificates

An equivalent level qualification includes:

- UK GCSE/O level (or equivalent) certificate showing a “pass” grade*
- UK AS-level or A-level certificate showing a “pass” grade*
- UK BA Hons, BSc Hons degree or higher (such as a master's or PhD)*
- UK HNC or HND qualification*
- ESOL qualification showing English language skills equivalent to level B1 (CEFR) or higher. Examples of acceptable qualifications include ‘ESOL International Speaking and Listening’ and ‘ESOL Skills for Life (UK)’
 - To be considered equivalent the qualification must be at least “Entry Level 2” or “Entry Level 3”, “Level 1” or “Level 2”. Qualifications at “Entry Level 1” will not be accepted.
- SELT, Secure English Language Test, grade 5 or higher
- Cambridge, English Language B2 First
- GESE, Graded Examinations in Spoken English, grade 5 or higher
- ISE, Integrated Skills in English, ISE(1)(B1)
- UK NVQ, BTEC or City & Guilds qualification equivalent to GCSE or above, such as:
 - Level 2 NVQ Certificate in Road Passenger Vehicle Driving (Taxi and Private Hire)
 - City & Guilds, Level 2 Certificate in Introduction to the Role of the Professional Taxi and Private Hire Driver
- * These qualifications do not have to relate to just an English Language exam, but could be any school / college / university subject, as the Council will be aware that such a subject was taught and carried out using the English Language, and that the exams were taken using the English Language.

An equivalent level qualification includes:

- A “Pass” Certificate from an Online English Language Skills (written and oral) Assessment provider (i.e. Pearson Versant English for Taxi Drivers). The cost of the Assessment is paid by the applicant (or the company the applicant will work for) directly to the Assessment provider.