

Cambridge Qualifications Framework

CIE LEVEL	THRESHOLD DESCRIPTIONS	GENERAL QUALIFICATIONS	CAMBRIDGE INTERNATIONAL DIPLOMAS	RELATED UK QUALIFICATIONS
Higher Professional	<p>The qualification is at a level broadly comparable to postgraduate level studies and includes a substantial element of advanced independent work.</p> <p>In competence terms:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Involves application of fundamental principles and complex techniques across a wide and often unpredictable variety of contexts • Demands substantial personal autonomy and often significant responsibility for the work of others and for the allocation of resources • Requires personal accountability for analysis and diagnosis, design, planning, execution and evaluation. 		Diploma in Management at Higher Professional Level	Post Graduate, Post-experience NVQ Level 5 – Professional/Middle
Professional	<p>A breadth and depth of study containing some undergraduate level work, covering conceptually and technically complex subject matter. Considerable personal responsibility for organising own work activities and study at this level.</p> <p>In competence terms:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demands broad range of complex, technical or professional work activities performed in wide variety of contexts and with substantial personal autonomy • Requires responsibility for the work of others and the allocation of resources. 		Diploma in Management at Professional Level Diploma in Project Management Diploma in Teaching with ICT Diploma for Teachers and Trainers	First Degree (part) NVQ Level 4 – Higher Technical, Junior Management
Advanced	<p>An informed understanding broadly comparable to A Level/AICE full credit preparing for entry to HE or for supervisory/junior management roles and covering:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The key concepts of a discipline and some of the main approaches to it, or • The fundamental skills and principles common to a wide range of related occupations. <p>Independent study is an essential part of work at this level.</p> <p>In competence terms:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implies a broad range of varied, mostly complex and non-routine work activities, performed in a wide variety of contexts • Demands considerable responsibility and autonomy, and often control or guidance of others. 	GCE Advanced Level (A Level) GCE Advanced Subsidiary (AS) HSC Principal Level Advanced International Certificate of Education (AICE)	Diploma in Computing Diploma in ICT at Advanced Level Diploma in Office Administration at Advanced Level Diploma in Business at Advanced Level Diploma in Travel and Tourism at Advanced Level	GCE Advanced and Advanced Subsidiary (A and AS Level) NVQ Level 3 – Technician, Advanced Craft, Supervisor Vocational A Level (VCE) CLAIT Advanced
Standard	<p>A level of understanding and competence broadly comparable to IGCSE/O Level higher grades covering the key skills and principles underpinning a subject/occupational area and:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enabling students to develop a disciplined approach to study • Providing a frame of reference for further study <p>In competence terms:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demands a significant range of varied, sometimes complex or non-routine work activities performed in a variety of contexts • Requires some individual responsibility or autonomy, and often collaboration with others, through work-group or team. 	GCE Ordinary Level (O Level) grades A – C International General Certificate of Secondary Education (IGCSE) – grades A* – C	Diploma in ICT at Standard Level Diploma in IT Skills at Standard Level Diploma in Office Administration at Standard Level Diploma in Business at Standard Level Diploma in Travel and Tourism at Standard Level	GCSE – grades A* – C NVQ Level 2 – Craft GNVQ Intermediate GCSEs in Vocational Subjects CLAIT Plus
Foundation	<p>A level of understanding and competence broadly comparable to IGCSE/O Level lower grades providing a broad introduction to a subject/occupational area and the following as appropriate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developing fundamental core skills (i.e. communication, application of number and IT) • Covering specific routine skills or work activities in that area • Allowing a sampling across a range of subjects/occupational areas as a basis for choice for further study. 	GCE O Level – grades D and E IGCSE – grades D – G GCE Normal Level (N Level)	Diploma in ICT at Foundation Level Diploma in IT Skills at Foundation Level Diploma in Office Administration at Foundation Level	New CLAIT GCSE – grades D – G NVQ Level 1 – Semi-skilled GNVQ Foundation
On Track	A level of understanding and competence which would reasonably be expected of a 14 year old in the UK.	Checkpoint	ICT Starters On Track	Key Stage 3
Next Steps	A level of understanding and competence which would reasonably be expected of an 11 year old in the UK.		ICT Starters Next Steps	Key Stage 2
Initial Steps	A level of understanding and competence which would reasonably be expected of a 7 year old in the UK.		ICT Starters Initial Steps	Key Stage 1



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International Examinations