Onscreen Assessment

Your questions answered
Our panel

Andrew Sargeant  
Assistant Head KS4  
Jumeriah English Speaking School

Wayne Ridgeway  
Head Teacher Senior School  
British School of Bahrain

Tim Brady  
Subject Advisor for Computer Science  
Pearson

Katie Templar  
Deputy Head Secondary  
Qatar International School

Oli Trussell  
Lead Solutions Engineer  
Google for Education team
Where we are...

Meredith Reeve
Pearson’s view:
The future of qualifications and assessment

“Assess the right skills in the right way, enabling learners to highlight their strengths and successes.”

- Recommendation 5
What schools say...

Early 2021: 1,000 teachers polled
51% said they'd be interested in adopting high-stakes onscreen assessment NOW if it were available in their subject.

November 2022: EdTech Summit
100% said they would be interested in adopting high-stakes onscreen assessment within the next 5 years if it were available in their subject.

65% said they would be interested in adopting high-stakes onscreen assessment within 1–4 years.
4,000 students sat onscreen exams in 2021

Student numbers doubled for onscreen exams in 2023

90% of students who sat their exams in 2022 said they wanted their school to offer more onscreen exams in the future

100% of teachers who registered students for onscreen exams in 2022 registered students for 2023 onscreen exam series too!
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Courses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 2023 | • International GCSE English Language A  
• International GCSE English Literature  
• GCSE Computer Science |
| 2024 | • International GCSE Business  
• International GCSE History  
• International GCSE Economics  
• IAL English Language & IAL English Literature |
| 2025 | • International GCSE Geography  
• International GCSE Islamic Studies  
• International GCSE Pakistan Studies |
| 2026 | • International A Level Business  
• International A Level History |
What’s next

You can register your interest for delivering onscreen assessments from **2024 onwards** [here](#).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>First assessment</th>
<th>Qualification and subject</th>
<th>Linear/modular assessment</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2022</td>
<td>International GCSE English Language A</td>
<td>Linear &amp; modular* (from May/June 2024)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>International GCSE English Literature</td>
<td>Linear &amp; modular* (from May/June 2024)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2023</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>2024</td>
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<td>Linear</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>International GCSE Economics</td>
<td>Linear &amp; modular* (from May/June 2024)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>International GCSE History</td>
<td>Linear &amp; modular* (from May/June 2024)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>International A level English Literature*</td>
<td>Modular</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>International A level English Language*</td>
<td>Modular</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2025</td>
<td>International GCSE Geography</td>
<td>Linear &amp; modular*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>International GCSE Pakistan Studies*</td>
<td>Linear</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>International GCSE Islamic Studies*</td>
<td>Linear</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Only available to international centres*
The onscreen journey

Julie Sinclair & Alexa Hathaway
Customer Engagement Team
internationalonscreen@pearson.com
Customer Engagement Timeline Guidance

1. **Subject interest, support & familiarisation**
   - From Sept – expressions of interest & technology approval begins
   - From Oct/Nov – customer engagement calls begin & familiarisation set up (past papers & testlets)
   - From Dec – introduction to the entry process

2. **Support, practice & confirm entries**
   - From Jan/Feb – continued support for entry process & familiarisation of platform
   - Mar – Entry deadline: Thursday 23 March 2024

3. **Support, final practice & live exams**
   - From Apr – entry summary, tech check & security set up
   - May/June – Exam series begins
   - Assessment delivery support (e.g. invigilator & candidate logins)

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**Timeline**

- **Autumn Term**
  - Sept - Dec
- **Spring Term**
  - Jan - Mar
- **Summer Term**
  - April - July
Centres can access SAMs for all subjects that are being offered onscreen in May/June 2024 by going to the Sandbox.

Anyone (teachers, students, parents) can register by following the steps below:

- Go to: https://assessment.mod.pearson.com/sandbox/login
- Click on “Don’t have an account”
- Enter your email address as your UserID
- Wait for an automatic email to confirm your email address
- Proceed to log in
## Technology requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Operating System/Browser</th>
<th>Windows</th>
<th>macOS</th>
<th>Android</th>
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<td>✗</td>
<td>✗</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Safari latest stable</td>
<td>✗</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✗</td>
<td>✗</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edge latest stable</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✗</td>
<td>✗</td>
<td>✗</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Currently it is only Chromebooks that must be centre-owned. Windows laptops or Macbooks can be centre- or student-owned.
Platform Familiarisation

Mock Service

Our mocks run as an ‘on-demand’ service and the mock paper availability for 2023/2024 is available here. Please scroll to the bottom of the document for International qualifications.

The mock opportunities will give your students a chance to experience the platform and respond to questions under an exam-style scenario.

For May/June 2024, for centres looking to deliver one of our onscreen high stakes assessments, we are able to offer 15% off a mock entry for their high stakes cohort of learners.

Mock Service team inbox: assessmentservices@pearson.com

Free resources

Testlets (4EA1 & 4ET1 only)
These are mini assessments created by breaking down exam papers into sections. There are testlets available for both the International GCSE English Language A and Literature qualifications.

Past papers
These will soon be available for all the onscreen qualifications being delivered in May/June 2024 with work also ongoing for creation of the May/June 2025 subjects also.

Onscreen familiarisation materials request form
Our Assessment Platform

**Booking App**
This is where candidate information is uploaded for our Mocks Service and where you can assign any onscreen familiarisation material that has been requested.

You are also able to manage invigilators as well as access student scripts that have been submitted.

**Invigilator App**
This is where your invigilators can view their current, upcoming & completed invigilation sessions as well as view candidate connectivity and monitor progress through past papers/testlets, mock assessments & the live high stakes exams.

Support video: An introduction to our invigilator platform

**Assessment Player**
This is where your candidates access any assessment materials that have been assigned to them.

As with the Invigilator App, they can also view their current, upcoming & completed assessments.

Support videos: Using & interacting with the Assessment Platform
Security

Safe Exam Browser (SEB): For Windows & Macs

Kiosk-mode: For Chromebooks

Step-by-step instructions will be shared with your centre on how to ensure the correct security measures are in place ahead of the live high stakes assessments.

*These security measures can also be put in place for any mocks
What happens when there is a loss of internet connection?
What happens when there is a loss of internet connection?

If the internet drops out during the assessment, candidates should continue with their exam as their work will be saving locally to their device. As soon as the internet connection is restored all their answers will be saved onto the system.

If the internet connection does not get restored, we will work with you on retrieving the candidate's work from their device so that it can be sent on to our examiners for marking but no matter what happens, should you need any support you can reach out to us and we will do our best to resolve any situation that may occur.
GCSE Computer Science Paper 2 Onscreen

Tim Brady

teachingcomputerscience@pearson.com
GCSE Computer Science 2020 Overview

**Paper 1**

**Principles of Computer Science**

- Paper code: 1CP2/01
- 75 marks
- Written examination: 1 hour 30 minutes
- 50% of the qualification

**Content overview**

This paper will assess Topics 1 to 5.

- **Computational thinking** - understanding of what algorithms are, what they are used for, and how they work; ability to follow, amend and write algorithms; ability to construct truth tables.
- **Computers** - understanding of hardware and software components of computer systems and characteristics of programming languages.
- **Networks** - understanding of computer networks and network security.
- **Data** - understanding of binary, data representation, data storage and compression.
- **Issues and impact** - awareness of emerging trends in computing technologies, and the impact of computing on individuals, society and the environment, including ethical, legal and ownership issues.

**Assessment overview**

This paper consists of five compulsory questions, each one focused on one of the topic areas. The questions consist of multiple-choice, short-, medium- and extended-open-response, tabular and diagrammatic items.

**Paper 2**

**Application of Computational Thinking**

- Paper code: 1CP2/02
- 75 marks
- Practical onscreen examination: 2 hours
- 50% of the qualification

**Content overview**

This paper will assess Topic 6: Problem solving with programming.

**The main focus of this paper is:**

- understanding what algorithms are, what they are used for, and how they work in relation to creating programs
- understanding how to decompose and analyse problems
- ability to read, write, refine and evaluate programs.

**Assessment overview**

This paper is practical in nature and requires students to design, write, test and refine programs in order to solve problems.

Students will complete this assessment onscreen using their Integrated Development Environment (IDE) of choice.

They will be provided with:

- coding files
- a hard copy of the question paper
- Programming Language Subsets (PLS) – as a booklet alongside the question paper and as a PDF document on the student’s computer.

Students should then answer the six compulsory questions onscreen using Python 3.
Specification – where it all starts

Getting Started Guide – exemplifies and clarifies all areas of the content

PLS – Program Language Subset, scopes how much Python is needed

Good Programming Practice Guide – explains why this is a computer science GCSE and not a Python GCSE
Onscreen assessment for Paper 2

Support
- Subject specific Instructions for Conducting Examinations (ICE)
- Role specific checklists
- Live support sessions
- FAQs
- Customer engagement team

Exam prep
- Creation of secure user areas & folder structure
- EOL account access
- Login details for candidates

Exam day
- Secure download of coding files on the morning of the exam
- Question paper is hard copy
- PLS digital & hard copy
- Upload cohort zip file via LWT

Tim Brady
- teachingcomputerscience@pearson.com
- Book an appointment
- Computer Science Facebook group
Register your interest to deliver onscreen by completing this form and we will be in contact!
Our subject advisors

Our team of subject advisors are experts in their fields, with many of them former teachers. They are here to support you and can help with all your subject-specific queries. You can sign up for your subject advisor updates here.

Business & Economics - Colin Leith

- teachingbusiness@pearson.com
- teachingeconomics@pearson.com

Book an appointment

Geography, Islamic Studies & Pakistan Studies - Jon Wolton

- teachinggeography@pearson.com

Book an appointment

English - Clare Haviland

- teachingenglish@pearson.com
- @PearsonTeachEng

Book an appointment

History - Mark Battye

- teachinghistory@pearson.com

Book an appointment
Interested in supporting development of our onscreen assessments?

At Pearson, we believe in creating assessments that encourage progress, enables access and inclusion, and enriches teaching and learning.

To make that happen, we’re looking to work with centres during the development of onscreen through teacher and student feedback as well as small trials of the onscreen materials. We’d be looking to carry this out at the end of 2023 and beginning of 2024.

If you are interested in being involved, please complete the relevant subject form and one of our Pearson colleagues will be in contact with you.

- International GCSE Geography (4GE1)
- International GCSE Islamic Studies (4IS1)
- International GCSE Pakistan Studies (4PA1)
Interested in improving the accessibility, inclusivity and usability to enable better student experience?

We would love to speak to as many teachers, SENCOs and as wide a range of students as we can, including those with different abilities, needs & requirements.

This helps us to understand whether improvements we are making to the Assessment Platform work for different groups of students in terms of how they view & interact with those improvements, and any refinements we can make.

If you are happy to contribute to ongoing research and testing, please contact our colleague Emma Crampton at emma.crampton1@pearson.com
FAQs
You can find our FAQs [here](#)
You can also contact us directly via our team inbox:
internationalonscreen@pearson.com

We'd love your feedback
Let us have your feedback by emailing us at: internationalonscreen@pearson.com