

# GCSE Irish

## Specification Addendum

### Exceptional Assessment Adaptations (for 2021–2022)

**This addendum should be used in conjunction with the current specification**

The table below shows the units available for Summer 2022 cash in and details where applicable:

- the unit for omission; and
- any temporary adaptations that have been made due to public health restrictions.

**Please note: This applies only to candidates who started their GCSE course in September 2020 or September 2021 and are cashing-in at qualification level in Summer 2022**

| Content                      | Assessment  | Weightings | Assessment Adaptations 2021–2022 |
|------------------------------|---|------------|----------------------------------|
| <b>Unit 1:<br/>Listening</b> | <p>External written examination with stimulus material in Irish</p> <p>There are two tiers of entry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Foundation (35 mins approx.); and</li> <li>• Higher (45 mins approx.).</li> </ul> <p>Students answer 12 questions. Four of these are the same in both tiers.</p> <p>Responses include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• selection;</li> <li>• gap-filling;</li> <li>• answering questions in English; and</li> <li>• answering questions in Irish.</li> </ul> | 25%        | No changes                       |

| Content                        | Assessment  | Weightings | Assessment Adaptations 2021–2022   |
|--------------------------------|---|------------|--|
| <p><b>Unit 2: Speaking</b></p> | <p>One teacher-conducted and externally marked speaking examination</p> <p>There is one tier of entry. The test lasts 7–12 minutes, plus 10 minutes of supervised preparation time.</p> <p>Each test includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• two role-plays, both from the same Context for Learning; and</li> <li>• a general conversation on two topics, one from each of the other two Contexts for Learning.</li> </ul> <p>Each role-play lasts up to 2 minutes and each conversation topic takes up to 4 minutes.</p> <p>Students prepare the first conversation topic in advance from the Context for Learning that we prescribe.</p> <p>Teachers must record and authenticate all evidence and submit it to us for marking.</p> | 25%        | <p>This unit will be <b>eligible</b> for omission for candidates cashing in for the qualification level grade in Summer 2022.</p> <p>This unit will still be available for any candidates wishing to be assessed in all units.</p> |
| <p><b>Unit 3: Reading</b></p>  | <p>External written examination with stimulus material in Irish</p> <p>There are two tiers of entry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Foundation (50 mins); and</li> <li>• Higher (1 hour).</li> </ul> <p>Students answer 12 questions. Four of these are the same in both tiers.</p> <p>Responses include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• selection;</li> <li>• gap-filling;</li> <li>• answering questions in English;</li> <li>• answering questions in Irish; and</li> <li>• translating short sentences from Irish into English.</li> </ul>  | 25%        | No changes   |

| Content                | Assessment   | Weightings | Assessment Adaptations 2021–2022 |
|------------------------|--|------------|----------------------------------|
| <b>Unit 4: Writing</b> | External written examination<br><br>There are two tiers of entry: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Foundation (1 hour); and</li> <li>• Higher (1 hour 15 mins).</li> </ul> Students answer four questions. One of these is the same in both tiers.<br>Responses include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a listing and short phrase task in Irish (Foundation Tier only);</li> <li>• short phrase/sentence responses in Irish (both tiers);</li> <li>• short responses in Irish to one or more pieces of text (Higher Tier only);</li> <li>• translation of short sentences from English into Irish (both tiers); and</li> <li>• one structured, extended writing task in Irish from a choice of three (both tiers).</li> </ul> | 25%        | No changes                       |

For those students who started their GCSE course in September 2020 or September 2021 and are due to cash in the full GCSE in Summer 2022, should they choose to sit all units of the GCSE, they will receive the higher of either:

- the grade awarded on the basis of the outcome of the required units specified by CCEA; or
- the grade awarded on the basis of the outcome of the full set of units for that qualification.

In both cases the full specification content should still be delivered.

For candidates starting the qualification in September 2021 it is recommended that, as far as possible, the topics for each Context for Learning are delivered in the order that they are listed in the specification in case of any further disruption to the academic year.