



UNIVERSITY of CAMBRIDGE
ESOL Examinations

Response to OFQUAL Post-accreditation monitoring report on University of Cambridge ESOL Examinations

University of Cambridge ESOL Examinations welcomes the outcome of the monitoring exercise carried out by OFQUAL in August 2008, and their decision not to impose any conditions or action plans.

We are pleased that the OFQUAL report draws attention to Cambridge ESOL's high standards in a number of areas, in particular the thorough documentation of systems and procedures in line with ISO9001 requirements, the provision of clear, comprehensive information to test-takers and stakeholders and the 'robust security arrangements' referred to in the report.

We are also pleased that members of the OFQUAL team were able to look in detail at our systems for the Recruitment, Induction, Training, Co-ordination, Monitoring and Evaluation of external examiners and other resources, and to observe a number of key stages in the examination cycle, as well as reviewing the process leading to the recent updating of the FCE and CAE examinations.

We believe that such monitoring is valuable not only from the point of view of public accountability, but also as a means of identifying best practice in assessment. In this context, we would encourage OFQUAL to take further steps to summarise and share best practice across examination providers and to highlight examples of particularly effective systems and procedures in future reports.

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