

## Frequently Asked Questions

### At what age should students be entered for the Heritage Language GCSE?

It is not necessary to wait until Year 11 to enter students for a Heritage Language GCSE. However, do keep in mind that some of the themes of the exams are better suited to older students. An initial assessment can be completed to determine a student's readiness for the exams.

### What if I have more than one student who speaks the same language?

Students can receive preparation support in pairs or groups. The total time of support will be the cumulative time for the packages requested for all individual students.

If we receive your request before the deadline of 1<sup>st</sup> March, a discount is available.

### What do I do next if I want to request support?

Visit our website to read and download the Heritage Language GCSE agreement form and to complete your request for support for a student online:

[www.hants.gov.uk/emtas](http://www.hants.gov.uk/emtas)

## Feedback we've received

*"Students would not have had the confidence to take their GCSE without the support of an EMTAS Bilingual Assistant."* EAL Co-ordinator, Henry Cort Community College

*"The help I received from EMTAS was really necessary to feel confident going into my Polish GCSE exam. I'm very proud to have been able to take a GCSE in my first language as now I am able to take an A-level too."* A student, Fernhill School

*"We are delighted to be able to offer our EAL students who are literate in their heritage languages the opportunity to gain a GCSE as it shows them that we value their linguistic abilities and demonstrates that as a school we celebrate diversity. The support we receive from EMTAS is invaluable in enabling us to help our students prepare for these exams."* EAL Co-ordinator, Fernhill School

## For more information

Visit our website:

[www.hants.gov.uk/emtas](http://www.hants.gov.uk/emtas)

Follow us on X (formerly Twitter):

[@HampshireEMTAS](https://twitter.com/HampshireEMTAS)

For further questions, contact [EMTAS@hants.gov.uk](mailto:EMTAS@hants.gov.uk) putting 'GCSE Support' in the subject line



Hampshire  
County Council

Ethnic Minority and Traveller  
Achievement Service

## EMTAS GCSE Heritage Language Support



***Do you have students on roll  
with skills in other languages?***

## Support Packages available

Package 1: Initial assessment and advice (1 visit)

Package 2: Speaking Test Preparation (2 visits)

Package 3: Speaking and Writing Test preparation (3 visits)

Package 4: Full GCSE preparation including familiarisation with Listening and Reading Tests (4 visits)

*See the EMTAS website for the full information about our packages of support and for details of the languages we currently support at GCSE.*

## Why enter students for a Heritage Language GCSE?

- Students often achieve good results
- It often has a positive impact on a student's confidence and self-esteem
- It promotes multiculturalism and the value of languages
- It develops students' bilingual skills
- It increases future opportunities for work and study
- It helps students gain experience of GCSE exams in this country
- It contributes to the EBacc



## Why is it necessary for students to have time to prepare for the exams?

Students might

- not be aware of UK GCSE language exams and the format of tasks
- need a better understanding of GCSE requirements, the specification and the assessment criteria
- need support with the level of English required by the exams
- have different levels of skill across the components assessed
- need opportunities to rehearse
- benefit from support with exam technique and even coping with nerves

**Please note, the deadline for us to receive requests for GCSE support is:**

**1<sup>st</sup> March**