



neec National
Extension
College



GCSE English Language Spoken Language Endorsement

WHAT DO YOU NEED TO KNOW?

Entries for GCSE English Language automatically include the endorsement.

It will not contribute to your GCSE grade. The endorsement is reported separately on the certificate with either a Pass, Merit, Distinction or Not Classified. Those who do not reach the Pass standard are recorded as 'Not Classified'.

You can choose not to complete the endorsement. If you don't you will receive a 'Not Classified' result.

All examination centres accepting entries for GCSE English Language have to give candidates the opportunity to do the endorsement.

Candidates must undertake a prepared spoken presentation on a specific topic. As a guide, the duration of the whole assessment should be no more than ten minutes. An audio-visual recording will be taken.

The endorsement is assessed by centres.

Candidates do need to achieve a 9-1 grade in GCSE English Language or the endorsement can't be awarded.

Candidates that pass the endorsement but do not achieve the grade they desire for the GCSE can carry the endorsement over when resitting the written exams - even if it was awarded by a different awarding organisation. This means they won't have to complete the endorsement a second time after having already passed. This can be done as many times as they wish during the life of the specification.



HOW COURSEWORK / NON-EXAM ASSESSMENT (NEA) MARKS ARE USED

- **If you carry forward a previous mark:** The system will automatically use the mark from your most recent attempt (provided you were not marked as absent). You cannot pick and choose a higher mark from an earlier attempt.
- **If you choose to re-do the coursework:** Your new mark will replace the old one, even if the new mark ends up being lower than your previous result.

DO I NEED TO DO IT?

While the endorsement is not strictly mandatory to receive your 9-1 written GCSE result, NEC strongly advises completing it. Many sixth forms, colleges, universities, and employers require a passed Spoken Language Endorsement.

If you skip it now and discover later that a course requires it, you will have to resit the entire GCSE qualification - it cannot be taken on its own after the fact.

Note: If you choose not to complete the endorsement at an NEC partnership centre or private centre, you will be required to sign a formal statement confirming you were offered the opportunity but declined.



CAN I DO THE ENDORSEMENT THROUGH ONE OF THE NEC PARTNERSHIP EXAM CENTRES?

Yes! We work with a wide network of partnership exam centres across the country that can host your GCSE English Language written exams and accommodate the Spoken Language Endorsement.

How to check available locations

Because our partner list updates regularly, available centre locations are confirmed upon enrolment.

Once enrolled, you can view the up-to-date list of centres and apply to secure your spot directly through our Exams Team.

WHAT DO I NEED TO DO TO ENTER AT ONE OF THESE CENTRES?

The application form and guidance is available to download on learn@nec. All you need to do is complete the application form before the advertised deadline and we will arrange the rest.

HOW MUCH WILL IT COST?

Endorsement fees vary depending on whether you complete the assessment in person at a partnership centre or virtually with NEC. You can choose to add the Spoken Language Endorsement directly when selecting your GCSE English exam package.

Full, up-to-date pricing for all centre and assessment options is available in the Exams section on learn@nec

WHEN WILL I COMPLETE THE ENDORSEMENT?

The endorsement will happen before the official exam session starts in mid May. Although each centre works differently, you should expect to attend during April/early May. Your centre will confirm the date at the earliest opportunity.

CAN I ENTER AT A PRIVATE CENTRE?

Yes. Centres that offer GCSE English Language are also required to make the endorsement available and the head of centre will need to sign a statement to say that they have done this. Remember to get confirmation that you can do the endorsement along with the exams and also ask for the full fees.

WHERE CAN I SIT MY WRITTEN EXAMS IF I DON'T WANT TO DO THE ENDORSEMENT?

You can sit your written exams at any of our partnership exam centres. Alternatively you can go through a private centre as long as they have given you the opportunity to complete the endorsement.

GET IN TOUCH

From choosing your initial topic through to final submission and results day - we're here to support your success.

 **Email:** info@nec.ac.uk

 **Phone:** 0800 389 2839 / 01223 400 200

 **Web:** www.nec.ac.uk