

HIAS December 2026

New GCSE Y11 PPE Data Collection – Introduction

This data was collated by Kerry Yates from Hampshire Schools following their Year 11 Pre-public examinations in the autumn term 2026. 14 schools in total took part in the project and submitted results from AQA and Edexcel in French, Spanish and German. This is obviously a small fraction of the schools in Hampshire and was limited by the timings of the exams and the completion of the same SAMS exams for all four components by 31st December 2025.

With the new MFL GCSEs being sat for the first time in summer 2026, there are no past papers with grade boundaries. More information can be found here: [Grade Boundaries FAQ: New Pearson Edexcel French, German and Spanish GCSEs](#). The aim of this project is to compare results from a wider cohort across several schools to inform predicted grades for the benefit of the pupils and schools, in order to track progress.

It is clear that the number of variables between settings, pupils, prior attainment, curriculum time, tiers of entry and indeed languages, has made it very challenging to process the data accurately. Therefore, Heads of Department and teachers should use their professional judgement and experience above all else, bearing in mind that cohorts do vary from year to year and that the schools included are a very small representation of the county-wide picture.

Please consider the following when using this data:

- The starting point for this exercise was to rank pupils in order of results.
 - These exams were taken months before the final GCSEs, so many pupils should expect to improve their grades from the PPEs.
 - Marking conducted by individual teachers in different establishments has not necessarily been moderated, so may not be consistent.
 - In 2025, French GCSE results in Hampshire were stronger than the national average, Spanish were in line, but lower at 7+ and German were significantly lower than the national data. Hence, French results in this set of data are generally higher.
 - Prior attainment of pupils in schools for each language and exam board is varied. Whilst some schools performed higher than the national APS, others were below. This is reflected by a + or – number in column D on the overview tab. The higher the number, the stronger the cohort of schools according to previous data.
 - Schools following the AQA syllabus had higher prior attainment on average than those who have opted for Edexcel, although both groups were mixed to a greater or lesser extent.
 - Many of the pupils achieving below a grade 4 at higher tier will be switched to foundation for the final exams, hence fewer grade Us will be expected.
 - As is usually the case, grade boundaries will not be the same for each language.
- For further information regarding this data, please contact Kerry Yates – kerry.yates@hants.gov.uk

AQA Estimated Grade Boundaries	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
French Higher	175	156	144	132	120	106	100		
French Foundation					149	134	106	80	60
Spanish Higher	176	161	144	132	120	105	87		
Spanish Foundation					135	121	110	86	73
German Higher	176	157	141	123	121	105	94		
German Foundation					141	125	111	91	71

Edexcel Estimated Grade Boundaries	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
French Higher	180	171	157	145	130	109	100		
French Foundation					143	130	105	90	70
Spanish Higher	180	170	155	140	126	121	110		
Spanish Foundation					140	130	113	90	70
German Higher	180	170	157	138	122	110	100		
German Foundation					135	113	95	84	70