English Language Requirement (for applicants for whom English is not their first language) - 2027 entry

Test/Qualification	Grade or score required for undergraduate programmes	Grade or score required for postgraduate programmes	Validity period[1]
IELTS Academic[2]	Overall score of 6.5 with a minimum of 6.0 in each component	Overall score of 7.0 with a minimum of 6.5 in each component	2 years
Cambridge C1 Advanced or C2 Proficiency	Overall score of 176 with a minimum of 169 in each component	Overall score of 185 with a minimum of 176 in each component	2 years
Cambridge O Level English Language[3]	Grade C or above	Grade C or above	4 years
Duolingo English Language Test (DET)	Overall score of 120 with a minimum of 110 in each component	Overall score of 130 with a minimum of 120 in each component	2 years
GCSE English Language	Grade C/grade 4 or above	Grade C/grade 4 or above	4 years
IGCSE English as a Second Language	Grade B or above	Grade B or above	4 years
IGCSE First Language English	Grade C or above	Grade C or above	No limit

[1] An applicant must have passed the test within the specified number of years prior to the start date of the Oak Hill programme.
[2] We accept IELTS Academic (paper-based on or computer), IELTS for UKVI Academic (paper-based or on computer) and IELTS One Skill Retake. We do not accept IELTS Online, IELTS Indicator, IELTS Life Skills or IELTS General Training.
[3] Syllabus: Malaysia 1119, Brunei 1120, Mauritius 1125 or 1126, Singapore 1128, and all other countries 1123.

Test/Qualification	Grade or score required for undergraduate programmes	Grade or score required for postgraduate programmes	Validity period[1]
Password Skills Plus & Password Skills Plus One Part Retake	Overall score of 6.5 with a minimum of 6.0 in each component	Overall score of 7.0 with a minimum of 6.5 in each component	2 years
Pearson PTE Academic[4]	Overall score of 62 with a minimum of 59 in each component	Overall score of 68 with a minimum of 62 in each component	2 years
TOEFL iBT and TOEFL iBT Home edition	Overall score of 80 with a minimum of 20 in each component or, for tests taken from 21 January 2026, overall score of 4.5 with a minimum of 4 in each component	Overall score of 90 with a minimum of 20 in each component or, for tests taken from 21 January 2026, overall score of 5 with a minimum of 4.5 in each component	2 years
Trinity Integrated Skills in English (ISE)[5]	ISE II overall score of 96 with a minimum of 90 in each component	ISE III overall score of 105 with a minimum of 96 in each component	2 years
Various high school English qualifications as listed on the Durham University website	See Durham University website: https://www.durham.ac.uk/study/international/entry-requirements/english-language-requirements/other-english-language-qualifications/	See Durham University website: https://www.durham.ac.uk/study/international/entry-requirements/english-language-requirements/other-english-language-qualifications/	2 years[6]
You do not need to prove your knowledge of English if you are a national of one of the following countries OR if within the last 5 years you have completed a UK bachelor's degree or higher, or an equivalent qualification, in one of the following countries: Antigua and Barbuda, Australia, the Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, the British Overseas Territories, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Ireland, Jamaica, Malta, New Zealand, St Kitts and Nevis, St Lucia, St Vincent and the Grenadines, Trinidad and Tobago, UK and USA. You also do not need to prove your knowledge of English if you are a national of Canada.			

Please note that, with the exception of IELTS One Skill Retake and Password Skills Plus One Part Retake, an applicant cannot combine scores from more than one sitting of a test. The two-year validity period starts on the date that the original test was taken.

[4] We do not accept PTE Academic Online.
[5] Both parts of the test must be taken in the UK on the same day.
[6] With the exception of NECO/WAEC/WASSCE English from Ghana, Liberia, Nigeria, Sierra Leone and The Gambia and Kenyan Certificate of Secondary Education (KCSE), all of which have no time limit.