

## Circular (S/IF/64/07)

August 2007

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To: The Principals of Post-primary Schools and Directors of Institutes of Further and Higher Education  
For circulation to: The Head of the Languages Department

### Languages

#### Consultation on New GCSE Criteria

As you are aware draft forms of the new GCSE qualification and subject criteria are available to download on the QCA website at [www.qca.org.uk](http://www.qca.org.uk). Here you also have the opportunity to give your feedback on the draft criteria via QCA's online survey. This consultation period closes on 14th September and I would urge those of you who have not already done so, to complete the questionnaire as soon as possible. It is important that individual teachers contribute to the revision of these criteria before they are finalised.

The main proposed changes to the current specification are:

- one question paper targeting all GCSE grades (no separate foundation and higher tiers);
  - 75% externally assessed, 25% controlled assessment;
  - GCSE short courses - there would be no separate specification for this; instead candidates demonstrate ability in relation to only 2 assessment objectives from the full course GCSE.
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If you have any queries regarding the content of this circular please contact:

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