

# DESCRIPTION OF LEVELS

The following descriptors give a general idea of what a student can do at each level. Stafford House International levels are given, as well as the equivalent Common European Framework of Reference for Languages.

LEVEL	LISTENING/SPEAKING	READING	WRITING
<b>BEGINNER</b> A1 OF CEFR 10 – 29 ON GSE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Can recognize a few words of English.</li> <li>Can recognize high frequency greetings and respond.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Can understand familiar phrases in a simple text.</li> <li>Can understand short written notices, signs and instructions with visual support.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Can spell their names and a few other words of English.</li> <li>Can write simple isolated phrases and sentences.</li> </ul>
<b>ELEMENTARY</b> A2 OF CEFR 30 – 42 ON GSE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Can understand basic instructions in class.</li> <li>Can ask simple questions of a factual nature.</li> <li>Can take part in a basic factual conversation on a predictable topic.</li> <li>Can introduce themselves to others and ask/answer questions about personal details.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Can read and understand simple notices and information and simple directions to places.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Can leave a very simple message or write short, simple “thank you” notes.</li> <li>Can write notes including times, dates and places.</li> </ul>
<b>PRE-INTERMEDIATE</b> B1 OF CEFR 43-50 ON GSE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Can express simple opinions using expressions such as “I don’t agree”.</li> <li>Can express likes and dislikes in familiar contexts using simple language.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Can understand the general meaning of a simple text.</li> <li>Can understand straightforward information such as a standard menu or a road sign.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Can write a very short narrative or description such as “My last holiday”.</li> <li>Can complete most forms related to personal information.</li> </ul>
<b>INTERMEDIATE</b> B1+ OF CEFR 51-58 ON GSE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Can follow everyday conversation or informal interview on common topics.</li> <li>Can understand a large part of many TV programs on familiar topics.</li> <li>Can report the opinions of others, using simple language.</li> <li>Can repeat back what is said to confirm understanding and keep a discussion on course.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Can distinguish between fact and opinion in relation to common topics.</li> <li>Can generally understand details of events, feelings and wishes in letters, emails and online postings.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Can write short, simple biographies about real or imaginary people.</li> <li>Can write a basic email/letter of complaint requesting action.</li> <li>Can respond to and comment on other people’s personal updates on a social media website.</li> </ul>
<b>UPPER INTERMEDIATE</b> B2 OF CEFR 59-75 ON GSE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Can give clear presentation on a familiar topic, and answer predictable or factual questions.</li> <li>Can discuss topics currently in the news.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Can scan texts for relevant information and grasp main point of view.</li> <li>Can understand detailed instructions or advice.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Can make notes while someone is talking.</li> <li>Can write a letter including non-standard responses.</li> </ul>
<b>ADVANCED</b> C1 OF CEFR 76 – 84 ON GSE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Can follow abstract arguments.</li> <li>Can keep up conversations for an extended period of time with a good degree of fluency and range of expression.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Can understand complex opinions and arguments as expressed in serious newspapers.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Can write an essay which shows ability to communicate.</li> <li>Can write letters on most subjects.</li> <li>Can prepare professional correspondence.</li> </ul>
<b>PROFICIENT</b> C2 OF CEFR 85 – 90 ON GSE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Can understand with ease virtually everything heard.</li> <li>Can use a range of language close to their own.</li> <li>Can express him/herself spontaneously, very fluently and precisely, differentiating finer shades of proficient meaning.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Can understand with ease virtually everything read.</li> <li>Can recognize the nuances of idiomatic English.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Can easily demonstrate mastery of the English Language in a variety of written forms.</li> </ul>