A guide to endorsed resources

Publishers play a central role in supporting Cambridge International to deliver high-quality education to our schools. We have an open-door policy allowing a variety of publishers to create materials for our syllabuses. The endorsement process is entirely independent and unbiased. We treat all proposals submitted for endorsement by publishers in exactly the same way.

Endorsed resources have been through a rigorous quality-assurance process to make sure that they closely reflect the syllabus and are appropriate for Cambridge International Schools worldwide. Resources may be ‘endorsed for full syllabus coverage’ or endorsed to cover specific sections, topics or approaches as indicated by the specific ‘endorsed for…’ logo on the cover. These are high-quality resources, produced by a range of third-party publishers, which are judged by subject experts to provide effective support for learners and teachers in the delivery of our syllabuses.

Cambridge International does not have a financial interest in the endorsement process. Publishers are charged fees which cover the cost of the independent review of their titles but no payments accrue to Cambridge International as a consequence of the sales of books.

Characteristics of endorsed resources

Resources eligible for endorsement include textbooks, learner workbooks, teacher guides, revision guides and e-textbooks or online resources. In order to be endorsed by Cambridge International, resources are subject to review by external consultants and educational experts. Resources are judged on:

a) content – whether the material aligns with the level of demand of the syllabus and covers both breadth and depth in a manner that is suitable for learners
b) pedagogy – whether the content is presented in such a way as to promote effective teaching and learning
c) focus – whether the focus of the resource is on subject knowledge and skills, rather than on exam preparation. In the case of revision guides, there are no specific ‘exam tips’ and there is no mention of grades which might be gained
d) international context – whether the resources are accessible to learners from all parts of the world and promote a culture of learning within the subject area.

We work with a number of publishers to make sure that our qualifications are supported by endorsed published resources wherever possible.

Choosing endorsed resources

Cambridge International believes in choice and our aim is to have a wide range of endorsed resources to support our qualifications. Where possible, we endorse resources from a variety of different publishers. Our policy is that the selection of teaching and learning material is entirely a matter for schools to determine, according to local conditions and the needs of their teachers and learners. The purpose of endorsed resources is to support teaching and learning. However, there is no requirement from Cambridge International that schools should use a particular endorsed resource, or indeed any commercially published resources.

Books that have successfully completed our endorsement process and meet our standards will have this logo on the cover:

The back cover of an endorsed textbook also has an information box like the one below. It tells you which syllabus the book supports and the year of first examination of that syllabus. This is important because Cambridge International regularly reviews our syllabuses and curriculum frameworks, and the specific content and skills required by Cambridge learners may change as a result of this review.

This resource is endorsed by Cambridge Assessment International Education

- Supports the full [Cambridge qualification] syllabus for examination from [year]
- Has passed Cambridge International's rigorous quality-assurance process
- Developed by subject experts
- For Cambridge schools worldwide
We also endorse resources that have been developed for a specific purpose, for example a workbook to support learners, or a revision guide. Alternatively, a resource may support a specific element of a syllabus – such as programming in a Computing syllabus, or History Option B. These resources have a logo that makes their specific purpose clear and the information box on the back gives more details. For example:

Other suggested resources
These resources have been selected by consultants with knowledge of our syllabuses as materials that teachers delivering Cambridge International programmes may find useful. However, these resources have not been through our detailed quality assurance process and no direct link to Cambridge International is made on the resources themselves.

As part of the wider Cambridge University and in recognition of collaborative working with our sister organisation Cambridge University Press (‘the Press’), we reserve the right to promote the Press’ published resources, whether formally endorsed or otherwise, at any event or forum where our qualifications are being presented or discussed. We similarly reserve the right to market the Press’ published materials, whether formally endorsed or not, differently from those of other publishers.

Textbooks that have not been endorsed and do not bear our logo may not support our syllabuses fully or appropriately.

The resource lists on our website show the range of endorsed materials available to support each syllabus, e.g. student book, teacher guide, workbook, revision guide. We hope that this will help you to plan your teaching and support your students effectively with all their learning needs.