

Key Stage 4 Curriculum and Assessment

Curriculum at Key Stage Four including exam board and structure of course (exams, controlled assessment)

Students will begin to study for their GCSE in Mathematics in Year 9. All students are required to study GCSE mathematics at a level that is appropriate to their ability.

At the start of year 10, students are placed in sets across the whole year group, based on their ability. Sets 1 to 5 study for the higher level (Grades 4 to 9) and sets 6 to 9 study for the foundation level (Grades 1 to 5).

Subject Content:

1. Number
2. Algebra
3. Ratio, proportion and rates of change
4. Geometry and measures
5. Probability
6. Statistics

The subject content is split into three groups:

Content that all students should master

Content that should be taught but higher achieving students should master

Content that will be taught only to higher achieving students and mastered by the highest achievers (those likely to go on to A-level study in mathematics).

All students are encouraged to have their own calculator throughout the course so that they can learn how to use them efficiently. Use of ICT is incorporated into lessons.

The course aims to give students confidence in their mathematical ability. We also aim for them to enjoy their lessons. With this in mind, different teaching styles are adopted by all teachers. Students are encouraged to discuss their ideas, take part in paired or group work and use the mathematics that they learn and apply it to problem solving activities.

In order to succeed, it is important that students practise the skills acquired in lessons by regularly completing the homework set.

Schemes of Work for Y9 to Y11

Please click on the separate links

Assessment

Throughout Year 9 and Year 10 students will complete topic tests. These are short 20-30 minutes tests which will be taken 2-3 weeks after the end of a topic. Students will not be informed of the exact time these tests will be held as we believe that students should be consolidating the learning and revising topics continually and not revising work the night before.

Final Examination Structure

Paper 1: non-calculator	+	Paper 2: calculator	+	Paper 3: calculator
What's assessed Content from any part of the specification may be assessed		What's assessed Content from any part of the specification may be assessed		What's assessed Content from any part of the specification may be assessed
How it's assessed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> written exam: 1 hour 30 minutes 80 marks non-calculator 33⅓% of the GCSE Mathematics assessment 		How it's assessed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> written exam: 1 hour 30 minutes 80 marks calculator allowed 33⅓% of the GCSE Mathematics assessment 		How it's assessed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> written exam: 1 hour 30 minutes 80 marks calculator allowed 33⅓% of the GCSE Mathematics assessment
Questions A mix of question styles, from short, single-mark questions to multi-step problems. The mathematical demand increases as a student progresses through the paper.		Questions A mix of question styles, from short, single-mark questions to multi-step problems. The mathematical demand increases as a student progresses through the paper.		Questions A mix of question styles, from short, single-mark questions to multi-step problems. The mathematical demand increases as a student progresses through the paper.

Equipment

Students are expected to have the following at each lesson:

Pen, pencil, ruler, protractor, a pair of compasses, scientific calculator

Homework

Homework is set each week, and is generally examination questions or consolidation questions based on the topics covered in the lessons. The homework should last between 30 and 60 minutes. Occasionally students will need a computer to complete their homework using the MyMaths website.

Help and Support

We encourage all students to ask their class teacher(s) for help, however, students are welcome to attend a drop-in session in F4 on a Thursday lunchtime between 12.30 and 13.00. Year 11 students are invited to attend an after-school drop-in session on Thursday from 15.30 until 17.00 in F4.

ParentPay

The following items are available for purchase on Parent Pay:

AQA Foundation Revision Guide

AQA Foundation Workbook

AQA Higher Revision Guide

AQA Higher Workbook

Mathswatch Disc

Scientific Calculator

Silver Dream Machine [Calculator] *(Ideal for those likely to study Maths at A-Level)*

Purchased items can be collected from F4 on Monday or Friday lunchtime between 12.30 and 12.45.

Proof of purchase is required either by a printout of the receipt or a photo on a mobile phone.

Online Resources

MyMaths – www.mymaths.co.uk

Cambridge Online Textbook - gcsemaths.cambridge.org

Extra- Curricular Provision Including Trips at Key Stage Four

Intermediate Maths Challenge - Set 1 in Years 9, 10 & 11

UKMT Team Challenge – 2 students from Year 9

FMSP Maths Feast – 4 students from Year 10