

# Mathematics GCSE

## Overview

Over the two years students will develop confidence and a positive attitude towards mathematics and recognise the importance of mathematics in their own lives and to society. All students study Mathematics GCSE.

The course should enable students to:

1. Develop fluent knowledge, skills and understanding of mathematical methods and concepts,
2. Acquire, select, and apply mathematical techniques to solve problems,
3. Reason mathematically, make deductions and inferences and draw conclusions,
4. Comprehend, interpret, and communicate mathematical information in a variety of forms appropriate to the information and context.

## Topics

The curriculum is split into the following six areas:

- Number
- Algebra
- Ratio and Proportion
- Geometry
- Probability
- Statistics.

## Course Structure

At the end of Year 11 all students will sit three exams and gain one GCSE qualification:

- Paper 1 is Non- Calculator
- Paper 2 & 3 are Calculator Papers

Each exam is 1 hour 30 minutes and worth **33⅓%** of the final grade.

There are two tiers of entry at GCSE, Foundation and Higher. The top two sets usually follow the higher tier and the rest of the year group follow the foundation tier. The achievable grades from each tier are shown to the below.

**Foundation - Grades 1-5**

**Higher - Grades 4-9**

## Additional Information & Who to Contact

In GCSE, if a candidate does not achieve the minimum grade in their tier of entry, then no grade is awarded. This means that the selection of the correct tier for each student is extremely important. We continually assess throughout the course and we ask parents to talk to their children about how they are progressing against their target grade. As a result of our internal assessments, we may, from time to time, change the set your child is in. Homework is a very important part of mathematics and we ask parents to actively engage with their son/ daughter to ensure that all homework is completed in full and handed in on

time. Hegarty Maths is a brilliant tool to help students work independently and offers detailed revision plans for students in year 11 to help fill knowledge gaps.

Many college courses now require a minimum of a grade 4 or 5 in maths. Employers and many professions require people with proven mathematical ability which makes a good grade at GCSE very important.

In the Mathematics department we believe that a solid understanding of mathematics and how it is used in the wider world of work is extremely important. Students should realise that their maths knowledge/skills are transferable to other subjects such as Science, Computing and Geography.

- AQA is used for all examinations
- If you require more information about the course please visit AQA course specification <https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/mathematics/gcse/mathematics-8300/subject-content>
- If you require any further information and have any questions, then please contact Mrs Maddock (Associate Assistant Headteacher for Mathematics) via email - [karen.maddock@consilium-at.com](mailto:karen.maddock@consilium-at.com)

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