Mathematics GCSE

What is GCSE Mathematics all about?

GCSE Mathematics covers topics from Number, Algebra, Ratio and Proportion, Geometry and Probability and Statistics.

While studying Mathematics you will be expected to:

- use mathematical skills and knowledge to solve problems

- use logic and reason to solve problems

- break down problems into small steps in order to solve them

- use the Mathematics that you learn to solve problems that might happen in real life

Why do I have to take GCSE Mathematics?

GCSE Mathematics covers a lot of basic skills that you will need to use in a variety of ways all through your life and because of this it is a compulsory subject for all students in years 10 and 11.

You will use much of what you learn in GCSE Mathematics in the other GCSEs that you study; in Science you may be asked to use formulae, graphs and solve equations, in Geography you will need to read charts and diagrams and use statistics and in Technology you will need to use measures and make scale drawings. Most college and post 16 courses require GCSE Mathematics as an entry requirement, as do many jobs and careers.

Which exam board do we follow?

Students will follow the GCSE 9-1 specification. The content has been designed to be more rigorous and therefore the exam papers are more challenging. We follow the Edexcel Mathematics Linear (9-1) course. In this course there are two levels of entry:-
    Higher (you can gain a grade 4,5,6,7,8 or 9)
    Foundation (you can gain a grade 1,2,3,4 or 5)

Is there any coursework?

There is no coursework for GCSE Mathematics.

What about exams?

Students are examined by taking three papers at the end of the two-year course. Two will be taken with, and one without, a calculator.

How are the teaching groups arranged?

In Year 10 we arrange the year group into 10 teaching groups. These are broadly based on ability and performance during the previous three years. Within these groups we will prepare you for the level of examination in which we believe you will achieve you best overall grade. The final decision about exam entry is made in the January of Year 11.

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