

Core GCSE: Maths

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Course Structure & Overview

Exam Board and Syllabus: Edexcel 1MA1 (Higher)

Exam Board and Syllabus: OCR J560 (Foundation)

GCSE Mathematics is a two year course which will be assessed through 3 equally weighted written examination papers at either Foundation or Higher tier.

Edexcel Higher Tier	OCR Foundation Tier
Paper 1: Non calculator paper (80 marks)	Paper 1: Calculator paper (100 marks)
Paper 2: Calculator paper (80 marks)	Paper 2: Non calculator paper (100 marks)
Paper 3: Calculator paper (80 marks)	Paper 3: Calculator paper (100 marks)

Questions are targeted at grades 1 -5 at Foundation tier and grades 4-9 at Higher tier.

Course Content

The new Mathematics GCSE is more demanding than the previous examination with additional content.

The assessments will cover the following content headings:

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

Skills Developed

GCSE Mathematics covers a wide range of mathematical knowledge and skills. You will use your learning in many situations throughout your life. Much of what you learn can also be used for other academic subjects.

Aims of the GCSE:

- To provide opportunities for learners to demonstrate their knowledge of mathematics across a whole range of topic areas.
- To allow learners to develop their problem solving strategies and provide the confidence and skills required to tackle unfamiliar challenges.
- To build on work carried out in Key Stage 3 to prepare the learner to function mathematically.

Progression Routes

GCSE Mathematics is a qualification that provides a strong foundation for further academic and vocational study and for employment. It gives students the appropriate mathematical skills, knowledge and understanding to help them progress to a full range of courses in further and higher education.

Future Careers

GCSE Maths is a requirement for all degree courses and many jobs. It teaches accuracy and precision in work. The analytical and problem solving skills you learn are valuable in many different careers, for example Accountancy, Teaching, Business, Engineering, Medicine, Architecture and Computer Studies.