

Mathematics

GCSE

AQA

Structure & Specification

One year GCSE course.

Syllabus details

The AQA Modular Syllabus B is used. Most students will work at the Foundation tier level of this new two tier mathematics course so they can gain a C grade. Some students may do Higher level to aim for the top grades.

What does the course include?

The course includes the usual range of Mathematics studied under the National Curriculum up to Key Stage 4.

The main areas covered are: number, algebra, data handling and shape and space.

We go through the syllabus from scratch, assuming no prior knowledge. This means that the work must be covered at speed. Students are therefore required to work hard throughout the course.

How will I learn?

There will be a variety of approaches to the subject.

In the classroom there will be a mixture of teacher led lessons involving the whole class as well as individual work where a student will work through part of the syllabus using instructional material. There will also be work involving the use of computer programmes.

Students will need to do regular work outside lesson times to improve their grade and attend workshops.

How will my work be assessed?

A student's progress throughout the year will be monitored by regular assessment of work. There will be tests at the end of each term.

There will be public examinations which contribute to the final grade in November, March and June.

For the final GCSE grade Module 1 (Data Handling) will count for 18%, Module 3 (Number) will count for 27% and Module 5 (Algebra and Shape & Space) will count for 55%.

What skills will I need to be successful in this subject?

The main thing is that students' are prepared to work to improve on their previous GCSE grades, if they do this there is a very good chance that they will succeed in gaining at least a C at GCSE mathematics.

What are the entry requirements?

There are no special entry requirements although the time taken for a student to prepare for GCSE Maths will vary depending upon their previous results.

Students with a grade D usually do GCSE mathematics. Those with lower grades on BTEC Introductory or BTEC First Diploma courses may start by doing courses tailored to their needs before going on to GCSE later.

Students who have successfully completed our part one course will normally go on to do GCSE mathematics in their second year here.

What are the opportunities after this course for further/higher education and employment?

Most educational institutions and employers consider Mathematics GCSE to be an important part of a student's education.

For many Higher level courses and for many areas of employment a grade C or above in GCSE Maths is an essential requirement.

Students who want to go on to A level mathematics will need to gain at least a grade B at the higher level.