



GCSE Mathematics (see also Numeracy)

One year course (Foundation Tier).

The highest grade available is grade C.

Students will generally combine this course with up to five other GCSEs or a BTEC First Diploma or Introductory Certificate. It may also be taken as a re-sit with a limited range of level three courses.

GCSE Mathematics provides you with the numeracy required to take control of your daily life, whether managing your finances or judging the latest government statistics. Employers rate Maths skills very highly: there is always a demand for employees who can think logically and process information accurately. It also teaches you a wide range of transferable skills that will benefit you in whatever job you take.

Requirements:

The College minimum to start a GCSE course is four GCSEs at grade D or above. Students wishing to undertake this course require grade D in GCSE Mathematics.

This subject will focus on:

- using and applying mathematics;
- number and algebra;
- shape, space and measures; and
- handling data.

You can expect to:

- revisit GCSE topics, using a variety of different methods of learning, such as practical work, paired activities, discussion and ICT;
- practise skills and techniques, especially those required in examinations, which will help you to improve your GCSE grade; and
- get extra support from a specialist GCSE Mathematics facilitator.

Method of assessment:

You will be assessed by modular examination.

Progression:

You may be able to progress on to AS level courses or BTEC National Certificate/Diploma programmes. Many degree courses, such as Business Studies, Archaeology, Psychology and Architecture, usually require at least a grade C in GCSE Mathematics, and will be much easier to study if you have a good grasp of the subject at this level.

It is not just at university that GCSE Mathematics is useful. Employers rate data-handling ability as one of their top requirements in new recruits, for example, the ability to get information from graphs and charts, to manipulate percentages and fractions, and to make sensible predictions from data.