

GCSE Mathematics

Carl Friedrich Gauss: "**Mathematics** is the queen of science, and arithmetic the queen of **mathematics**."

What will I learn?

The new specification places a greater focus on a student's ability to problem solve and use mathematical reasoning so that they are better prepared for the mathematical challenges they will face in the real world. Mathematical fluency is still integral to the course, however, students will be rewarded more for showing their reasoning, understanding and problem solving skills. Much of the course will have over-laps with other subjects (for example Geography, Statistics and Physics).

What do I need to know before I can start the course?

GCSE Mathematics is a core subject; the better you have understood your KS2 and KS3 Maths the better you will fare at KS4. There will be an entry level certificate available for those that have found mathematics difficult to access.

What does the course involve?

The course is still split into two tiers Higher and Foundation of which more students will likely take the Foundation course. Students will cover a lot of mathematical concepts in Algebra, Ratio and Proportion, Geometry and Measure, Number Reasoning and Data Handling. Opportunities to use ICT to enhance and build confidence in mathematical fluency through homework and group work will be available, as well as downloadable apps to cater to your own personal learning requirements.

What can I do after the course? What careers will this course be useful for?

A GCSE in Mathematics will open up a wealth of further learning opportunities as well as career paths. Further study in Mathematics would entail A-Level maths, Statistics, Degree Level Maths, not to mention support any budding scientists out there. There are few, if any, financial careers that would turn away a candidate with a good pass in GCSE Mathematics. Many other careers and apprenticeships are requiring candidates to have a GCSE pass of Grade 4 or better.

Who can I talk to for more information?

Mr Payne or any Maths teacher

What websites can I check out?

<http://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-gcses/mathematics-2015.html>