

Subject:
Mathematics

How will I be assessed?

- 3 x 1 hour 30 min examination papers at foundation or higher tier
- Higher tier covers grade 4-9 whilst foundation tier covers grades 1-5
- Each paper is worth 80 marks and equally weighted
- Paper 1 is non-calculator and the other two are calculator-allowed

What will I learn?

Just as languages provide the building blocks and rules we need to communicate, maths uses its own language, made up of numbers, symbols and formulae, to explore the rules we need to measure or identify essential problems like distance, speed, time, space, change, force and quantities.

Maths helps us find patterns and structure in our lives. Practically, maths helps us put a price on things, create graphics, build websites and skyscrapers and generally understand how things work or predict how they might change over time and under different conditions.

The overarching topics covered are:

- Number \approx 20 %
- Algebra \approx 25 %
- Ratio, proportion and rates of change \approx 20 %
- Geometry and measures \approx 20 %
- Probability and statistics \approx 15%

Why is this subject valuable?

We use maths in every aspect of our lives at work and in practical everyday activities at home and beyond. For example, we use maths when we go shopping or plan a holiday. Good numeracy is essential to us all, as patients understanding health information, as citizens making sense of statistics and economic news. Decisions in life are so often based on numerical information: to make the best choices, we need to be numerate.

Career choices where this subject would be valuable:

Economist, stockbroker, accountant, meteorologist, statistician, cashier, salesperson, architect, engineer, actuary, ... just about any job needs maths!