



Year 11

**GCSE Mathematics
Higher Tier**

Parental Booklet

2025-2026



Key Dates:

The dates below outline when pupils will be sitting mock exam papers and the real examinations. Pupils will sit their mock exams (as well as the real exams) under exam conditions. The purpose of the mock exams is to give an indication as to what Grade pupils are currently working at. Following the mock exams, pupils will also receive feedback on which topics are their strengths and areas for development.

Date	Assessment
Monday 15 th September 2025	Mock Maths exam - Unit 1 (non-calculator)
Monday 1 st December 2025	Mock Maths exam - Unit 1 (non-calculator)
Wednesday 3 rd December 2025	Mock Maths exam - Unit 2 (calculator)
Wednesday 28 th January 2026	Mock Maths exam - Unit 2 (calculator)
Monday 2 nd March 2026	Mock Maths exam - Unit 1 (non-calculator)
Wednesday 4 th March 2026	Mock Maths exam - Unit 2 (calculator)
Thursday 14 th May 2026	GCSE Mathematics Final Exam - Unit 1 exam (non-calc)
Wednesday 10 th June 2026	GCSE Mathematics Final Exam - Unit 2 exam (calc)

Key Information:

- GCSE Higher Tier Mathematics consists of two papers: Unit 1 and Unit 2.
- The Unit 1 exam is a non-calculator exam. This lasts 1 hour 45 minutes.
- The Unit 2 exam is a calculator exam. This lasts 1 hour 45 minutes.
- Once pupils have sat the Unit 1 exam, we will provide pupils with a list of Mathematics topics which did not appear in Unit 1 (and therefore are more likely to appear in the Unit 2 exam) to help pupils focus their revision for the Unit 2 exam.

Grades:

- Pupils can achieve any grade from Grade C to Grade A* through the Higher Tier paper.

Homework

Year 11 pupils will be set online homework once per week (every Monday) on [MathsWatch](#).

This homework is compulsory and allows pupils to develop their understanding of a range of numeracy topics. Please encourage pupils to achieve the highest percentage possible as this shows whether they are secure in those skills.

Pupils can access the website via google login by using their school emails.

Equipment:

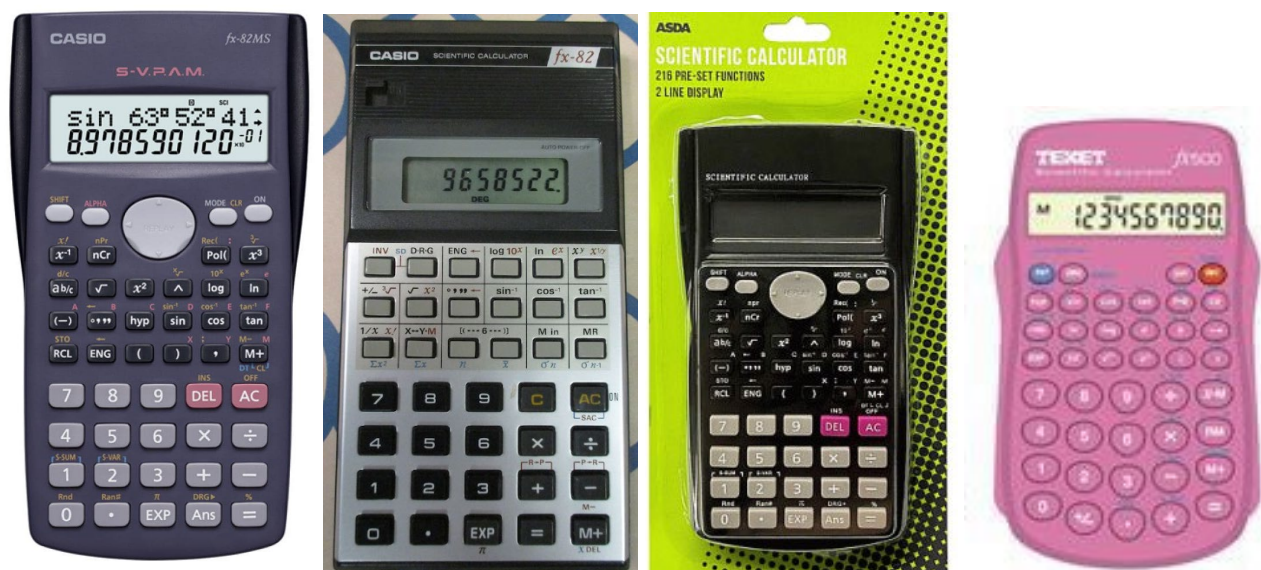
Please ensure pupils come to Maths lessons and attend Maths exams with the following equipment:

- Pen, pencil
- Rubber
- Ruler
- Compass and protractor (Geometry set)
- Scientific Calculator

Below are some examples of suitable Scientific Calculators:



Here are some examples of calculators that are not suitable as they are missing some functions:





Key Topics to Revise for Higher Tier Mathematics (and MathsWatch Clip Numbers)

Grade C

Reciprocals	123
Highest Common Factor (HCF)	124
Lowest Common Multiple (LCM)	125
Rounding to Significant Figures	126
Estimating Answers	127
Introduction to Bounds	128
Recurring Decimals to Fractions.	129
Increase/Decrease by a Percentage	130
Percentage Change	131
The Gradient of a Line	132
Drawing Quadratic Graphs.	133
Sketching Functions.	134
Quadratic Sequence from the n th Term	135
Special Sequences.	136
Simple Factorisation	137
Expanding and Simplifying Brackets	138
Solving Equations.	139
Forming Formulae and Equations	140
Rearranging Simple Formulae	141
Inequalities on a Number Line	142
Solving Linear Inequalities	143
Simultaneous Equations Graphically	144
Geometric Properties of Quadrilaterals	145
Plans and Elevations	146
Surface Area of a Prism	147
Volume of a Prism.	148
Dimensions.	149
Density	150
Constructing Perpendiculars.	151
Constructing Angles	152
Enlargements - Fractional Scale Factor	154
Similar Shapes	155
Pythagoras' Theorem	156
Frequency Diagrams	157
Simple Tree Diagrams	158
Averages From a Table.	160

Grade B

Standard Form	161
Index Notation.	162
Negative Indices.	163
Error Intervals.	164
Mathematical Reasoning	165
Compound Interest and Depreciation.	166
Reverse Percentage Problems.	167

Grade B (continued)

Factorising and Solving Quadratics	168
The Difference of Two Squares	169
Roots and Turning Points of Quadratics	170
Simultaneous Equations Algebraically	171
Geometric Progressions.	172
Product of Three Binomials	173
Iteration - Trial and Improvement	174
Iterative Processes.	175
Finding the Equation of a Straight Line.	176
Finding the n th Term of a Quadratic	177
Combinations of Transformations.	178
Pythagoras' Theorem - Using Algebra	179
Trigonometry.	180
Circle Theorems	181
Harder Tree Diagrams	182
Probability Using Venn Diagrams	183

Grade A/A*

Fractional Indices	186
Recurring Decimals - Proof	187
Direct and Inverse Proportion.	188
Upper and Lower Bounds.	190
Surds	191
Rearranging Difficult Formulae.	192
Solving Quadratics with the Formula	193
Factorising Hard Quadratics	194
Forming and Solving Quadratic Equations.	195
Completing the Square.	196
Algebraic Fractions.	197
Cubic and Reciprocal Graphs	198
Exponential Functions	199
Trigonometric Graphs.	200
Transformation of Functions.	201
Regions	202
Velocity-Time Graphs	203
Similarity - Area and Volume	204
Congruent Triangles.	205
Sectors of a Circle	206
Spheres	207
Pyramids	208
Cones.	209
Frustums	210
Enlargement - Negative Scale Factor.	211
Proof of Circle Theorems	212
The Sine Rule.	213
The Cosine Rule.	214
Area of a Triangle Using Sine.	215
Pythagoras in 3D.	216
Trigonometry in 3D.	217
And and Or Probability Questions	219



Lower Grade Skills

- Rounding 22/39
- Multiplying/Dividing Decimals 32/33
- Fractions 34/35/59/60/61/62/69
- Percentages 70/71/72/73
- Ratio 41/78
- Negative Numbers 58
- Order of Operations 63
- Indices and Roots 66/67
- Exchanging Money 77
- **Substitution 84**
- Perimeter & Area 51/52/102/103/104
- Surface Area of Cuboid 107
- Volume of Cuboid 108
- Area of a Circle 109
- Circumference of a Circle 110
- Unit Conversions 105
- Speed-Distance-Time 106
- Angles Rules 90/91/92/93
- Bearings 114
- Scatter Diagrams 119
- Pie Charts 121
- Averages and the Range 122



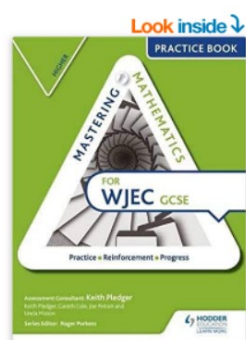
Helping your child to revise

There are a range of different websites which pupils can use to revise for their GCSE Mathematics exams. Here is a list of some we suggest:

<u>MathsDIY</u> This website provides access to past paper questions, solutions and mark schemes. You will also find past paper questions which are grouped by topic.	<u>Mathswatch</u> Provides pupils with videos and accompanying practice questions on a range of different topics. Students can find their username and password in their school emails.
<u>CorbettMaths</u> Videos and worksheets on every topic in Mathematics.	<u>BBC Bitesize</u> Information sheets with accompanying quizzes to test pupils' understanding on a range of different topics.

We also recommend the following practice book for lots of additional practice questions pupils can do at home:

QR Code:



Mastering Mathematics WJEC GCSE: Higher Practice Book Paperback – 29 Jul 2016

by Linda Mason, Keith Pledger, Gareth Cole, Joe Petran (Author)

★★★★☆ 7 ratings

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Website:

https://www.amazon.co.uk/Mastering-Mathematics-WJEC-GCSE-Practice/dp/1471874621/ref=asc_df_1471874621/?tag=googshopuk-21&linkCode=df0&hvadid=310867999190&hvpos=1o4&hvnetw=g&hvrnd=10151950930935182848&hvpone=&hvptwo=&hvgmt=&hvdev=c&hvdvcmdl=&hvlocint=&hvlocphy=9045370&hvtargid=pla-564198823091&psc=1&th=1&psc=1