

GCSE Maths

Why study Maths?

Mathematics is a compulsory subject at GCSE and is an essential qualification for many professions. At QES we aim to foster positive attitudes towards Mathematics - enjoyment, interest, confidence, motivation, perseverance and an awareness of the relevance of this very important subject. We want pupils to feel comfortable with numbers, to have some understanding of information which is presented in different mathematical forms and be able to make use of mathematical skills to cope with the practical demands of everyday life. We also want to inspire our most able mathematicians to pursue the subject to higher levels.

What will you be learning?

Throughout KS4 pupils will cover the new style GCSE with its revised and more demanding content. Pupils will build upon the key subject areas of number, algebra, ratio, proportion and rates of change, geometry and measures, probability and statistics and be given the opportunity to apply these fundamental skills in a variety of ways including real world, everyday contexts.

The course followed is the AQA GCSE Course 8300. Pupils will enter at either the Higher or Foundation tier and assessment for both will be via three terminal exam papers comprising one calculator and two non-calculator papers. All papers are equally weighted and content from any part of the specification may be assessed. Each exam paper will last for 1½ hrs

What are the lessons like?

In each set teaching is tailored to meet the needs of pupils to enable them to make sustained progress and achieve their potential. Approaches include practical, investigative, problem solving, individual and group work, ICT, textbooks and worksheets. We have regular internal assessments as well as a comprehensive and focused revision and past paper practice programme

What can it lead to?

The course enables pupils to develop and refine their problem solving strategies and build the confidence and skills required to tackle unfamiliar challenges. The approach builds on KS3 mathematics and cross-curricular initiatives on thinking skills and independent working. It prepares pupils to function mathematically in the world and the Higher level course provides a grounding for further study in Mathematics.

Want to know more?

Contact the Head of Department, talk to maths teachers and take the opportunity to talk to current GCSE pupils as well as sixth form students who have completed the GCSE course.