Parent's Information Evening GCSE Maths

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Exam Body and Specification

▶ Pearson Edexcel Level 1/Level 2 GCSE (9-1)

 in Mathematics (1MA1)

▶ Students on 16-19 study programmes that have previously taken GCSE Maths in their secondary schools/ centers will study GCSE Maths in 2023/24.

▶ From September 2015, FE colleges are teaching new GCSE Mathematics (9–1) specifications as a one year course.

▶ The GCSE is entirely assessed by written examination, which means no coursework will be required.

▶ The content of our GCSE Mathematics specification has been grouped into topic areas: *Number; Algebra; Ratio, proportion and rates of change; Geometry and measures, Probability; Statistics*.

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Learning tools required

▶ It is essential that all students have their own calculator, protractor, compass and ruler, so that they feel familiar with their tools.
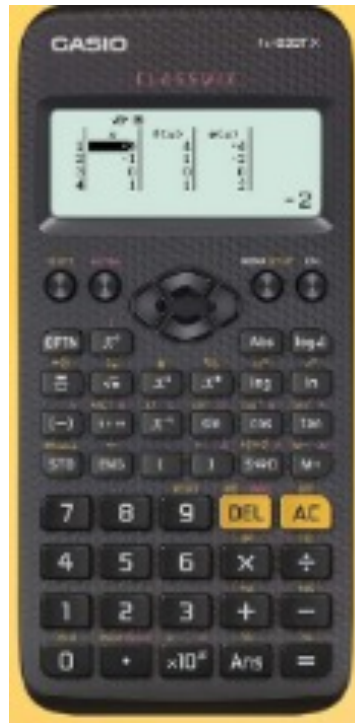
Exam dates:

Please be aware that students will need to be at the college by 8.30am on the morning on exams. Please do not book any holidays around the dates of exams.

Provisional exam dates:

- 16th May 2024 **Paper 1**-   Non-calculator exam (1h 30 minutes)

- 3rd June 2024 **Paper 2**- Calculator exam (1h 30 minutes)

- 10th June 2024 **Paper 3**- Calculator exam (1h 30minutes)

- Level 1 Award in Number and measure for LLDD and Entry level ESOL students assessments are on paper are in Jan and June 2024– letters and text messages are sent to inform learners in advance.

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November Exam dates:

Learner within 3 marks of achieving grade 4 on their June 2023 exams will be invited to take their GCSE Maths retakes earlier in November 2023.
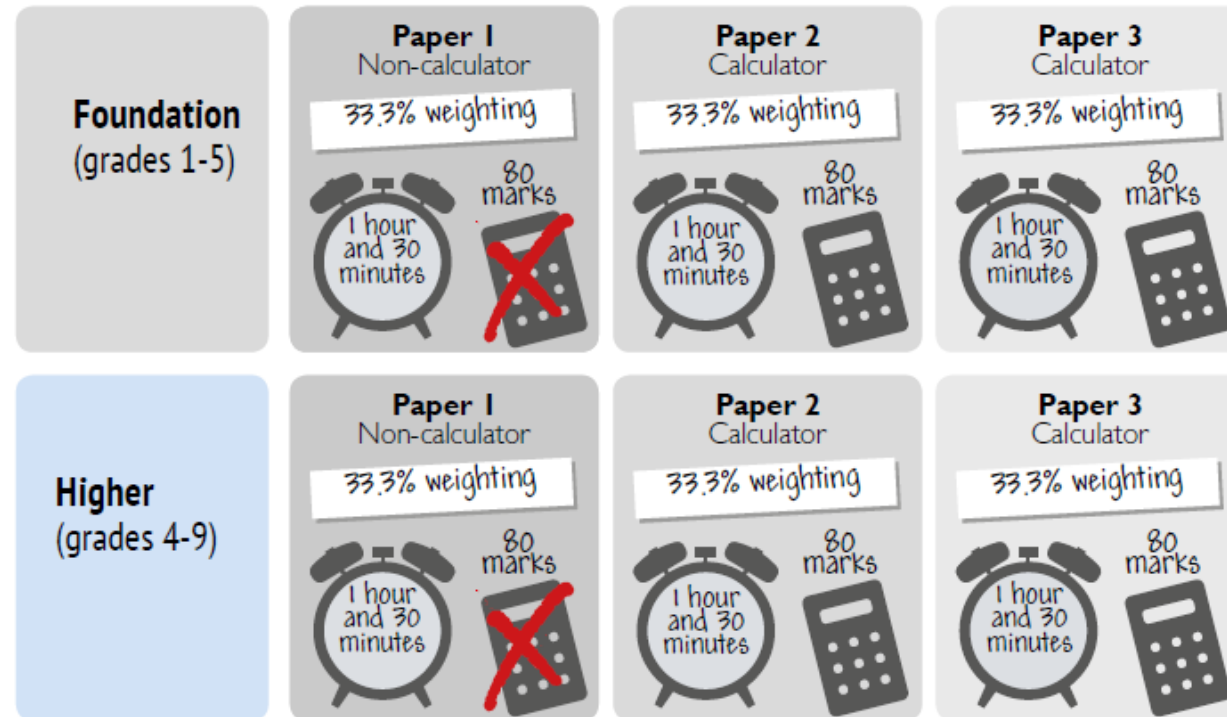
Final exam dates:

▶ **8th Nov 2023 Paper 1**-   Non-calculator exam (1h 30 minutes)

▶ **10th Nov 2023 Paper 2**- Calculator exam (1h 30 minutes)

▶ **13th Nov 2023 Paper 3**- Calculator exam (1h 30minutes)

▶ Some Adults learners will also be offered to take November 2023 exams.

GCSE Maths (9-1) Assessments

Overview of assessment

There will be three written papers, each contributing 33 % of the marks towards the final grade.

There are two tiers of entry:

	Paper 1 Non-calculator	Paper 2 Calculator	Paper 3 Calculator
Foundation (grades 1-5)	33.3% weighting 1 hour and 30 minutes 80 marks	33.3% weighting 1 hour and 30 minutes 80 marks	33.3% weighting 1 hour and 30 minutes 80 marks
Higher (grades 4-9)	33.3% weighting 1 hour and 30 minutes 80 marks	33.3% weighting 1 hour and 30 minutes 80 marks	33.3% weighting 1 hour and 30 minutes 80 marks

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The new Foundation tier

Teachers will be working with you to make decisions as to which tier (Foundation or Higher) is more appropriate for each student. It is important to remember that the new Foundation tier is more demanding than the current Foundation tier so just because a student may have previously been suitable for Higher tier that may no longer be the case as the content and assessment is quite different. Here are some of the things to consider when choosing tier of entry.

- A grade 5 – the new good pass can be attained through Foundation tier

- There is harder content that has been introduced to Foundation from Higher tier such as simultaneous equations

- The Foundation papers include questions targeted at the top of grade 5 which is broadly comparable to a low grade B

- The papers will include more questions testing higher order skills such as problem solving and reasoning

- There are common questions between Foundation and Higher tier papers that appear towards the end of the Foundation tier sample papers and form the first part of the Higher tier sample papers.

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Formulae

Below is a list of formulae that students do not have to memorise and can be provided within the examination, as part of the relevant question.

Where r is the radius of the sphere or cone, l is the slant height of a cone and h is the perpendicular height of a cone:
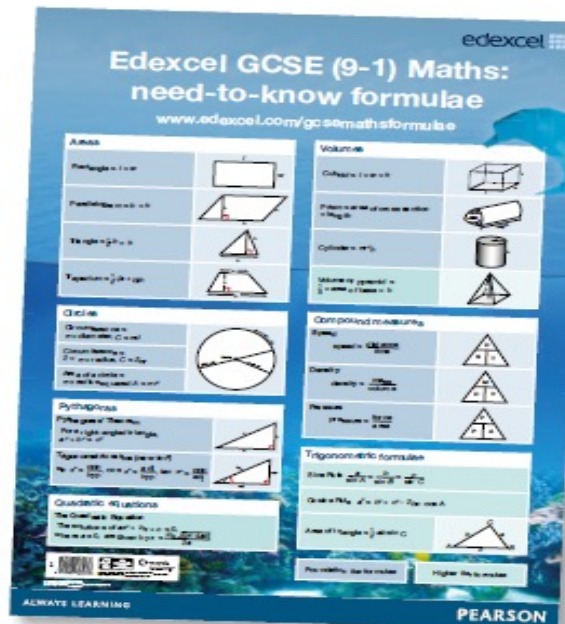
Curved surface area of a cone $= \pi r l$

Surface area of a sphere $= 4\pi r^2$

Volume of a sphere $= \frac{4}{3}\pi r^3$

Volume of a cone $= \frac{1}{3}\pi r^2 h$

Here's a list of the formulae that students have to memorise and recall:

Students will probably be familiar with this poster, which is likely to be displayed in their classrooms. They can download a smaller, black-and-white version from our website which they can stick inside their exercise books.

The new grading scale

Eventually all reformed GCSEs will be graded on the new scale 9-1. Ofqual, the regulator, have published the following guidance regarding the grading of new GCSEs in 2017.

New GCSE Grading Structure (Ofqual)

NEW GCSE GRADING STRUCTURE	CURRENT GCSE GRADING STRUCTURE
9	A*
8	
7	A
6	B
5	
4	C
3	D
2	E
1	F
	G
U	U

GOOD PASS (DfE)
5 and above = top of C and above

AWARDING
4 and above = bottom of C and above

New GCSE Grading Structure

Reformed GCSEs will be introduced gradually over three years from September 2015. They will be graded from 9 to 1, instead of A* to G.

Students awarded GCSEs in 2017 and 2018 will therefore receive a mixture of 9 to 1 and A* to G grades.

Students will not lose out as a result of the changes. We will use a statistical method (known as comparable outcomes) so that:

- broadly the same proportion of students will achieve a grade 4 and above as currently achieve a grade C and above;
- broadly the same proportion of students will achieve a grade 7 and above as currently achieve a grade A and above;
- the bottom of grade 1 will be aligned with the bottom of grade G;
- a grade 5 will be awarded to the top third of students gaining the equivalent of a grade C or bottom third of a grade B. The Department for Education has decided that grade 5 will be a 'good pass'.

In addition, the top 20 per cent of those who get a grade 7 or above in each exam will be awarded a grade 9.

9 to 1

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College resources:

▶ Use Teams resources and Maths Watch to extend your learning and revise.

▶ To access Mathswatch you need to go to **www.vle.mathswatch.co.uk** and enter Username : **ID number** and always end with '**@STCG**' & Password: **circle.**

▶ ## Revision Websites

▶ **Mathsbot fun activities (**https://mathsbot.com/gcseMenu**) and Maths4Everyone** (https://www.maths4everyone.com/pages/gcse-questions-by-topic.php)

▶ **Physics and Maths(GCSE Maths Questions by topic) https://www.physicsandmathstutor.com/maths-revision/gcse-questions-edexcel/** .

▶ **Corbett Maths (**https://corbettmaths.com/**) and Maths Genie (**http://www.mathsgenie.co.uk/gcse.html**) provide many practice questions and resources for students.

▶ Maths Society(Revision grade 1- 9) (https://www.mathsociety.org.uk/gcsemathsworksheets?gclid=EAla IQobChMIx9KSy6KGgAMVg-PVCh3inAfwEAAYAiAAEgKeB_D_BwE)

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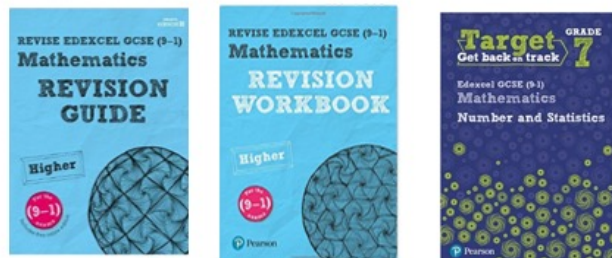# Suggested revision books to buy

These resources can be found online or in shops. Amazon has many good deals on used books and both Pearson and CGP

Each of these books is available for no more than £5.99 online.

Foundation

Higher

Homework and In class Assessments

- Homework will be set every week in the form of revision of the weeks' work and completing activities set. Students will need to spend at least 2 hours per week on homework and revision in order to be in a position to be successful.

- Short review tests will be set regularly to ensure understanding of key ideas and concepts. These are aimed at helping students recognise areas for development so these can be worked on in lessons and workshops. A mock exam will be held in February to further identify areas where support is needed.

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Staff List

► The Mathematics Staff can be contacted in Room 210 on the second floor of the College. Gabriela Milenkova, Section Head for Mathematics is based in room 312.

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