

Revision for Maths Exams

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Maths Exam Structure

- ▶ In a typical year there are 3 exam papers for maths each 1hr 30mins and worth 80 marks. Paper 1 is non-calculator the other two are calculator.
- ▶ Different to many GCSE subjects, content from anywhere on the course can come up on any paper.
- ▶ The paper builds from asking some of the easier content in the early pages to the more difficult content and more multistep problems towards the back
- ▶ The paper being structured like this allows students to build marks in the early part then the more of it they complete the better they can do.

How we are adapting things this year

- ▶ We still feel the only way we can really assess students in maths is to use exam style questions.
- ▶ In order to give students a bit more of an idea what to expect on each paper we are creating preparation question lists that they can use when revising (I'll show an example in a sec)
- ▶ They have already done a paper 1 and a paper 2 early in the year. Before Easter they will do a paper 3 during their maths lesson. After Easter we intend to do at least 2 maybe 3 more full papers.
- ▶ As well as this we will be giving some extra assessed exam questions in the lesson to back up how they do on the full papers

Revision tips

- ▶ The most important part of revision for maths is actually completing questions. The vast majority of revision time should be spend on this, particularly past paper style questions.
- ▶ This is because in a maths exam it will be all about application of knowledge. There is very little simple recall of facts.
- ▶ Notes, flash cards, summary pages etc are all very good as a starting point but I would argue that maths revision hasn't really started until you've started doing practice questions.
- ▶ A strategy for maths revision could be: identify a topic using pinpoint or a revision guide or similar, look at summary notes or watch video, find questions which match and complete them

Where to get practice questions

- ▶ www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/mathematics/gcse/mathematics-8300/assessment-resources
- ▶ www.corbettmaths.com
- ▶ www.mathsgenie.co.uk/gcse
- ▶ <https://www.maths4everyone.com/resources/gcse-questions-by-topic.html>
- ▶ www.onmaths.com
- ▶ www.mymaths.co.uk
- ▶ www.century.tech

Other Useful Resources

- ▶ This year we have been providing students with preparation lists before they sit an exam. These are a series of the type of question they need to be familiar with for the upcoming test.
- ▶ Pinpoint - After students complete a test they we will provide them with a green pinpoint booklet - they should have seen these before. These will have specific topics and questions they should complete in order to improve.
- ▶ Revision Guides - We have revision guides and matching practice books on sale at school they cost £2.85. We can get letters out to any interested student next week and have them as quickly as possible.