Shoeburyness High School

Year 9 Subject Information

Mathematics GCSE



Contents of the course

The assessments will cover the following content headings:

- 1. Number
- 2. Algebra
- 3. Ratio, proportion and rates of change
- 4. Geometry and measures
- 5. Probability
- 6. Statistics

Two tiers are available: Foundation and Higher.

A lot of the work you do in year 9 will go towards deciding which tier you may be taking



Assessment

- The qualification consists of three equally-weighted written examination papers at either Foundation tier or Higher tier.
- All three papers must be at the same tier of entry and must be completed in the same assessment series.
- Paper 1 is a non-calculator assessment and a calculator is allowed for Paper 2 and Paper 3.
- Each paper is 1 hour and 30 minutes long.
- Each paper has 80 marks.
- All taken at the end of Year 11.



Foundation & Higher

The qualification will be graded and certificated on a nine-grade scale from 9 to 1 using the total mark across all three papers where 9 is the highest grade. Individual papers are not graded.

Foundation tier: grades 1 to 5

Higher tier: grades 4 to 9

Final decisions on which tiers students are taking are made in year 11, but it is important you are working to your full potential in Years 9, 10 and 11.



Career & University Progression

Passing GCSE Maths significantly increases your career opportunities by helping you gain a place in sixth form, on a college course, an apprenticeship or even landing a job.



Career & University Progression

Maths is recommended or sometimes required for: computer science, accounting, chemistry, biology and life sciences, medicine/nursing, dentistry, business studies, management studies, finance, architecture, geology, psychology, surveying and even philosophy.

Some subjects, like medicine, require two out of this common gang of four subjects in further studies: maths, physics, chemistry and biology. So although you might not need to study a maths at A-Level or degree to progress, you must take at least two of the other subjects instead.

Maths is also crucial for studying advanced apprenticeships in accountancy and technology and engineering subjects.



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Most universities and employers will want you to have a grade 4+ in English and maths at GCSE, so, in 2013, the government announced that all students in England must now achieve this and keep on studying the subjects until they do.

So again its vitally important that you are working towards your full potential in years 9-11 to achieve the best grade you can. Students who achieve a grade 0-3 at the end of the GCSE will need to continue with their Maths studies during Years 12/13 with the aim of developing their understanding during this time.



Contact Information

Head of Key Stage 3: Mr I Currie icurrie@shoeburyness.secat.co.uk

Head of Key Stage 4: Ms A Catton acatton@shoeburyness.secat.co.uk

Head of Faculty: Mr C Stanford cstanford@shoeburyness.secat.co.uk

