



All students will follow the AQA Mathematics Linear Course (8300).

Assessment

The GCSE Mathematics course has two-tier entry, Foundation (grades 1-5) and Higher (grades 4-9). Assessment is by written examination only; there is no coursework component. A grade 4 is a level-2 pass, the equivalent of a C on the old grade scale. A grade 5 is known as a strong pass and is ideally what should be achieved if a student is thinking about going to university in the future. A grade 5 requires students to meet standards beyond those required for a C on the old grading system.

The new GCSE course has lots of new material and much of what was Higher content only, is now taught at the Foundation level. Questions are demanding and involve a deeper level of thinking.

Assessment consists of three examination papers, each lasting for 90 minutes and each counting for a third of the final score. The first paper is non-calculator and the remaining two allow a calculator to be used. Each paper may test any of the content from the syllabus.

Content

The subject content of this course and specification is common to all awarding bodies and is consistent with the statutory Programme of Study for Mathematics in the Key Stage 4 National Curriculum.

Content is grouped into 6 main topics: Number, Algebra, Ratio & Proportion, Geometry & Measures, Probability and Statistics. However, the ability to make links between different topics will be tested and topics should not be viewed in isolation. Each topic will have foundation, core and extension work.

Full details of the specification can be found at:

<http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/mathematics/gcse/mathematics-8300/spec-at-a-glance>