

KS4 Maths Curriculum (Y9, 10 & 11)

At James Calvert Spence College, KS4 mathematics follows on seamlessly from KS3, covering all areas of mathematics. All pupils work towards their GCSE from the start of Year 9, aspiring towards individual and ambitious target grades. Following changes to the new GCSE specifications in 2015 and the first assessments in June 2017, we believe it is appropriate to teach the GCSE course over 3 years in order to cover the increased subject content at all levels. Pupils working at higher levels will cover work that allows them to continue on to A Level with confidence.

Pupils should expect to receive homework on a regular basis to develop their ability to learn independently, whilst also consolidating and stretching their understanding of a given topic. Homework will take the form of either:

- Learning key information from their Knowledge Organisers
- Completing Hegarty Maths Skills Tasks
- GCSE Past Papers

Each term, pupils can expect to be assessed against the 9-1 GCSE grading system, testing their ability to recall and apply subject content, reason and problem solve. As they progress into Years 10 and 11, there will be an increased focus on preparing the pupils to sit their GCSE exam.

We place our pupils in sets based on their mathematical attainment, which ensures that they follow an individualised flightpath towards their GCSE target grade. We believe that this is necessary in order that pupils are prepared to sit either the Foundation Tier (Grades 5-1) or the Higher Tier (Grades 9-4) papers.

Exam Board: AQA GCSE Mathematics (8300)

Paper 1: Non-Calculator (1hr 30mins)

Paper 2: Calculator paper (1hr 30mins)

Paper 3: Calculator paper (1hr 30mins)

Please see separate 'Foundation GCSE SOW' and 'Higher GCSE SOW' documents for full overview of the GCSE 3-year course.