



WESTONBIRT

— SCHOOL —

Exam Board – EDEXCEL

What can I expect from this subject?

Maths is extremely marketable and amongst the most highly respected GCSEs. The course has been designed to provide a solid foundation in the basics of mathematics, it covers a broad spectrum of mathematical topics with an emphasis on developing confidence and perseverance through increased problem-solving.

The areas are:

1. Numbers and the number system
2. Equations, formulae and identities
3. Sequences, functions and graphs
4. Geometry and trigonometry
5. Vectors and transformation geometry
6. Statistics and probability

All students will be prepared for the EDEXCEL specification Linear GCSE from Year 9, which may be taken at either Foundation or Higher Tier level. The grades will run from 9 – 4 in Higher Tier and 5 – 1 in Foundation Tier.

The GCSE tier options will be evidence-based drawing from tracked past and current performance, our professional judgement, current confidence levels and external benchmarking measures.

The qualification consists of two, equally weighted, terminal papers of two hours and 100 marks.

What can I do to prepare for this course?

Resilience is a vital quality when it comes to preparing for the subject. Students experience some questions that are challenging or unfamiliar and these will often be worth three, four or more marks. Although students may not always be able to get these questions fully correct, they can pick up some of the marks by making a start and showing some worthwhile work towards an answer.

Practise questions, don't just read notes or watch videos. Confidence in maths is increased by doing maths!

What will my next steps be?

Students will be well prepared if they wish to continue to study mathematics at A-Level and beyond.

Candidates with an undergraduate degree in maths are looked on favourably for a wide range of jobs – including Masters and PhD courses. The analytical skills acquired are highly prized across all industries. Maths can be used to solve real-world problems, which is the essence of mathematics. As such, it can lead to many different careers including:

- Cryptographer
- Economist
- Actuary
- Teacher
- Financial Planner
- Investment Analyst
- Statistician

Students who make a career out of maths reportedly have some of the highest levels of job satisfaction. In addition to enjoying some of the best salaries.

However, if key stage 4 (GCSE) is the end of your mathematical journey we pride ourselves on creating mathematicians that are able to have an awareness of mathematics in the wider world and are equipped with transferable skills such as problem solving, lateral & logical thinking and high levels of numeracy.