

COURSE DESCRIPTION 2016-2017

Course: Mathematics GCSE	Awarding body: AQA
Tutor: Helen Dee/Mark Raisborough	Course length: 30 weeks

Course summary/aims:	<p>This course aims to develop the understanding of number, statistics, algebra, ratio, probability and geometry in order to successfully solve written problems and calculations. Efficient and effective scientific calculator use will be developed along with written calculations, solving equations, interpreting data and communicating mathematical knowledge.</p> <p>At the end of the course, assessment will take place with 3 exams, resulting in a formal GCSE qualification.</p>
Course objectives:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Develop knowledge, skills and understanding of mathematical methods and concepts 2. Acquire and use problem-solving strategies 3. Select and apply mathematical techniques and methods to every day and real-world situations 4. Use correct mathematical terminology to support reasoning, make deductions and draw conclusions and complete mathematical problems 5. Interpret and communicate mathematical information in a way appropriate to the information and context.
Course content:	<p>The course comprises 6 subjects:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) number 2) algebra 3) ratio 4) geometry 5) probability 6) statistics. <p>Within these, some of the topics covered include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Statistical graphs and charts • Statistical calculations, including averages and frequency • Probability and use of tree diagrams • Calculations involving numbers of all sizes • Fractions, decimals and percentages • Ratio and proportion

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speed, distance and time • Algebra: expanding brackets and factorisation • Linear, simultaneous and quadratic equations • Indices and standard form • Properties of shapes and angles • Perimeters, area and volume • Using trigonometry and Pythagoras
Teaching and learning methods:	Teaching will include group discussion, individual and group activities, instruction, demonstration, practice questions and the opportunity to ask questions.
Course level/entry requirements:	<p>All learners thinking of joining the Maths GCSE course will be assessed prior to enrolment to determine the most suitable level of the course.</p> <p>The course is ideal for students who have previously attained a D grade at GCSE or Level 2 functional skills, or are working at this level. However, if you have no prior qualifications you may still be eligible for the course – please contact us for assessment.</p> <p>You will need to be confident with most of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basic number work, including decimals, percentages and fractions • Basic understanding of shapes, perimeters, areas and volumes • Conversion between units of measure in length, weight and capacity • Handling data, including working out averages and interpreting and displaying information using different charts or graphs
How progress is checked during course:	The tutor will monitor your understanding during teaching sessions. In addition, weekly homework is set and marked by the tutor to keep a check on your progress. There will be practice exams conducted before the real exams which will be marked by the tutor and feedback given.
Extra study or practice required at home?	Homework will be set weekly and is an essential element. This will be a minimum of 2 hours per week. You will be given support materials or directed to online resources.
Formal course accreditation? If yes, how is the course assessed?	<p>GCSE at grades A*-C (Higher), C-G (Foundation)</p> <p>Assessment is by three unseen, written exams at the end of the course. Each exam lasts 1 1/2 hours and covers content from any of the specification.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paper 1 – (non-calculator) 33.3% of the assessment • Paper 2 – (calculator) 33.3% of the assessment • Paper 3 – (calculator) 33.3% of the assessment

<p>Materials you will need to bring to the course:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pen, pencil, ruler • Lined paper • Ring bound A4 folder • Geometry set (protractor, pair of compasses, set square) • Scientific calculator: CASIO FX83GT Plus is recommended (approx. £6 on Amazon) • Course textbook: AQA GCSE Mathematics for Middle Sets Student Book (Glyn Payne) ISBN: 978-1408232828 (approx. £20 on Amazon)
<p>What can I do next?</p>	<p>Mathematics GCSE is a requirement for entry to further education in some subjects or for some careers. It is also possible to progress to AS or A2 level providing a suitable standard is reached.</p>

Information, Advice and Guidance sessions are available on request (it is best to make an appointment). If you feel you may need some support eg. with English, Maths or ICT, please ask.

To get in touch, please call your local CLIP Learning Centre (see below) or email info@cliplearning.com

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