

# Curriculum pathways for **GCSE Maths** in

# KS4



## Curriculum pathways for Maths in KS4

One of the major benefits of the new Maths qualifications is that they offer you and your learners a wide variety of possible pathways, with choices to meet learners interests, aptitudes and needs, and the resources available within the school.

This booklet is designed to outline some of the possible pathways you could follow in your school.

With each suggested pathway we have given some guidance around why each route might suit your school. If you would like to discuss any of these options in more detail, contact a member of our specialist Maths subject team on **0300 456 3142**.

For more information about our Maths qualifications visit:

**[www.ocr.org.uk/maths](http://www.ocr.org.uk/maths)**



Year 9	Year 10	Year 11	Year 12 and 13	Benefits	Guidance Considerations
KS3 Mathematics	Entry Level Mathematics			Can be taught with GCSE Mathematics A or B	Learners could progress onto GCSE Mathematics A or B Foundation Level
Entry Level Mathematics	GCSE Mathematics A			For learners not wishing to study Mathematics after age 16	
Entry Level Mathematics	GCSE Mathematics B			For learners not wishing to study Mathematics after age 16	
KS3 Mathematics	GCSE Mathematics A		AS/A Level Mathematics	Assessment can take place during the course when learners' understanding is at its best Provides good preparation for further education or employment	Learners may progress onto further study Learners may also need to study AS/A Level Further Mathematics
KS3 Mathematics	GCSE Mathematics A		Free Standing Mathematics Qualification	Assessment can take place during the course when learners' understanding is at its best Provides good preparation for further education or employment	For learners wanting GCSE Mathematics and an additional qualification
KS3 Mathematics	GCSE Mathematics B		Free Standing Mathematics Qualification	More flexibility in the order of teaching Provides good preparation for further education or employment	Learners may also need to study further mathematics Learners may progress onto further study
KS3 Mathematics	GCSE Mathematics B		AS/A Level Mathematics	More flexibility in the order of teaching Provides good preparation for further education or employment	For learners wanting two GCSE Mathematics qualifications plus an additional qualification
KS3 Mathematics	GCSE Applications of Mathematics (Pilot)		Free Standing Mathematics Qualification	The two pilot specifications cover more content between them than the single GCSE Provides good preparation for further education or employment	For learners wanting two GCSE Mathematics qualifications plus an additional qualification
	GCSE Methods in Mathematics (Pilot)				



Year 9	Year 10	Year 11	Year 12 and 13	Benefits	Guidance Considerations
KS3 Mathematics	GCSE Applications of Mathematics (Pilot)	GCSE Methods in Mathematics (Pilot)	AS/A Level Mathematics	The two pilot specifications cover more content between them than the single GCSE Provides good preparation for further education or employment	For learners wanting two GCSE Mathematics qualifications plus an additional qualification Learners may progress onto further study
	GCSE Methods in Mathematics (Pilot)				
KS3 Mathematics	GCSE Applications of Mathematics (Pilot)	GCSE Methods in Mathematics (Pilot)	Free Standing Mathematics Qualification	The two pilot specifications cover more content between them than the single GCSE Provides good preparation for further education or employment	For learners wanting two GCSE Mathematics qualifications plus an additional qualification  There is a small overlap in content between the pilot and the Free Standing Mathematics Qualification
KS3 Mathematics	GCSE Applications of Mathematics (Pilot)	GCSE Methods in Mathematics (Pilot)	AS/A Level Mathematics	The two pilot specifications cover more content between them than the single GCSE Provides good preparation for further education or employment	For learners wanting two GCSE Mathematics qualifications Learners may progress onto further study
	GCSE Mathematics A		Free Standing Mathematics Qualification	Assessment can take place during the course when learners' understanding is at its best Provides good preparation for further education or employment	Learners wanting a good mathematical knowledge but not wishing to study Mathematics after age 16
	GCSE Mathematics B		Free Standing Mathematics Qualification	More flexibility in the order of teaching Provides good preparation for further education or employment	Learners wanting a good mathematical knowledge but not wishing to study Mathematics after age 16 The gap between teaching and assessment may be longer



Year 9	Year 10	Year 11	Year 12 and 13	Guidance	
				Benefits	Considerations
	<b>GCSE</b> Mathematics A	<b>Free Standing Mathematics Qualification</b>	<b>AS/A Level</b> Mathematics & Further Mathematics	This is a good route for your more able mathematicians	
	<b>GCSE</b> Mathematics B	<b>Free Standing Mathematics Qualification</b>	<b>AS/A Level</b> Mathematics & Further Mathematics	This is a good route for your more able mathematicians	
	<b>GCSE</b> Applications in Mathematics (Pilot)	<b>Free Standing Mathematics Qualification</b>	<b>AS/A Level</b> Mathematics & Further Mathematics	This is a good route for your more able mathematicians	
	<b>GCSE</b> Methods in Mathematics (Pilot)				
<b>GCSE</b> Applications in Mathematics (Pilot)	<b>GCSE</b> Methods in Mathematics (Pilot)	<b>Free Standing Mathematics Qualification</b>	<b>AS/A Level</b> Mathematics & Further Mathematics	This is a good route for your more able mathematicians	
	<b>Functional Skills</b> Mathematics (Entry Level 1 to Level 2)			<p>Can be embedded into curriculum delivery at any level, with learners taking the appropriate level of assessment when ready</p> <p>OCR guidance and support materials will be available to help with delivery</p>	<p>Additional teaching and learning approaches are needed to ensure learners are fully prepared for the assessment</p> <p>We recommend that this is included within existing delivery to ensure relevance and greater understanding of transferability of skills, although functional skills support materials offer guidance on a number of different approaches</p>



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Details of our annual programme are mailed to your centre in June and December each year and are also available on the [OCR website](#). To supplement this, your centre will receive a number of other training updates as our training programme develops.

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**www.ocr.org.uk**

OCR customer contact centre

**General qualifications**

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