

GCSE Assessments

For Mathematics GCSE students will sit three exam papers in the May and June of year 11.

Paper	Calculator Allowed?	Duration
Paper 1	Non-calculator	1 hour 30 minutes
Paper 2	Calculator	1 hour 30 minutes
Paper 3	Calculator	1 hour 30 minutes

Tiering

Students will either sit the **Higher Tier** or the **Foundation Tier** exams.

Tier	Grades Available	Content
Higher	Grade 3 up to Grade 9	More algebra and less number
Foundation	Grade 1 up to Grade 5	Less algebra and more number

Higher tier features more content and more challenging content compared to Foundation. Students in set 1 and 2 will usually sit the Higher tier and students in set 3, 4 and 5 will usually sit the Foundation tier. Students doing Foundation tier are limited to a grade 5, you cannot achieve higher than a 5 on Foundation. Students doing Higher tier can achieve up to a grade 9.

Calculator

Two of the exam papers are calculator papers therefore it's essential that students have a proper scientific calculator. We recommend the **Casio fx-83GT CW** model. Please see our Calculator Policy document for more information about this.

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