



Year 9 GCSE Foundation Year

Key People You Need to Know:

Mrs Ragheb – Deputy Headteacher

Ms. Singh – Head of Lower School

Ms. Newton – Head of Year 9

GCSE Foundation Year

- Our Role
- Your Role
- Attendance needs to be 100%
- GCSE Pod – your child needs to register

Year 9 Mathematics

Start of GCSE Course

Subject Content

For all GCSE Mathematics syllabuses the National curriculum programmes of study and associated statements form the subject content. In practice, this involves the study of Mathematics under the headings of

- ▣ Statistics and Probability
- ▣ Number and Algebra
- ▣ Geometry
- ▣ Ratio and Proportion and Rates of Change.

In all of these strands, there is now a greater focus on problem solving.

Year 9 – Foundation Year

- Year 9 provides a foundation year where students build up mathematical skills to prepare them for their GCSE course next year.
- Students will be regularly assessed through short key skills tests, assessing not just their number and graph work but their memory of formulae.
- Students are taught 10 units throughout year 9 and will have single level testing at the end of each unit.
- In the summer term, students sit a baseline test which helps us to decide the grade they are working at and which tier of entry would be best for that group.

Changes to the GCSE Summer 2018

▣ Grading Systems

- ▣ One of the big changes will be the grading system for pupils, which now goes from a Grade 1 (the lowest grade) up to a Grade 9 (the grade awarded to the top 3% of pupils only.)
- ▣ This is a 2-Tier GCSE Course and can be taken at both Foundation and Higher level.

Higher Vs Foundation

- The new foundation paper contains more content and difficulty than before, such as reverse percentages and simultaneous equations and **will now be suited to a greater number of pupils than before.**
- The higher tier also now contains more content, including functions, Venn diagrams, geometric progressions and gradient of a point on a curve.
- The wording of the questions in higher tier is far more difficult and requires more interpretation than foundation.

Exam entry level	GCSE grades available
Foundation tier	1-5
Higher tier	4-9 (allowed a Grade 3)

The specification: new assessment objectives

AO1: Use and apply standard techniques

▣ (50% Foundation, 40% Higher)

AO2: Reason, interpret and communicate mathematically

▣ (25% Foundation, 30% Higher)

AO3: Solve problems within mathematics and other contexts

▣ (25% Foundation, 30% Higher)

More emphasis on problem-solving, communication, proof, interpretation

Type of Questions:

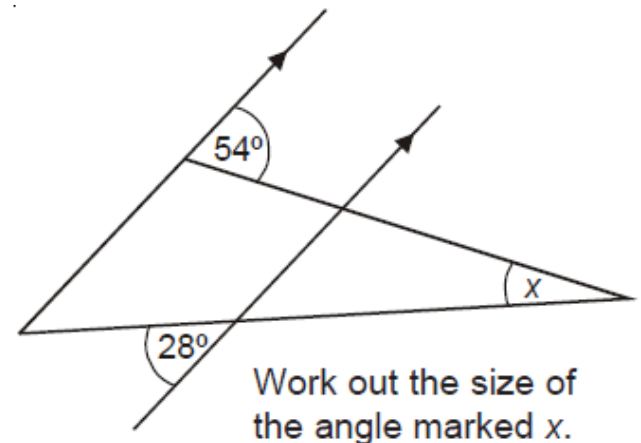
- **A01**: Straightforward questions:

Eg: Factorise $3x - 12$

- **A02**: Where there is more than one way to approach the question, less straight forward

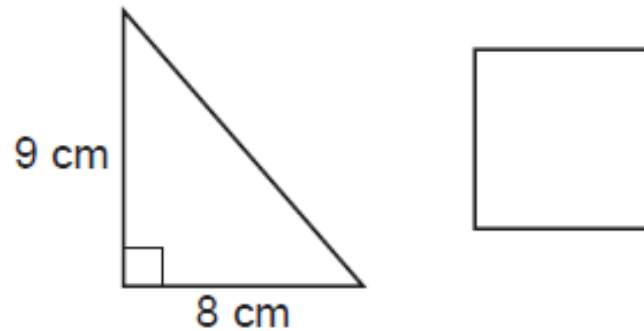
Eg:

eg →



- **A03** Questions: Less straightforward, there is a problem to be solved.

Eg:



The area of the triangle is the same as the area of the square.

Work out the **perimeter** of the square.

Structure of the Exam

• Six content areas:	F	H
• Number	25%	15%
• Algebra	20%	30%
• Ratio, proportion, rates of change	25%	20%
• Geometry	15%	20%
• Probability & Statistics	15%	20%

Three written papers: each contributes 33.3% of the final grade.

Each paper is worth 80 marks and is 1 hour and 30 minutes.

Paper 1 is a non calculator paper and Papers 2 and 3 require a calculator.

Overview of content and percentage it features in both tiers.

	Foundation	Higher
Number	25%	15%
Algebra	20%	30%
Ratio, proportion and rates of change	25%	20%
Geometry	15%	20%
Statistics and Probability	15%	15%

Revision Aids

■ www.mymaths.co.uk

(school username and password needed)

Username: **claremont**

Password: **prime**

■ Revision Books will be purchased by the school at the start of year 10 (£4 donation by parents.)

Year 9 English

Start of GCSE Course

AQA GCSE

English

New Specification:

First Exam 2017



The Big Change

100% exam based



AQA English Language

- Explorations in Creative Reading and Writing

- Exam = 1 hour 45

- 80 marks

- 50% of GCSE

- Writers Viewpoints and perspectives

- Exam = 1 hour 45

- 80 marks

- 50% of GCSE

AQA English Literature

**Shakespeare
and the 19th**

Century novel

□ Exam = 1hr 45

□ 64 marks

□ 40% of GCSE

**Modern
texts and
poetry**

□ Exam = 2 hrs
15

□ 96 marks

□ 60% of GCSE



- Students are introduced to new GCSE style questions – extract based
- Taught skills on how to answer questions in detail
- Given a taste of 19th and 20th Century texts
- Identify and analyse language techniques
- Offer alternative interpretations to a text

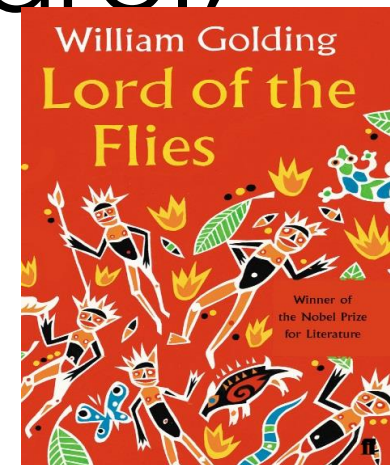
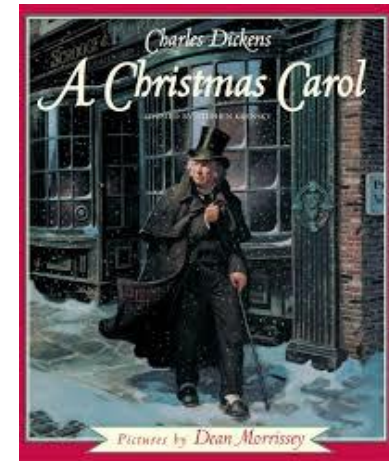
What can I do as a parent/carer?

- **Question** them on teacher's comments and targets in exercise book
- **Refine** work to improve grade
- No homework? **Read**, infer, identify language techniques

Assessment in Key Stage 4

Other Useful Resources

- BBC Bitesize
- Study guides
- Texts – Christmas Carol,
Lord of the Flies,
Macbeth



Y9 Science – Foundation GCSE

Why the change?

- We have two different pathways at KS4: Triple Science GCSE, Dual Science
- In order to ensure you have plenty of time to complete whichever pathway you choose, we have condensed KS3 to two years and have introduced the foundation GCSE in Y9.

What will I do when?

1st Sep- 16th
Oct

- 9A Genes and Genetics
- 9B Growing our food

2nd Nov - 11th
Dec

- 9E Making materials
- 9F Reactivity

14th Dec-
12th Feb

- 9I Forces and motion
- 9J More on electricity

22nd Feb - 8th
July

- Foundation GCSE
Chemistry, Physics and
Biology

How will I be assessed?

- Topic Test (twice per half term)
- Term Test (Every term)
- KS3 Test (March or April 2016)
- Foundation GCSE Test (June/July 2016)

How can I work at home with my parents?

■ ISBN13:

9781447959625

■ ISBN10:

1447959620



Any other learning tool?

- www.s-cool.co.uk
- www.getrevising.co.uk
- www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize
- www.scibermonkey.org
- www.ysjournal.com
- www.edexcel.com