

Year 10/11 Pathway to GCSE

Each year we have a number of students who have difficulties accessing the GCSE curriculum. For these students we provide an alternative, bespoke teaching program that focuses on an appropriate entry level qualification studied through Years 10 and 11. Students progress through a sequence of exams to achieve meaningful qualifications as they track towards GCSE Mathematics in the summer of Year 11.

The Edexcel Entry Level Certificate, (ELC) in Mathematics is an entry level award certifying achievement at Level 1/ Level 2 or Level 3 of the National Curriculum, providing an ideal platform to then move onto GCSE Mathematics. The examination for the Edexcel Entry level Certificate is composed of a relatively short assessment and a task. Both the assessment and the task are completed in the classroom, with students able to access whatever resources/ manipulatives/ reading assistance they would normally use to support their learning. The ELC is cumulative, with students working through Level 1 content, then completing further questions and tasks to achieve Level 2 then Level 3. Students have a choice of three tasks, so these can be chosen to play to a student's particular strengths. There are also more than one assessment available, giving students the chance to resit an assessment if necessary, without having to wait for the next exam cycle.

The ELC initially focuses on building key numeracy skills, then shape before moving onto data. On successful completion of the ELC assessments, we move on to study the Edexcel Award in Number and Measure at Level 1 then the equivalent Level 2 qualification. These are formally assessed as part of the June/January exam cycle. Again the scheme of learning focuses primarily on number, measures, shape and data and all topics are building blocks for the fundamental concepts covered at GCSE.

Students are encouraged to work through the progressions of exams, although their initial entry point will differ according to prior attainment. At each June/January exam cycle, students have the opportunity to be assessed on the next level of qualification deemed appropriate.

From January in Year 11, we start to cover specific GCSE content that has not yet been touched on (mainly algebra and more in depth angle work) for those students who will sit the GCSE Mathematics examination in the June cycle.