

Revision for Maths GCSE

February 2019

Dear Parent,

At Test Valley we want all our pupils to achieve as high as possible – in their “pursuit of personal excellence”.

As promised, we have also created a pack of exam papers. It contains 5 sets of 3 papers and we are selling these purpose made packs at the price of £7.00 each. Pupil Premium and Services children will have this paid for. For pupils to make the most of these books, we recommend they do the following:

- Attempt all questions from each paper. Pupils should not just focus on the questions they feel comfortable with. They need to challenge themselves to improve quicker.
- Check their answers to see if they were correct or not.
- There are answers (but not workings) provided at the back of the papers so that pupils do not have to wait for a teacher to mark their work each time – they can immediately check if they have an answer correct for themselves.
 - If they got their answer correct – great!
 - If they got an answer incorrect – **then** they should use any of the other revision materials* they have available to try and figure out how to answer the question correctly. If they still cannot figure out how to get the correct answer after that – ask their teacher.
- Add up their total score and compare it to the grade boundaries provided. Please note that these are not confirmed boundaries but are a “best guess” from analysis of the materials provided by the exam boards and collaboration with other leading schools all around Hampshire.

**A “Pupil Resources” revision page has been specially created within the Maths area on Moodle to help. As well as Hegartymaths.com which we use for HLTs, this also includes links to two key sites that would help fill in any gaps in their knowledge – www.mathedup.co.uk and www.corbettmaths.com. Both sites have questions, worked solutions to exam questions and a “how-to” video for every possible maths topic. Other resources include a free e-book revision guide, flash cards and further practice questions.*

As there are 15 exam papers in total in the book, this works out as approximately 1 paper per week leading up to the first Maths GCSE exam. When including the extra steps of checking and improving answers as detailed above, this is the minimum work expected each week. Pupils will be using these books at least once a week in lessons to supplement work at home. It is strongly recommended that these packs are purchased so that pupils can write in them as they would a real exam. However, there will be packs available to copy from in lessons and packs will be made available on moodle.

You can pay for the practice-paper book in the following ways:

- £7 in cash at the office.
- £7 cheque made payable to “Test Valley School”
- Via the e-payment method
- Pupil Premium and Services pupils will be given one book free of charge. However, if it is lost any replacements will have to be paid for.

HEADTEACHER • MISS L HISCOCK B.ED (HONS)

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Finally, may I take this opportunity to remind you of the importance of pupils having the correct equipment: Pens, pencils, ruler, rubber, protractor, a pair of compasses and a scientific calculator (with the ability to write fractions as they would be seen in a book). We cannot provide these for all pupils so the only way to guarantee that they have what they need in a test is to have it themselves. With one non-calculator paper and two calculator papers it is really important that they have been able to practise using their own equipment beforehand.

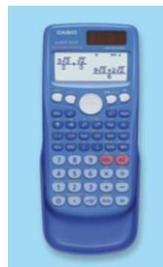
With that in mind I would like to take this opportunity to advertise important maths equipment we now sell at Pupil Services. It is increasingly vital that all pupils are well equipped for lessons, so we thought we would order the equipment we would recommend as we may be able to offer this to you at cheaper prices than you are likely to find in shops.

We are offering the following three products:

Exam Kit: A large, clear exam kit pencil case complete with compass and pencil, 12"/30cm shatter resistant ruler, protractor and pencil sharpener. **£1** (usually £2-£4 in shops)

Scientific Calculator: Casio FX85GT scientific calculator, solar/battery powered, twinline display. 249 functions, slide-on case. Now with Natural Textbook display (you can enter expressions as seen in text books – strongly recommended for the new GCSE). **£8.00** (RRP £13.99)

Multifunction Pen: Bic 2-in-1 retractable ball pen featuring 3 medium nibs for normal writing and a mechanical pencil. 3 colours black, blue and red with a 1.0mm medium pen tip. 2 x 0.7mm HB leads and eraser end. **£2** (£7.31 on amazon)



We hope the above supports you to ensure your child has the correct equipment and therefore have the best opportunity for success in Mathematics.

Thank you in advance for your continued support. Should you wish to discuss the above further do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Mr E J Whatley.
Head of Mathematics.

This slip is for my son/daughter T/G.....
to receive a copy of the Practice Paper Exam book created by the Maths department.

I have enclosed:

- A cheque (for £7 made payable to "Test Valley School")
- I wish to pay via the e-payment method
- My child is registered as a Pupil Premium / Services Pupil so no payment is required.

Signed (parent) Date.....

Please print name