

Mathematics : National 3 Lifeskills

This course consists of three mandatory Units, each worth 6 SCQF Credit points

They are:

Manage money and data

Shape, space and measures

Numeracy

The aims of this course are to enable pupils to :

- Interpret real-life situations involving mathematics
- Investigate the use of basic mathematical ideas and number processes in real-life contexts
- Select and apply basic mathematical and numeracy skills in real-life contexts
- Interpret and use the results of calculations, measurements and data to make informed decisions
- Communicate mathematical information in an appropriate way

In addition, pupils will have the opportunity to develop generic and transferable skills for learning, skills for life and skills for work.

Assessment:

Pupils must show competency in each of the three Units. This will be generated in a variety of ways, including problem-solving questions and practical measurement, weight and volume tasks. Real-life contexts will be used in assessments.

There is no external assessment for this course.

Homework:

There will be homework tasks for all topics in the three Units, except the practical work.

Progression:

Successful completion of National 3 Lifeskills could provide entry to the National 4 Mathematics course in S5/6

Pupils could also progress into employment and/or training.

Mathematics at National 4

This course consists of three mandatory Units, each worth 6 SCQF Credit points and an Added Value Unit worth another 6 SCQF points.

The Units are:

- Expressions and Formulae
- Relationships
- Numeracy

Course aims:

- Motivate and challenge pupils by enabling them to select and apply straightforward mathematical skills in a variety of mathematical and real-life situations
- Develop confidence in the subject and a positive attitude towards further study in mathematics
- Enable the use of numerical data and abstract terms and develop the idea of generalisation
- Allow pupils to interpret, communicate and manage information in mathematical form; skills are vital to scientific and technological research and development
- Develop the pupil's skills in using mathematical language and to explore straightforward mathematical ideas
- Develop skills relevant to learning, life and work in an engaging and enjoyable way.

Assessment:

Each of the three mandatory units has an assessment in which pupils must demonstrate competency in each outcome.

In addition, the Added Value Unit at the end of the course is another assessment, consisting of two parts.

Part 1 in a non-calculator paper lasting 20 minutes assessing mathematical operational skills.

Part 2 is a calculator allowed paper lasting 40 minutes and includes reasoning questions.

All assessments in this course are internally assessed in accordance with SQA guidelines.

The course is graded on a pass/fail basis.

Homework:

Pupils will be expected to work independently to complete work started in class on occasion.

Regular formal homework will be given, covering each topic in the course.

Homework to assist pupils' preparation for assessment will also be given.

Progression:

Pupils who successfully pass this course could progress onto National 5 Mathematics in S5/6

Skills developed in this course could also support progression into Skills for Work courses, National Progression awards, National Certificate Group awards and employment.

Mathematics at National 5

This course consists of three mandatory Units, each worth 6 SCQF Credit points and an Added Value Unit worth another 6 SCQF points.

The Units are:

- Expressions and Formulae
- Relationships
- Numeracy

Course aims:

- Motivate and challenge pupils by enabling them to select and apply mathematical techniques in a variety of mathematical and real-life situations
- Develop confidence in the subject and a positive attitude towards further study in mathematics
- Develop skills in the manipulation of abstract terms in order to solve problems and to generalise
- Allow pupils to interpret, communicate and manage information in mathematical form; skills which are vital to scientific and technological research and development
- Develop the pupil's skills in using mathematical language and to explore mathematical ideas
- Develop skills relevant to learning, life and work in an engaging and enjoyable way.

Assessment:

Each of the three mandatory units has an assessment in which pupils must demonstrate competency in each outcome.

There will be a Prelim examination, set by the Mathematics department at a time to be agreed by the school.

In addition, the Added Value Unit at the end of the course is assessed externally and consists of two parts.

Part 1 is a non-calculator paper lasting 60 minutes giving pupils the opportunity to apply numerical, algebraic, geometric, trigonometrical, statistical and reasoning skills.

Part 2 is a calculator allowed paper lasting 90 minutes, covering the same skills as paper 1 but allowing more opportunity for application.

Candidates successful in this course will be awarded grade A, B, C or D by the SQA.

Homework:

Pupils will be expected to work independently to complete work started in class on occasion.

Regular formal homework will be given, covering each topic in the course.

Homework to assist pupils' preparation for assessment will also be given.

Progression:

Pupils who achieve a grade A, B or C in this course can progress onto Higher Mathematics.

Skills developed in this course can also support progression into Skills for Work courses, National Progression Awards, National Certificate Group awards and employment.