A Level Maths Introduction

A Level Mathematics

THE COURSE

- You will have a total of nine lessons each fortnight shared between two (or three) teachers.

- You will be studying for the Edexcel exam board.

- No coursework – 100% examination.

- There are three examinations at the end of the course
  (you can use a scientific calculator or graphics calculator in all three!)

  - At the end of Year 13 each exam is 2 hrs:

    - Pure Maths Exam Paper 1

    - Pure Maths Exam Paper 2

    - Mechanics and Statistics Exam Paper 3

A Level Mathematics

YEAR 11 TO YEAR 12 TRANSITION

- In the Year 11 Transition Resources Maths folder, you will find the following:
  - This file!
  - Yr11-12 Maths Transition Booklet – this contains practise for all the basic skills you will require from Day 1 of the course.
  - Extension Tasks folder – this contains extra practise that will help you to develop your problem solving skills.

A Level Mathematics

A LEVEL TARGET GRADES

Target grades are set using your average GCSE point score. These are the most common target grades for our students:

- Grade 6 in Maths at GCSE – Target Grade C
- Grade 7/8 in Maths at GCSE – Target Grade B
- Grade 8/9 in Maths at GCSE – Target Grade A

A Level Mathematics

EXPECTATIONS

- You will be expected to keep your lesson notes, examples and homeworks/tests organised in a folder with dividers. You may use an exercise book for lesson notes if you prefer.

- You will be set weekly homework by each teacher.

- You will be expected to practise techniques learnt in class. As a rule of thumb, you should expect to do *at least* one hour of work out of class for every hour in class.

- We will also be using the excellent online Integral learning platform, which will let you extend and reinforce your understanding through independent study. You will be given a username and password for Integral at the beginning of the year.

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BASIC SKILLS TEST

- The minimum requirement of a grade 6 in Maths at Higher Tier GCSE means that there are a number of essential basic skills that you will require from the very start of the course.

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BASIC SKILLS TEST

- There will be a basic skills test within the first two weeks of the autumn term.

- You are expected to use a calculator on the test.

- The pass mark will be 85%.

- You will have to resit if necessary.

- There is practise for all the topics covered in the "Year 11 to Year 12 Maths Transition Booklet"

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BASIC SKILLS TEST

Topics to be tested:

- Substitution (including negatives, fractions and BIDMAS)

- Algebraic Expressions
    - Multiply/expand single and double brackets
    - Factorise single brackets
    - Factorise double brackets (with single x^2 or a prime multiple eg $3x^2$)
    - Simplify powers/indices

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BASIC SKILLS TEST

Topics to be tested:

- Rearranging Formulae (where subject only appears once)

- Equations (with x on both sides, brackets and fractions inc algebraic)

- Inequalities

- Graphs
  - Straight line graphs including y = mx + c
  - Quadratic graphs

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BASIC SKILLS SUPPORT SESSIONS

- There will be basic skills support sessions after school on Thursday for the first two weeks.
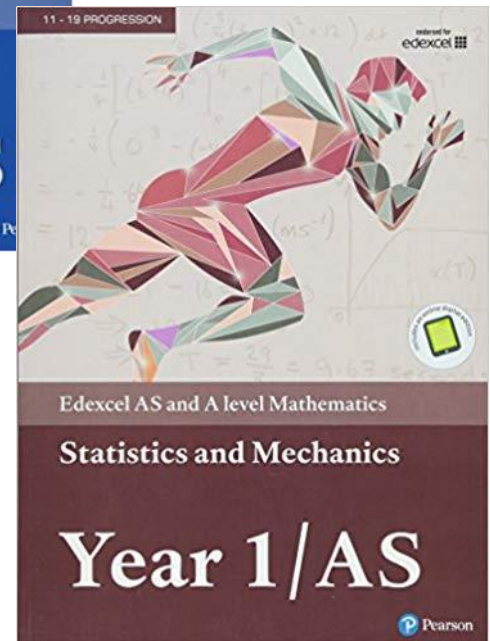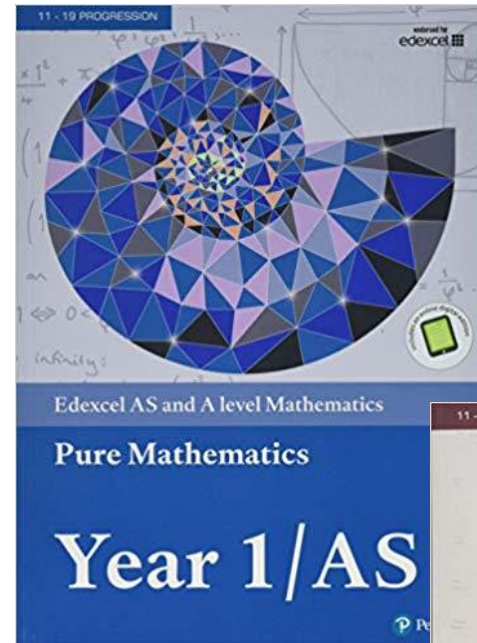
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BOOKS AND EQUIPMENT

The textbooks you require for Year 12 are published by Pearson Education.

Year 1/AS Pure
(about £18)

ISBN:978-1292183398

Year 1/AS Stats and Mech
(about £10)

ISBN:978-1292183398
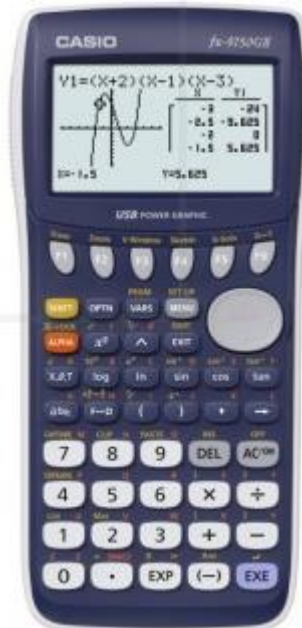
A Level Mathematics

BOOKS AND EQUIPMENT

- A scientific calculator for the **new specification** is essential.
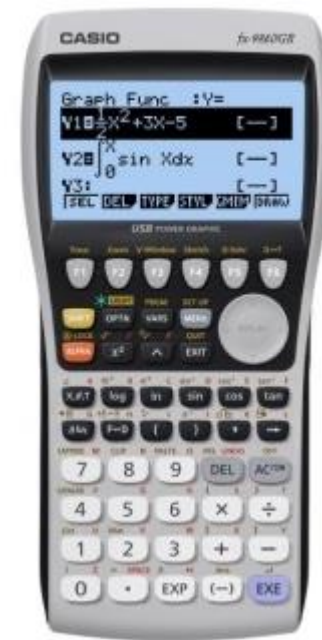- A graphical calculator can also be very useful!

Scientific
Casio fx-991EX Classwiz
(around £25 from Amazon)

Graphical
Casio fx-9750II
(around £60)

Graphical
Casio fx-9860II
(around £80)