

## Whole school curriculum principles

1. The core, foundation knowledge in each discipline				
2. Opportunities for reading and development of Tier 2/3 vocabulary, writing styles and text types				
3 The numerical concepts used within each discipline.	4 The practical and cognitive skills inherent to each discipline.	5 The key timelines, theories and figures within each discipline	6 Exposure to and consideration of diverse perspectives	7 Knowledge of how each discipline has impact on the modern and future world.
8. learning to be responsible for ourselves and our future		9. learning to be responsible for our community		10. Learning to consider our global and environmental responsibilities

### Key Stage 3 (years 7-9)

The national curriculum for mathematics has a clear purpose for all students studying mathematics in KS1 to KS4. At Gordano, we have used these aims (in conjunction with our feeder primaries) to develop our own systems that allow for a strong mathematical journey for all students from year 1 to 11.

We have chosen to make KS3 mathematics a bridge between KS2 SATs and the GCSE curriculum; we aim to develop solid foundations in mathematical understanding to give all students the capacity to excel when studying the GCSE curriculum. Our intention is that students will achieve this by going "Deeper not Further" at Key Stage 3. Teachers will use a variety of different tasks to foment students' curiosity and ensure students have a strong understanding of more basic concepts before moving on.

Students will alternate between topics in the 5 different strands of the curriculum for a varied Mathematical 'diet': (Number, Ratio & Proportion, Algebra, Geometry, Data & Statistics)

# <Subject>

## Key Stage 4 (years 10-11)

All students will study Maths at GCSE (Edexcel). The course is split into two entry tiers, Foundation and Higher. For students studying the Foundation tier course the highest grade they can achieve is a grade 5 and for students studying the Higher tier course the highest grade they can achieve is a grade 9. They begin studying for this in year 9 (Year 10 from September 2026), with decisions regarding the tier of entry for students to be later, usually in year 10, so that we have as much assessment data as possible to enable us to enter students for the tier that best suits their ability.

The course covers the 5 main mathematical strands: Number, Ratio & Proportion, Algebra, Geometry, Data & Statistics. Our scheme of learning further splits this into 49 individual units (32 from September 2026) which will be taught throughout the three years. The scheme of learning builds in regular interleaving of previous topics and a large focus is put on the practice of basic skills. Regular assessment is carried out throughout the course to inform teachers of how students are progressing. As students reach year 11 they will begin an exam past paper schedule for homework along with two full sets of mock exams in preparation for the real thing.

## Key Stage 5 (years 12-13)

### A-level Maths (Edexcel)

Maths is, and has been for the last 10 years, the most popular A-Level in the country. At Gordano our A-level Maths cohort reflects this with consistently strong student numbers. The course is challenging and as such the entry requirement for A-Level Maths is a grade 7 at GCSE. The course is made up of two thirds Pure Maths content and one third Applied Maths (Statistics and Mechanics). The course is entirely examined with the students sitting 3 exams at the end of year 13.

### A-level Further Maths (Edexcel)

For the most able and enthusiastic Mathematicians the option exists to take A-Level Further Maths. These students are effectively studying two A-Levels in Maths: the single Maths A-Level as above and the Further Maths A-Level. As such they will have roughly double the number of lessons and be in a separate class to the students taking single Maths A-Level. The content of Further Maths is more challenging and as such the entry criteria is a grade 8 at GCSE.

### Core Maths (AQA Level 3 qualification)

Core Maths is a level 3 qualification which students will study during Y12 only, sitting exams at the end of year 12. It is designed to support students doing other A-levels with a Mathematical background such as Social Sciences, Geography, Business, Economics and more. The course includes approximately 80% higher GCSE content and is considered to contain the fundamental skills employers value most. Employers also played a key role in supporting the development of this relatively new qualification, where the Maths being taught is consistently linked to real-world situations. The entry criteria for this course is a grade 4 at GCSE. Core Maths is taken in addition to 3 A-levels.