

## Expectations

Along with English, Higher Maths is one of the subjects in greater demand by employers, colleges and universities. You may have the potential to succeed with Higher Maths, but must be aware that this potential can only be realised by full co-operation between student and teacher.

Students are expected to arrive at class on time with the correct equipment, i.e. pencil, rubber, ruler, calculator and all relevant books and jotters. Pupils are expected to make a thorough and honest attempt at their homework and hand in exercises on time.

Students are responsible for their own learning and thus are responsible for catching up on any work missed.

## Useful Tips

- Students who revise regularly have a much better chance of achieving a good grade.
- Do not try to 'cram' all the revision into the days just before a test.
- Review the work done in the Maths class each day. It may be useful to do the harder questions again.
- Ask the teacher for help when necessary.
- Additional revision material available on the school network and the school website: <http://www.invergordon.highland.sch.uk/>

## Progression

Students may progress to Advanced Higher Mathematics or exit to higher or further education, using either the qualification as a general or specific entry requirement for mathematics, engineering, or science HNC/D or degree courses.



Invergordon Academy

Mathematics Department

## Course Information

# Higher Maths

This information booklet outlines the Higher Still course.  
Please keep this booklet for reference purposes.

## Higher Mathematics

The aim of this course is to build upon and extend students' mathematical learning in the areas of algebra, geometry and trigonometry and to introduce students to elementary calculus.

The course consists of 3 units which are assessed internally and a final external exam.

### Entry Requirements

A pass at Standard Grade Credit level, minimum component grades two 2's preferred, or Intermediate 2 grade A which must include Unit 3.

### Assessment

The course is assessed internally by Unit Tests and externally by a National Exam. To gain the course award students must pass both the internal and external assessments. Progress is reviewed at the end of each unit.

#### Unit Tests

- On completion of each unit, students sit a Unit Test set by SQA.
- These last 45 minutes and are marked by the class teacher.
- The tests are designed to assess the basic skills learnt in each unit and are thus deemed to be below exam standard.
- Pass mark is high, approximately 75-80%.
- Students may re-sit the tests once, but the need to do so implies that either the student has not done sufficient work or that the student is attempting a course that is too difficult.
- The Unit Tests will take place in October, January and April.

There will also be an exam standard assessment at the end of each unit.

### National Exam

- The final grade (A, B or C) awarded for Higher maths is determined by a National exam at the end of the year.
- The National Exam consists of two papers. Paper I is 1 hour 30 minutes long and Paper II is 1 hour 10 minutes.
- Paper I has two sections one of which is multiple choice.
- **Calculators are not allowed in Paper I.**
- Students who pass the unit tests but do not pass the final exam will receive a certificate showing the unit passes.

### Homework and Revision

As students move into the Senior school, they are expected to become more **responsible for their own learning**. Homework is an integral part of the course and allows students to consolidate and revise skills learnt in class.

Much of the class time will be used for discussion and demonstration of new concepts. Routine exercises designed to practise new skills will need to be completed at home if not done so in class.

Formal homework will be set on a regular basis. A reasonable amount of daily homework may also be set to allow the class to progress from a common starting point in the next lesson.

It is essential that students meet the schedule set by the class teacher. Failure to complete an exercise on time will mean that students do not have the necessary background for subsequent lessons.

In addition to set homework, students are expected to review and revise coursework throughout the year, not just in the run up to assessments.

**As a rough guide, Higher Maths students should spend approximately 4 hours each week studying maths at home.**