



Pre-GCSE Maths 2023

This is a GCSE maths preparation course.

The course will focus on developing the arithmetic and algebra skills required to gain a place on a GCSE maths course and is targeted at prospective adult learners with strong level 1 and some level 2 skills.

Please note – attendance on this course **does not guarantee** you a place on the GCSE course. You will still need to take and pass the GCSE initial assessment taken at the end of the course.

What is the course about?

The course covers the core skills you will need before you start an intensive GCSE course in maths. You will practise and improve your confidence with these skills and be able to apply them to different contexts.

What will the course cover?

- Working with numbers. This includes dealing with percentages, fractions and decimals
- An introduction to algebra
- Problem solving using ratio and proportion
- An introduction to shapes and their properties
- Basic probability and statistics

By the end of this course you should be able to

- Use mathematics with increased confidence
- Solve problems using maths
- Apply maths to everyday situations
- Reach the level required to be able to start an intensive maths GCSE course

What level is the course and what skills do I need?

The course is for those who already possess strong level 1 skills and some level 2 skills. To obtain a place on this course you will need to demonstrate your numeracy skills at these levels. You will need to be able to do the following confidently without the use of a calculator:

- Add, subtract, multiply and divide whole numbers
- Add, subtract, multiply and divide decimal numbers
- Recognise basic fractions and calculate fractions of a quantity
- Calculate simple percentages
- Write large numbers in words and figures
- Round numbers e.g. to the nearest hundred
- Perform conversions (e.g. metric)
- Apply maths to solve everyday problems

How do I gain a place on the course?

You can gain a place on the course through one of two routes:

1. You have already passed an accredited full Functional skills level 2 course within the last 3 years (and can provide the necessary certificated evidence), or,
2. You take and pass an initial assessment (non-calculator). Please note that if you do not manage to pass the initial assessment, the college can offer you a place on a functional skills course starting in September at a level corresponding to the outcome of your assessment.

What are my commitments?

You will need to attend the class regularly (minimum 90% attendance). Homework will be set on a regular basis to reinforce and extend skills. You are expected to do your homework and to give it in on time.

What resources do I need for the course?

You will need A4 lined paper, pens and a folder to keep your work in. You will need a scientific calculator (details will be provided). You will also need other maths equipment (e.g. ruler, pencil, compass, protractor).

What can I do next after I finish this course?

You should have the necessary skills to pass the GCSE initial assessment which will take place at the end of the course and begin a course in GCSE maths in September 2023.