

How to help your child

Subject: Mathematics.

	How to help your child
Key Stage 3 Years 7-9	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. The best way to learn Mathematics is to practise it – it is a difficult subject to learn by reading books. Students need to expose themselves to a variety of questions set in a range of different contexts and practise makes perfect.2. There are many useful websites, some that we subscribe to as a school and others that are free. Here are some activities that you can encourage your child to complete to maximise their potential and improve their chances of becoming a successful Mathematics student:<ol style="list-style-type: none">a) <u>Mathswatch.</u> Website: https://vle.mathswatch.co.uk/vle/ Login details and password can be obtained from your child's Mathematics teacher. On this website there are videos and worksheets that are tailored to the Key Stage 3 Mathematics curriculum. The videos last between 5 & 10 minutes and explain the theory behind the topic and written examples for the students to follow. They are then given further questions to practise their understanding. A separate worksheet is available for the students to continue their practise.b) <u>MyMaths.</u> Website: https://login.mymaths.co.uk/login Login and password details can be obtained from your child's Mathematics teacher. There is a secondary login too where the students will be able to save their work and their teacher will be able to see the work that has been completed. This website uses online lessons and homework exercises. The beauty of this website is that the students can do the work any number of times and the questions will not be the same, so this gives them a good chance to really hone their technique.c) <u>Corbett Maths.</u> Website: https://corbettmaths.com/ Free website – nothing specific for Key Stage 3 but there is an excellent resource called 5-a-day that will enable your child to practise core skills. I recommend using the Gold or Platinum Primary resource found at the following weblink: https://corbettmathsprimary.com/5-a-day/ by doing this for 5-10 minutes per day, your child will be embedding the core skills that will be a key to future success.3. Talk to your child about their Mathematics lessons – they will have Mathematics 6-7 times each fortnight. Try to get them to explain what they have been learning. If your experience of Mathematics is not something that you want to remember, please try not to express these feelings to your child. If you mention a dislike of the subject to your child then this negative feeling is often displayed by them to their teacher and in their work.

	<p>4. If you would like to encourage your child to do some further reading in Mathematics then we recommend “Murderous Maths” by Poskitt Kjartan. This is a set of 10 books that are aimed at children to get them interested in Mathematics.</p>
<p>Key Stage 4 Years 10-11</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. One of the most useful things that students can do in the GCSE course is practise examination technique. Start with 1-2 mark questions that require very little method and build up to the 5-6 mark questions that require multiple steps and processes to be undertaken to generate the correct solution. 2. Encourage your child to practise their Mathematics skills at regular intervals – too often students cram for assessments; if they practise their skills on a daily basis for just 10-15 minutes (say before dinner) then they are more likely to be successful. 3. There are many useful websites some that we subscribe to as a school and others that are free. Here are some activities that you can encourage your child to complete to maximise their potential and improve their chances of becoming a successful Mathematics student: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) <u>Mathswatch.</u> Website: https://vle.mathswatch.co.uk/vle/ Login details and password can be obtained from your child’s Mathematics teacher. On this website there are videos and worksheets that cover the GCSE course at both Higher & Foundation tiers. The videos last between 5 & 10 minutes and explain the theory behind the topic and written examples for the students to follow. They are then given further questions to practise their understanding. If the students are getting close to their examination and want a quick reminder then there is a one minute video available. Interactive questions can be used to practise both “standard” and “harder” questions – these are live marked by the website. A separate worksheet is available for the students to continue their practice. b) <u>MyMaths.</u> Website: https://login.mymaths.co.uk/login Login and password details can be obtained from your child’s Mathematics teacher. There is a secondary login too where the students will be able to save their work and their teacher will be able to see the work that has been completed. This website uses online lessons and homework exercises. The beauty of this website is that the students can do the work any number of times and the questions will not be the same, so this gives them a good chance to really hone their technique. Grade boosters are available to help students move up from grade 3 to grade 4, grade 4 to grade 5 etc. c) <u>Corbett Maths.</u> Website: https://corbettmaths.com/ Free website – bank of topic-based examination practice questions and online videos to support your child. Textbook exercises are there for repeated practice and 5-a-day is a really good way to get in the daily 5-10 minute skill check – this is available at Numeracy (targeted at students with MEG of Grades

1-3), Foundation (Grades 3-4), Foundation Plus (Grades 4-6), Higher (Grades 6-7) and Higher Plus (Grades 8-9).

d) Maths Genie.

Website: <https://www.mathsgenie.co.uk/>

Free website – another bank of topic-based examination practice questions and online videos to support your child. Past examination papers are collated on this website with mark schemes and written solutions. Between the GCSE examinations, this website produces a predicted paper which is their prediction as to what paper 2 and paper 3 will look like based on paper 1 and paper 2 respectively.

4. Talk to your child about their Mathematics lessons – they will have Mathematics 8-9 times each fortnight. Try to get them to explain what they have been learning. If your experience of Mathematics is not something that you want to remember, please try not to express these feelings to your child. If you mention a dislike of the subject to your child then this negative feeling is often displayed by them to their teacher and in their work.
5. If you would like to encourage your child to do some further reading in Mathematics then we recommend the following books:
 - a) “The Number Devil: A Mathematical Adventure” by Hans Magnus Enzenberger.
 - b) “Professor Stewart’s Cabinet of Mathematical Curiosities” by Ian Stewart.