

To Parent/Carer of Year 11 Students

teacher:

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Dear Parent/Carer

I am writing to you on the behalf of the Maths department at Helsby High School, to advise you on how best we believe you can support your son/daughter in their preparation for their Maths GCSE exams which will take place in May and June this year.

As you should already be aware, your son/daughter is in the first cohort to sit the new 9-1 GCSE, and we would like all our students to be fully prepared for their exams. We use the Edexcel exam board should you wish to buy your son/daughter a revision guide.

The maths department will provide your son/daughter with the following resources and opportunities and we hope you will encourage them to fully utilise all resources, websites, extra lessons and opportunities we create.

1. Lunchtime and after school revision

The attached timetable details what sessions are available, where they take place and when. Students should try to attend as many sessions as possible.

2. Practice papers

On a fortnightly basis, pupils will have an in class test which will consist of one third of a full practice paper. Pupils will be asked to prepare revision notes for each assessment.

3. A full set of mock papers in their next PPE exams

All year 11 students will have another set of PPE for Maths and English. The maths exams will take place on 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> March. In this mock, students will sit all three papers. Paper 1 is non-calculator and for Papers 2 and 3 they will be allowed a calculator. Please make sure your son/daughter has a scientific calculator for these mocks and the real exams in June. They will also require a black pen, pencil, ruler, rubber, pencil sharpener, compass and protractor. Please encourage your son/daughter to do lots of revision for these assessments. This will then allow us and them to see what they can and can't do and inform our lesson planning for the rest of school year.

4. Mathspace

A member of the maths department and our Maths 6<sup>th</sup> form prefects are available in A59, every Tuesday lunchtime, to assist pupils with homework and revision. Please encourage your son/daughter to make use of this provision.



#### 5. MathsWatch Website

The school pays a subscription to [www.mathswatchvle.com](http://www.mathswatchvle.com). This is an excellent website which has video clips explaining everything they need to know for their GCSE maths. It can be accessed on a computer or there is an app that can be downloaded to a phone or tablet. Most clips are a few minutes long, include step by step instructions and exam style questions. Please encourage your son/daughter to use this site on a weekly basis. Their class teacher is able to log on to the site and monitor usage. Login details are

Centre ID = helsby

Username = 12jbloggs (replacing jbloggs with their own first name initial and surname)

Password = helsby

#### 6. MathsWatch booklets

For every MathsWatch clip there is on the website, there is a matching worksheet. The maths department will supply your son/daughter with a copy of the worksheets they require for the tier of entry they are being entered for. These will be used in school from now until the exam period. Pupils will then be allowed to take this home in the summer term to use for revision. Please encourage full use of these booklets of worksheets.

#### 7. MyMaths

The school pays a subscription to [www.mymaths.co.uk](http://www.mymaths.co.uk) and we hope that you are already familiar with this website and how it has been used with your son/daughter since they began at Helsby in year 7. All students should by now, know how to make good use of this website to revise from. Please encourage weekly use of the website.

#### 8. Other websites

We also recommend use of the following websites for revision

[www.mathsgenie.co.uk](http://www.mathsgenie.co.uk)

[www.corbettmaths.co.uk](http://www.corbettmaths.co.uk)

<https://hegartymaths.com/>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/subjects/z38pycw>

We thank you in advance for your support over the next 6 months. If you have any queries, please address them with your son/daughters maths teacher or email me at [lwasson@helsbyhigh.org.uk](mailto:lwasson@helsbyhigh.org.uk)

Yours sincerely

Mrs L Wasson  
KS4 Coordinator – Maths department



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