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Supporting your child in Senior Phase Maths

Mr Mastoridis

Please Note:

1. **This session is for N5 Maths, H Maths and AH Maths only (all Apps courses are in a different session).**
2. **Our website is currently being updated with this year's timelines and resources.**

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N5 Mathematics

- To gain a full award, pupils must pass a final exam, consisting of two papers:
  - Non-calculator: 1h
  - Calculator: 1h 30min
- When a pupil sits the exam, they will achieve a grade (A – No Award). Grades are split into bands: A1; A2; B3; B4; C5; C6; D7; No Award 8/9. **Please note progression to Higher requires an A/B, sometimes strong C grades after discussion with pupil.**
- The topics covered in N5 Maths are:
  - Expressions and Formulae
  - Relationships
  - Applications (one unit – this is different to the full N5 Applications of Maths course)
- Pupils are assessed throughout the year to support learning:
  - Unit Assessments (throughout the year in class) – these are aimed at the foundation C/D skills and are not representative of the final exam. **These will be important for those tracking as a D or No Award.**
  - Formal Assessments (Oct, Nov/Dec and Feb/March) – these are representative of the final exam and will support our decision to present pupils for the exam and provide their estimate grades.
- Pupils can be presented for units alone, but these do not have the same standing as the full graded award. However, in some cases it may be more beneficial for them to be entered for units in one year and sit the exam the next year after further learning to increase chance of success.

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N5 Maths

Course Timeline 2025-26

Pre-summer

- Expanding, Factorising, Functions, Fractions, Percentages, Straight line.

June:

- Statistics-Standard Deviation and Interquartile range
- Solving Equations

Unit Assessment 1: Topics listed above

August

- Volume
- Quadratic Graphs 1

September

- Algebraic Fractions
- Similarity

Formal Assessment 0.5 ('Prelim')

- Indices

October

- Quadratic Graphs 2
- Change the subject

November

- Arcs and Sectors
- Simultaneous Equations
- Surds

Unit Assessment 2

December

Formal Assessment 1 ('Prelim')

- Pythagoras

January

- Percentages
- Angle Properties
- Trig Functions

February

- Trig Equations

Unit Assessment 3

- Trig Triangles

March/April

- Bearings

Formal Assessment 2 ('Prelim')

- Vectors

(Unit Assessment 4 if needed to pass units)

Note that teachers tailor the course to suit the needs of their individual classes.
Notes and revision resources can be found on student's class OneNote/Teams.

This is being added to the website.

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N5 Mathematics

Keys skills learners need to be fluent in (lessons from SQA Exams):

- Writing full working clearly – mathematical rigour is hugely important to gain marks!

- Numeracy skills for non-calculator:
  - Understanding that multiplication can be completed in any order.
  - Being able to multiply by 3.14.
  - Splitting numbers up to multiply (e.g., $\times 70$ becomes $\times 7 \times 10$ or $\times 10 \times 7$).
  - Finding fraction of an amount written as multiplication (e.g., $\frac{1}{3} of\ 1860 = \frac{1}{3} \times 1860$)
  - Working with negative numbers.
  - Substituting into formulae (use brackets when substituting in negative numbers).
  - Rounding to decimal places and significant figures – understanding not to do this too early and when to leave this as a fraction.

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N5 Mathematics

Keys skills learners need to be fluent in (lessons from SQA Exams):

- Algebra skills:
  - Working with indices.
  - Simplifying expressions/collecting like terms.
  - Rearranging equations, particularly involving fractions.
  - All factorising, particularly struggle when x^2 coefficient is not 1.

- Learn relevant statements:
  - Discriminant.
  - Comparing Mean, Median, Standard Deviation and Interquartile Range.

- Remembering previous formulae not given to you:
  - Area of a rectangle and triangle.
  - Area/Circumference of a circle (and Sector Area/Arc Length).

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Higher Mathematics

- To gain a full award, pupils must pass a final exam, consisting of two papers:
  - Non-calculator: 1h 15min
  - Calculator: 1h 30min
- When a pupil sits the exam, they will achieve a grade (A –> No Award). Grades are split into bands: A1; A2; B3; B4; C5; C6; D7; No Award 8/9. **Please note progression to Advanced Higher requires an A/B.**
- The topics covered in Higher Maths are:
  - Expressions and Functions
  - Relationships and Calculus
  - Applications (one unit – this is different to the full Higher Applications of Maths course)
- Pupils are assessed throughout the year to support learning:
  - Unit Assessments (throughout the year in class) – these are aimed at the foundation C/D skills and are not representative of the final exam. **These will be important for those tracking as a D or No Award.**
  - Formal Assessments (Oct, Dec and March) – these are representative of the final exam and will support our decision to present pupils for the exam and provide their estimate grades.
- Pupils can be presented for units alone, but these do not have the same standing as the full graded award. However, in some cases it may be more beneficial for them to be entered for units in one year and sit the exam the next year after further learning to increase chance of success.

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Higher Maths

Course Timeline 2025-26

Pre-summer

- Straight Line
- Trigonometry 1 - Radians, Exact Values and Basic Equations

Unit Assessment 1: Straight Line

August

- Polynomials and Quadratics

Unit Assessment Questions (as appropriate for class)

September

- Functions
- Graph Transformations (except Log/Exp graphs)
- Differentiation

Unit Assessment Questions (as appropriate for class)

October

Formal Assessment 0.5 ('Prelim')

- Finish Differentiation - Curve Sketching Chain Rule and Trig Derivatives

November

- Trigonometry 2 - Trig Formulae, Identities and Equations
- Integration

Unit Assessment Questions (as appropriate for class)

December

Formal Assessment 1 ('Prelim')

- Recurrence Relations
- Finish Integration - Area under/between curves, 'Chain Rule' and Trig Integrals

Unit Assessment Questions (as appropriate for class)

January

- Logarithms and Exponentials
- Circle (except using radii and ratio with circles)

Unit Assessment Questions (as appropriate for class)

February

- Wave Function
- Vectors

Unit Assessment Questions (as appropriate for class)

March/April

Formal Assessment 2 ('Prelim')

- Vectors/Circle - using radii and ratio with circle

Unit Assessment Questions (as appropriate for class)

Note that teachers tailor the course to suit the needs of their individual classes.
Notes and revision resources can be found on student's class OneNote/Teams.

This is being added to the website.

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Higher Mathematics

Keys skills learners need to be fluent in (lessons from SQA Exams):

- Writing full working clearly – mathematical rigour is hugely important to gain marks!

- Numeracy skills for non-calculator:
  - Reciprocals.
  - Working with negative numbers.
  - Substituting into formulae (use brackets when substituting in negative numbers).
  - Working with roots, e.g., $\sqrt{4} = \pm 2$.
  - Simplifying fractions.

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Higher Mathematics

Keys skills learners need to be fluent in (lessons from SQA Exams):

- Algebra skills:
  - Working with indices.
  - Simplifying expressions/collecting like terms.
  - Algebraic fractions.
  - All factorising, particularly struggle when x^2 coefficient is not 1.
- Learn relevant statements:
  - Discriminant.
  - Polynomial factors.
  - Collinearity
- Remembering previous formulae not given to you:
  - Area of a rectangle and triangle.
  - Perimeter.

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Advanced Higher Mathematics

- To gain a full award, pupils must pass a final exam, consisting of two papers:
  - Non-calculator: 1h
  - Calculator: 2h 30min
- When a pupil sits the exam, they will achieve a grade (A – No Award).
- The topics covered in Advanced Higher Maths are:
  - Geometry, Proof and Systems of Equations
  - Methods in Algebra and Calculus
  - Applications of Algebra and Calculus
- Pupils are assessed throughout the year to support learning:
  - Unit Assessments (throughout the year in class) – these are aimed at the foundation C/D skills and are not representative of the final exam.
  - Formal Assessments (Nov/Dec and Feb/March) – these are representative of the final exam and will support our decision to present pupils for the exam and provide their estimate grades.
- Pupils can be presented for units alone, but these do not have the same standing as the full graded award. However, in some cases it may be more beneficial for them to be entered for units in one year and sit the exam the next year after further learning to increase chance of success.

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Advanced Higher Maths

Course Timeline 2025-26

Pre-summer

- Partial Fractions
- Binomial Theorem including general term
- Differentiation

August

- Differentiation

September

- Integration
- Calculus in context

Unit Assessment Questions (as appropriate for class)

October

- Sequences and Series (including Maclaurin)
- Proof by Induction
- Differential Equations 1

November

- Complex Numbers 1

Unit Assessment Questions (as appropriate for class)

- Volume of solid of revolution
- Matrices 1

December

Formal Assessment 1 ('Prelim')

- Differential Equations 2
- Matrices

Unit Assessment Questions (as appropriate for class)

January

- Vectors
- Complex Numbers 2

February

- Matrices 2
- Intro to Proof
- Euclidian Algorithm

March/April

Formal Assessment 2 ('Prelim')

- Graphing Functions

Unit Assessment Questions (as appropriate for class)

Note that teachers tailor the course to suit the needs of their individual classes.
Notes and revision resources can be found on student's class OneNote/Teams.

This is being added to the website.

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Advanced Higher Mathematics

Keys skills learners need to be fluent in (lessons from SQA Exams):

- Writing full working clearly – mathematical rigour is hugely important to gain marks!
- Algebra skills:
  - Working with indices.
  - Algebraic fractions.

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Upcoming Assessments

National 5 Maths:

- Formal Assessment 0.5 (calculator only) – week beginning 22nd and 29th September.
- Unit Assessment 2 – November.
- Formal Assessment 1 – late November/early December.
- Unit Assessment 3 – February.
- Formal Assessment 2 – March.

Higher Maths:

- Formal Assessment 0.5 (non-calculator only) – week beginning 29th September.
- Unit Assessments – ongoing all year.
- Formal Assessment 1 – late November/early December.
- Formal Assessment 2 – March.

Advanced Higher Maths:

- Unit Assessments – ongoing all year.
- Formal Assessment 1 – late November/early December.
- Formal Assessment 2 – March.

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How to be successful

1) Complete classwork (in class and continue at home).

2) Complete homework (including revision provided).

3) Start personal revision early – use completed course notes/examples/checklists to develop mathematical rigour.

4) Attend supported study.

5) Complete and repeat past paper questions.

6) Ask for help when you need it.

+ Ensure you have your own Casio Scientific Calculator

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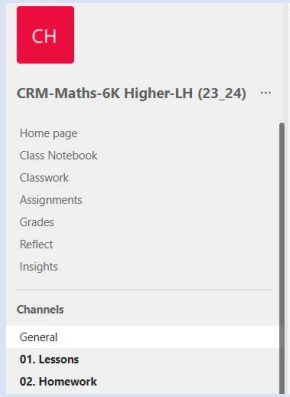
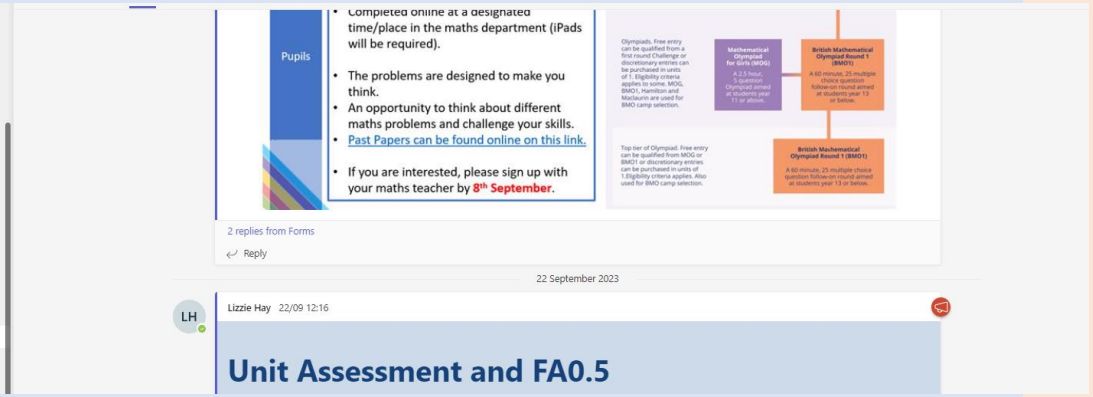
1) Complete classwork (in class and continue at home).

- Classwork strategies:
  - Modelling examples.
  - Mini whiteboards.
  - Group/partner discussions.
  - Practice questions.
  - Quizzes.
  - Exit Cards.
- MS Teams:
  - Lessons are provided on MS Teams for any work missed or unfinished. These can be in the format of OneNote, PDF, PowerPoints etc.
  - **Pupils should work through more questions from a lesson at home if they are unfinished and have not fully consolidated the skill yet.**





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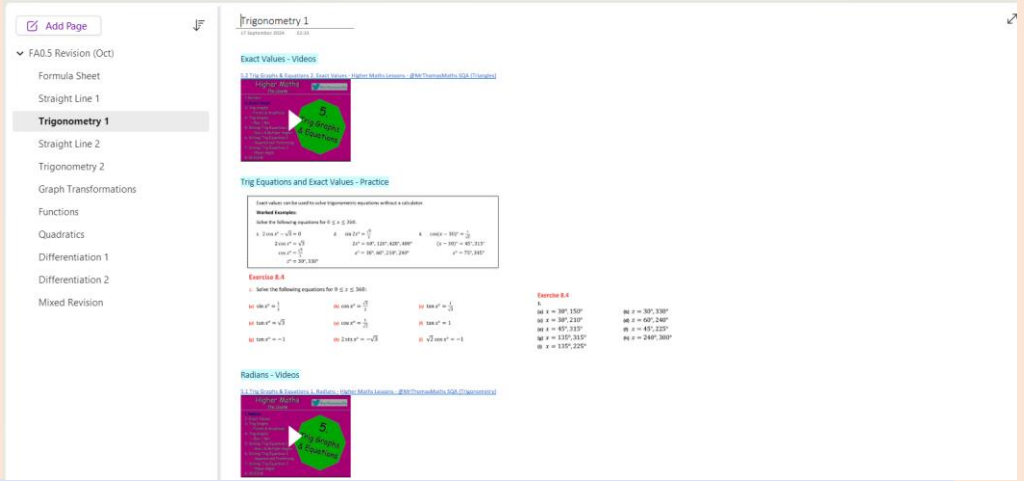

2) Complete homework.

- All homework is available on MS Teams. It is given regularly to exam classes.
- Completion of homework is crucial for consolidation of skills.
- We also provide detailed revision in advance of any assessment. The revision includes videos, practice and answers for each topic in the assessment.

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3) Start personal revision early

- Maths courses are not ones you can ‘memorise’ answers, you need to practice the skills. Flash cards can also be helpful.
- This means that when you go over examples from class, you then need to practice questions to help master concepts.
- These can be the practice questions from the lesson, homework questions or past paper questions.

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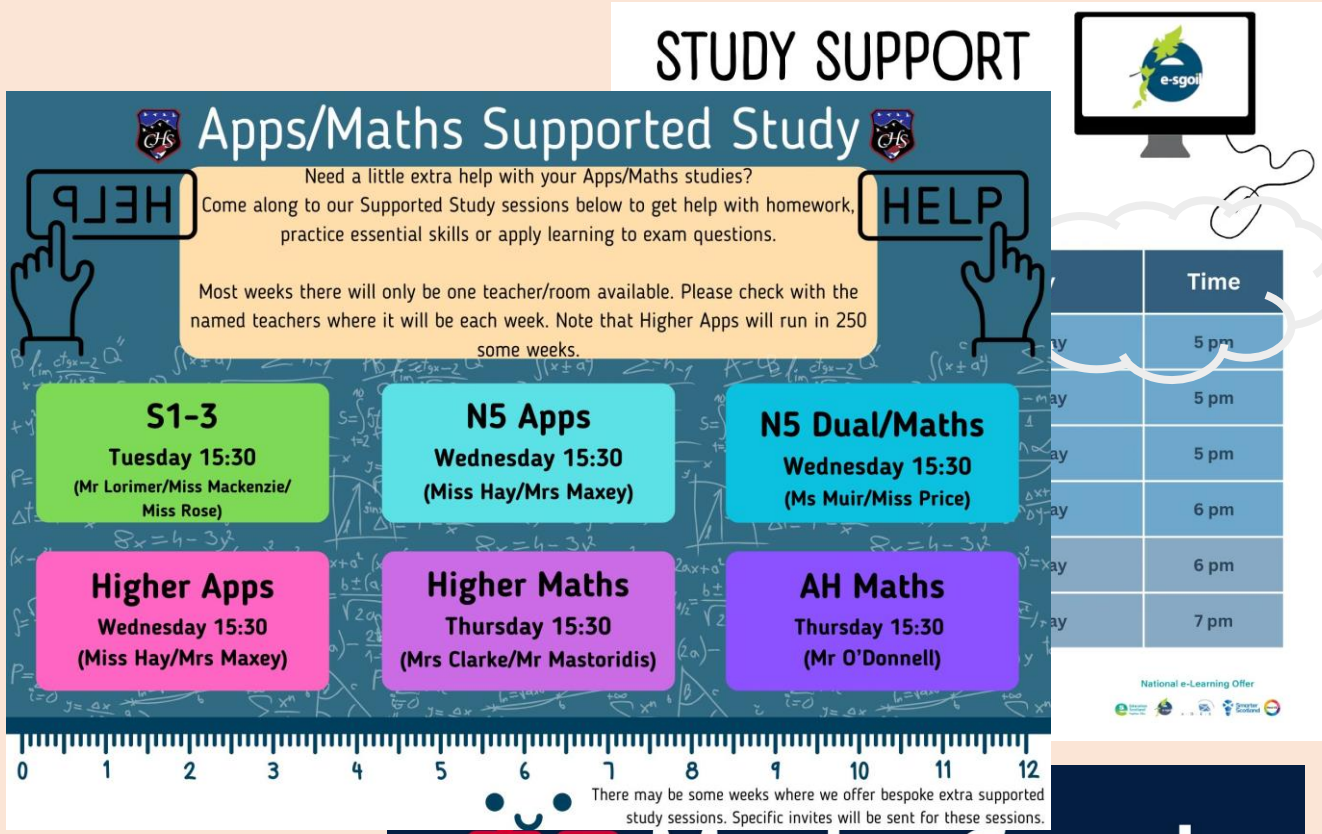
4) Attend supported study

- School Supported Study
- E-Sgoil (online) supported study
- Maths Coach



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(a) Factorise $4x^2 - 25$.

(b) Hence simplify $\frac{4x^2 - 25}{2x^2 - x - 10}$.

5) Complete and repeat past paper questions

- Past Papers are your friend when it comes to Maths! It helps you apply your skills and get used to the type of questions that can be asked, particularly how they ask them.
- Example in N5 Maths above – the 'hence' means you use the work you did in the previous question. Vocabulary of questions gives you hints on what to do.
- Pupils should start doing past paper questions now for the topics they have learned. The easiest place to access this is on the website Free N5 Maths. Despite the name, they now have course pages for N5 Apps, Higher etc.
- Since pupils will not be able to complete full past papers yet, we suggest using the 'Exam Worksheets by Topic (SQA)' section so that they can select the topics they have already completed.
- We will now show you this website.

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5) Complete and repeat past paper questions

- How to use past paper questions:
    1. Answer what you can without any notes/class work.
    2. Use your notes/class work to help with anything you are unsure about.
    3. Check with the marking scheme that you have completed the question correctly or check for the solution if you could not complete the question after steps 1 and 2.
    4. Repeat the same past paper again later in the your revision.
- How to find/use a marking scheme:
    1. Go to Free N5 Maths website andelect relevant course.
    2. Go to “SQA Past & Practice Papers” section.
    3. Click on relevant marking scheme.
    4. The marking schemes gives the following information:
        - Generic scheme – describes what the steps are.
        - Illustrative scheme – shows the steps to solve.
        - Notes/CORs – help with marking if pupils are part but not fully correct.

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6) Ask for help when you need it

- Don’t wait until the end of the course to ask for help with a topic. Do it now, so we can support you to understand.

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Senior Phase Mathematics – Some Useful Links – All being added to the website!

Pupils

In Maths you need to revise by DOING practice questions.
You all have revision/support on Teams/OneNote.
Here are some extra links to questions and support videos to help.

All Levels

SQA - NQ - Past papers and marking instructions

Dynamic Maths - adaptable automatic worksheets for teaching maths - Dynamic Maths Login (hw.ac.uk)

Achieve (hashtag-learning.co.uk)

Mr Thomas Videos

LHS Videos

Maths Coach Scotland – online live support every Tues, Wed and Thurs 18:00 – 20:00

N5 Mathematics

Home - National 5 Maths

N5 (KS4) Videos - www.maths180.com

Higher Mathematics

Home - Higher Mathematics

Higher videos - www.maths180.com

Advanced Higher Mathematics

Free AH Maths - Whole Course - Advanced Higher Maths

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Questions

We thank you for your time this evening.

Our website will be updated shortly, with the timelines and some links.

If you have any questions, please scan the QR code.