

29 April 2025

Dear Parent, Carer or Guardian

As I am sure that you are aware, we will soon be entering the important period of GCSE examinations, and for your son, daughter or looked after child, this includes three exam papers in GCSE Maths.

I am pleased to confirm that the dates and times for the GCSE Maths examinations are as follows;

Exam: EDEXCEL GCSE Mathematics

Paper	Date	Arrival Time	Exam Start Time	Exam End Time
Paper 1	Thursday 15 May 2025	8.30am-9.00am	9.30am	11.00am
Paper 2	Wednesday 04 June 2025	8.30am-9.00am	9.30am	11.00am
Paper 3	Wednesday 11 June 2025	8.30am-9.00am	9.30am	11.00am

Maths remains an important subject across all employment sectors, and we continue to work with your son, daughter or looked after child in supporting them to improve their Maths grade in the upcoming exams.

I would really appreciate your advocacy and support in this process, not only in ensuring attendance at the two examinations, but in also supporting this important period of preparation. I have enclosed some revision tips for your reference, and hope that these are useful in the coming days and weeks.

In relation to the exams themselves, we need all students to register in the Food Court before 9.00am on the day of the examination. The College will provide a breakfast and a drink to all students, whilst teachers and Student Managers will be on hand to provide any last-minute support of guidance.

If your son, daughter or looked after child is unable to attend their exam for any reason, unfortunately we will not be able to reschedule their exam as they are fixed national dates. In extenuating circumstances, we would be able to apply for special consideration to be made by the awarding body, and if an incident or situation does arise on the day of the exam, then this must be reported to our Examinations Team via email exams@preston.ac.uk

I am aware that examinations can be challenging and stressful for students, and can reinforce that all College staff are on hand to support revision and the examination experience. If there is anything that you would like to discuss relating to the exam, then please do not hesitate in making direct contact by email lstaniforth@preston.ac.uk

Thank you for your support

Laura Staniforth

Director of Sport, English and Maths

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Revision Tips

Please consider the following;

- **GET PLANNING.** Planning is key to exam success. Students should prioritise tasks then break their revision down into bitesize chunks and map out a plan
- **START EARLY.** Mornings are the best time to revise. Individuals will get their day's work done earlier and will have time to relax in the evening.
- **EAT & DRINK REGULARLY.** Keep their brain fed and watered so that it can work efficiently. Try to get your son, daughter or looked after child to stick to healthy options, if possible.
- **TEST THEMSELVES.** Check what they know. They can do this with friends and family or on their own. It will focus their revision time and highlight any gaps in their knowledge.
- **MIX IT UP.** Keep their brain active by encouraging them to mix up their topics every hour or so. Switching their work around will help them stay focused.
- **FIND A QUIET SPACE.** Encourage them to find a good place to revise, ideally somewhere quiet where they won't be disturbed or distracted and they have space to spread out.
- **PUT THEIR PHONE DOWN.** We all like to be connected but getting distracted by their phone will seriously hinder their revision. There are lots of revision apps to help if they can't bring themselves to turn it off!
- **TAKE A BREAK.** Avoid information overload, encourage your child to take regular short breaks. Move around if they can, give their mind a rest and get some fresh air.
- **STAY CALM.** Encourage positivity and a sense of calm. Exams can be stressful but individuals won't perform at their best if they're stressed.
- **GET PLENTY OF SLEEP.** Once they've done the hard work, make sure they give their brain plenty of rest ahead of their exam by getting an early night then simply doing their best.
- **SET OFF EARLY.** On the morning of the exams, we suggest that students set off to college earlier than normal to account for the busy registration process and potential traffic problems, helping to reduce unnecessary stress before their examinations.

There are also a number of websites that can be used to support revision, below are a few of our recommendations.

GCSE Maths <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/examspecs/z9p3mnb> <https://www.dr frostmaths.com/>

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-gcses/mathematics-2015.html>

<https://corbettmaths.com/>

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