

Mathematics

National 5

Why take this course?

Mathematics is important in our everyday life. It equips us with the skills we need to interpret and analyse information, simplify and solve problems, assess risk and make informed decisions. It uses a universal language of numbers and symbols which allows us to communicate ideas in a concise, unambiguous and rigorous way. National 5 in mathematics is necessary or desirable for many careers.

To succeed in this course, you need...

Your knowledge and understanding should be secure at National 4 Mathematics level. You will be expected to do a significant amount of practice and consolidation of taught topics out with lesson time and you will need resilience and perseverance to cope with the problem solving in the course.

Course Structure and Content

Expressions and Formulae

The general aim of this Unit is to develop your skills linked to mathematical expressions and formulae. These include the manipulation of abstract terms, the simplification of expressions and the evaluation of formulae. The Outcomes cover aspects of number, algebra, geometry and reasoning.

Relationships

The general aim of this Unit is to develop your skills linked to mathematical relationships. These include solving and manipulating equations, working with graphs and carrying out calculations on the lengths and angles of shapes. The Outcomes cover aspects of algebra, geometry, trigonometry and reasoning.

Applications

The general aim of this Unit is to your develop skills linked to applications of mathematics. These include using trigonometry, geometry, number processes and statistics within real-life contexts. The Outcomes cover aspects of these skills and also skills in reasoning.

Course Assessment

You will be assessed throughout the year. Each assessment will be accumulative and will gauge how you are coping with exam level questions. If you pass these convincingly this would give an indication that you will be able to attempt the exam. The final award depends entirely on the result obtained in the SQA exam.

Essentials

You need a scientific calculator.

Where might this course take me?

National 5 Mathematics is an entry requirement for marine courses and teaching and desirable for building, armed forces, computing, accounting, engineering, the police, nursing and many others. A deeper understanding of mathematics is necessary for further study in statistics and science based disciplines. A pass at National 5 Mathematics can open a huge number of doors in your future search for a job or further educational study. A good pass in National 5 Mathematics is necessary for entry into Higher Mathematics.