

A Level/ AS Level Mathematics (9709) Frequently Asked Questions

When can the examination be taken?

The examination is available in the June and November sessions.

What support materials are available?

Syllabus;

Specimen Question Papers and Mark Schemes;

Syllabus Support Materials: Standards booklet for AS/A Level Mathematics. This contains background information, commentaries on questions and mark schemes, a section outlining the changes to the A Level syllabus and additional specimen questions on Vectors, Complex Numbers and Continuous Random Variables;

Past question papers, examiner reports and mark schemes are available following each examination session.

All the above are available from CIE Publications.

Schemes of work for AS Mathematics and other resources are available on the [Teacher Support Site](#).

Is it possible to enter candidates for a single paper or for three papers in an examination session?

It is only possible to enter candidates at each examination session for the options corresponding to the combinations of components given in the AS/A Level syllabus booklet. Candidates for AS Mathematics must be entered for 2 papers. Candidates for A Level Mathematics must be entered for 4 papers, of which 2 (either 1+4 or 1+6) may have been taken at an earlier session (within 13 months).

Which list of formulae do candidates use for the AS/A Level examinations?

Candidates for the AS/A Level examination use the List of Formulae and Tables of the Normal Distribution (MF9), the content of which appears in the syllabus booklet. The MF9 list is sent out to Centres as needed in a stationery despatch prior to the examination.

Can an AS award via units P1 + P2 be carried forward to an A Level award?

It is only possible to carry forward a full AS award via P1 + M1 (components 1+4) or P1 + S1 (components 1+6) to A Level (see the syllabus booklet). Since unit P2 (component 2) is not part of any valid combination of A Level components, it is not possible to carry forward an AS award via option P1 + P2 (components 1+2) to an A Level award. Candidates entered for an AS award via P1 + P2 will need to take a complete set of 4 units for an A Level qualification.

What calculators can be used in the AS/A Level examinations?

It is expected that candidates will have a calculator with standard 'scientific' functions for use in the examination. Computers, and calculators capable of algebraic manipulation, are not permitted. Calculators must satisfy the regulations in the CIE Handbook for Centres, so calculators with a graphic display are prohibited.