

# FUNCTIONAL SKILLS

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## A GUIDE TO MATHEMATICS.

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### WHAT IS IT?

Mathematics Functional Skills is a formal qualification designed to enable learners to apply numeracy and practical mathematical skills in both their personal and professional lives.

Once achieved, this is equivalent to a GCSE level qualification.

### WHAT DO YOU HAVE TO DO?

To achieve this qualification you will have to pass a formal examination.

The exam can be completed traditionally on paper, or on a laptop.

You can expect to be required to complete 3 practical tasks covering the three functional maths processes:

- Task 1 – time and/or money
- Task 2 – measure, shape and space
- Task 3 – statistics

Each of the three tasks will assess your ability in the following areas;

#### **Representation**

- Understanding practical problems in both familiar and unfamiliar contexts and situations
- Identify and obtain necessary information to tackle the problem
- Select mathematics in an organised way to find solutions

#### **Analyse**

- Apply mathematics in an organised way to find solutions to straightforward practical problems for different purposes
- Use appropriate checking procedures at each stage

#### **Interpret**

- Interpret and communicate solutions to practical problems, drawing simple conclusions and giving explanations

A Functional Skills qualification in mathematics is available at Level 1 and Level 2:

- Level 1 – Equivalent to GCSE grades E-D – 90 minute exam
- Level 2 – Equivalent to GCSE grade A-C – 2 hour exam