

# Parents' Guide to English and maths

English and maths qualifications are essential, with many higher education institutions and employers demanding a high level of understanding in both subjects.

The government says that achieving a GCSE grade 9-4 or A\*-C in both maths and English “helps students to progress to further study, training and skilled employment”. It is a condition of funding for colleges, sixth forms and schools that students resit these qualifications if they do not have a grade 4 (or C) already.

If a student is 16-18 and studying a full-time programme at Stanmore College, our aim is to ensure that they leave college having achieved the best English and maths grades they can. Classes are timetabled to fit in with each student’s main study programme and they will be in a group that is at the right level for them, based on their prior experience and grades.

Students with a grade 3 (or a D in the old-style GCSEs) in maths and/or English must resit their English and maths exams if they want to study at a school or college. These students will be working towards attaining the equivalent of grade 4/5 (grade C) or above at GCSE.

Students with a grade 2 (grade E in the old-style GCSEs) in maths and/or English can study either a GCSE or an approved stepping-stone qualification to meet the condition of funding. Functional Skills are designed to support your knowledge and skills development to prepare for progress onto GCSEs.

- **Achieved grades 9 - 4 (or A\* - C) at GCSE?**

Students will not be required to study additional English and maths – instead they will be carrying out independent directed learning.

- **Achieved grade 2 or 3 (or E/D) at GCSE or Level 1 in Functional Skills?**

Students will be enrolled onto a GCSE course and work towards gaining a minimum grade 4.

- **Achieved a grade 1 (or F/G) at GCSE or Entry Functional Skills?**

Students will be enrolled to study Functional Skills in English and maths at an appropriate level. Functional Skills are designed to support students’ knowledge and skills development to prepare for progress onto GCSEs.

Our English and maths courses are only for eligible students studying at the College and we are unable to provide facilities as an exam centre for private candidates.