

Dear Student

You are receiving this information because you are considering choosing Maths as one of your AS or A level courses. This is good news as Maths AS and A level is highly respected both by universities and employers. However, you will find that there is a lot of algebra in AS & A level Maths – in fact most topics require you to carry out some algebra – this may be solving an equation, rearranging a formula or using algebra in some of the advanced level topics which you will meet.

It will therefore be important that your algebra is of a high standard when you start the course.

In order to help you to get your algebra to the required level, we have prepared “Bridging the Gap for A level maths”, a resource booklet for you to work before you start your course. Your algebra may already be of a high standard and the booklet will advise you what you still need to work on by using diagnostic exercises. Equally, some of you will benefit by attempting all of the exercises in the booklet.

Questions in both the diagnostic tests and the exercises are graded **as Basic (Green), Medium (Yellow) or Harder (Red)**.

**You should be able to do the Basic level questions with little difficulty by the time you start your course.** You should also be able to complete many of the Medium level questions but you should not worry if there are a few you cannot do. The Harder level questions are designed to be more difficult and you may or may not be able to complete these at this stage. However, they will provide you with an additional challenge and will give you an indication of the level you will be working towards as the course progresses.

**You will be given a test either when you enrol with your chosen Post 16 provider, or very early in the course, in order to check that you will be able to cope with the level of algebra required in the course.**

This will happen at whichever school or college you study AS or A level Maths in Leicester City and irrespective of the exam board used by the school/college.

On the reverse of this letter is all the information you will need about accessing the “Bridging the Gap for A level maths” booklet along with the solutions and other resources and information.

Good luck!

The resources students will need can be found at <https://lespog.wordpress.com/portfolio/maths-improvement/> under the "Maths Resources" title a little further down the webpage:

1. The main booklet which has the file-name "**Bridging the Gap for A level maths**"
2. The solutions to the exercises in "Bridging the Gap for A level maths" which has the file-name "**Bridging the Gap solutions**"
3. You will also find another booklet which contains further worked examples and some further exercises/answers. This has the file-name "**[A level Maths Bridging Worked Examples and Additional Exercises](#)**"

In addition, there are numerous resources available on-line which you may find useful:

- "**Khan academy**" on **Youtube** – go to the 7<sup>th</sup> grade or 8<sup>th</sup> grade and pick out the algebra topics.
- You can enter the name of almost any topic on **Youtube** and you will find many helpful videos.
- You may also find useful material at the following link:  
[https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/A%20Level/Mathematics/2017/Teaching%20and%20learning%20materials/Transition\\_worksheets\\_between\\_GCSE\\_and\\_AS\\_Mathematics.zip](https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/A%20Level/Mathematics/2017/Teaching%20and%20learning%20materials/Transition_worksheets_between_GCSE_and_AS_Mathematics.zip)