

Secondary Frequently Asked Questions

Curriculum

How many lessons a week do you base your scheme of works on?

The scheme covers the national curriculum, so should be covered by all regardless of number of lessons each week. You may need to adjust the balance of skills practice in class and at home according to your school's lesson allocation.

In the KS4 Years 10 and 11 is there any differentiation of content for higher and foundation curriculum?

Within each KS4 block, the small steps that relate to Higher GCSE are indicated. We also indicated material which should have been covered at KS3 as review steps. You can then decide how much revision you need to do and how far to take each topic depending on the needs of your classes

For first time users, would you recommend just starting with year 7 and then running through the school, or will it be ok to pick this up with Year 10 straight away?

Ideally roll out from Year 7, but depending on what you have already covered you could start with multiple year groups. Starting at the beginning of Year 10 you will cover the whole of the KS4 curriculum

We have shared classes, for Yr 10 for example, when will the second block (Trig) become available? As some will start teaching that in Sept?

As the curriculum builds from previous blocks and interleaves prior learning, we don't recommend sharing topics between teachers. This is because in any later block the learning from previous blocks is assumed as having been covered.

Is your scheme suitable for mixed attainment? How would you deliver to mixed attainment?

Many schools are using our schemes with mixed attainment classes. The small step structure helps with differentiation, as some students can be looking at other steps whilst engaging with the same topic as their peers. Check out our news feed on the website where we talk about mixed attainment and our scheme

Assessment

Are the assessments available in an editable document?

Our assessments are not editable.

Can the assessments be password protected to stop students seeing them in advance?

We want all our materials to be as easy for teachers to access as possible, so we do not password our free material. We hope the vast majority of students would not access the papers in advance, and it would be very difficult for them to remember all the content if they did.

What do you mean by 'unseen' assessments?

We are planning to produce alternative versions of our termly assessments that will be available on our premium resources site (and so password protected) during 2020/21

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In key stage 3 are there plans for some kind of progression through the termly assessments e.g. percentage correct is working below, at expected? Any guidance on Grade Boundaries for assessments?

We do not have the data available to provide this. Our assessments are designed to identify where students/classes are succeeding and where they may need more support. Likewise, GCSE grades can only be determined from full GCSE papers sat by a whole cohort, they are not available for e.g. exam board practice papers or KS3 assessments that do not cover the whole of GCSE.

How do you advise to do the assessments when short on time? Do your suggested timeframes for each topic include any time for assessment?

Schools are free to decide whether to use the assessments or not, and when. For example, several schools use the end of block assessments as a homework 2/3 weeks after the block to check retention whilst others allow class time

When will the end of year 10 practice GCSE paper be ready?

The end of year 10 paper will not be used until Summer 2021, and will be available by Easter. We are aiming to produce practice GCSE papers for December/January

Premium resources

When will resources for block 2 and block 3 in Year 9 be available in the premium resource centre? Is that likely to be before the end of the summer?

Block 2 is now available and block 3 will be released before September

What is available for FE colleges which may need material from Yr 8, 9, 10 & 11? Does one subscription give access to all these levels?

The secondary subscription covers Years 5 to 11 and will meet support both Functional Skills and GCSE students in FE settings.

Will you be producing printed worksheet booklets and assessments, like you have done for primary schools?

We will look into producing printed workbooks for years 7 and 8. Unfortunately we will be unable to do it for years 9-11 next year as the resources are brand new and so won't be ready in time to send off to print.

Is there a trial pack available?

Yes – please visit <https://resources.whiterosemaths.com/> to download free samples of our premium material

Will you be releasing flashback 4 resources for year 11?

Yes, the first block is already available.

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Textbooks

When will the textbooks be released? Will they be available electronically too?

Book 1 (covering Year 7) is scheduled for release in January 2021, with Book 2 (Year 8) following in May 2021 and Book 3 (Year 9) in September 2021. At the moment only hard copies and teachers' guides, *Behind the Questions*, are planned.

Home Learning

Will the current home learning content remain available on the website?

Yes

When will the new videos be available from?

We will start releasing these in September. The editable powerpoint versions will be available for premium subscribers at the same time.

CPD

Are the CPD courses at set times or can they be accessed at anytime?

We offer the courses at set times which individuals or groups can book on to, or we can offer courses to whole schools instead if you prefer. Please see <https://whiterosemaths.com/professional-development/> for details.

As the Algebra tiles and manipulatives with algebra webinars are free, will these be able to view on a different platform i.e. youtube in the future as they were fully booked.

There will be more CPD and guidance webinars running in the new academic year. Keep an eye out on social media for updates and sign up to our newsletter to keep up-to-date with events like this too.

Is the online training free to premium members?

The online training is a separate package to the premium resources. You can select which elements you want to purchase and use.

Other

I still have more questions! Who do I contact?

If you still have any questions, please get in touch with us.

If your question relates to our premium website (worksheets, online training) please email resources@whiterosemaths.com

If your question relates to our schemes of learning, assessments or anything else, please email support@whiterosemaths.com

We will get back to you as soon as we can. The response time to your query may be slightly longer than normal due to the current situation.