

# Accessibility changes made to our GCSE Maths exams papers since 2018

Pearson is the number one choice for mathematics. We give GCSE teachers an array of tools to support them with teaching so that their students have everything they need to make progress in their maths knowledge at KS4.

Following feedback from teachers and our own research and analysis on every exam series since 2017, we have made continuous improvements on the accessibility of our papers to ensure that we keep on improving students' exam experience.

These include but are not limited to:

- ✓ Early questions on Foundation Tier papers are accessible to all students and will be mainly one mark questions.
- ✓ Common questions which appear on both Higher and Foundation Tier papers are all accessible to students targeting grades 4 and 5.
- ✓ The use of appropriate language and contexts in all questions so that we are testing mathematical ability only.
- ✓ Good coverage of topics tested each series.
- ✓ Paper layout reviews to make sure diagrams are large enough and students have enough working space.

We review all these papers regularly using evidence of question performance in the live papers to further refine our approach to targeting questions to particular grades. This helps ensure that the difficulty of questions increases steadily through the paper so that students are able to gain confidence as they work through the papers.