The Enhanced Tiering Support for Pearson Edexcel GCSE (9-1) Mathematics provides a number of tools to help you determine a suitable tier of entry for mock examinations.

The Enhanced Tiering Support comprises:

1. **Tiering Guidance**
   To show the key differences in content and assessment between the two tiers.

2. **Exemplification of performance at Grade 4 and Grade 5**
   A summary of mathematical skills that students achieving a secure grade 4/5 were able to demonstrate in summer 2018 exams.

3. **Diagnostic Tests**
   A set of diagnostic tests utilising questions and performance data from the summer 2018 exams to help you determine a suitable tier for mock exams. These tests are designed for students who are targeting grade 4.
   Student-friendly mark schemes and Question Level Analysis (QLA) spreadsheets are provided for each test.
   
   > Click here for full guidelines on how to use the diagnostic tests.

4. **Case Studies** (Coming soon)

You may also wish to consider the following factors in making your decision:

- The students attendance and general motivation in the subject?
- The students confidence level in the subject
- The students resilience and ability to cope under exam pressure
- Their prior attainment (KS2/KS3)
- Their intention to study the subject further

Please do not use the information and the tools provided in isolation and make sure you consider the wider factors that may impact your decision.
GCSE (9-1) Mathematics Enhanced Tiering Support

How to use your students' scores in the diagnostic tests to help you determine a suitable tier for their mock exams.

Initial testing

Diagnostic Test 1
1 hour test. 50 marks.
Common questions targeting grades 4 & 5

Did your student score 25 marks or more?

YES

Diagnostic Test 2A
1 hour test. 50 marks.
Targeting grades 6 & 7.

You may wish to consider Higher tier initially

NO

Diagnostic Test 2B
1 hour, 15 minute test.
Targeting grades 2 & 3.
Separate non-calculator section.

Did your student score 40 marks or more?

YES

This student is probably working at a level below grade 4.
They are best suited to taking Foundation tier and more should be done to secure knowledge and application of standard content.

NO

Review performance on common questions and consider Test 2B for this student

You may wish to consider Foundation tier initially

Decision making

Choose Higher tier for this student's mock examinations

Did your student score 10 marks or more?

NO

Choose Foundation tier for this student's mock examinations

Click here for full guidelines on how to use the diagnostic tests.

Performance on these tests should not be used as a sole indicator of a tier of entry for students mock exams.

Please refer to the supporting materials and documentation provided alongside these tests as part of the Enhanced Tiering Support and, crucially, your knowledge of your own students.