



Consultation Response Form

**Consultation closing date: 20 August 2013
Your comments must reach us by that date**

**Reformed GCSE subject content
consultation**

If you would prefer to respond online to this consultation please use the following link: <https://www.education.gov.uk/consultations>

Publication

Information you provide in your response to this consultation may be subject to publication or disclosure in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Confidentiality

Please make it clear if you want all/any part of your response to be treated as confidential and explain why. If a request for disclosure of the information you have provided is received by DfE, your explanation will be taken into account, but no assurance can be given that confidentiality can be maintained. An automatic confidentiality disclaimer generated by your IT system will not, of itself, be regarded as binding on the Department.

Please tick if you want us to keep your response confidential.	
Reason for confidentiality:	

Personal data

For the purposes of the Data Protection Act, DfE is the data controller for any personal data you supply in response to this consultation. DfE will process all personal data (such as your name, address and any other identifying information) in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998. In most circumstances, this means that your personal data will not be disclosed to third parties.

Please do **not**:

- ! provide information in comments boxes that might identify you unless you are content for that information to be released into the public domain; or
- ! provide information in your response that might lead to the identification of other living individuals

Name: Professor Alice Rogers	
Please tick if you are responding on behalf of your organisation.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Name of Organisation (if applicable): London Mathematical Society	
Address: De Morgan House 57-58 Russell Square London WC1B 4HS	

Information sharing

The Office of Qualifications and Examinations Regulation (Ofqual) is undertaking a parallel consultation on regulatory conditions for GCSEs. Please tell us if you or your organisation has responded or is intending to respond, to Ofqual's consultation:

Yes	No	Don't know
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Please only respond to the next statement if you have ticked 'no' or 'don't know' above:

If you provide comments to us that are relevant to Ofqual's consultation, we intend to forward your responses to them so they can be considered by Ofqual. If you do not want us to do this then please opt-out by [clicking here](#)

Questions 1-6 below ask you to give your views with reference to a specific subject suite:

1. *English,*
2. *Mathematics*
3. *Sciences*
4. *Geography*
5. *History*
6. *Modern and ancient languages.*

You do not need to give answers for all the subject suites - please answer only with respect to those subjects on which you have a particular view.

Please

definitions. A possible route is for the 'basic' GCSE to include harder questions on important KS3 material (say Paper 1) and less demanding questions on slightly more advanced topics (say Paper 2), while the A level prerequisite GCSE should include harder problems on the basic KS4 material (say Paper 2' – covering topics like those in Paper 2 but with a much higher level of demand) and less demandin

Comments:

These weightings may need to be considered for each tier.

2c. Has the right content for mathematics been identified for high achievers, **including**
9

2d Do the proposed subject content and assessment objectives for mathematics provide **assurance that essential knowledge taught at the earlier key stages is built upon and represented adequately?**

<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Sure
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Comments:

We appreciate that such assurance is intended, but do not see that the assessment objectives are structured in a way to give this assurance.

2e Will the proposed qualifications in mathematics secure **sound progression for the purposes of further academic and vocational study?**

<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Sure
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Comments:

This is hard to decide with AO's not related to tiering. In general for those not proceeding to A-level, the key to successful progression will be sound mastery of key stage 3 material, with some encounter with KS4 material but an assessment which is not over-demanding at this level.

8 Does the mathematics content cover **the key elements of numeracy needed for employment or further study?**

<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>
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The key Consultation Principles are:

- ! departments will follow a range of timescales rather than defaulting to a 12-week period, particularly where extensive engagement has occurred before
- ! departments will need to give more thought to how they engage with and consult with those who are affected
- ! consultation should be 'digital by default', but other forms should be used where these are needed to reach the groups affected by a policy; and
- ! the principles of the Compact between government and the voluntary and community sector will continue to be respected.

Responses should be completed on-line or emailed to the relevant consultation email box. However, if you have any comments on how DfE consultations are conducted, please contact Carole Edge, DfE Consultation Coordinator, tel: 0370 000 2288 / email: carole.edge@education.gsi.gov.uk

Thank you for taking time to respond to this consultation.

Completed responses should be sent to the address shown below by 20 August 2013

Send by post to:
Qualification and Assessment Division
Department for Education
L2
Sanctuary Buildings
Great Smith Street
London
SW1P 3BT

Send by e-mail to: GCSEcontent.consultation@education.gsi.gov.uk