

## More about the classroom practicalities of teaching the new 2010 curriculum

As an experienced teacher you will be making practical plans about how you want to tackle the new 2010 GCSEs.

So have the editors (all mostly experienced maths teachers themselves) of the new *Oxford GCSE Maths for Edexcel New 2010* series. Here are a few very practical observations from the editorial team on creating these new materials. We hope that some of their thoughts might agree with yours, and may even spark off new ideas...

"There always was an awful lot to pack in, and that's even more so with the new GCSEs. With perhaps a little over 200 hours over a two-year course, that could break down roughly as follows:

- 150 hours for **curriculum delivery**, now to include functional maths and rich tasks, ICT activities, and activities linking to other subjects
- 25 hours **periodic assessment** and **consolidation** (might include topic or termly tests) to gauge students' understanding across a chunk of learning
- 25+ hours **revision**, to ensure that your students are comfortable not just with the topics that they may have learned over a year previously, but gain familiarity with the new assessment objectives AO2 and AO3.

It's a high priority (and here the team's combined classroom experience has proved crucial) to ensure our materials work well in the classroom and make it easy to get through everything at a realistic pace. Key is to break down material into manageable chunks, and so we've done a considerable amount of work to ensure that **each complete lesson appears over a double-page-spread**. (NB. Incredibly, Oxford GCSE materials are the ones only that do this).

The double-page-per-lesson layout makes everything a student needs visible for the whole of the lesson, with objectives, key vocabulary, and worked examples all down one side, and exercises on the other. This means they have everything they need right under their noses, **making the lesson really manageable**. This is particularly helpful if your students have to share books - even if they have their own book it's bad enough if they have to turn back to find worked examples, etc, but an absolute nightmare if they're sharing!

We provide just the right number of these lesson/spreads to take you right through to revision time, making it easy for you to plan effectively. We've also woven in lots of functional maths and problem-solving rich tasks so that students learn these as a matter of course, not just as a scary add-on.

If you want more practice, then the homework books are packed with loads of extra questions to reinforce learning. And for even more practice, the OxBox CD-ROMs include extra consolidation sheets for each topic, and lots of compelling interactive ICT activities, lesson plans, schemes of work, and loads of targeted assessment to help your students get the best possible grade."