

## Attaining English and Maths GCSE Grades A-C (or equivalent)

### Study for Free!

If you do not have grade C or above in English and/or Maths at GCSE level, then you will be able to study the qualifications for free.

### What are the qualification options?

There are two options:

- (1) GCSE in English and/or Maths

GCSEs are widely recognised as being qualifications which are studied during secondary school, however they are also available for adult learners.

The curriculums for GCSEs have an academic focus although functional elements are included.

An educational institution will normally offer adult learners the opportunity to attend day or evening classes, over a period of approximately 9 months, to attain the knowledge. The GCSE examination(s) will be sat at the end.

- (2) Functional Skills level 2 in English and/or Maths

Functional Skills are an alternative qualification to GCSEs in English and Maths. They are available for adult learners.

The curriculum for Functional Skills focuses on the “functional” aspect of Maths and English. It provides realistic context for the application of knowledge, skills and understanding.

An educational institution may offer flexibility in the way in which they deliver Functional Skills. For example, they may deliver the learning in a shorter timescale. Functional Skills examinations will be sat when the learner is ready.

### How can I access the learning?

There are a variety of educational institutions that offer these qualifications. Here are 2 examples:

- (1) Higher or further education institutions. For example - colleges or universities.
- (2) Training providers. For example, an organisation like [Learn Devon](#) and [Dorset Skills and Learning](#). Training providers may offer a variety of different learning methods to achieve Functional Skills.

You can use the Internet to search for providers. The Government also have an internet search tool: <https://nationalcareersservice.direct.gov.uk/course-directory/home>

### What if I am ready to sit a GCSE or Functional Skills examination without needing to undertake learning, or I want to attain the qualifications quickly?

Some educational institutions will offer you the opportunity to sit an examination without having delivered a full curriculum of learning. Please note that there would be a cost to this. The best way to identify these institutions is through conducting an internet search.