IGCSE Maths 12-Week Revision Plan

Algebra first, then the reds, then timed papers

A 12-week IGCSE maths revision plan to the summer exams

Week	Focus	What to do	Done
1	Diagnose	Rate the topic checklist. Sit one paper of each type untimed, mark it and start the error log.	
2	Algebra 1	Expanding, factorising, linear and simultaneous equations, rearranging. Ten non-calculator number questions a day.	
3	Algebra 2	Quadratics, inequalities, sequences; algebraic fractions and functions at the higher tiers. Revisit week 2 errors.	
4	Number and proportion	Percentages, ratio, proportion, standard form, bounds; surds and indices at the higher tiers.	
5	Geometry and trigonometry	Angle reasons, circle theorems, Pythagoras, SOH CAH TOA; sine and cosine rules, 3D and vectors at the higher tiers.	
6	Mensuration, probability, statistics	Arcs and sectors, volume and surface area, tree diagrams, grouped data; histograms and cumulative frequency at the higher tiers.	
7	First timed papers	One full paper of each type under exam conditions. Log errors and re-teach the two weakest topics.	
8	Reds, round two	Every topic still amber or red on the checklist, then mixed practice.	
9	Timed papers	Two full papers, with attention on which questions to skip and return to.	
10	Technique	“Show that” questions, long worded problems and non-calculator accuracy. Rework the whole error log.	
11	Timed papers	Two full papers from the latest available series — R versions for Edexcel candidates in the UAE.	
12	Taper	Short daily sessions: formulas from memory, the error log, one question per topic. No new topics.	

Check the board, tier and paper codes before revising anything

- **Cambridge IGCSE 0580, Core:** Paper 1 (non-calculator) and Paper 3 (calculator), 1 hour 30 minutes and 80 marks each.
- **Cambridge IGCSE 0580, Extended:** Paper 2 (non-calculator) and Paper 4 (calculator), 2 hours and 100 marks each.
- **Edexcel 4MA1:** Foundation (1F, 2F) or Higher (1H, 2H); two papers of 2 hours and 100 marks, with a calculator allowed on both.
- **Edexcel in the UAE in June:** centres sit the regional R papers, such as 4MA1/1HR. Where Pearson has released them, practise from those.

- **A code starting 1MA1** means the UK GCSE, which has three papers rather than two. The timings in this guide will not match.

Revise IGCSE algebra first, then the reds

- **Algebra basics.** Expanding, factorising, linear and simultaneous equations, rearranging. At Extended or Higher: quadratics by all three methods, and algebraic fractions.
- **Non-calculator number.** Fractions, negatives, indices, standard form, percentages by hand, estimation.
- **Ratio, proportion and percentages.** Reverse percentages, compound interest, direct and inverse proportion — usually as multi-step worded questions.
- **Graphs.** $y = mx + c$, gradients, real-life graphs. At the higher tiers: perpendicular lines and sketching curves.
- **Geometry and trigonometry.** Angle reasons, circle theorems, Pythagoras, right-angled trigonometry. At the higher tiers: sine and cosine rules, 3D problems, vectors.
- **Mensuration.** Arc length and sector area, which no formula list prints, then compound volumes and surface areas.
- **Probability and statistics.** Tree diagrams and grouped-data averages; at the higher tiers, conditional probability, cumulative frequency and histograms.
- **Higher-tier extras.** Functions, differentiation, bounds and surds.
- **Topics students leave too late:** bounds, vectors, histograms with unequal class widths, and “show that” algebra. Put them early in the plan instead.

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