

Maths: Show Me The Money!

This is one of a multi-part series on changes that teachers would like to see in their Key Stage 4 curriculum! Over time, one short post for each subject will be released, and you can see all of the currently-released subjects over on the main page [here](#).

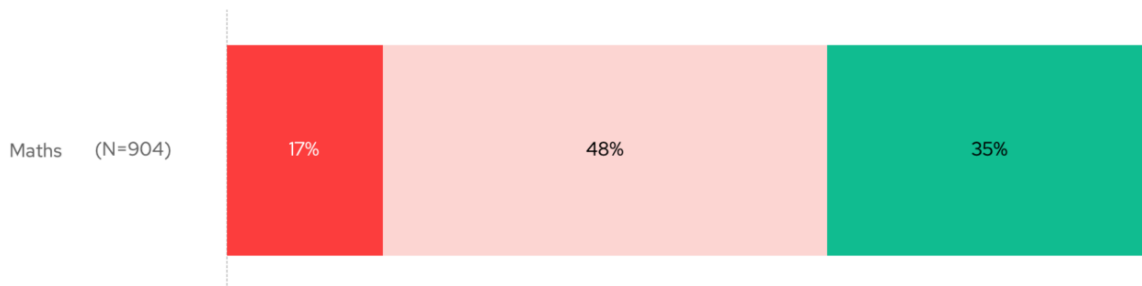
So, what are the changes?

Out: Constructions and Loci
In: Financial Maths

Although Maths teachers were the happiest with the amount of content in their GCSE course, almost two-thirds of teachers still wanted to see a reduction in the content.

65% of maths teachers would like to see a reduction in the amount of content they are teaching at GCSE

Question asked: "Would you like to see a reduction in the amount of content that you are expected to cover in the KS4 curriculum in your main subject?"



Question answered by 904 teachers on 07/10/2022 (results weighted to reflect national teacher and school demographics)

- Yes, a significant reduction
- Yes, a slight reduction
- No, I would keep the same amount of content at KS4

Removing Topics

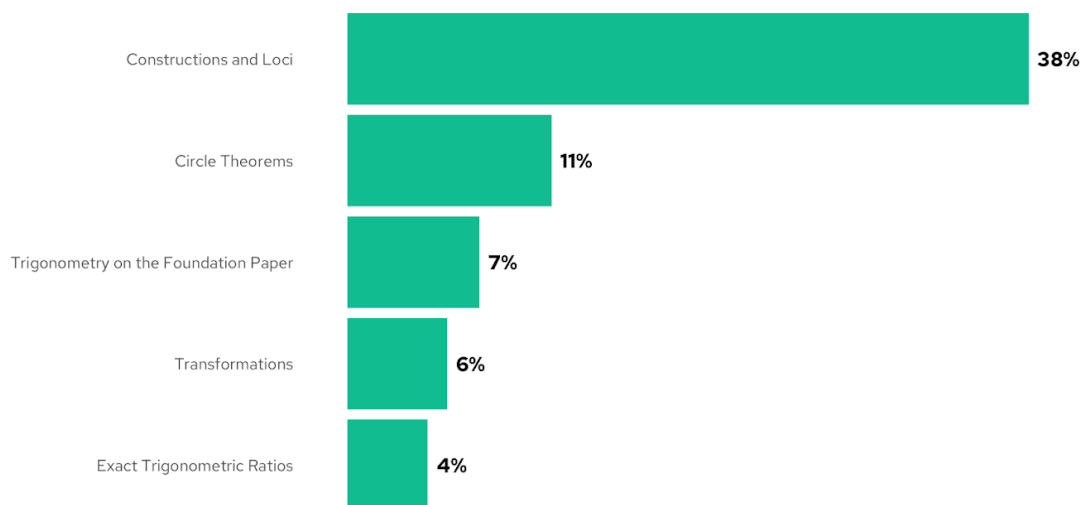
What is it that Maths teachers would remove from their own curriculum though?

There was a considerable amount of consensus on this point - Constructions and Loci. 38% of Maths teachers said they would choose to remove this topic - a high percentage given that this was an open-ended question. For the non-Maths teachers among readers, Constructions

and Loci is the act of drawing accurately with a ruler and pair of compasses.

Top five topic areas that Maths teachers would like to remove from their KS4 curriculum

Question asked: "If you could *remove* one topic area from the KS4 curriculum of your main subject, what would it be?"



Question answered by 600 Maths teachers on 17/12/2022

On a personal note, I did see some calls for the axing of histograms with uneven class widths. As someone who spends their days making and interpreting graphs, I couldn't agree more! Representing data using the areas of charts rather than heights is generally poor practice!

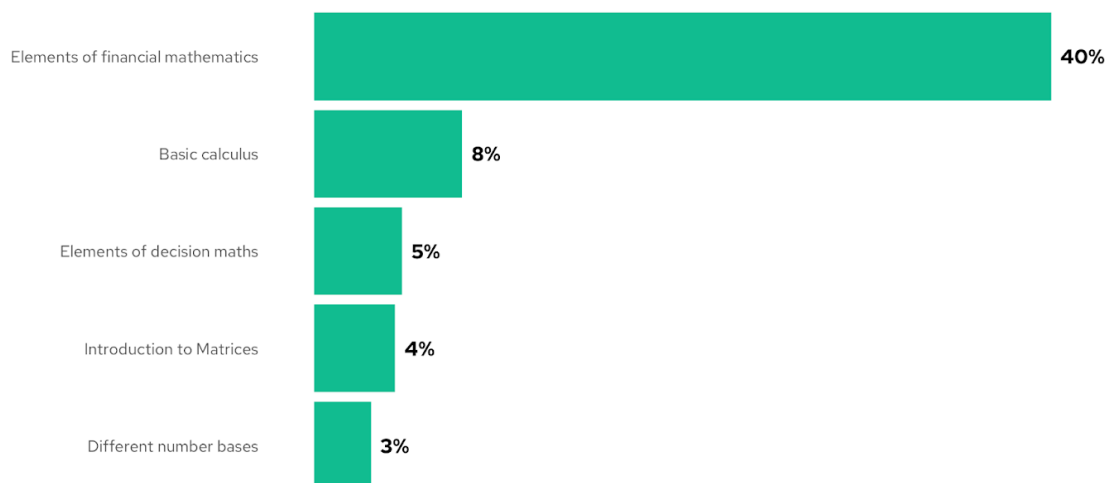
Adding Topics

Let's look at the flip side of this question - what would Maths teachers add to their curriculum? These ideas could come in handy given the Prime Minister's desire for all students to study maths until they are 18.

There was even more consensus for this question. In fact, teachers of other subjects also mentioned this a fair bit. The addition of elements of financial literacy was the most popular. There was a range of ideas within this theme, from understanding interest and terminology such as APR to skills such as budgeting and using spreadsheets.

Top five topic areas that Maths teachers would like to add to their KS4 curriculum

Question asked: "Imagine there was space in the KS4 curriculum of your main subject for an additional topic area. If you were in charge, what topic area would you *add*?"



Question answered by 600 Maths teachers on 17/12/2022

Finance was by far the most popular suggestion. There were many others though, including a better understanding of some mathematical algorithms (through elements of decision maths) as well as bringing forward elements of calculus, like differentiation, forwards from A-Level.

What other changes would you make to the maths curriculum? Be sure to let us know via email hello@teachertapp.co.uk or on Twitter @TeacherTapp!