

NOTICE TO CENTRES

FAO: Head of Mathematics, Teachers of Mathematics and Exams Officer

Date: March 2012

Subject: GCE Mathematics, Further Mathematics, Mathematics (MEI) and Further Mathematics (MEI)

Re-certification of previously entered GCE Mathematics qualifications

We'd like to remind you that, whenever an entry is made for any qualification in GCE Mathematics or Further Mathematics, all previously certificated qualifications should be re-entered for.

For a candidate entering for Mathematics and Further Mathematics, re-certificating 'unlocks' all units and makes all units available to optimise the grade for each qualification.

For example, a candidate certifies for AS Mathematics and AS Further Mathematics in Year 12, with Statistics 1 counting towards AS Further Mathematics. The candidate certifies for A2 Mathematics (and possibly A2 Further Mathematics) in Year 13. Statistics 1 is 'locked' into Further Maths, so cannot be used towards Maths – some of the otherwise valid combinations are not available and the candidate may not be awarded the best possible grades. Re-certificating the two AS qualifications in Year 13 'unlocks' all units and makes them all available to optimise the grade for each qualification.

Certification entries are free of charge, and can be made at any time.

Further details can be found on the Mathematics qualification pages of the website www.ocr.org.uk/maths or in the OCR *Admin Guide: 14–19 Qualifications*.

Graphical calculators for Unit 4757 (Further Pure 3)

The Markov Chain option requires access to a calculator that can handle matrices. We have been made aware of calculators that are limited to handling matrices up to size 3 by 3. Please be aware that this may not be adequate; calculators should be able to handle matrices up to at least size 5 by 5.

Computer software for Unit 4773 (Decision Computation)

This unit requires the use of a linear programming package. Many centres offering this unit use the LINDO package, obtained through MEI. Please note that this software is no longer supported and an alternative programming package, LINGO, can now be obtained through MEI. LINDO commands run in LINGO. For more information, please go to the Mathematics qualification pages of the website at www.ocr.org.uk/maths or contact MEI via www.mei.org.uk.

If you have any queries about this notice, please call our Customer Contact Centre on 01223 553998 or contact the dedicated OCR Maths line on 0300 456 3142 or at maths@ocr.org.uk.