

Assessment in IGCSE Mathematics

Session 2: Handout 2.5

Exam paper styles for IGCSE assessment

The following are some questions to consider when preparing internal assessments. Please refer to a recent IGCSE mathematics Paper 2.

- 1) How are questions numbered and parts of questions indicated?
 - Are full stops used? Brackets?
 - Are parts tabbed in?
 - Bold or normal font?
- 2) How is each sentence constructed?
 - Separate lines for each sentence?
 - Punctuation rules?
- 3) Where are students expected to do their working and write their answers?
- 4) Does the answer line have its own style?
- 5) How is the mark allocation for each question indicated?
- 6) Do questions run over pages?
- 7) What are the conventions used for diagrams? Graphs?
- 8) How are letters represented in algebraic questions?
Normal font? Bold? Italic?
- 9) What about the front cover of the exam paper?
 - What essential information needs to be shown?

In considering the above points it may be possible for your department to devise a style of internal assessments that is very similar to IGCSE style and forms an important aspect of the preparations for IGCSE terminal assessment.