THE HIGH SCHOOL
of Glasgow

HSOG Horizons

National 5 Mathematics

Parent and Pupil FAQs

EXPLORE. LEARN. SHAPE TOMORROW.

What is HSOG Horizons?

Horizons is a developing programme of optional academic tuition, specialist courses and enrichment opportunities offered by The High School of Glasgow. It aims to extend access to learning beyond the usual school day and welcome young people from the wider community.

Does my child need to attend The High School of Glasgow?

No. Horizons welcomes pupils from other schools, and there is no requirement to apply for a place at HSOG.

Will Horizons offer programmes other than National 5 Maths?

Yes, that is the plan. National 5 Maths is our first programme; Higher Maths is being explored for January 2027, with other academic and specialist opportunities to follow as they are developed. Details will be announced when confirmed.

Why choose face-to-face tuition when online support is available?

Online resources can be a valuable addition to learning, but there's something particularly beneficial about working together in person. At *HSOG Horizons: Maths*, pupils benefit from direct interaction with an experienced Mathematics teacher and dedicated small-group tutors who can observe their working, identify misconceptions and provide immediate, personalised feedback.

Our small groups also encourage pupils to ask questions, discuss their thinking and learn alongside others in a focused, supportive environment. It's this combination of expert teaching, personal interaction and individual attention that makes the Horizons experience different.

Who would benefit from the programme?

Pupils currently studying, or preparing to sit, National 5 Mathematics. This is most often in S4, but suitability is based on the qualification rather than school year alone. Sessions can support pupils who want to build confidence, address gaps or extend their existing understanding.

Is this also for National 5 Applications of Mathematics?

No. The first block is designed for National 5 Mathematics. Applications of Mathematics is a different qualification and is not included in this course at present.

Who will teach my child?

HSOG Horizons: Maths is led by Mrs Fiona Houston, Director of Educational Enterprise at The High School of Glasgow. An experienced Mathematics teacher and former Head of Faculty, Mrs Houston brings extensive classroom teaching and academic leadership experience to the programme, having taught Mathematics across the full range of Scottish secondary qualifications, including Advanced Higher.

Our small-group tutors are carefully selected, with input from the School's Mathematics Department, for their mathematical ability, communication skills and enthusiasm for supporting young people.

What happens during a 90-minute session?

Each session begins with 30 minutes of focused teaching, led by Mrs Houston. Pupils then move into small groups of no more than four for 60 minutes of guided learning, supported by dedicated tutors.

Mrs Houston remains actively involved throughout every session, moving between groups to monitor progress, provide additional explanations and ensure a consistently high standard of teaching and support.

This approach brings together the best of both worlds: expert teaching and academic leadership, alongside the personalised attention of small-group tuition, ensuring every pupil receives high-quality support tailored to their needs.

Is this one-to-one tuition?

No. It is a small-group programme. The group format means pupils learn together, while still receiving individual guidance when they work with their tutor.

Schools cover topics in different orders. How will that work?

We will gather information about pupils' current learning, confidence and areas for development before the block begins. Teaching and supported tasks will be adjusted to respond to different starting points, rather than assuming every school has followed the same topic sequence.

What if my child has not yet been taught a particular topic?

That is absolutely fine. We will distinguish between a topic that is new to a pupil and one they have already met but find difficult. Pupils do not need to arrive having covered exactly the same material.

Is the programme suitable for confident mathematicians too?

Yes. Activities can be adapted for pupils seeking additional challenge as well as those wanting to develop secure foundations. We aim to support each pupil at an appropriate level within the National 5 course.

Will the first six weeks cover the entire National 5 course?

No. Six sessions are not intended to replace a full school course or cover every topic. The purpose is to develop understanding, confidence and problem-solving skills, with further blocks providing opportunities to build on earlier learning.

How will pupils and parents know they are making progress?

Pupils receive feedback as they work. We are also developing a short end-of-block learning review for parents, focusing on strengths, areas to work on and suggested next steps. Our approach is about meaningful progress, rather than promises of a particular exam grade.

CONTINUING BEYOND THE FIRST BLOCK

Is *HSOG Horizons: Maths* a one-off six-week course?

No. The intention is to offer successive six-week blocks so that pupils can continue making progress with a consistent approach over time. The first block is a starting point, not a standalone crash course. To hear about future HSOG Horizons programmes or suggest courses you'd love us to offer please register your interest here.

Will I have to commit to the whole year?

No. Families book one six-week block at a time. Further blocks will be offered separately, subject to availability and confirmed scheduling.

Can a new pupil join in January?

We hope to welcome new pupils at the start of later blocks where places are available. We would always gather initial information about their learning needs to help them settle into the programme.

Scan Me to Book

Scan Me to Register Interest

When and where does the first block run?

Every Monday from 9th November to 14th December 2026 inclusive, from 6.00 to 7.30pm, at The High School of Glasgow, Old Anniesland.

How much does it cost?

The six-session block costs £240, inclusive of VAT. This covers nine hours of tuition and support. Booking and payment information is provided through ClassForKids.

Can we book individual evenings rather than the full block?

Places can be booked through the School's ClassForKids page. Our initial block has limited spaces, and bookings are subject to availability. Bookings are for the complete six-week block. This allows pupils to build on previous learning and supports consistency within each group.

What should pupils bring?

A pen or pencil, scientific calculator and any Maths notes or questions they would like help with are useful. We will share any additional practical information before the first session.

What happens if my child cannot attend a session?

Please let us know as early as possible by emailing horizons@hsog.co.uk. The course runs as a scheduled block; any cancellation or refund arrangements are governed by the booking terms made available through ClassForKids. We cannot guarantee replacement sessions.

What if my child has additional learning or support needs?

Please contact us before booking so we can discuss relevant needs and consider appropriate arrangements. Our aim is for pupils to feel comfortable and supported.

What arrangements are in place for pupil safety and collection?

Tutors will be engaged through the School's recruitment and safeguarding processes, including appropriate PVG arrangements. Parents will receive joining details for arrival and collection ahead of the first session.

Questions about the programme? Email us... horizons@hsog.co.uk

Ready to book? Visit... high-school-of-glasgow.classforkids.io/term/3