



Ripon Grammar School

Dear parents of A level mathematics students starting their L6 course in September,

Re: buying an updated calculator for A level mathematics

The new A level has specific requirements such that your child's current calculator probably does not have enough capability to do all the necessary calculations that are needed. Therefore, I am writing to you to suggest you purchase a new calculator prior to the start of the new academic year in September.

Here is what the exam board specification states on calculator requirements:

"It is expected that calculators available in the assessment will include the following features:

- *an iterative function such as an ANS key,*
- *the ability to compute summary statistics and access probabilities from the binomial and normal distributions."*

As you would expect there are lots of options available, but the department has experience of working with Casio models. Therefore, I recommend either the new **Casio fx-991CW Classwiz** or the model it has recently replaced, the **Casio fx-991EX Classwiz**. They cost about £25.

Given that many new A levels students will be looking to buy a calculator, I suggest the purchase is made sooner rather than later. Some high street shops may have one of the models, otherwise the internet provides a ready solution.

If you have any questions other than about the suitability of other calculator models, please contact me via e-mail on whiten@ripongrammar.com.

Yours sincerely,

Mr N White
Head of Mathematics

Founded in Saxon Times, re-founded in 1555

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