

## NOTICE TO CENTRES

FAO: The Head of Mathematics, Teachers of Mathematics and Examinations Officers

Date: September 2009

Subject: Printed Answer Books for GCE Mathematics

### PRINTED ANSWER BOOKS FOR GCE MATHEMATICS (OCR) GCE MATHEMATICS (MEI) AND AS STATISTICS (MEI)

#### INTRODUCTION OF PRINTED ANSWER BOOKS

As from January 2010 12-page Printed Answer Books will be gradually introduced for some units for GCE Mathematics. In each Printed Answer Book there will be an assigned space for answering each part-question. This is to facilitate the introduction of on-screen marking. The scripts will be scanned and marked by examiners at a computer; it is important that the examiner can find the answer to each part-question easily, hence the need for a Printed Answer Book with assigned space for each question.

Question papers will look the same as at present, apart from the instructions on the front cover.

Candidates will no longer use an 8-page answer book for these units. If a candidate cannot fit his/her answer into the assigned space he/she must answer on an additional sheet of paper and attach it to his/her Printed Answer Book; this will be scanned and the examiner will be alerted to look at it.

The schedule for introducing a Printed Answer Book for different units is as follows.

Series	Mathematics (OCR)	Mathematics (MEI)
January 2010	<b>4721 (C1)</b>	<b>4751 (C1), 4771 (D1)*</b>
June 2010	<b>4721 (C1), 4722 (C2), 4728 (M1), 4732 (S1), 4736 (D1)</b>	<b>4751 (C1), 4752 (C2), 4761(M1), 4766 (S1), 4771 (D1) G241</b>
January 2011	<b>4721 (C1), 4722 (C2), 4723 (C3) 4728 (M1), 4729 (M2), 4732 (S1), 4733 (S2), 4736 (D1), 4737 (D2)</b>	<b>4751 (C1), 4752 (C2), 4753 (C3), 4761(M1), 4762 (M2), 4766 (S1), 4767 (S2), 4771 (D1), 4772 (D2)</b>

\* 4771 has had a Printed Answer Book for several series and was marked on-screen in Jan and June 2009.

# NOTICE TO CENTRES *continued*

## SUPPORTING CENTRES AND CANDIDATES WITH THIS CHANGE

There is some more detailed information about the changes on the website [www.ocr.org.uk/maths](http://www.ocr.org.uk/maths), including a sample Printed Answer Book for a past C1 paper. OCR welcomes any comments on candidates' experience of using these sample Printed Answer Books at [maths@ocr.org.uk](mailto:maths@ocr.org.uk)

It may be helpful to pass on the following hints to candidates.

- Use black ink; only use pencil for diagrams. (This has been a standard instruction for several years now.) Do not use coloured pencils.
- Do not use correcting fluid (e.g. Tippex). Scanning can see through it in patches. It is good practice in all papers to cross out work which is not to be marked; in some circumstances crossed out work can be awarded marks.
- Think about how to set out your solution to each question. (We hope that having limited space for a solution may encourage candidates to be more careful in their setting out.)
- We have tried to be generous with the space for each question, to allow for 'false starts'. You should not be concerned if you do not use all the space. The mark allocation gives a better clue about how much work is expected.
- If you cannot fit an answer in the space provided you must **not** use the space assigned for another question. An additional sheet of paper must be used. This must be clearly labelled with the question being answered and must be securely attached to the Printed Answer Book.
- The correct Printed Answer Book must be used for each unit, because each one has a barcode to identify it. The Printed Answer Book will be an insert in the Question Paper.

## WHY IS THIS CHANGE BEING INTRODUCED?

One key reason for introducing on-screen marking is to enable centres to receive much more detailed information about their candidates' results. Eventually a centre will be able to identify how candidates have done on each question, compared with national statistics. This data may be useful to inform future teaching and learning.

The change is being introduced gradually so we can be sure that there is no adverse effect on candidates.

Any enquiry about this notice should be referred to the OCR Customer Contact Centre, (01223 553998), OCR, 1 Hills Road, Cambridge, CB1 2EU or to the dedicated Maths line (0300 456 3142) or email address [maths@ocr.org.uk](mailto:maths@ocr.org.uk)