

Mathematics Higher Level at Aarhus Gymnasium, Tilst

Mathematics Higher Level (Maths HL) is a highly demanding subject within the IB Diploma Programme and requires a strong foundation, consistent effort, and a high level of commitment in order to succeed. To ensure that students are appropriately placed and have the best chance of success, the following screening policy will apply:

Students who have chosen maths HL will take the subject on a provisional basis. They will study one of the Maths HL units for the first 3 weeks of the academic year.

At the end of the first unit, the students will complete a formal written assessment designed to evaluate their readiness for the rigors of the subject. An IB grade of 6 or 7 is required for the student to continue in the Maths HL course. It must be said that the Maths HL teacher also conducts a holistic evaluation of the student's suitability alongside the test result, but the test performance does make up the basis of the decision of who may continue in the subject.

The school will communicate the results of the screening to the students.

If continuation is not recommended, the student will be required to transition to Mathematics SL. This decision is final and is made in the student's best interests, to protect their overall IB success.

While many students and families may initially believe that Mathematics HL is the right choice for them, our priority is not individual preference but ensuring that each student is placed in courses that best fit their academic ability. This policy provides students with a realistic and manageable workload and promotes the strongest possible teaching and learning environment across the mathematics classes.

This policy exists to safeguard students from the significant risk of underperformance or even failure in the IB Diploma that can result from an unsuitable choice of subject levels.

To ensure that students who are required to transition to Maths SL following the screening process do not fall behind in their subjects, all students selecting Maths HL as one of their choices, are required to choose 4 HL subjects. Should a student continue with Maths HL following the screening, they will drop one of their other HL subjects to SL. Should a student not pass the screening and thus be required to transition to Maths SL, they will keep their 3 other HL subjects.

For those students who are required to move to the SL class, but need Maths HL for their intended university studies, there are several upgrade options available. If the student is planning to apply for further education in Denmark, VUC offers different pathways for upgrading Maths SL to Maths HL (equivalent to Matematik B to Matematik A). Students who choose this route typically perform very well, including those that are not native Danish speakers. For students who cannot follow teaching in Danish, or who plan to apply for further education outside Denmark, there are also two online edX courses in English that meet the requirements for Maths HL. The coordinator can provide further details regarding the upgrade of the Maths SL if needed.