



02 October 2026

Dear Families

Calculators for Maths A Level (both Single and Further Maths)

I am just writing to you to clarify our position on calculators at Sackville. This has become rather complicated in the last few years because of a number of substantially different models on the market.

You may have seen that two models are available to buy from the Sackville MCAS system. They are:

- The Casio FX991 CW. This has the same kind of functionality as the latest GCSE calculators but has a lot more options including some things that are necessary for the A level course. For example, it can do some complicated statistics that the more basic one cannot do as well as solving equations. At Sackville we sell the FX991 CW for £21
- The Casio FX-CG50. This is a colour graphical calculator. Aside from drawing graphs these can do multiple other things that can be easier than using a standard calculator. We see the Casio FX-CG50 for £80 (which is generally cheaper than you can get online).



We recommend that all students have at least a calculator equivalent to the FX991 CW, i.e. one that does A level statistics etc. It is not necessary for single maths students to have a graphical calculator but quite a number of students who do not do further maths still buy the FX-CG50.

Students that do further maths are recommended to have a graphical calculator. However, I would stress that it is possible to do further maths without it, albeit at a slight disadvantage.

Whichever course you are doing, if you choose to buy a graphical calculator it is still useful to have a second calculator as back-up. It is good practice to have 2 calculators in an exam.

If you have any queries on this or anything else regarding your child's mathematics, please do not hesitate to contact us by e-mail ahatton@sackvilleschool.org.uk and/or smoodley@sackvilleschool.org.uk.

Yours sincerely

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