

## Mathematics & Science exams – How best to prepare

As the summer vacation comes to a close and the new academic year is about to start, parents and students start worrying about the long preparation – over the year – for the 10<sup>th</sup> Class and 12<sup>th</sup> Class exams. Mathematics and Science courses seem to be the major concern for the parents. Some tips for the school students in Class 9 to 12

**1 Worry not** – the biggest stumbling block for many is the fear. Mathematics can be fun; provided you have the right attitude. Science is exciting; why fear? Get the fear out and you are ready to start rocking. You have so many options – inspiring books with colourful illustrations, amazing animated videos and your teachers (and in Bangalore, even thousands of scientists around to talk!)

**2 At your pace** – No need to study for long hours; no need to lose all your weekends. You need to allocate enough time – “how much” depends on YOU and YOUR STYLE. Those who do multi-task (all the time doing FB “likes”, WhatsApp’ing buddies and calling friends) need to devote more time; it is better to focus and have dedicated “gadget free” hours. Couple of hours a day on most days (need not be all days) in a steady manner is all that is needed.

**3 Tuition / Coaching not mandatory** – It has become a fashion to think that you need coaching, “method XYZ from Singapore or China” or some “Ha Ha or Hoo Hoo math”. It IS a MYTH. If you are deficient and you feel extra support is needed, go for tuition; not otherwise. Be attentive in class, take help from class teacher, leverage friendly classmates; helpful & competent parents or siblings can be of great help. It is YOU who have to prepare. Sometimes the society (media, parents, buddies) over burdens you. Too much information is a drag. With right attitude and steady practice you can be the topper!

**4 Have fun** – it is important to enjoy the last couple of years of your childhood. During exam you need to be alert and fast, for which you need a clear mind, more than anything else. If you have enough fun (not too much of it), you will enjoy the preparation, do well in the exam and get to enjoy the results! Your parents and siblings will enjoy too!

Go and get started without worry; work at your pace; do not feel compelled to have tuition and have fun.

All the best

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