What do I need to be able to do?

By the end of this unit you should be able to:
- Compare gradients
- Compare intercepts
- Understand and use y= mx + c
- Find the equation of a line from a graph
- Interpret gradient and intercepts of real-life graphs

Keywords

Gradient: the steepness of a line
Intercept: where two lines cross. The y-intercept: where the line meets the y-axis.
Parallel: two lines that never meet with the same gradient.
Co-ordinate: a set of values that show an exact position on a graph.
Linear: linear graphs (straight line) – linear common difference by addition/ subtraction
Asymptote: a straight line that a graph will never meet.
Reciprocal: a pair of numbers that multiply together to give 1
Perpendicular: two lines that meet at a right angle.

$y = mx + c$

The **coefficient** of x (the number in front of x) tells us the gradient of the line

$$y = mx + c$$

The value of **c** is the point at which the line crosses the y-axis. Y intercept

y and x are **coordinates**.

The equation of a line can be rearranged. Eg:
$y = c + mx$
$c = y - mx$
Identify which coefficient you are identifying or comparing.

Real life graphs

A plumber charges a £25 callout fee, and then £12.50 for every hour. Complete the table of values to show the cost of hiring the plumber.

Time (h)	0	1	2	3	8
Cost (£)	£25				£125

The y-intercept shows the minimum charge. The gradient represents the price per mile

In real life graphs like this values will always be positive because they measure distances or objects which cannot be negative.

Direct Proportion graphs To represent direct proportion the graph must start at the origin.
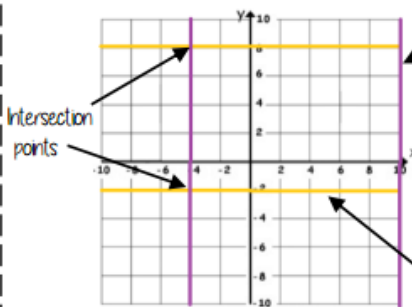
A box of pens costs £2.30
Complete the table of values to show the cost of buying boxes of pens.

Boxes	0	1	2	3	8
Cost (£)		£2.30			

When you have 0 pens this has 0 cost. The gradient shows the price per pen.

Lines parallel to the axes ®

All the points on this line have a x coordinate of 10

'a' can be ANY positive or negative value including 0

Lines parallel to the **y axis** take the form **x = a** and are **vertical**

Lines parallel to the **x axis** take the form **y = a** and are **horizontal**

Intersection points

All the points on this line have a y coordinate of -2

e.g (3, -2) (7, -2) (-2, -2) all lay on this line because the y coordinate is -2

Plotting y = mx + c graphs ®

$y = 3x - 1$ → 3 x the x coordinate then – 1

x	-3	0	3
y	-10	-1	8

Draw a table to display this information

This represents a coordinate pair (-3, -10)
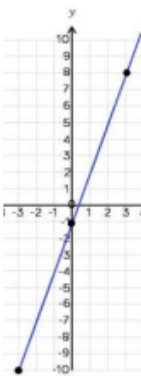
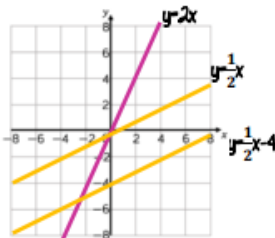You only need two points to form a straight line

Plotting more points helps you decide if your calculations are correct (if they do make a straight line)

Remember to join the points to make a line

Compare Gradients

$y = mx + c$

The **coefficient** of x (the number in front of x) tells us the gradient of the line

y=2x   y=½x   y=½x-4

The **greater** the gradient – the **steeper** the line

Positive gradients

Negative gradients

Parallel lines have the **same** gradient

Missing:

Gradient of line

Finding the equation of a line from its graph

The equation of a parallel line

Solving simultaneous equations using graphs