Task Number	1	Task Name	Game On
Course	Stage 4 Mathematics	Faculty	Mathematics
Teachers	Mr Rose, Mr Broadley, Mr Whitehall.	Head Teacher	Ms Humphrys
Issue date	Friday 21 Feb 2025	Due date	Friday 7 March
Focus (Topic)	Making Predictions	Task Weighting	25%

Outcomes

MAO-WM-01 develops understanding and fluency in mathematics through exploring and connecting mathematical concepts, choosing, and applying mathematical techniques to solve problems, and communicating their thinking and reasoning coherently and clearly

MA4-PRO-C-01 solves problems involving the probabilities of simple chance experiments

Task description

Can knowing how a game works ruin all the fun?

Students will explore how probability influences games to consider this question. Board games and video games utilise probability to create a random element to the actions we take and decisions we make. This ensures that we don't have absolute control over the outcomes but must adapt to the results we receive.

This uncertainty is what helps to make games, particularly board, video, and card games, popular to play time and again.

This task consists of 2 parts:
- Part 1 - What are the chances?
- Part 2 - The problem of points

This assessment task can be handed in on the Google Classroom (code hb54uud) or hand written on this form.

Marking Guidelines

See the marking rubric on the last page.

Part 1 – what are the chances?

'Let's roll the dice…' by Nisarg Lakhmani is licensed under CC BY-NC 2.0

The scenario
Many games use the results of rolling a standard, fair, six-sided dice.
- Such a dice has a sample space of {1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6}.
- Each outcome has an equally likely chance of 1/6 .
- These games most often require you to move a piece several spaces equal to the dice result and perform the action on the space on which it lands.
- As a player you have little to no control over the game and rely entirely on random chance to determine if you succeed or fail.

The problem
When changes are made to the sample space and likelihood of results, should this improve how engaging and re-playable a game becomes?

Investigate
Conduct an experiment involving multiple trials, to determine a relative frequency for all the results you receive from rolling and adding together the value of 2, standard, fair, six-sided dice.

Use actual dice or the desmos activity to get the results. You will need to roll the dice multiple times to gather enough data to see what is happening.

Required student responses
1. What is the sample space from your results?

2. Use these results to fill in the Part 1 - tabulating data table and calculate relative frequencies, as fractions, for each of the outcomes.

3. Which total occurred the most?

4. Which total occurred the least?

5. Can you explain why this is the case?

Part 1 – tabulating data

Total of 2 dice	Frequency (use tally marks)	Total (as a number)	Relative frequency

Part 2 – the problem of points

The scenario
- There are 2 players, Abe and Bea, playing a fair game split into rounds.
- The game consists of flipping a fair coin, with Abe winning on heads and Bea winning on tails.
- Abe and Bea have both contributed an equal amount to a winner-takes-all prize.
- The one who wins a total of 10 rounds will win the overall game and receive the entire prize.
- The game is stopped unexpectedly and can not be continued.
- Abe has won 7 rounds and Bea has won 8 rounds.

The problem
No one made it to 10 rounds so there is no winner according to the rules, and now Abe and Bea can't agree on what should happen with the prize.

It is possible that the next 4 rounds play out as follows:
Heads, Heads, Tails, Heads (HHTH).
In this outcome, Abe wins 3 more times and finishes with 10 points and wins the game. Bea wins one more time and finishes with 9 points.

Required student responses

1. How many other, different outcomes are possible? Create a list of all the possible ways these rounds could play out in the Part 2 - determining winners table (including the example provided).

2. To determine a winner, the maximum number of rounds that could possibly be played is 4. Explain why this is the case.

3. Abe and Bea agree to share the winnings based on the probability of them winning the game. Using your list of possible results from question 1, determine what fraction of the prize to give to each person, justifying your response with suitable calculations.

Part 2 – determining winners table

Initial rounds
- Abe won 7 (Heads)
- Bea won 8 (Tails)

Round 16	Round 17	Round 18	Round 19	Winner
H	H	T	H	Abe

Marking Rubric

Part 1 - What are the chances

Experiment Conducted	Question 1	Question 2	Question 3	Question 4	Question 5
Rows 1-5 filled in (1 mark)	Language of chance used (1 mark)	r.f. correct rows 1-5 (1 mark)	correct for table (1 mark)	correct for table (1 mark)	Language of chance used (1 mark)
Rows 1-11 filled in (2 marks)	Correctly states sample space (2 marks)	r.f. correct rows 1-11 (2 marks)			precise explanation of either most or least occurring (2 marks)

Total   /10

Part 2 - the problem of points

Question 1	Question 2	Question 3
partially correct list (1 mark)	partially explains why maximum number of rounds is 4 (1 mark)	Partially correct calculation of winnings (1 mark)
fully correct list (2 marks)	explains why maximum number of rounds is 4 (2 marks)	Fully correct calculation of winnings (2 marks)

Total   / 6

Mark and Teachers Comment