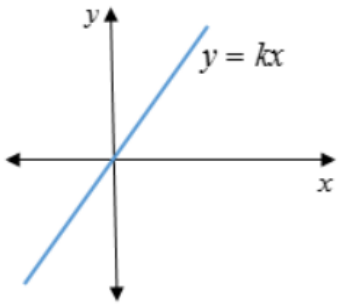
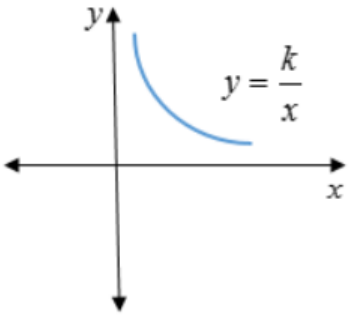
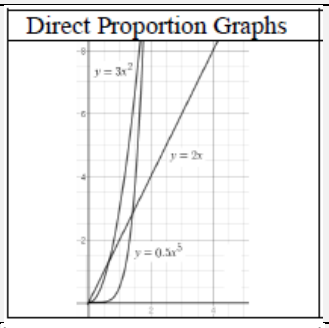
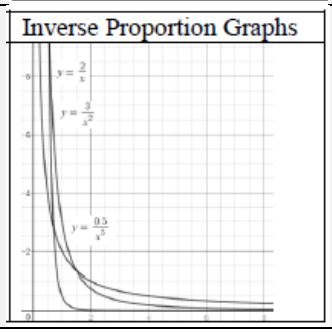
Core Knowledge

Topic: Proportion

Topic/Skill	Definition/Tips	Example
1. Direct Proportion	If two quantities are in direct proportion, **as one increases**, the **other increases** by the **same percentage**. If y is directly proportional to x, this can be written as $\boldsymbol{y \propto x}$ An equation of the form $\boldsymbol{y = kx}$ represents direct proportion, where k **is the constant of proportionality**.	
2. Inverse Proportion	If two quantities are inversely proportional, **as one increases**, the **other decreases** by the **same percentage**. If y is inversely proportional to x, this can be written as $\boldsymbol{y \propto \frac{1}{x}}$ An equation of the form $\boldsymbol{y = \frac{k}{x}}$ represents inverse proportion.	
3. Using proportionality formulae	**Direct**: **y = kx** or **y ∝ x** **Inverse**: **y =** $\boldsymbol{\frac{k}{x}}$ or **y ∝** $\boldsymbol{\frac{1}{x}}$ 1. **Solve to find k** using the pair of values in the question. 2. **Rewrite the equation** using the k you have just found. 3. **Substitute the other given value** from the question in to the equation to **find the missing value**.	p is directly proportional to q. When p = 12, q = 4. Find p when q = 20. 1. p = kq 12 = k x 4 so k = 3 2. p = 3q 3. p = 3 x 20 = 60, so p = 60
4. Direct Proportion with powers	Graphs showing **direct proportion** can be written in the form $\boldsymbol{y = kx^n}$ Direct proportion graphs will always start at the origin.	
5. Inverse Proportion with powers	Graphs showing **inverse proportion** can be written in the form $\boldsymbol{y = \frac{k}{x^n}}$ Inverse proportion graphs will never start at the origin.	

Links to finding the gradient, rate, real-life scenarios, completing tables of points to plot graphs, percentage increases and decreases, graphs to the power of