

Proof – A2 Mathematics P21. [June/2022/Paper_7357/02/No.6](#)

- (a) Asif notices that
- $24^2 = 576$
- and
- $2 + 4 = 6$
- gives the last digit of 576

He checks two more examples:

$$27^2 = 729$$

$$2 + 7 = 9$$

Last digit 9

$$29^2 = 841$$

$$2 + 9 = 11$$

Last digit 1

Asif concludes that he can find the last digit of any square number greater than 100 by adding the digits of the number being squared.

Give a counter example to show that Asif's conclusion is **not** correct.

[2 marks]

- (b) Claire tells Asif that he should look only at the last digit of the number being squared.

$$27^2 = 729$$

$$7^2 = 49$$

Last digit 9

$$24^2 = 576$$

$$4^2 = 16$$

Last digit 6

Using Claire's method determine the last digit of 23456789^2

[1 mark]
