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07 If Find the equation of the line that passes through the point (-1, 3) and is perpendicular to 2x + y + 4 = 0.

As
$$2x + y + 4 = 0$$
, then $y = -2x - 4$:: gradient is -2

This means gradient of perpendicular is $\frac{1}{2}$.

$$y - y_1 = m(x - x_1)$$
 with point (-1, 3) and gradient $\frac{1}{2}$
 $y - 3 = \frac{1}{2}(x - (-1))$
 $y - 3 = \frac{1}{2}(x + 1)$
 $2y - 6 = x + 1$
 $x - 2y + 7 = 0$

Board of Studies: Notes from the Marking Centre

The most common error was not correctly determining the gradient of the line 2x + y + 4 = 0. Some candidates did not apply the formula $m_1m_2 = -1$. Simple errors were also made substituting the point (-1, 3) into the gradient-intercept formula.

Source: http://www.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au/hsc_exams/

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