

**YOU & MATHS** **A fixed line** Verify that the line  $x + 5y = 0$  is a fixed line for the point reflection in  $(0, 0)$ .

Let us choose a point  $P$  on the given line, and let  $(x_P, y_P)$  be its coordinates. Since  $P$  belongs to the line we know that:

$$x_P + 5y_P = 0.$$

Point  $P$  is mapped by the reflection onto point  $P'$ , whose coordinates  $(x', y')$  are given by:

$$\begin{cases} x' = -x_P \\ y' = -y_P \end{cases}$$

Let us check that point  $P'(x', y')$  satisfies the equation of the line:

$$x' + 5y' = -x_P - 5y_P = -(x_P + 5y_P) = 0.$$

Therefore point  $P'$  belongs to the given line as well, and therefore the line is fixed under the point reflection in  $O(0, 0)$ .