



Maths Department

The department occupies a suite of 7 classrooms. Each classroom is equipped with a state of the art Smartboard linked to a desktop computer. The desktop is linked to a classroom speaker system. There are also standard whiteboards in each room. The department has a set of portable netbooks available to staff on a booking basis. Every teacher on a full maths timetable has their own classroom.

There are currently 11 members of staff in the department. There is a Head of Department and two Deputy Heads of Department, each with a specific responsibility for a Key Stage. One member of staff is on the SLT and is an SLE.



Maths
Department

Maths is a very popular and successful subject in the school and each year results are very strong.

- An average of c. 80% of students have achieved A* - C at GCSE over the last three years
- A*/A GCSE grades were over 20% in 2015.
- GCSE progress levels are very strong. The school is in the second highest quintile for Maths compared against similar schools and against all schools, in Ofsted's Data Dashboard.
- A Level Maths and Further Maths are both very popular and successful.
- In 2015, 50% of A2 grades were A*/A and 70% A*-C, with strong uptake each year.
- Key Stage 3 results are very strong too, with very able cohorts in each year group.
- Leadership, teaching and the climate for learning in Maths are all strong.

In Year 7 students are set using a mixture of Key Stage 2 data from primary schools as well as CAT scores taken in the first term. Throughout the Key Stage 3 course the students are grouped by ability across two parallel bands. For the GCSE programmes in Key Stage 4, the students are also grouped by ability across the whole year group. Sets are reviewed every term and updated using students' assessment performance. Class sizes in KS3 are typically 30 pupils in sets 1 and 2, 25 in set 3 and 15 in set 4. A small set 5 also exists, typically consisting of approximately 5 students. GCSE classes follow a similar reducing pattern. We currently have 2 AS level groups of 9 and 10 students respectively and one group of 12 at A2. We also have A Level Further Maths classes in both Year 12 and 13.

KS3

Key Stage 3 provision is currently 6 x 1 hour lessons per 2-week cycle in Years 7 and 8. This increases to 7 hours in Year 9. There are comprehensive schemes of work and resources for all stages. Students follow a staged pathway throughout Key Stage 3 dependant on their level of entry. The differentiated approach allows maximum challenge and progress as it is split into 5 stages. The most able students cover stages 3, 4 and 5 in Year 7, 8 and 9 whereas the lower ability students cover stages 1, 2 and 3. Problem solving and the application of skills play a key part in the SOW. Each stage offers structured learning and regular assessment. Homework is set weekly and alternates between a written task and an on-line activity. The written task is from a prepared homework booklet and the marking provides students with formative feedback which the students then respond to in the next lesson. Termly assessments are formally marked and levels reported home.

KS4

Key Stage 4 provision for Years 10 and 11 is currently 6 x 1 hour lessons per 2-week cycle. We follow the OCR Syllabus in both Years. There are comprehensive schemes of work and resources for all units. Students are encouraged to develop their skills, knowledge and understanding of Mathematics using varied approaches to learning. The SOW contains problem solving activities to develop thinking skills. Each SOW offers structured learning and regular assessment. Assessment is on-going with students sitting regular topic tests, termly assessments and mock exams in Year 11. Termly assessments are formally marked and levels reported home. High achieving students are offered the opportunity to study AQA Level 2 Further Maths alongside their GCSE. Homework is set weekly and alternates between a written task and an on-line activity. The written task is from a prepared homework booklet and the marking provides students with formative feedback which the students then respond to in the next lesson.

KS5

Key Stage 5 provision is currently 9 x 1 hour lessons per 2-week cycle. The department offers both AS and A2 level Maths and Further Maths. We follow the OCR syllabus covering modules in Core Maths, Statistics, Mechanics, Decision and Further Pure Maths. Comprehensive schemes of work and resources for all units are currently being developed and are already in place for most modules. A high quality homework schedule is in place, which provides the students with an opportunity to practise extensively exam style questions throughout the course. Students sit 3 exams at both AS and A2 for Maths and Further Maths. Assessment is on-going with students sitting mock exams in Y12 and 13 with grades reported home.