

Easthampstead Park Community School

MATHEMATICS DEPARTMENT

Current Members of the Department

There are currently five specialists and no non-specialist teachers teaching within the department. We are very lucky to have 3 TAs that support us solely in Maths; one of them is a HLTA.

Schemes / Units taught in KS3

Year 7 and 8 classes are taught by NC level following an in-house spiralling curriculum that is based on repetition, mastery and retention.

Internal testing is based on single level papers and papers are set by personalising pairs of papers for individuals in each class.

GCSE Specification and Units

KS4 classes are taught using the EDEXCEL linear specification that has been used to design an in-house spiralling curriculum of units. We prioritise teaching up to 4/5 grade in year 9 and then build on this in year 10 and 11 to ensure foundation tier learning for all.

Internal testing is based on a short and long term basis. At the end of each unit, the students take a competency test, which helps build their resilience in maths. This is to encourage short term revision and independence for long term retention. Every term, we also have a mock test in line with the reporting needs of the school. For this we use a past GCSE paper and give our students a full mark as well as a partial mark based on recent topics covered.

A level Specification and Units taught

We offer students Maths and Further Maths; two separate A' level courses. Most of our students study sciences with maths; a few study the social sciences or humanities where Maths can be complementary.

The modules include Core, 1, 2, 3, 4, Decision 1, 2, Mechanics 1, 2, Statistics 1, 2 and Further Pure 1, 2, 3. This gives A' level students a chance to do six for each course, giving a broad depth of knowledge to continue maths at further education level.

Mark- Plan- Teach

Data is used effectively to measure against incoming information as well as end of year targets and end of GCSE targets/ flightpaths. Data is used by the teacher to inform planning and at dept level to tweak classes, analyse value added and inject support where needed. We place emphasis on the students to take ownership of their work by using directed reflection time, personal checklists and knowing their own data. We also take advantage of online software to help independent work at home through google classrooms, mymaths, etc

Extracurricular Activities and Opportunities

We offer extensive support to students; our special focus lies with Year 9 and Year 11, who like the idea of doing maths in the morning in the form of Maths Gym. This is very popular and helps student achieve their target grades during this after school club.

The Sixth Form are good at using the weekly after-school Maths Gym to support their course; working with teachers and each other to extend their maths ability.

Description of the Department and its Resources

The maths department is based in an all-inclusive corridor with seven well lit, bright classrooms that are fully equipped with a professional and purposeful learning environment. Recent financial support has enabled the department to make improvements and modernise the maths domain over the last few years. Each room has a wall mounted interactive whiteboard that is compatible with the staff desktops, with sound. The rooms are well equipped with number fans, mini-whiteboards, pens, equipment trays, calculators, traffic light cards, foam dice, etc.

The display boards are well used for whole department displays as well as teachers' creativity to display student work. Each room has ample storage in keeping with the school's push for professional learning environments. One of the rooms is a multi-purpose room that is used for intervention and support for all year groups.

The corridor includes male and female toilets, quick access to the printing office and exits to the KS4 playground. The faculty also enjoys good storage for shared resources and equipment as well as a faculty staff room. This staffroom includes a handy kitchenette with sink, fridge, toaster, microwave and kettle. The team enjoy break and lunch times together and our LSAs join us at the coffee table for a daily chat for that team spirit!