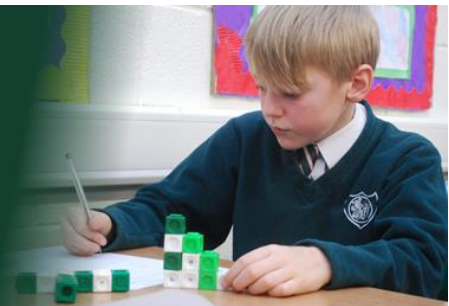




Queen Elizabeth School

Scholarship & Care since 1591

An 11-18 academy in Kirkby Lonsdale,
between the Lakes & the Dales



Department Details

Maths

There are at present 11 teachers of mathematics several of whom are part-time or have leadership or senior pastoral responsibilities. The Department has four classrooms all close together with an office and central resources area. These classrooms surround a large open access area furnished with tables, a whiteboard and projector and a suite of twenty seven computers which are predominantly used for maths lessons. All of the rooms are equipped with ceiling mounted projectors.

In all year groups pupils are taught in two populations. In year 7 populations A and B comprise four and five teaching groups respectively. Pupils are put into sets on intake in September based primarily on KS2 results. Ongoing in-class monitoring by teachers and assessments in October and January help refine the groupings.

In years 8 and 9 pupils in each population are divided into 4 groups according to their mathematical ability. Pupils are regularly assessed and have key exams at January and in the Summer term. The core textbooks at KS3 are the series of books by Barbara Young and for lower ability pupils the Mathswise books by Allan and Williams are used. These are supported extensively by materials and resources such as Tarsia activities developed by the Department. We also have annual subscriptions to Mymaths, Mathswatch, Mathspad, Mathsbox and Active Maths.

The Department has developed a 7-11 scheme of learning incorporating creative teaching ideas and resources and a range of rich tasks including Standard Unit Materials. There exists a strong positive team ethos and colleagues regularly share ideas and examples of good practice and willingly support each other's lessons.

At KS4 pupils prepare for the AQA 8300 examinations. We use a mixture of CGP textbooks at the appropriate level supplemented by worksheets and other resources. Assessments take place at the end of each half term with whole school mock examinations in the Spring term of years 10 and 11.

Colleagues readily make themselves available for students to 'drop in' and seek guidance relating to work issues. Help is always on hand for homework or further explanations of demanding topics. This applies to all levels and all key stages. The Department prepares a massive amount of revision materials for key exams and organise lunchtime revision classes and utilise in-school study leave to deliver focused exam preparation. We consistently achieve excellent results. In 2017 84% of pupils achieved grade 4+ and 65% achieved grade 5+. For the three consecutive years prior to this 90% of yr 11 pupils achieved A*-C.

Maths is a very popular subject choice at KS5 with more than fifty students opting for Maths each year. We follow the new OCR syllabus A H240 course. We use Hodder textbooks written specifically for OCR. These are supplemented by extensive department resources including Susan Wall activities and materials from the MEI TAM course. Further Maths continues to thrive and again we follow the OCR syllabus with options in Statistics and Mechanics. We have links with Lancaster University through the Further Maths Support Programme and students attend problem solving sessions and revision opportunities. The Department also delivers the Core Maths level 3 course as a one year qualification in year 12.

The successful candidate will be joining a strong team of enthusiastic and caring professionals who see pupils as individuals with differing needs and who take these into account when teaching. The Department work well together, share an interest in mathematics and accept a joint responsibility for developing understanding and enthusiasm for the subject throughout the school. We are a forward looking and dynamic department committed to improving our own skills and to providing enrichment opportunities for pupils of all abilities. It is Department policy that all staff, as far as possible, teach across the full age and ability range.