** MATHEMATICS DEPARTMENT**

 **INFORMATION SHEET**

**Introduction**

The Mathematics Department is a dynamic and hard working team of specialist mathematics teachers. It is a key department in the school and respected by students in all year groups. We believe mathematics is a creative and highly inter-connected discipline that is essential to everyday life, critical to science, technology and engineering, and necessary for financial literacy and most forms of employment. The department strives to support students to become fluent in the fundamentals of numeracy, develop their abilities to reason mathematically and solve problems.

**Student Outcomes**

Outcomes in the maths department have been consistently strong over recent years, regularly performing way above the national average. In 2016/17, 79% of our students achieved GCSE Maths at grade 4 and 27% achieved grade 7 - 9. At A-level, 41% of our students achieved a grade B or above, and 21% achieved a grade A or A\* However, we are never satisfied with previous successes and strive to gain even better outcomes in 2018 and beyond!

**Curriculum**

Students are taught mathematics four times a week through Years 7-11 and set according to ability. We have the capacity within the department to offer one-to-one and small group tuition for disadvantaged students or students needing extra support. In Years 7 and 8 students follow a focused approach to national curriculum programme of learning which covers key development in skills: number, algebra, ratio proportion, rates of change, geometry and measures, probability and statistics. Students are assessed half-termly and have the opportunity to meet problem solving activities and apply their mathematical knowledge.

In Years 9-11, students follow the Edexcel specification for GCSE with some students opting to supplement this with GCSE Statistics and the AQA Level 2 Certificate in Further Maths. Students are well supported by the department with many interventions and revision sessions taking place for students of all abilities that are designed to stretch, challenge, and support.

We are proud that mathematics is by far the most popular A-level choice in the sixth form, with 4 A Level classes, 3 A2 classes, and two further maths classes. Students follow the Edexcel specification. Many of our Year 13 students go on to study mathematics or maths-based degrees at top universities across the country.

**Resources**

The department is based in Oaks House, which contains six dedicated maths classrooms, department office, and small group teaching rooms. Each classroom is fully equipped with a projector and interactive whiteboard. Access to suites of computers are located across the school and can be booked for lessons, along with class sets of tablets. Students have regular opportunities to access the virtual learning environment, MyMaths, and other specialist maths programmes to support their learning. The department is also fully resourced with specialist maths equipment, mini-whiteboards, and learning resources.

**Staffing**

The maths department are a fantastic bunch of dedicated professionals who are all subject specialists and work tirelessly to support students to develop their maths skills. The department is led by the Head of Department, Second in charge, KS5 coordinator, and KS3 coordinator. A Deputy Headteacher also teaches within the department so there is plenty of experience and support at hand.

We are committed to developing teachers at any stage of their career through departmental professional development, involvement in whole-school training initiatives and nationally recognised schemes such as NPQSL (Senior Leaders), NPQML (Middle Leaders), Early Leadership etc. NQT’s and NQT+1 teachers receive bespoke training in and out of the department. We also host PGCE and Schools Direct trainee teachers.

The department has strong links with other mathematicss departments and the regional maths hub, local education services, universities, and other maths based organisations. In particular we work closely and in equal partnership with the maths department at Grey Court School.

**Enrichment**

We try to provide as many diverse enrichment opportunities as possible for our students. All year groups are involved in the UKMT individual/team Maths challenges (including sixth form students) and we have had pleasing success over the last few years. The department also run a whole-school numeracy week, student maths clubs, host a problem solving day for local state and independent schools, amongst many other things.