

THE MATHEMATICS DEPARTMENT

(January 2018)

The Math's Department is a high performing department achieving + 0.40 in progress 8 2016/17.

The Mathematics Department consists of a team of eight staff, including the DHT and an HLTA, the majority of whom teach across the age and ability range. Teaching takes place in the Mathematics Department in a suite of six rooms. Each room is well equipped, with an interactive whiteboard and a full class set of scientific calculators.

Key Stage 3

On the basis of their KS2 SAT results pupils are allocated to sets within two half year blocks. Pupils are taught within these sets for the first two years. Movement of pupils between sets normally, but not exclusively, occurs half way through and at the end of the academic year.

There are good relationships between Key Stage 2 and Key Stage 3 teachers which enable pupils to "hit the ground running" when they arrive at Parkside. Pupils make excellent progress in their early years where teachers use a Mastery scheme of work to ensure pupils develop a deep understanding of the KS3 Curriculum.

Homework is given to pupils once a fortnight. This homework consolidates and extends learning that takes place in the classroom.

Key Stage 4

When pupils begin Year 9, the Scheme of Work becomes GCSE focused. Pupils continue on a Pathway which gives every pupil the opportunity to succeed and meet their aspirational target grade. Homework is given fortnightly and formal assessments take place in each half term. Time is then taken to help pupils improve upon key misconceptions from the assessments.

In Year 11, the pupils complete their schemes of work before Christmas and start Exam Preparation in January for the Edexcel GCSE. Practice papers are used regularly to help assess and to identify the pupils strengths and weaknesses. Teachers are given the flexibility to teach to the needs of the pupils. Regular intervention is used to help prepare pupils for their GCSE further.

The Mathematics Department receives a good share of curriculum time which enables the department to meet the needs of the National Curriculum. KS4 results have followed a rapidly improving trend over recent years, and the school is seeking to appoint someone who will maintain this improvement and to help raise pupils' attainment even further in mathematics.