



Mathematics Department



The Department

The Mathematics Department is staffed by eight full-time and two part-time specialist teachers who generally teach in rooms that are located together in a purpose-built teaching block. Each of the six maths classrooms has interactive whiteboard facilities. Most teachers deliver lessons in all key stages.

The Curriculum

In Key Stage 3, students are taught in ability based sets, following initial mixed ability teaching on joining in year 7. The syllabus is based on the new National Curriculum and uses as core texts the Pearson KS3 Maths Progress course. Each unit we teach is supported by a range of learning materials designed to promote confidence, by encouraging students to visualise concepts, discuss their understanding and reflect on their learning. Depending on whether students master the topic in the first few lessons or not, they decide on a personalised route through the rest of the unit. They have the opportunity to revisit key concepts, explained in a different way, and at a slower pace, or they can choose to extend their learning by increasing the breadth and depth of their understanding. Students are assessed regularly and individual targets are set. Intervention strategies are used where students are clearly not meeting their targets.

We have a five year scheme of work in place, following the route of a two year KS3 and a three year GCSE and providing a seamless progression to GCSE. As a reference, we use the Edexcel (9-1) Maths resources, having both text books and online resources for this course. In lessons we focus on building students' fluency, problem solving and reasoning.

Mathematics is a popular A-Level choice in the Sixth Form, where students follow the linear Edexcel A-Level courses. Some students also do Further Mathematics as an AS or full A-Level.

To support learning, we have a wide range of digital resources. Every student is able to use MyMaths, MathsWatch and ActiveTeach to encourage and develop independent learning.

Extra-Curricular Activities

There is a weekly drop-in mathematics tutor session, where any student may come for help with homework or areas of difficulty. Each year our gifted and talented students are entered for the National Mathematics Challenges at junior, intermediate and senior levels. Our results are always excellent and well above the national average. A-Level students are encouraged to attend extra-curricular lectures and they voluntarily support students in the lower school.

Pearson Collaborative Hub

Gumley regularly hosts the Pearson Collaborative hub for mathematics. Gathering and sharing up to date materials relating to the new GCSE and A-Level courses puts us at the forefront of changes and helps us deliver the new curriculum to our students in the most effective way.

Exam Results

In 2017, 81% of GCSE students achieved grades 9 - 4 (85% A* - C in 2016), with 22% of those grades 9 - 7. At GCE Advanced Level, 91% achieved A*-C grades at A2. In addition, a small group of students were very successful in Further Mathematics at A2 and AS level.

