

INFORMATION ON

THE MATHEMATICS DEPARTMENT

The Mathematics Department is currently staffed by both experienced and newly qualified specialist teachers who work effectively together. All are passionate about delivering a high-quality mathematics education. We have four postholders responsible for leading and managing various aspects of the department and a Lead Practitioner who is responsible for developing the quality of teaching and learning within the team and also numeracy across the curriculum.

Progress results for Mathematics at The Derby High School in 2018 at +0.17 and 2019 at +0.12 are significantly above that in other schools.

Throughout the five-year course the curriculum aims to equip every pupil with a deep understanding and enjoyment of mathematics and enable them to undertake everyday tasks essential for keeping safe, healthy and maintaining their own social wellbeing. We aim to develop an appreciation of the subject in its own right and as support to other subjects and to provide a firm foundation for appropriate further study.

The Scheme of Learning is based on the White Rose Maths Scheme working towards the EDEXCEL GCSE syllabus. This incorporates the numeracy skills required to enable all students to think independently and to possess the problem-solving skills necessary to allow them to progress into their chosen careers and enable them to be fully participating citizens in an ever-changing society.

Pupils begin in mixed ability classes in Year 7 and are then set into two bands with four sets in each band. All sets complete the GCSE exam at the end of year 11. Typically, the top two sets are entered for the Higher paper and the lower two sets for the Foundation paper.

A wide range of extra-curricular opportunities are used to promote positive attitudes towards Mathematics. For example, Year 7 and Year 8 participate in the World Maths Day and the top sets in Year 8 and Year 9 also take part in the UK Mathematics Challenge and in the UK team challenge which is mainly for our most able students.

There are currently seven specialist Mathematics rooms with interactive whiteboards and one networked ICT suite.

The school recognises the importance of staff development and once a fortnight we close early (at 2.10pm) for CPD time. A substantial amount of time is given to departments to share and develop their practice. The department also works in trios to plan and observe lessons. The Derby High School is currently the spoke for the North West 1 Maths Hub in Bury and through this oversees the Bury Maths network for all mathematics teachers within the borough and is able to offer a variety of new and innovative courses for all who work with us.