Ousedale School
Aspire | Believe | Achieve

MATHS DEPARTMENT

THE TEAM /FACILITIES

The department consists of 15 Maths teachers who work closely together to plan and co-ordinate courses. Four staff are based at the school's Olney campus. Regular department meetings are held to share views and discuss and put new developments in place. Each member of staff is given the chance to teach all years and ability levels and there are many opportunities for further professional development. We are supported in the department by an HLTA and an administration assistant.

We are accommodated in our own recently refurbished Mathematics area, including an ICT suite with 32 PCs. Each teaching room has a PC and interactive whiteboard. All courses are well resourced with text books, other materials and practical equipment.

KEY STAGE 3

Students are set using Key Stage 2 information from feeder schools and CATS scores. These sets are reviewed regularly using test data and progress in lessons as a basis for discussion. We use a variety of resources including the Hodder 'Mastering Mathematics' textbooks.

KEY STAGE 4

During Years 10 and 11 students follow a KS4 scheme of work. Some more able students also sit the Level 2 Further Maths examination in Year 11. In 2018, 77% of students achieved grades 4 - 9 at GCSE and 25% achieved grades 7 - 9.

KEY STAGE 5

A Level Mathematics is a popular choice in the sixth form. There are currently over 70 students studying the subject in Year 12, including 'Further Maths' groups who complete A2 Mathematics at the end of Year 12. The majority of these students work to complete a Further Maths AS or A2 in Year 13.

Students follow the new Edexcel A level course.

Over two thirds of students achieved A* - B grades in A2 in 2017.

Year 12 students have the opportunity to work to resit GCSE if necessary.

STYLE

At all stages we try to ensure that Maths is taught in a lively and interesting way and that students enjoy the subject. As a department, we are working on activities and questions to promote problem solving, reasoning and deeper thinking.

Students in the top sets are entered for the UKMT Maths Challenge in years 8, 10 and 12. Regular sessions run after school for those want extra support and for those who are preparing for external exams.

September 2018