

THE MATHEMATICS FACULTY INFORMATION SHEET

Oakwood School has a dedicated Mathematics Faculty who embrace new ideas with excitement and enthusiasm. The Faculty comprises 6 full-time teachers, and a HLTA.

The Faculty occupies a suite of 6 classrooms with Interactive Whiteboards and a large resource/workroom within the main teaching block. In addition, Maths has access to a small group intervention classroom and ICT suite (each class has access to the ICT suite at least once per fortnight) where students use a range of interactive resources including Desmos, Mathswatch and Mymaths.

The Faculty is currently undergoing modernisation and has seen much change and success in recent years. It has moved away from text book learning (although these are available for all year groups) to a more flexible approach to allow as many teaching styles as possible to be introduced and used to promote an engaging learning environment. A particular focus this year has been developing the use of diagnostic questions to assess students understanding within lessons.

We have a strong emphasis on developing problem solving skills within the department with students encouraged to try out their ideas, share their ideas with other students and be critical thinkers who always strive to understand the reasons why something works.

Students joining Oakwood in Year 7 are taught in their tutor groups until half term. They are then grouped according to their ability and taught in ability sets all throughout the rest of their school career. In KS4 we follow the new AQA 1 – 9 linear exam board specification although we encourage our students to think of Maths as a 5 year GCSE course.

We have strong links with our Primary feeder schools, offering problem-solving days for Year 2 and Year 6 students which are always well attended.

We participate in the UK Mathematical Challenges run by the University of Leeds; Years 7 and 8 enter at Junior level and Years 9 and 10 at Intermediate level and each year sees an increase in the number of successful students. Selected students from all year groups have opportunities to undertake Maths mastery class events at the University of Surrey.

We have successfully introduced several NQTs to the Faculty and the teaching profession over the past years and we support the structured induction programme for all new staff by a mentoring system. We also benefit from our links with Brighton University and enjoy the experience of working with Initial Teacher Trainers, including Schools Direct. All staff review their own professional development and regularly participate in and contribute to in-service training.

We are looking for a highly motivated and talented teacher who can further develop maths into one of the leading subjects in the school.