



### **Staff**

Currently 11 staff, all specialists with degrees in maths related subjects, all able to teach across the age range up to A level. There is a high proportion of A Level teaching available as Mathematics attracts well over 100 new students each year, many of whom study Further Maths also.

We are a 'friendly department' who are very supportive of one another and of trainee teachers. We are varied in age and length of service, from the very experienced to recent NQT and trainees. There is much informal sharing of ideas and experiences between staff, as well as more formal sharing of ideas in department meetings. We usually have trainee teachers in the department.

### **Successes**

Typically we have well in excess of 80% gaining at least grade A at GCSE (half of which at A\*), with three quarters of A Level students gaining at least grade B (one third of whom reach A\*). Many students go on to study Maths or Maths related subjects at university. We also have a strong record of success in Maths Challenge competitions.

### **Teaching and resources**

The department's schemes of work ensure coverage of the National Curriculum whilst problem solving and functional work is embedded to give enrichment and to ensure boys are well prepared for new-style assessments. A member of the department, plus another assisting, has responsibility in each year group for monitoring common progress of sets and organising common assessments.

Whilst teachers have the scheme of work as a guide they are given much autonomy in their approach with good practice being shared informally, through departmental meetings, and as part of the school's programme of peer observations.

As well as other resources each teacher has a school laptop and iPad; there are visualisers and data projectors with Apple TV in each of the department's rooms. These provide access to mathematical software (e.g. *Autograph & Derive*), generic software such as *Excel*, access to *MyMaths.co.uk* and the *Boardworks* suite of mathematical resources. One of the dedicated Mathematics teaching rooms is an ICT suite, with all Lower School classes having regular lessons timetabled. Staff are encouraged to make much use of these facilities when it is appropriate and departmental meeting time is spent from time to time developing this area.

Up to GCSE boys can make use of class sets of the Oxford MyMaths C series to provide challenge followed by the Pearson GCSE text – they have online access to all of these to support home learning. We currently use the Pearson (Edexcel) exam board for GCSE and A Level.

### **Teacher training**

We have been involved with teacher training in Maths for many years, working with Oxford Brookes, Bedford and the Oxon-Bucks Partnership. Additionally we have had two GTP trainees as well as a Schools Direct trainee all of whom were taken on permanently in the department. Most staff in the department are involved with trainee development from time to time, working with them in their classes.

## **Self-Evaluation**

Department self-evaluation is at the core of the school's development planning. The whole department are involved in discussions of progress and priority-setting. Our data tracking allows teachers to monitor their students with value added data on a regular basis.