

Mathematics Faculty 2021

Our vision is to provide all students with a rewarding and enjoyable experience of Mathematics whilst preparing them to become ambitious, confident, numerate individuals who are capable of dealing with all aspects of Mathematics and Numeracy in their chosen career and adult life. This is accomplished through having a shared commitment to excellent teaching and learning and ensuring there is a well-designed curriculum with an interesting variety of lessons to motivate and engage all students. Students are able to develop their own skills of analysis, reasoning, creativity, collaboration and self-evaluation so that they can meet the mathematical problems they face with independence, thoughtfulness and enthusiasm. Every pupil must have the highest expectations of themselves and each other and by working together we can achieve the highest success.

Our Year 7s start in mixed ability classes which enables us to adopt a Mastery approach; we have an expectation that all pupils can and will achieve. Students are supported to progress through the curriculum content at the same pace and we differentiate work to support them in gaining a deep knowledge. As professionals we enjoy sharing ideas and strategies and reflect on what has been taught. When the time is right we start to group students into Higher, Intermediate and Supported classes where students will be able to focus on the topics at a level that enables them to make sustained progress.

Beyond KS3 we have a range of programmes of study. For students who require extra support we run an Entry Level programme through KS4. Currently the majority of our students sit two GCSEs in Mathematics; GCSE Numeracy in Year 10 and GCSE Mathematics in Year 11. Our more able students also complete the Additional Maths qualification in Year 11 as a bridging course to A level Maths. A large number of students choose to continue their Mathematics into Sixth form where we run our very successful Maths and Further Maths A level programmes. Outcomes for students are outstanding with two of our recent cohorts achieving the highest results on record. Our courses regularly achieve the highest grades in ALPS, indicating outcomes to be similar to the very highest centres in the country.

For many years we have hosted a popular chess club after school. Students across all age groups enjoy competing against each other as well as teachers. For those students who enjoy a challenge we also run the annual UKMT Maths Challenges. We also hold GCSE and A level support groups for students after school.

We have a strong commitment to Continuing Professional Development for existing staff. As a faculty we provide a dynamic, supportive and friendly environment for all our staff and it is an ideal placement for those colleagues in their first year of teaching or for an experienced teacher looking for a new challenge. The faculty has a real sense of where it is going and we are looking forward to progressing with the development of the New Curriculum for Wales. The department is very much team driven, with high levels of collaboration, in which every member is able to make a very real and significant contribution to the lives of students and colleagues alike.

The Mathematics Faculty is a large and lively department with 13 teachers. We are very fortunate in our new twenty-first century school environment as the Maths faculty boasts a suite 10 classrooms and 2 smaller intervention classrooms each with an interactive projector which enhances our lessons

and supports interactive learning. We are also have a large hub area with a teaching staircase where we can gather to combine classes or use for more practical group based activities.