

Mathematics Department

Introduction

The mathematics department has developed rapidly over the last few years. The department comprises a strong and committed team of teachers who plan activities collaboratively. It has supported students in achieving a considerable improvement in Maths GCSE results. In 2019 the percentage of students gaining at least a grade 4 was 76%. The mathematics department is one of the strongest departments in the school with a rolling three year average progress score of +0.5. This means pupils at the Weald achieved half a grade higher in mathematics than students of similar ability in the average school in England. Value added scores at A2 and AS level in maths and further maths as judged by ALPS, have been very good in recent years.

Staff and Accommodation

The department consists of 14 mathematics teachers, with a blend of experienced teachers, and those at the start of their careers. We have intervention maths tutors who work with students in years 7 and 8, helping raise their levels of attainment and also specific Year 11 and 6th form maths tutors. Teachers have high expectations, and work well together to create an atmosphere in which all students can fulfil their potential.

The department is currently organised on a traditional model of separate Key Stage coordinators. There are three post holders in addition to the Director of Maths.

Members of staff teach across the age and ability range. The department has been based within the new £10 million building since opening in September 2017, with 15 mathematics classrooms fully equipped with interactive whiteboards and learning walls. The department benefits from two class sets of Chromebooks.

Curriculum

Key Stage 3 has undergone a period of transition with students following a two-year programme of study. Deeper thinking and problem-solving approaches are encouraged as part of the mastery way of teaching. There are opportunities within the curriculum for students to learn further about education in schools from around the world.

The normal setting practice for Key Stage 3 is that students are placed into two parallel bands, each split into either 5 or 6 groups depending upon student numbers with mixed ability classes aside a stretch and support class.

The Key Stage 4 curriculum follows a three-year Key Stage. KS4 students follow either the foundation or higher tier programme of study. Our exam board for the GCSE specification is AQA.

At Key Stage 5 students taking mathematics follow a two-year A Level. Students studying further mathematics complete their mathematics A level in year 12 and further mathematics in year 13. AQA is currently the exam board we use at Key Stage 5. Mathematics is a popular and very successful choice in the Sixth Form, with students going on to study mathematics and related subjects at Oxbridge and other universities.

Extra-curricular

Most teachers offer extra support to exam classes in after-school sessions. While this is voluntary, the sessions are widely supported in the department. Liaison with local primary schools is strong and we have student leaders who visit local primary schools to tutor the current Year 6 students.

We also use Sixth Form mathematics students to assist in tutoring members of the lower school. This has proved to be a really successful strategy for Year 11 students' revision. The department enters students in the UK Mathematics Challenges at all levels and takes part in the West Sussex Mathematics competitions.

CPD opportunities are extensive for members of the department, with teachers attending various courses throughout the year to enhance their professional development. Collaboration within the team after a course is encouraged within the department meetings.

Examination Results

	<i>GCSE</i>	
Year	% A*-C / 4+	% A*-G / 1+
2017	82% (4+)	98% (1+)
2018	82% (4+)	98% (1+)
2019	76% (4+)	98% (1+)

	<i>Maths A Level</i>		<i>Further Maths A level</i>	
Year	% A*-C	% A*-E	% A*-C	% A*-E
2017	82% (59% A* / A)	100%	100%	100%
2018	84% (40% A* / A)	100% (A*-D)	100% (A*-A)	100%
2019	84% (33% A* / A)	100%	43%	86%

Teacher of Mathematics

The Post

The position is from September 2020 and can be on a full time, or part time basis. Teaching will be across the age and ability range up to and including GCSE. The opportunity to teach maths to A Level may be available for a suitably qualified candidate. This post would be suitable for an experienced or newly qualified teacher as well as someone returning to teaching.

Person specification

- A well-qualified teacher of maths who can inspire and engage young people (QTS is essential)
- The ability to teach A level would be an advantage
- A commitment to high standards of achievement with a proven track record of excellent results
- The ability to motivate students, with an and innovative approach to classroom practice
- A collaborative approach to teamwork, including willingness to contribute to departmental schemes of work and the spreading of good practice
- Excellent organisational and IT skills
- A passion for excellence and for the subject
- Excellent interpersonal skills
- Willingness to be a form tutor, including the delivery of PSHE

We are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. The successful candidate will be subject to pre-employment checks including an enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check.