



Department Details

Maths

There are at present 12 teachers of mathematics several of whom are part-time or have leadership or senior pastoral responsibilities. The Department has four classrooms all close together with an office and central resources area. These classrooms surround a large open access area furnished with tables, a whiteboard and projector and a suite of computers which are predominantly used for maths lessons. All of the rooms are equipped with ceiling mounted projectors.

In year 7, pupils are taught in two populations, which comprise 4 and 5 teaching groups respectively. In Year 8, there are 3 populations, with 3 groups in each population. In Year 9 there are currently two populations of 4 groups each, but from September 2019 there will be 3 populations of 3 groups (as the current Year 8 model rolls through).

Within each population, maths groups are setted by ability based on regular internal assessments, which take place at key times in the year, and ongoing in-class monitoring.

Although we have a large stock and variety of text books, we do not follow any one scheme – instead we use materials and resources developed by the department, including PowerPoints, worksheets, Tarsia puzzles, games and activities, problem solving tasks etc. We also have annual subscriptions to MyMaths, Mathswatch, MathsPad, MathsBox and Active Maths.

The Department has developed a 7-11 scheme of learning incorporating creative teaching ideas and resources and a range of rich tasks including Standard Unit Materials. There exists a strong positive team ethos and colleagues regularly share ideas and examples of good practice and willingly support each other's lessons.

At KS4 pupils prepare for the AQA 8300 examinations. We use a mixture of CGP textbooks at the appropriate level supplemented by worksheets and other resources. Assessments take place at the end of each half term with whole school mock examinations in the Spring term of years 10 and 11.

Colleagues readily make themselves available for students to 'drop in' and seek guidance relating to work issues. Help is always on hand for homework or further explanations of demanding topics. This applies to all levels and all key stages. The Department prepares a massive amount of revision materials for key exams and organise lunchtime revision classes and utilise in-school study leave to deliver focused exam preparation. We consistently achieve excellent results. In 2018 83% of pupils achieved grade 4+ and 66% achieved grade 5+.

Maths is a very popular subject choice at KS5 with more than thirty students opting for Maths each year. We follow the new OCR syllabus A H240 course. We use Hodder textbooks written specifically for OCR. These are supplemented by extensive department resources including Susan Wall activities and materials from the MEI TAM course. In further Maths we follow the OCR syllabus with options in Statistics and Mechanics. We have links with Lancaster University through the Further Maths Support Programme and students attend problem solving sessions and revision opportunities.

The successful candidate will be joining a strong team of enthusiastic and caring professionals who see pupils as individuals with differing needs and who take these into account when teaching. The Department work well together, share a passion for mathematics and accept a joint responsibility for developing understanding and enthusiasm for the subject throughout the school. We are a forward looking and dynamic department committed to improving our own skills and to providing enrichment opportunities for pupils of all abilities. It is Department policy that all staff, as far as possible, teach across the full age and ability range.