

The Charles Dickens School – MATHEMATICS

Facilities

The Mathematics Department has a suite of 9 classrooms, each equipped with a SMART interactive whiteboard. Teachers make full use of the SMART notebook software and use a range of other packages, including MathsWatch and Active Learn to make lessons interactive and dynamic.

In Years 7 – 11 students are set according to their ability. Each term the groups are reviewed and changes made based on teachers' assessment of unit tests, examination results, class work and homework. Students are well informed of their current levels of achievement and identify areas of improvement through self and peer assessment.

Teaching styles vary across the department, teachers are required follow the CDS shape of a lesson using hierarchical learning objectives, including a do now activity, differentiated practice and mini-plenaries to review learning. Lessons should include a variety of activities to promote active learning as well as demonstration by examples, question and answer sessions, discussion and practice. Regular homework is set based on prior learning. Feedback is provided via the use of progress checks and whole class feedback at least once a week. Unit test assessments are conducted regularly using exam style questions. Praise is issued via behaviour watch where Reward Points are accumulated. These lead to rewards through the college system in Year assemblies.

Key Stage 3

KS3 (Years 7 - 8) Mathematics is delivered through 8 x 60 minute lessons per fortnight. Students are set according to ability in year 7 and the learning is supported by a wide range of practical activities, ICT and printed resources, ensuring that a variety of activities is offered to suit every type of learner. Students are primarily taught from the Interactive White Board, supported by a variety of text books, software and resources. The syllabus is delivered in units and is assessed by unit tests every 2-3 weeks. Summative assessments take place during and at the end of each unit and grades are reported to parents termly.

Key Stage 4

KS4 (Years 9 – 11) Mathematics is delivered through 8x 60 minute lessons per fortnight. Students are set again at the end of KS3 by looking at current attainment and targets. All students will sit the GCSE (9 – 1) at the end of Year 11. Learning is supported by a wide range of practical activities, ICT and printed resources, ensuring that a variety of activities is offered to suit every type of learner. Students are primarily taught from the Interactive White Board, supported by a variety of text books, software and resources. The syllabus is delivered in units and is assessed by unit tests every 2-3 weeks. Summative assessments take place during and at the end of each unit and grades are reported to parents termly.