**Welcome to the Mathematics Department**

**General Information**

We teach Mathematics because it is interesting, fun and beautiful. We believe that with the right help, all students can enjoy and master Mathematics. To achieve this, we make sure that our lessons include clear explanations as well as opportunities for collaboration, discussion and practice. We also look for ways to help students to build links between topics and learn how Mathematics is applied in other fields of study.

We work hard, often before and after school to help our older students achieve exam results that they can be proud of and can use to further their future careers.

**Approach to Teaching and Learning**

The dramatic improvement of educational research over the last few years means that it is an exciting time to be a teacher of Mathematics. We meet regularly and spend our time on activities that improve the quality of teaching and learning. Recently we have been looking at the use of procedural variation when selecting questions and the use of low stakes testing as part of a mastery teaching cycle.

**Accommodation and Resources**

There are eight teaching rooms for the members of the Department along with a Team room. The rooms are in a suite, which enables colleagues to work closely together. Each room is fitted with a fixed data projector and interactive whiteboard. Each teacher has their own laptop.

**Curriculum**

Students are taught in sets from the beginning of Year 7. Setting is reviewed regularly based on teacher and formal assessment. We share a scheme of learning with the other Mathematics teams in Education South West. This enables us to share the very best ideas and resources from a wider group of teachers.

We currently follow the Edexcel specifications at Key Stages 4 and 5

**The Team**

There are seven of us in the team. We all teach across the ability and age range of Key Stages 3 and 4, and most of us are involved in teaching Post 16 students. We believe that it is important to keep ourselves fresh as teachers by exploring new ideas and deliberately trying to improve our teaching. As well as being a team within the school, we are also part of a wider Maths team across Education South West and regularly work with the other teams in the Trust.

February 2019