Mathematics Learning Area

LEARNING AREA

The Mathematics Learning Area comprises of 3 study rooms and a Learning Base, suitable for another 3 classes. Every teaching area has an interactive Smart whiteboard with each study room equipped to teach 26 students. Full, high speed Wi-Fi coverage allows suites of laptops to be used anywhere in the Academy. The Learning Base can hold up to 82 students being team taught at any one time. We even have a dedicated outside learning space for Mathematics.

The Mathematics Department is extremely well resourced with various media, equipment, programs and subscriptions to on-line resources readily available. In addition to this, our team is highly creative, dynamic and effective. Excellent teaching further complements students' motivation towards success and achievement. Year on year improvement is evident through excellent results at GCSE and AS/A2.

STAFFING

The Mathematics Department is home to 13 full-time teachers, one part-time teacher and one Mathematics HLTA. The Deputy Head - Mathematics is responsible for the department. There are currently coordinators of Key Stage 3, Key Stage 4 and Key Stage 5.

EXAMINATION RESULTS

Key Stage 4 results last year were 64% of students achieving a Grade 4 or higher, 37% at Grade 5 or above. Similar success was enjoyed by our Key Stage 5 with 96% pass rate at A level Mathematics, with 33% at B+. Whilst our Further Mathematicians achieved 50% B+.

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TEACHING AND LEARNING

Students are grouped according to their attainment, ability and their individual progress within the year group. Year 7 students are streamed following assessments in the first four weeks and then moved if necessary following further careful monitoring, assessments and feedback carried out by the team. Students continue with a similar banding in Year 8. In Key Stage 4, Years 9–11, the year groups are set based on attainment and ability.

Key Stage 3

Students are placed in ability sets and receive four hours of sessions per week. The Key Stage 3 scheme of work follows the National Curriculum for Mathematics with a focus on "Mastery" of mathematics. Teaching is supported by textbooks and an extensive range of online resources.

Key Stage 4

Our Key Stage 4 incorporates Years 9 to 11 and all students have a minimum of four hours of Mathematics each week with some students having an extra one and a half hour session to support their learning of Mathematics. Last year we achieved 64% Grade 4 or above and future year groups are set similarly high targets.

Key Stage 5

We have an excellent uptake of Mathematics in the Sixth Form alongside a good uptake on our Further Mathematics course. We follow the Edexcel board for our A level courses. GCSE Mathematics is offered to any new students who have not achieved an A*-C before joining the Sixth Form. In addition to this we offer Core Mathematics which is the equivalent of an A level.

ENRICHMENT

The Mathematics Department offer GCSE in Mathematics to all Key Stage 4 students. At Key Stage 5 A level Further Mathematics is offered in addition to A level Mathematics course. A level students have had the opportunity to visit Bletchley Park to see an Enigma Machine in operation and gain an insight into the use of mathematics applied by Alan Turing. Students partake in the events organised by the Further Mathematics Support Programme these involve quizzes and enrichment days. Further links with the universities and opportunities for learning outside the classroom are planned this year. There is a full programme of Session 3 activities for all students.