



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 find success in Mathematics. To achieve this, we make sure that our lessons are taught well with 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 as well as giving them the tools to independently achieve their potential.

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. We have worked hard to embed the use of low stakes testing and a mastery teaching cycle to improve students recall ability. We use a graduated response cycle to help SEND students make progress with their mathematics and spend time at department meetings discussing how we can effectively help overcome barriers to their learning.

Finally, we use the Sparx Homework and Classroom products to support our students learning and improve our teaching. Both of these have the potential to revolutionise your practice and impact.

Curriculum

We have a flexible approach to setting in KS3 and believe that students should be on the same pathway in Maths for that journey. Our aim is to create teaching groups that enable all students to make the maximum progress. We share our curriculum and scheme of learning with the other schools in Education South West. This enables us to use the very best ideas and resources from a wide group of teachers. We currently follow the Edexcel specifications at Key Stages 4 and have a variety of courses available for post 16 students including functional mathematics, core and 'A' Level qualifications.

The Team

There are eight 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.

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