

**THE MATHEMATICS DEPARTMENT**

**The Staff and Accommodation**

The Maths department consists of ten specialist mathematicians. All colleagues teach across the age and ability range. All teachers are able to teach from Key Stage 3 to Key Stage 5. The department has ten brand new teaching rooms and a large departmental office, all situated in our state of the art multi-million pound school building.

#### Resources

Each classroom is equipped with a brand new interactive whiteboard. All pupils in Years 7 to 11 bring Chromebooks to lessons. The department subscribes to a number of learning platforms along with teaching resource sites such as Maths Box. We are also well resourced with textbooks, manipulatives and other teaching aides. We are a forward thinking department and always looking at ways to develop our practice and seek to make mathematics teaching as effective and engaging as possible.

# **Key Stage 3**

In Key Stage 3 pupils are taught in a mixture of mixed ability and streamed groups; these are decided during the autumn term of Year 7 and reviewed continually. Pupils follow the Pearson KS3 scheme of work as this is reviewed and adapted as required by our cohort.

Key Stage 3 pupils are assessed regularly after each unit and progress is monitored in line with the wider school policy. Students complete homework on HegartyMaths and all students bring a Chromebook to lessons.

# **Key Stage 4**

In 2019, 86% achieved a 9-4 and 30% achieved a 9-7. Pupils are set at the beginning of Year 9 when we begin teaching the GCSE curriculum. This setting is reviewed and refined throughout Year 10 and Year 11. All pupils follow the Edexcel Linear syllabus at either higher or foundation tier.

Top set students get the opportunity to sit extension qualifications, which have included both the Edexcel Level 3 Award in Algebra and AQA Certificate of Further Mathematics. We also teach “maths for science” lessons to triple scientists and run intervention lessons for pupils who need extra support.

**Key Stage 5**

At A-level, Mathematics is a popular subject in the school with approximately 50 students choosing to study Maths each year. In 2019, 57% of pupils achieved an A\* or A grade at A-Level. We currently follow the Edexcel A-Level Syllabus.

Further Mathematics is also taught to an increasing number of students in Year 12 and 13. Students frequently choose to take Mathematics or Mathematics related subjects at university.

**Extra-curricular Activities**

Each year, we enter the more-able pupils for the UK Mathematics Challenges and team challenges. Pupils from the school regularly obtain Gold, Silver or Bronze Certificates and in recent years, pupils from the school have been invited to perform in Invitational Mathematics Challenges as a result of their high performance. Pupils have also participated in the Hertfordshire Maths Masterclasses and a group has taken part in the UKMT Regional Team Challenge, with our Year 7 team winning the regional event in 2020.

**Induction, Support & Continuing Development**

The school offers a full and effective induction and support programme to new and experienced teachers. We have a history of supporting NQTs through their induction period and many of these colleagues have gone on to hold responsibility positions in a short period of time. A-Level teaching support is available though the Advanced Mathematics Support Programme with teachers recently taking the Teaching Advanced Mathematics course to support their subject knowledge and pedagogy at A-Level.

Mathematics teachers are frequent attendees at the school’s teaching and learning group. Many teachers within the department have completed Teacher Led Development Work portfolios and several have studied for masters qualifications in mathematics or wider educational areas.

Leadership within the department is distributed and all colleagues have opportunities to attend development courses, networking events and disseminate this information back to the rest of the team through department meetings.

**Letter of Application**

In their letter of application, which should not exceed two sides of A4, candidates should, amongst other points, describe their approach to the teaching of Mathematics.

We are a forward-thinking and outward-looking department and welcome all applications from current or trainee mathematics teachers who are committed to help pupils better understand our wonderful subject.