

Mathematics Department

As a department we are proud of our record of consistent improvement. Our GCSE results over the last four years placed us in the top 5% of schools in 2006 and in the 2nd percentile in 2007. In 2008 we improved further with 49% A*-C and have built on this success achieving our highest ever 59% in 2010. Although the department is in a strong position we are ambitious and there is still plenty of capacity for improving achievement further.

Maths is currently taught as a shortened key stage 3 to years 7 and 8 in set ability groups. Our Mathematics Schemes of Work are personalised to the ability of the students reflecting their prior achievements and aspirational targets. Year 9 students are prepared early for Key Stage 4 following Edexcel GCSE Mathematics. We also prepare students in the lower sets for the Entry Level qualifications and all year 11 students take the ALAN test. At Key Stage 5 we follow Edexcel AS and A level Modular Mathematics course for Core and Statistics to prepare our Years 12 and 13 for their AS and A level Exams.

All lessons at Key Stage 3 are taught in accordance with the National Numeracy strategy, though are not constrained by it. The department is innovative in their planning and we aspire to make our mathematics lessons creative, stimulating, challenging and interactive. We aim to give each student a personalised maths education that will meet their needs on an individual basis. We strive to make our lessons fun yet focused. The schemes of work are comprehensive, yet flexible, and teachers are encouraged to develop their own ideas and share good practise across the department.

We are keen to accelerate our most able students and offer them early entry GCSE's in the core subjects. Our first group of 19 students who took their maths GCSE early achieved 100% pass, 13 of the 19 students gaining either an A* or A grade. In addition to offering early entry we offer GCSE Statistics and Additional Maths courses for our most able students on completion of their GCSE studies.

We prepare the girls well for external examinations and run extra classes at the end of the day and in the holidays. As a team we ensure that all students receive adequate exam practise, so that they can achieve their full potential in public examinations.

Pupils are given the opportunity to participate in several mathematics competitions each year for all year groups. Other initiatives are run alongside normal classes to ensure that identified students with a high level of mathematical ability receive sufficient challenge and are appropriately stretched.

We are a well resourced maths department with six large classrooms each fitted with an interactive whiteboard. As a department we are a dedicated team of qualified and experienced teachers who are committed to building on the success of the academy.