

Department on a Page – Mathematics

Staffing. We are blessed with a fully staffed department, all of whom are qualified experienced Maths specialists. We have two part time teachers and one Pastoral Lead with a reduced timetable.

HoD – Miss Sarah Chalcraft

2nd in Dept. - Mrs Joanna Nowak

PT teacher - Miss Liz Ashley

PT teacher – Mrs Mary Martin

FT teacher – Mrs Caroline Lord

FT teacher – Mr Gorav Ganger

FT teacher – Mrs Eva Spinks (Pastoral Lead)

As a consequence of the expertise and experience of staff within the department a variety of teaching practices are used within each classroom to engage all learners. High expectations and regular routines create positive learning environments.

In all pupil questionnaires the very vast majority of pupils enjoy their lessons with enjoyment coming from a sense of achievement.

Curriculum Provision, Setting and Provision for pupils.

Pupils are taught in their 5 form entry for the first term of Y7 and then loosely set into two bands following the CATS results and 1st assessment in November within 5 groups on a 2 – 3 split. Pupils are then set according to progress and ability into one of 5 groups for KS3.

All pupils in KS4 are set across 6 sets with Set 1 and Set 2, two set 3's and two mixed sets, pupil need for time to develop determines their set. The content is covered with pace appropriate in each and every class. Learning takes place alongside stretch and challenge opportunities in all sets. All pupils cover largely the same content regardless of set from Y7 through to Y11 to provide each pupil with the best possible outcome at GCSE .

KS3 is truncated to two years with the National Curriculum covered in this time. GCSE starts in Y9 with sets 1 and 2 being given the opportunity to extend knowledge with the GCSE FM dovetailed into the GCSE SOW. Delivery is cyclic across the 5 year program with consolidation built in through repetition and development through hierarchal delivery of key skills.

Decisions for Foundation entry is left as late as possible, generally at the end of year 10 following the End of Year Exams. Current Foundation entry in Year 11 are being taught within a two-tier teaching structure, remaining in the same teaching group to provide a consistent finish to their GCSE maths.

Away from the classroom

Enrichment opportunities are many and varied, AXIOM maths is introduced to Y7 pupils, Y8 can then continue the problem-solving journey. UKMT Maths challenge is available to all pupils in all key stages. We celebrate Pi Day with various whole school activities, Year 11 and Y12 attend the annual Maths Inspiration Trip and a fortnightly Excellent Maths Challenge is held on Teams.

Support for pupils is equally many and varied. Younger pupils in Y7 – 9 who are identified as needing numeracy intervention to close gaps form KS2 attend Freckle Friday sessions, which is staffed and supported by Maths teachers. This highly individualised program builds fluency, confidence to support learning prior to GCSE. For 6th form we have an Open Door policy so pupils can come and see any member of staff with a query. A level students also have a timetabled Ghost Lesson where they complete set tasks with the support of their peers.

Last updated Sept 2026

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Curriculum on a Page

KS3 and KS4 have Maths Clinic on a Wednesday and we provide lots of support through the Teams Channels for each class with hints tips and activities. Y7 and Y8 engage in Numeracy Ninja's once a fortnight in a bid to build numeracy confidence and fluidity. Y9 work on fluency of core GCSE skills whilst Y10 and Y11 have a fortnightly problem-solving activity. These all take place during registration time and are led by form tutors. Pupils get to work collaboratively with each other. In addition, staff across the school benefit from seeing what Problem Solving looks like in Maths.

Subject prefects not only represent the subject, but also are involved in supporting younger pupils in and outside of lessons including Freckle, AXIOM maths and ELW.

We have cross curricular links with other departments, an awareness of mathematical content in most other subjects and have promoted cross-curricular wherever possible. Use of the key formulae used in Physics, how to minimise wastage with cutting patterns in Textiles and DT, hypothesis testing in Psychology and the introduction of Core Maths as an enrichment opportunity in Y12 helps to support learning in all of these subjects.

Pupils requiring additional support have their needs met on an individual basis depending on key stage, SEND support or organisational support.