

# Curriculum Overview 2019-2020

## Maths

### Intent:

All students will study Maths throughout Key Stage 3 and 4.

Our aim is to foster a love of mathematics and reasoning, so that students are confident and competent in real life application as well as prepared for their GCSE examinations.

### Implementation at Key Stage 3:

In Key Stage 3, students follow a wide curriculum in order to successfully progress into Key Stage 4. They will cover number, algebra, ratio, proportion, shape and statistics in each year. They will have 9 maths lessons over the 2-week timetable.

To be numerate is an essential life skill, we endeavour to ensure that students have strong written and mental calculation skills, and prioritise non calculator work in Key Stage 3.

At the end of every unit of work, students will complete assessments linked to the topics and unit studied. We carefully track students' progress across the 3 terms and assessments provide students with formative targets to enable their progression.

Enrichment activities include use of the online tool Mathswatch, where students can consolidate in class learning or extend themselves further. Every year, students are selected to take part in the UKMT Maths Challenge, a nationwide maths competition.

### Implementation at Key Stage 4:

We use the Edexcel exam board and recommend Casio Scientific Calculators for all students. Students have maths every day in Year 10 and Year 11.

Requirements for the new GCSE Maths exam means students must have a strong problem solving ability and the demand of the course is much higher than the previous specification, especially to achieve a grade 9, the equivalent of a grade A\*\*.

### Overview of Key Stage 4:

GCSE Maths is assessed over three exam papers taken in Summer of Year 11; a calculator is required for the final two papers. The total assessment time is 4 hours and 30 minutes.

Students will sit mock exams in preparation throughout the course, one at the end of Year 10 and two further mocks during Year 11. Detailed question by question analysis will be provided after each of these examinations.

Students will sit either the Higher or Foundation Tier. They will study all strands of maths including number, algebra, ratio, proportion, shape and statistics in both years.