

Details of the Maths Department Staffing

Accommodation

The mathematics department is accommodated in a suite of rooms with an office on the first floor of the building. Adjacent to the suite is one computer room for ICT input along with a suite of laptop computers for use on this floor.

Curriculum

Students enter the school in Year 9 so liaison with our feeder schools is essential to provide a co-ordinated approach to planning Key Stage 3.

Our results at Key Stage 3 in 2007 were 75% Level 5+. This was below what was expected, however the results for 6+ and above were much better and above expectations. Targets for this academic year are for a greater percentage of 5+ grades.

At GCSE we achieved 43% A*-C. We are involved in Bedfordshire's 'Maths Counts' programme which is aimed at raising achievement especially on the C/D borderline.

At AS and A level the results have been increasing with 100% pass rate at A2 and several pupils working on and taking Further Maths at both AS and A level. We now use Edexcel at Key Stage 4 and have continued with this exam board for A levels. At A level we teach Core Maths, Mechanics, and Statistics and for Further Maths we extend to Decision as well.

Assessment which informs both learning and teaching is an integral part of the philosophy of the department. Incorporated in the schemes of work are these assessments to give opportunities for students to consolidate their work and for teachers to confirm their National Curriculum teacher assessments. These also give opportunities for students to progress with their learning and move sets.

Through the 'Maths Liaison Group' the department has a good relationships with our three partner Middle Schools enabling students to be placed into sets on arrival in Year 9 helping to ensuring continuity across the Key Stage. After a short period with us all students are then assessed to allow us to check whether they are in the correct sets. Students in the Sixth Form have the opportunity of choosing a GCSE retake, or courses at A/S or 'A' level including Core Mathematics, Statistics, Mechanics and Double Mathematics.

We have recently appointed a Curriculum Area Leader for Mathematics who starts her appointment in April, she is a highly committed and talented mathematics teacher and leader and will drive the department in its next stage of development.

David Stevinson
March 2008