

The Crypt School

Mathematics Department

The Mathematics Department is an integral part of the School Curriculum at all levels within the school and currently comprises five full-time Mathematics specialists. We now require a full-time teacher to replace a colleague who will be retiring in the summer.

The department has six specific teaching rooms, five of which are situated in the new Engineering block. In addition there is a stock room which has been restocked with the latest version of the relevant textbooks. It is a strong desire of the department to fully incorporate ICT into the Mathematics teaching; the department is well stocked with laptops and we have either HDMI touch screens or electronic whiteboards in all the classrooms. A number of software packages are installed including Microsoft Office, Autograph and MyMaths.

Key Stage 3

We closely follow the new KS3 Curriculum and are developing closer relationships with our feeder schools in order to ensure the transfer from Key Stage 2 to be as productive as possible. Pupils receive seven one-hour lessons over the two-week timetable (including one IT lesson in Year 7 and 8) and we use the KS3 mymaths textbooks which follow the new curriculum. Many pupils are also entered for the Junior Mathematics Challenge and the most able for the Intermediate or Senior Challenges. Pupils are set by achievement from Year 8 onwards and movement up or down is regularly reviewed.

Key Stage 4

Again, pupils are set by achievement into 5 sets, with the option of movement up or down and pupils receive six one-hour lessons over the two-week timetable. We follow the AQA course (8300) entering students for the Higher tier or in a few cases the Foundation tier according to their achievement. Again, we are using the mymaths textbooks designed for the new GCSE. In addition, during Year 11 the top two sets take level 2 Further Maths which helps with their transition to KS5. Many pupils take the Intermediate Mathematics Challenge and the best ones also attempt the Senior Mathematics Challenge.

AS and A-Level

The department offers the AQA, Specification. Mathematics is an increasingly popular subject with students being offered a variety of courses to suit their needs. Mathematics and Further Mathematics are offered at AS and A level and therefore the department runs a comprehensive range of module courses – including Pure Mathematics, Further Mathematics, Mechanics, Statistics, Further Statistics and Decision Maths modules. This will be changing from next year as all students embark on the new A Level, where they all have to be taught the same content. It is the department's policy to share the A-level teaching equitably across all specialist staff, taking into account an individual's specific strengths and wishes.

Personnel

The department is successful and well resourced, and combines a healthy mixture of youth and experience. Morale is high and members of the department have a 'can do' attitude with good communication skills. We continue to encourage professional development, particularly by external courses and this position offers the opportunity for comprehensive professional development within an established, well-qualified and organised department.

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