

MAGDALEN COLLEGE SCHOOL - BRACKLEY

MATHEMATICS FACULTY

OVERVIEW

The Mathematics Faculty is led by the Head of Faculty, supported by two additional faculty leaders. The faculty leaders work closely with all colleagues in a professional and supportive manner to ensure staff are well supported and whole school initiatives and common departmental goals are realised.

The department is committed to providing a broad and balanced curriculum alongside a creative pedagogical approach. We strive to ensure all pupils are supported in gaining greater mathematical understanding and achieve high standards of attainment. We are committed to providing our pupils with opportunities for collaboration, encourage them to develop good mathematical oracy and develop deeper thinking skills.

STAFFING AND RESOURCES

The faculty currently consists of 9 members of teaching staff. We have excellent working relationships throughout the department via our caring manner and our pursuit of common goals. Our successful working practices are cemented through our clear professional understanding, strong departmental communication, clear transparency, good collaborative working practices and a high regard, respect and care for the contributions all colleagues bring to the department. We encourage and support each other.

Within the department we have a dedicated suite of teaching rooms, a staff base and a resource room. All classrooms are fitted with a data projector. Each member of the faculty is provided with a laptop. Currently, the faculty has access to a range of IT platforms including Sparx, MathsWatch, and the extensive A-level MEI Integral website.

Auditing of resources is under review to ensure best practice is achieved.

TEACHING GROUPS

Pupils in Years 7 to 11 are set broadly according to ability. All colleagues are encouraged and supported in teaching across the full ability and age range.

Within the sixth form there are two Year 12 Maths groups, two Year 13 Maths groups and one Further Maths group.

THE COURSES

Schemes of work for all age and ability bands are in place, utilised, evaluated and updated regularly.

Our programme for KS3, except Year 7, and KS4 pupils is based on Kangaroo maths programme. The schemes used are well-resourced with in-house materials, text-books and software. Year 7 currently follow the White Rose scheme of work.

For A-level students we offer a range of modules including Mechanics, Statistics, Modelling with Algorithms and Pure Mathematics through the OCR MEI A Levels in Maths and Further Maths. Modules are chosen to meet students' individual needs leading to certification at Maths A-level, and Further Maths A-level. The success and accessibility of this course has made it a popular choice for students.

FEEDBACK

We use a continuous flow of feedback between students and teachers in lessons to check that students understand the content. This is often achieved through routine use of mini-whiteboards which are available in every classroom. This allows for high-quality and regular formative assessment. We create bespoke question-level analyses for our summative exams which are automatically generated and sent to students via Microsoft Excel. Teachers are also provided with question-level analyses of their classes so they know what their students' strengths and weaknesses are.

SUPER-CURRICULAR

Every year students are entered for the Junior, Intermediate and Senior Maths Challenges. We often have students who qualify for the subsequent rounds. We also enter teams for the UKMT Team Challenges. We run Maths Circles for our brightest Year 7 students, using resources provided by Axiom Maths. We prepare our Year 13 students who wish to take Mathematics entrance exams through weekly sessions focussing on TMUA, MAT and STEP questions.