



Mathematics



Students in Year 8 follow a course designed to reinforce the work done in Year 7 and to extend this in preparation for starting their GCSE in Year 9.

Students will take part in individual work, small group and whole class activities. The mathematics followed on the course can be classified under the National Curriculum targets:

- MA1** Using and Applying Mathematics
- MA2** Number & Algebra
- MA3** Shape and Space
- MA4** Data Handling

MA1 will be approached with activities during lessons and with extended tasks exploring mathematical concepts. These tasks will involve functional skills elements of the curriculum.

The other Attainment Targets will be assessed regularly, approximately every term, with school assessment levels provided twice yearly after formal assessments.

With the increased emphasis on the non-calculator skills, students will have the opportunity to improve their mental arithmetic skills to help them develop strategies for problem solving.

The Year 8 scheme of work has been recently reviewed and rewritten to incorporate some of the 'Mastery' approach which has proved to be highly successful in such countries as China and Singapore. Whilst there are significant cultural differences we feel that there are aspects of this approach that can be beneficial to our students and we have incorporated some of these methods into our curriculum.

Students are expected to be fully prepared for all lessons; ensuring they have all equipment and books. This will mean bringing the following: scientific calculator, angle measurer, protractor, compasses, pen, pencil and ruler.

Homework is an integral part of the course and students will be expected to complete this on a weekly basis, either by way of written assignments or using the Mathswatch on-line resource.

We aim to teach our students to take responsibility for their own learning and to have sufficient confidence and enjoyment of the subject to think independently.

Students will also be given access to The PiXL Maths App. This will enable them to improve their skills in a fun and engaging way that will challenge them at an individual appropriate level.

PiXL Maths App - <https://mathsapp.pixl.org.uk/>