

Mathematics

Why take this course?

Mathematics is important in our everyday life. It equips us with the skills we need to interpret and analyse information, simplify and solve problems, assess risk and make informed decisions. It uses a universal language of numbers and symbols which allows us to communicate ideas in a concise, unambiguous and rigorous way.

To succeed in this course, you need...

You need to be prepared to work hard in class and to complete regular homework. Homework will be given on a weekly basis and will include MyMaths on a computer and/or revision for assessments and possibly research work for projects. Throughout the year you need to show that you are making progress with your mathematics.

Course Content

Mathematics is structured within three main areas:

Number, money and measure

This includes estimation and rounding; number and number processes; multiples, factors and primes; powers and roots; fractions, decimal fractions and percentages; money; time; measurement; the impact of mathematics on the world; patterns and relationships; expressions and equations.

Shape, position and movement

This includes properties of 2D shapes and 3D objects; angle, symmetry and transformation.

Information handling

This includes data and analysis; ideas of chance and uncertainty.

Course Assessment

Curriculum for Excellence is taught in S3 at levels 3 and 4 with extension work as appropriate. Pupils are arranged into sets based on their progress at the end of S2. The courses are taught in parallel allowing for changes between the sets if necessary.

Your non-calculator skills will be assessed regularly throughout the year and in addition to this you will have tests at level 3, 4 and 5 as appropriate, to help prepare you for further study in S4.

Essentials

You should bring a ruler and a scientific calculator to each lesson. If you have your own calculator it is useful in class, for homework and it means you will get familiar with the working of the machine when it comes to exam use.

Where might this course take me?

Mathematics plays an important role in areas such as maritime, science or technologies, and is vital to research and development in fields such as engineering, computing science, medicine and finance. Learning mathematics will give you access to the wider curriculum and the opportunity to pursue further studies and interests that will give you essential qualifications if you are interested in following the careers mentioned above.