



MATHEMATICS DEPARTMENT

Information for Prospective Candidates

The Department is housed in a specialist teaching area within the school and currently comprises of 15 specialist maths teachers. Each teaching room is equipped with an interactive whiteboard and data-projector connected to the school VTLE and internet. There is also access to forty-five laptops for dedicated ICT work within the teaching of mathematics. Teaching and learning is serviced by a range of software including MyMaths, Mathswatchvle, Key Stage 3 and 4 Boardworks, Abacus and Whiteboard maths.

Emphasis is placed on team-work and the sharing of good practice. An 'in-house' staff development programme is used to update staff on current developments within mathematics, expose staff to good teaching and to act as a forum for the development of resources and teaching and learning. This programme combined with the change to modular mathematics, has seen the GCSE A*-C achievement rate rise from 45% in 2010 to 60% in 2013. At Key Stage 3 results have averaged around 70% level 5+. Our most able GCSE students also study the AQA Further Maths qualification to enhance their chance of gaining an A* at GCSE mathematics. Our aim is excellence and providing students with the necessary support and quality of teaching and learning which will enable them to succeed.

In the sixth form students follow the AQA modular scheme and study Core 1 and 2 with Decision Maths at AS-level and Core 3 and 4 with Mechanics at A2. Further Mathematics is available for those students who wish to study at a higher level. A-level results during the last three years average at 87% A to E grades.

The department tracks and monitors student progress and works closely with the pastoral system so that appropriate support maybe provided when underachievement is identified. Achievement is valued and success rewarded.

Staff teach across the ability range and are encouraged to develop their experience of teaching and learning by attending relevant professional development courses in and out of school. The department constantly reviews its procedures, approaches to learning and teaching strategies. Everyone is expected to contribute to the development of mathematics and the department.

This post offers the opportunity for someone to make a real difference and to be involved with a school that is in an exciting phase of its development. The successful candidate will have the support of a committed team of staff who want to do well in taking mathematics and the department forward. At Walbottle every child matters – if you are a committed, enthusiastic teacher who is not afraid of hard work then we look forward to hearing from you.

Tom Clough
Director of Maths and Numeracy

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