



**1st October 2024**

Dear Parents / Guardians,

As we commence the new school year, please see below for information about how classes are organised in the Maths department.

Year 7:

- Students are all in mixed prior attainment groups.
- The number associated with the set does not relate to prior ability (for example 7Ma1/x has the same prior attainment profile as 7Ma3/x).

Year 8:

- Students are all in mixed prior attainment groups.
- The number associated with the set does not relate to prior ability (for example 8Ma1/x has the same prior attainment profile as 8Ma3/x).

Year 9:

- Students are banded based on their most likely trajectory towards either the Higher or Foundation tier of entry at GCSE.
- This is something that will be fluid across the course of the next three academic years so their group in Year 9 does not fix them to a particular tier of entry in Year 11.
- The content covered throughout the majority of the year is very similar, the pace of lessons is the main differentiator.
- This means that groups Ma1/x, Ma2/x, Ma3/x, Ma1/y, Ma2/y are in the Higher band and are roughly equivalent in terms of prior attainment profiles; groups ending in Ma3/y, Ma4/y, Ma4/x or Ma5/x are in the Foundation band and are roughly equivalent in terms of prior attainment profiles.

Year 10:

- Students are banded based on their most likely trajectory towards either the Higher or Foundation tier of entry at GCSE.
- This is something that continues to be in Key Stage 4 so their group in Year 10 does not fix them to a particular tier of entry in Year 11.
- This means that groups Ma1/x, Ma2/x, Ma3/x, Ma1/y, Ma2/y are in the Higher band and are roughly equivalent in terms of prior attainment profiles; groups ending in Ma3/y, Ma4/y, Ma4/x or Ma5/x are in the Foundation band and are roughly equivalent in terms of prior attainment profiles.

Year 11:

- Students are banded based on their most likely trajectory towards either the Higher or Foundation tier of entry at GCSE.
- This means that groups Ma1/x, Ma2/x, Ma3/x, Ma1/y, Ma2/y are in the Higher band and are roughly equivalent in terms of prior attainment profiles; groups ending in Ma3/y, Ma4/y, Ma4/x or Ma5/x are in the Foundation band and are roughly equivalent in terms of prior attainment profiles.
- Continuous assessment, December and March mocks will solidify the students tier of entry.

If you have any questions, please contact the school office and direct your message to the Head of Maths in the first instance.

Thank you for your support with students' learning.



Mrs Katy Bevan, Head of Maths



Mrs Adele Andre, Assistant Headteacher

