



Our Maths Department

Our Curriculum Vision

We adopt a 'teach to the top' approach, with support for those who need it, dovetailing this with high expectations for our students. We are always forward thinking, looking for new ways to engage pupils so we can ensure the best outcome for our pupils when they leave. Above all, we are a team, and we strive to foster strong relationships with our pupils and each other.

Staffing

The Mathematics department consists of eight specialist full time teachers, including the Head of Maths, Second in Department, Lead Teacher, Numeracy Co-Ordinator and the whole-school lead in High Ability Learners. Teachers are encouraged to express themselves and help to constantly improve the department by leading initiatives and collaborate with other schools working with North-West Maths Hub.

The department has developed new initiatives in assessment and positive behaviour management and there is an excellent learning atmosphere. The relationships between teachers are strong and collaboration is common.

Curriculum and Specifications

The Maths department delivers the OCR syllabus at GCSE at both the Foundation and Higher tier. There is also the opportunity for a small number of pupils to complete the Entry Level Certificate to ensure that all pupils leave St John Fisher with a recognised mathematics qualification.

One of the exciting changes that the department has made has been the move to a mastery scheme of work at Key Stage 3. This dovetails well with our KS2 partners and builds on prior learning and helps the transition from primary to secondary school. Mastery training is ongoing in partnership with North-West Maths Hub.

All pupils are challenged and are taught in ability streams throughout their time at St. John Fisher.

Extra-Curricular and Enrichment Opportunities

The school enters teams of mathematicians in various competitions such as the UKMT Team Challenge, Stock Market Challenge at University of Manchester and St. John Rigby Maths Challenge.

Environment and Resources

It benefits from seven fully equipped classrooms, each with a C-Touch board, easy access to ICT facilities and a Maths staffroom. All resources for both KS3 and KS4 are shared, with a clear and easy to follow scheme of work and fully differentiated resources for each lesson.

Professional Development Opportunities

The department works closely with North-West Maths Hub upskilling all teachers, who are encouraged to lead initiatives to further improve the department. Staff have also attended courses such as 'Grow your Own Talent', NPQSL and have enjoyed periods of immersion in the Senior Leadership Team.