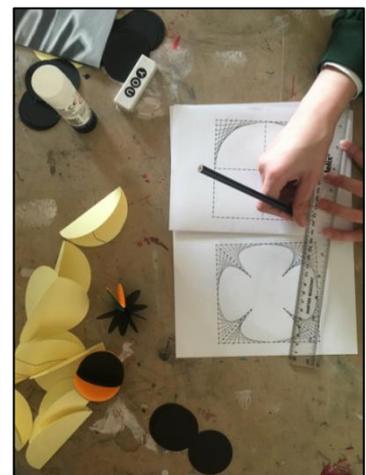


ST RICHARD'S CATHOLIC COLLEGE

Mathematics Department Information Booklet



St Richard's Catholic College

Welcome to the Mathematics Department

The Mathematics Department Mission Statement:

Pupils experience excellent teaching from an enthusiastic mathematic team. The well designed lessons provide challenge and are achieved by the department working collaboratively, reflecting on practice and engaging in professional development. We provide a variety of teaching styles and have a range of intervention strategies at both Key Stages. It is a department in which teachers and pupils enthuse about maths. Pupils are confident in applying mathematics beyond the classroom, and are supported to develop into strong mathematicians in the years ahead.

The department consists of an established, highly experienced team, including:

Jonathan Beaumont	Key Stage 4 Co-ordinator
James Campbell	Year 10 Pastoral Leader
Catriona Carradine	Maths Trainee Mentor
Ewan Carradine	Year 9 Pastoral Leader
Chris Eyre	NQT
Michelle Gaines	Assistant Principal
Letty Gallagher	SLE, Joint Acting Subject Leader and Numeracy Coordinator
John Gallivan	Part-time maths
Geraldine Machin	SLE, Joint Acting Subject Leader and Timetabler
Tim Stickland	Full time maths

Support Staff

Karen Park	Teaching Assistant
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The ten members of the Maths Department each teach a broad range of year groups and abilities. The majority of staff within the department have their own teaching base. There are eight maths teaching rooms, three of which are equipped with a suite of computers.

The teaching day is divided into six lessons of fifty minutes each. From September 2017, pupils in years 7, 8, 10 and 11 are timetabled five mathematics lessons per week; Year 9 have four lessons.

Teaching Groups

Pupils are set by ability in maths classes. In Key Stage 3, the setting is across half a year group, with two set ones through to two set fours. In Key Stage 4, there are eight sets timetabled at the same time. The Examination Board currently used is Edexcel.

The results of the Department have been excellent:

2014	2015	2016	2017
GCSE: 83% A*-C	81% A*-C	86% A*-C	83% 9 – 4
			55% 9 – 5

Although all pupils have a textbook, there is a huge bank of resources available to use and numerous software packages. We also subscribe to MathsWatch and Edexcel Active Learn. All teachers are encouraged to find, develop and share new resources.

Pupils are encouraged to develop mathematical fluency in order to tackle investigational work or problem solving activities in order to develop their conceptual understanding. Pupils are challenged through excellent teacher subject knowledge, Extension Maths material from UKMT, Nrich and FSMP resources. Pupils in KS3 and KS4 are encouraged to take part in the UK Maths Challenge; the most able invited through to the next round. A wide range of support is available for all pupils to reach or exceed their potential and we closely monitor all pupils' progress and provide intervention when required.

Each member of the department is encouraged to develop their own style of delivery and develop a passion for inspiring a love and understanding of Mathematics in our pupils. The department actively shares best practice and resources which are discussed in meetings and training sessions. The department is forward thinking and is keen to embrace new technologies, work with other schools, develop resources and further develop opportunities in Maths-related enrichment activities. There are also opportunities to work with other schools through the Sussex Maths Hub, The Teaching School, the Education Improvement Partnership and the County Maths hub.

The Maths Hub programme brings together mathematics education professionals in a collaborative national network of 35 hubs, each locally led by an outstanding school or college, to develop and spread excellent practice, for the benefit of all pupils and students. St Richard's is one of these outstanding schools; we work closely with the Sussex Maths Hub. Projects include Secondary teaching for Mastery, Women in Mathematics and Primary Outreach.



Maths in Action week is an annual event in the St Richard's calendar. All years are involved in activities that are themed and extend the curriculum. Partnerships with Brighton and Hove Albion, Sussex University, Bletchley Park and NRICH have included external speakers and maths trips for all year groups.



The Maths Department has recently led Block Day activities for pupils in years 7 and 8. These have included:

- year 7 pupils visiting Brighton and Hove Albion to complete maths challenges
- year 7 pupils spending the day exploring codes. Pupils enjoyed attending in fancy dress linked to a particular code
- year 8 pupils completing challenging problem solving activities.



As a Teaching School, we are very happy to share the expertise in our department with others, organising Subject Knowledge Enhancement Courses for non-specialists in Sussex and Adult GCSE Maths courses for parents, Teaching Assistants and staff at the school.

We lead the Maths Network Meetings which involves 22 other secondary schools. This ensures that the department is kept up to date with changes in Mathematics.

A great team spirit with a supportive, friendly staff makes being a member of the department an enjoyable professional experience. The pupils are extremely positive and confident in their approach to maths.