

Job Title: Head of Mathematics

Department information:

Mathematics is the largest subject in the college, with 11 full time and 12 part time dedicated teachers. We currently follow the OCR MEI specification.

In A level Mathematics we currently have 30 Year 1 groups (approx. 650 students) and 26 Year 2 groups (approx. 550 students). We run our A level Further Maths course in parallel with the A level and currently have 8 Year 1 groups (172 students) and 6 Year 2 groups (99 students). In Year 2 students have a choice of studying Extra Core Pure, Mechanics (Major) or Statistics (Minor). Students also have the option of sitting AS Further Mathematics and leaving the course after one year.

Each year we have a large number of students entering prestigious universities. We currently have 4 students holding offers for Mathematics at Oxford.

In September 2019 we introduced A level Statistics (Edexcel). We now have two groups in each year.

In addition, every year we have approximately 100 students re-sitting GCSE Maths (AQA) and in September 2023 we are introducing the Level 1 Functional Skills qualification to those students who enrol with a grade 1 or 2 in their GCSE.

We have daily workshop sessions, delivered by staff as part of their contact time. There is an optional weekly extension activity for Year 1 and Year 2 students.

Examination results:

Last year at A-level we achieved a 98.7% pass rate with a cohort of 605 students and 66.0% at A*-B grade. In A level Further Maths the pass rate was 99.1% from a cohort of 112, with 67.9% at A*-B grade. In A level Statistics, the pass rate was 100% with 58% A*-B for a cohort of 19. 36.6% of Foundation GCSE re-sitters achieved a 4 or better over the year.

Reason for post:

Due to an increase in student enrolments, we require additional teaching hours in the department for September 2023. Also, after 10 years in the role, the current Head of Mathematics has decided to step down from his responsibilities and become more classroom based.

Points of interest:

About a third of Maths and Further Maths classes are taught by two teachers. Statistics and GCSE classes have one teacher. Each A level group is taught for 4 hours 35 minutes each

week, (two double lessons of one hour 50 minutes and one single lesson of 55 minutes). Nearly all classes are taught within the maths area. As well as the usual software for demonstrations in lessons, we make extensive use of graphical calculators. Wall mounted whiteboards are often used for small group work. Within the department we have a room equipped with 24 PCs and a class set of laptops. The online site has numerous resources, students also have access to the Integral and MyMaths platforms. Staff within the department have a wide range of teaching experience, including previous experience in the 11-16 sector.

The department also has a Deputy Head of Mathematics, who supports the Head of Subject in carrying out the role. There are other members of the department with Head of Subject responsibilities for GCSE Mathematics, Further Mathematics and Statistics.

All maths teachers are located in offices adjacent to the main mathematics teaching rooms.

Catherine Bartlett
Director of Curriculum and Support
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