Mathematics
A level – Edexcel

Course leader: Mr Nangalia

What's it all about?
The first term involves studying all aspects of algebra and graphs, increasing skills in their manipulation and application. After this, there is an introduction to elementary calculus and an extension of the trigonometry learnt in Year 11. It is hard work, not least because the standard for advanced level requires a more mature, determined and flexible approach, and a commitment to work. There is a great satisfaction to be gained in tackling and overcoming problems. The "eureka" feeling is great but it requires significant effort for most people.

What are the entry requirements?
9 - 6 in GCSE mathematics.

What will I learn on this course?
Within pure mathematics the work will build upon the development of algebraic skills and problem solving. There is also a focus on the further development of co-ordinate geometry and trigonometry. Within the applied module you will work on statistics and mechanics.

How will I be assessed?
With effect from September 2017 the A level qualification in mathematics has now become a linear course. After two years of studying mathematics students will then be tested over three papers. Two of the papers will cover pure mathematics and the third paper will incorporate statistics and mechanics. There is currently no coursework on the Edexcel syllabus.

What do your current students say?
Many students have appreciated the value of mathematics as an A level option, which is highly rated on any university application for a range of courses.
'I just love it. It provides a constant challenge that makes me want to achieve my best.'
'I have no regrets about taking maths. The teaching and lessons have been exceptional and the support and encouragement that has been given to us throughout these 2 years have been wonderful and highly appreciated.'

Is there anything else I need to know?
The study of mathematics can be independent of all other subjects, yet often uses material from many subjects for its applications. It can be combined with any subject, but has obvious uses in support of such subjects as physics, biology, design and technology, geography and economics.
Advanced level mathematics is acceptable as a qualifying subject for a wide range of courses in higher and further education where it can be combined with almost any subject. For the study of some subjects in higher education, such as physics or certain business and finance courses, it is an essential qualification. Most businesses will welcome prospective employees with a qualification in mathematics at advanced level.

Who can I contact for further information?
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