



25 November 2019

Dear Parent/Carer

I write to inform you of the plans that are in place to support your son/daughter through their Maths GCSE resit. We are fully aware of how difficult it is to balance out the time and commitment needed with new A Level studies as well as preparing for a resit examination in Maths. In order to offer the maximum amount of support, we have changed the way we are structuring our GCSE resit provision this year, to try get as many students to pass as possible on their first resit attempt:

Timetabled lessons

We have the following timetabled lessons where year 12 and 13 students can come to a maths lesson and seek help / support / teaching:

Monday: Period 2 in MAG1, Period 5 in MAG5
Tuesday: Period 2 in MAG1, Period 5 in MAF5
Thursday: Period 5 in MAG5
Friday: Period 3 in MAF5

There should be at least one period above where every student can attend. I would encourage students to attend as many as possible as this will support them to achieve in the final exam.

Practise paper support

Independent use of practice exam papers is the key to success with mathematics. The repetition and increased use of recalling key facts comes best through practising examination questions. Students are encouraged to complete as much as possible independently, but then seek support from the classroom teacher in a lesson shown above, or during our revision sessions after school on a Monday, to maximise impact.

Mock exams

We have also asked that this November, students sit 2 mock exams with the year 11s, regardless of whether they sat a November GCSE exam. The rationale behind this is that the exam papers the year 11s are doing are with a different exam board. The content is the same, but the way the questions are written and the use of multiple choice, often gives foundation students more success. We want to see how the resit students fair under this different exam style. I think it will benefit them, but doing an actual mock exam will give us and your son/daughter full knowledge of how they have performed against nation grade boundaries. Plus, we will be able to provide full "gap analysis" for areas to work on between now and the next formal examination opportunity, should it be required.

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I am hopeful that the opportunities in place above are taken up by your son/daughter to maximise their chance of gaining this valuable qualification at their earliest opportunity.

If you have any questions relating to maths GCSE resits, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards

Graham Walton
Head of Mathematics