



Mathematics @ Wimbledon High School



Welcome to the Mathematics Department and thank you for choosing Wimbledon High School. The Maths department is a strong and successful department within the school and a significant number of students stay on onto the 6th form and study A Level Maths or more. Next year nearly 70 students have opted for the subject.

All students will start year 7 in a teaching group. During the first few months we look at all of the students and consider the following, but not exhaustive list before we group them.

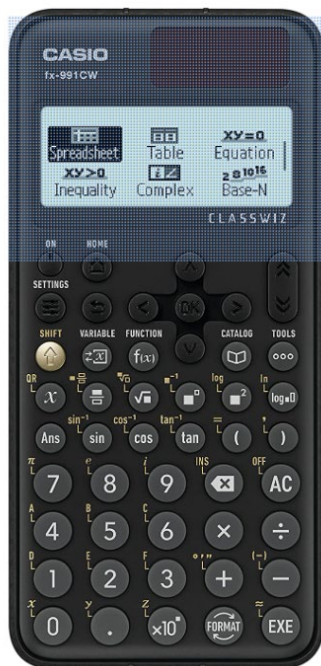
We look at the students' :

- Ability to **problem solve** and think '**outside the box**'
- **Work ethic** and **attitude** throughout the year
- **Consistency** of work and **pace of learning**
- **Thinking** and **questioning skills**
- **Examination results, classwork and homework**
- Ability to work **independently**
- Ability to **thrive** in smaller or larger sets

The department constantly reviews students and places them into Maths groups. We do not therefore, talk about students 'moving down' or 'moving up' The language that we use with the pupils is important to ensure they stay confident and focussed on the end result in Year 11. We do not employ a vertical setting system ie sets 1-5. We may employ a 11223 approach or 12233 it really depends on the cohort and needs of the students.

With changes to the Mathematics specification in Key stage 4 and 5 and advances in technology, we have reviewed our recommended calculator. This is in part due to changes to the syllabus and also changes to what type of functions on calculators the exam boards now permit. Whichever calculator your daughter currently has will provide the basic functions which is perfectly acceptable. However, as their studies advance, the ability to integrate, differentiate and to solve quadratics is essential.

Casio FX-991CW Classwizz.



It is much better if all the students use the same calculator and this is the one teachers' will be using in class. Calculators are expensive items. Please can we ask that all calculators and lids are labelled. For exam purposes lids are not allowed in examinations rooms. To avoid them getting lost or mislaid, clearly labelling them will enable them to be returned promptly. We do expect the students to have their own protractor and compasses for lessons.

Assessments

We give the students a variety of assessments through the year. It may be a quick skills check on a topic, it may be a whole year assessment on a number of recent topics, or it could be a more formal end of year assessment. We will always give feedback to the students on the topics they need to work on. This is a normal part of working and nothing for the students to be anxious about. It is more to ensure that they are revisiting previous topics and developing study skills.

We look forward to meeting you all in September

Kind regards

Helena Rees
Head of Mathematics