



# Mathematics Department Newsletter

Issue 1 January 2020

A warm welcome to the first mathematics department newsletter. I hope that this will provide parents and carers the information that they need, and the information that will help them with their child's mathematics education at QEGS. Please contact me if you have any queries or would like more information on a particular area. Equally, if there is anything that you would like to see in the newsletter please let me know. I can be contacted at wardenc@qegs.email or please feel free to email your relevant class teacher.

Many thanks, *Colin Warden* (Curriculum Leader for mathematics)

## Developments

### Years 7 & 8

At QEGS we believe in stretch and challenge for all of our students, and not setting limits based on prior attainment. In years 7 and 8 we follow a mastery scheme of work where we look at topics in more depth and get students to question why, to ensure that their understanding is secure. Within lessons there will be questions broken down into four elements. Skills, Application, Mastery and Extension. This enables students to select the level of questions that they need for each topic, checking their understanding before moving on.

If you require further information on the rationale behind the mastery or the mixed groupings please do not hesitate to contact me.

### Years 9-11

We study the AQA GCSE scheme of work at QEGS. However, please do not be alarmed if we use textbooks that are labelled as OCR or Edexcel. As class teachers we use the best resources available to us to aid the understanding of a topic. Sometimes these come from some of the older textbooks, but the beauty of maths is that it doesn't change. 'Maths is maths!'

With year 11 we are starting to approach the GCSE exams, so students should be thinking about the areas of maths that they need extra help with. Ask your teacher about the additional sessions we run to support you.

As a department we subscribe to Kerboodle, MyMaths, MathsWatch, and Doodlelearn and all students have logins for these. BBC Bitesize and CorbettMaths are other very good websites to help with understanding of topics which are free to use and do not require a login.

## Tips for Success

- Remember that the best way to improve your maths skills is to do some little and often. The only way majority of people can revise maths is to actually answer some questions.
- Use the traffic light sheets that are in your orange books to identify what topics you need to practice. Then use the resources that are available to you to help you.
- You will be shortly getting a flowchart to help guide you in this process as well.

## Equipment

For maths lessons you should bring the correct equipment along with your maths book. Please have a pen, pencil, ruler and calculator. Your teacher will inform you if you need a compass or protractor. Please let us know if you need any help with these items.



## Number Problem

Using only the four operations of arithmetic (addition, subtraction, multiplication, division) and any of these six numbers, can you create the number 2020?

You can only use a number once!

100, 50, 10, 7, 5, 1