



September 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

Introduction to GCSE Mathematics and the online MathsWatch resource

As you are probably aware in 2017 the government introduced radical changes to the structure and assessment of GCSEs. As a result of this the Mathematics GCSE has become significantly more demanding and also has more content to cover than in previous years.

I am writing to you to explain that one of the ways in which we will support your daughter in being successful with the new GCSE is that she will start the course this year (in Year 9) so that the course can be covered over three years rather than two. This is a strategy that many schools have now adopted. It will ensure that the more demanding curriculum can be covered in greater depth and will leave enough time to consolidate learning through a programme of practicing past exam papers in the lead up to the actual exams in the summer of Year 11.

As an extra resource to support your daughter's learning we are able to offer you the opportunity to purchase the popular MathsWatch online resource which can be accessed from home or at school and has proved extremely useful for the Year 11 group who recently completed the new GCSE.

This resource is accessed through an online login and contains more than 240 short video clips covering every area of the curriculum by grade and topic. In each video clip a teacher talks through worked examples on the specific topic selected and questions will then be presented for your daughter to try herself. The solution is then presented back to your daughter once she has tried the question so that she can self-assess her attempted solution. The video clips can be paused or rewound so that your daughter can work at her own pace.

The cost of this subscription is a one-off payment of **£3.50** which gives your daughter access to MathsWatch for all three years of her GCSE course (Years 9 to 11).

- Please make your payment of **£3.50** through www.parentpay.com

Thank you for your support in allowing us to provide your daughter with the best possible preparation for her Mathematics GCSE.

Yours sincerely



Mr O Virciglio
Maths Department