

# KS3 Maths

**Learning:** In year 7 students at St James will master the core numeracy skills covered at primary school and develop them further through application in algebra, shape and statistics. Lesson content has been developed with Sparx and will be delivered using cutting edge technology. For more information on this technology, please visit [www.sparx.co.uk](http://www.sparx.co.uk). Skills Students will be taught resilience when solving multi-layer mathematical problems. They will learn to apply their mathematical skills in a cross-curricular and real life context.

**Assessment:** Students will be assessed by a formal test within six assessment windows throughout the year, the result of which will be recorded on the school's reporting system. They will also sit a 'pre-test' at the start of each of the examination cycles so that progress can be carefully monitored and intervention can be offered where necessary. Students will also have an end of year exam which will be used for setting in the next year. The mathematics department use a variety of additional formative assessment methods to monitor student progress including the ongoing performance data collected each lesson through the use of iPad. This data will inform bespoke independent study tasks tailored to each individual students' needs. Compulsory maths independent study is set every week and its completion is absolutely vital to ensure the high levels of student progress we expect at St James. We also offer 'optional' and 'target' independent study packages to further support student progress. This is also an opportunity for students to earn merits and XP points which ensures they are rewarded for their hard-work.

**Parental support:** Parents can support their child's learning by taking an interest in their son/daughters mathematics lessons, by talking positively about the subject and by making sure independent study is completed. We do also ask that every student has their own calculator. A scientific calculator is most cost effective as it can be used right through to GCSE. These are available from the library shop.

**Enrichment:** Throughout their time at St James students will have the opportunity to participate in numerous STEM events. We also give our most enthusiastic mathematicians the opportunity to participate in the UK Maths Challenge and various mathematical workshops in collaboration with Exeter Maths School, Exeter University and Plymouth University.