Outwood Academy Ripon
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Principal: Rachel Donohue, M.Ed; FCCT

17th September 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

I am writing to you to provide some key information/updates in relation to your child's GCSE Maths journey that concludes this year:

The Year 11 Team

The Year 11 teaching team is as follows:

11x1 - Mr I Riddler
11x2 - Mrs D Turner
11x3 - Mr K Dawson
11y1 - Mr J Bryan
11y2 - Mrs D Turner
11y3 - Mr L Smith

Year 11 are also given excellent support by our 121 tutor, Ms.C.Sutcliffe, as well as the School Improvement Partner (previously known as a Director of Maths), Ms.R.Dalders.

Should you need any support throughout the year with any aspect of Year 11 Maths or your child's progress, please do not hesitate to contact me or your child's class teacher.

Mission Maths - Year 2

Mission Maths was launched last year with the aim of improving outcomes in Maths across the Outwood Family of Schools. We are very proud to have maintained excellent results in Maths here at Outwood Academy Ripon. We are particularly proud of the significant increase of pupils who achieved a Grade 7-9 in Maths last year, which stands at over 21%. However, I am sure that with your

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support we can do even better this year. We strive for this cohort of Y11s to achieve our best results yet!

As part of Mission Maths, all classes will follow a bespoke exam plan. This will ensure that pupils are taught relevant topics that will help them to secure the best possible grade. There will be lots of opportunity to practise exam style questions, which will be delivered as 'Staples Challenge' papers. The Staples Challenge is about working on an exam paper to the staples (the half way point). This strategy helps pupils to reduce "silly mistakes" as it draws attention to the "easier" parts of the paper that students tend to rush. Time is allocated for all classes to complete Staples Challenge papers, ensuring all students have dedicated time for exam practice and technique. The first set of Staple Challenge papers will be in the week commencing 12th October, 2026.

Students will also benefit from a number of additional interventions, including 121 tutoring sessions, academic mentoring, additional maths lessons, holiday revision sessions, holiday packs, weekly enrichment and weekly paper homework to name a few. Please encourage your child to engage positively in all we have to offer so that they realise their true potential. More details to follow on our '100 Days of Maths' revision incentive, which will begin 100 days before the summer exam series.

Assessments

Year 11 will complete two sets of formal mock exams in Maths this year. The first will be in November, during the week commencing 10th and 17th November. The second will be in March, during the week commencing 2nd and 9th March. After each formal Mock exam, we will provide every student with an analysis grid for each exam paper so that they know where they need to focus their revision. Following the mock exams, class teachers will deliver feedback lessons, where we focus on gaps in knowledge and exam technique.

Homework

All Year 11 students will be given weekly paper homework. This is handed out to students every Tuesday and is due the following Tuesday. It is imperative that students attempt the homework and hand it in to their class teacher as this will be marked in lessons each week.

In addition to weekly paper homework, students will also be given bespoke holiday packs at the end of each half term to support them with their independent practice and exam practice at home. The best way for students to practice and build confidence is to do Maths questions. We have selected high frequency questions and questions that students should be able to attempt at home.

The weekly homework should take approximately 30 minutes to complete. I would appreciate your support in ensuring your child completes their homework to the best of their ability.

After school intervention

Maths intervention is every Monday after school from 15:05 - 15:55. A bespoke timetable has been shared with students so that they know whether they have been invited to attend. I would really appreciate your support in encouraging your child to engage positively in these additional revision sessions. They are compulsory.

Useful websites

There are a number of useful websites that you can use to support your child with their Maths should you wish. These include:

https://revision.maths.outwood.com/
https://www.examq.co.uk/
https://sites.google.com/view/mathssummerschool/home

Should you require any further information or additional support with any aspect of Year 11 Maths then please do not hesitate to contact me or your child's class teacher. Thank you in advance for your support and I look forward to seeing your child make exceptional progress..

Kind Regards,

Mr K Dawson
Head of Maths