

15 September 2020

Dear Parent

Year 8 Mathematics

I am writing this letter to inform you about some of the arrangements in the Mathematics Department at The Henry Beaufort School for your child in Year 8. Please be assured that we have spent a lot of time during lockdown planning an exciting curriculum that aims to address any gaps that may have arisen during this time, as well as contingency planning our curriculum to ensure we are prepared for whatever the future throws our way!

Home Learning:

In Year 8, students will receive a mixture of written and online home learning tasks. The 'Yellow Sheet' tasks will be completed on paper, and your child will be expected to show all workings on the adjoining page. The task contains a mixture of topics from across the curriculum so please do not be worried if your child is not able to complete all of the questions. It is however an expectation that they try their best to answer as many questions as they can and show all workings. We aim to close any gaps throughout the year in lessons.

Assessment:

All students will be tested termly using the new style GCSE 9-1 paper. This is very challenging assessment, particularly for the younger students. We find that using a GCSE paper allows us to accurately track their progress across the years. Please be assured that we are not expecting them to complete all of the questions. However, we are often very impressed with how much the students have learnt at Junior School and at home. As they work their way up through the years at The Henry Beaufort, they should find the papers easier to manage having had access to more areas of the curriculum. In order to help your child to revise, you could encourage them to use the following revision websites:

www.corbettmaths.com

www.mathsgenie.co.uk

www.mrcartermaths.com, Username: student@hb, Password: HenryBMaths

Times Tables Rockstars and Numeracy Ninjas – In KS3, the students get to put their mental arithmetic skills to the test with Times Table Rockstars and Numeracy Ninjas competitions. Both programs have been designed and developed to engage and encourage learning in a fun, interactive environment. In year 8, all classes have a go at flexing their 'Numeracy Ninja' skills once a week. There is a prize for the 5 most improved Ninjas every term and a 'Ninjas off' at the end of the year.

Equipment: In the Maths department, every student is expected to bring, as a minimum, a black pen and a calculator. It is important that your child brings their own scientific calculator to all lessons – 2

out of 3 of the GCSE exams are calculator papers and pupils need to be familiar with using their own calculators. It is also helpful in saving time if students bring their own protractor, compass, green pen, pencil, ruler and rubber. If your child does not have a calculator at present or you wish to purchase any of the items listed above, you can do so online via <https://www.scopay.com/henrybeaufort>.

Important dates:

Mathematics Mock Exams

Wednesday 4th November 2020

Wednesday 10th February 2021

Monday 25th and Tuesday 26th May 2020

Year 8 Progress Evening

Thursday 28th January (Prague Block) 15:30 – 19:30.

Please feel free to contact me if there is any other way in which we can support your child in Maths.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs D Townsend
Academic Leader