OUSEDALE SCHOOL

MATHS DEPARTMENT

THE TEAM /FACILITIES

The department consists of 14 full-time and 1 part-time mathematics teachers who work closely together to plan and co-ordinate courses. Regular meetings are held to share views and discuss developments. Each member of staff is given the opportunity to teach all years and ability levels and there are many opportunities for further professional development.

We are accommodated in our own mathematics suites, including a computer room, with 32 PCs, printer and internet access. All courses are well resourced with text books, other printed material and equipment.

YEARS 7, 8 & 9

Students are taught in mixed ability groups for the first half term and then set using key stage 2 information from feeder schools. These sets are reviewed regularly using test data and progress in lessons as a basis for discussion. We use a variety of resources including the 'Level up' and 'Exploring Maths' textbooks. There are several opportunities for mixed ability and cross curricular project work throughout key stage 3.

YEARS 10 & 11

During Years 10 and 11 students are following a KS4 scheme of work based on the AQA modular course. Students are setted and those in the top sets follow an Additional Maths course leading to a further qualification at GCSE.

SIXTH FORM

At A Level, mathematics is a very popular subject. We currently have approximately 40 students in Year 12 following a single A Level and 20 in the further maths group who complete A2 in AS in Year 13. The department's Advanced Level work has been extremely successful.

Students follow the MEI modular course. The structure of the components is flexible and gives students a degree of choice. It will allow students to complete an AS after one year.

Year 12 students are able, if necessary, to resit GCSE.

STYLE

At all stages we strive to ensure that the subject is taught in a lively and interesting way and that students enjoy their mathematics. Use of IT is actively encouraged; all years have timetabled sessions in our computer room and all classrooms have interactive whiteboards. Investigation and modelling work also form a part of our approach to active learning.

February 2010