

7th November 2018

Dear Parents/Carers

Re: Change of A-Level Maths Exam Board

As you are aware, the government introduced a change to the A-level Mathematics specification for all examination boards commencing September 2017. The content for all boards was identical and our initial decision was to move from the MEI board that we have used in previous years to AQA, so that we were in line with more of the local post-16 providers and could share good practice more readily.

However, as the exam boards have begun to produce more and more material to support teachers, having analysed our students' performances on both AQA and MEI sample papers and looked closely at the June 2018 AS and A-level papers (the first 'real' exams in these new specifications), we have decided to revert to the MEI board. We feel that the benefits in terms of the support provided by MEI and the style of questions better suiting our cohort of students will outweigh those of moving to AQA.

We would like to thank you for your continued support, and reassure you that this change does not disadvantage your child as they are following a two-year course and have not yet taken any external exams. The content for both AQA and MEI is the same so the value of the work they have done and the relevance of the books they have bought remain unchanged. We are in the process of purchasing a license for your child to have access to MEI Online Integral Resources and we will explain to them how to use this in due course.

In essence, this is not a major change and should be of no concern to you or your children, but we felt it best to ensure you were fully aware of what is happening. Our Maths results with the MEI board have been consistently excellent for many years and we fully expect to maintain that this year. If, however, you do wish to discuss this change, please do not hesitate to contact either of us on the number below.

Yours faithfully

Dr N Parsons KS5 Leader of Maths Mrs C Ramsbottom Head of Maths

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