



## **Brandeston Hall**

### **Mathematics**

The main aim of the mathematics department is to enable all pupils to reach the highest level of numeracy skills – a key life skill. In order to achieve this we provide all pupils with a broad and interesting mathematical experience at school. We aim to ensure that all pupils receive the support or extension they require according to their individual ability level and encourage all pupils to develop a lifelong enjoyment of maths and achieve their full potential. All members of the department follow an agreed calculations policy which promotes consistency in written calculations methods (addition, subtraction, multiplication and division). Parents are regularly invited to a maths evening where they are given the opportunity to be shown these methods by staff.

Reception children follow the National Early Learning Goals and Years 1 - 6 follow the National Numeracy Framework for teaching Mathematics. For these children ICT is regularly used to reinforce learning in class and individual pupil passwords are used on computers at home to access prep that the teacher has set using the 'Education City' website. Lessons are designed to include practical 'hands on' learning and a large emphasis is placed upon pupils using maths vocabulary in the classroom. The more able are extended with Brain Academy tasks which encourage pupils to 'think outside the box', as well as primary maths challenges in Years 5 and 6. Setting occurs from Year 6 upwards and half termly assessments enable movement within sets.

Year 7 and 8 follow the ISEB Common Entrance Syllabus. Our three-tier system includes foundation, core and extension papers. The more able pupils are extended not just with the content of the extension syllabus, but with junior and team maths challenges in the spring and summer term. The recent introduction of a foundation paper at CE level now enables pupils who find maths more challenging to work in a much smaller group and sit an examination which is at the appropriate level for them.