



ASSOCIATED SIXTH FORM

ST AIDAN'S & ST JOHN FISHER, HARROGATE



16 March 2018

Dear Parent and Student

At the recent Sixth Form Information events, we received a number of enquiries from prospective Sixth Form students about the possibility of our offering AS Level Mathematics as an additional course alongside the core three A Level or Applied qualification curriculum. In response to this demand we have reviewed our staffing levels in Mathematics and are pleased to confirm that the AS Level qualification will be available for study in the Association for September 2018.

AS Level Mathematics is a discrete one-year qualification which provides the opportunity for students to develop valuable Mathematics skills beyond GCSE without selecting Mathematics A Level as one of their core choices. The course is suitable for any student who attains Grade 6 or above in Mathematics GCSE.

We will still be offering the Core Maths course as an alternative option, which involves the application of mathematical skills to problems found in life, employment and further study, complementing data analysis work found in A Level courses such as Geography, Biology, Psychology or Business.

We realise that choosing the AS Level Mathematics course as part of your Sixth Form curriculum at this point may mean an alteration to choices already indicated or an addition to your options but we will be happy to make any necessary changes. Please notify Mrs Hendry, the Associated Sixth Form Administrator (associatedsixthform@staidans.co.uk) by Monday 26 March if you would like to change your course options in the light of this new course offer.

Please see the attached document for further information. If you would like to discuss your course choices and the AS Level Mathematics option in more detail, please contact the Associated Sixth Form on 01423 818516.

Yours sincerely

C I Kidman
Head of Sixth Form St Aidan's

A Joy
Head of Sixth Form, St John Fisher

Reasons for choosing AS Maths

- You do not want to select A Level Mathematics as one of your three choices because you have other subjects which you prefer or about which you are more confident but you enjoy studying Mathematics and would like to build on your existing skills.
- You would like to gain a qualification which demonstrates a higher level of mathematical ability.
- You feel that the course would support your study in other subjects such as Chemistry, Physics or Economics and may enhance future applications to university or employment in such areas.
- AS instead of A Level Mathematics would allow you to select a different third A Level choice whilst continuing to study this valuable subject above GCSE level.
- You feel that you would prefer the challenge of mathematical concepts in AS Level to the everyday problem-solving content involved in the Core Maths course.
- In choosing an additional course alongside your A Level or Applied options you prefer the idea of a structured, exam-assessed qualification to the independent research-based Extended Project Qualification. (Please note: it is possible to study for both AS Level and EPQ in addition to the core three course curriculum.)