

Parent/Carer

9th October 2018

Dear Parent/ Carer,

I would like to take this opportunity to give you a detailed explanation about the new mathematical curriculum model that your son/daughter will be focussing on throughout their KS3 learning time at Jarrow.

At the beginning of the 2017 academic year, the mathematics department here at Jarrow School decided to adopt a mastery curriculum model to ensure all of the fundamental laws and properties of mathematics were conceptually understood in anticipation of beginning GCSE mathematics in year 9.

Teaching maths for mastery involves employing approaches that help pupils to develop a deep and secure knowledge and conceptual understanding of mathematics at each stage of their learning, so that by the end of every school year or Key Stage, pupils will have acquired mastery of the mathematical facts and concepts they've been exposed to, equipping them to move on confidently and securely to more advanced material.

The rationale behind this decision was based on extensive research into ways in which to reduce the variation of ability that maths teachers nationally, find within a KS4 mathematics classroom. With national changes to the GCSE maths curriculum beginning in 2016, we recognised that to best support each and every student in aspiring to achieve the best outcomes, we had to reduce the level of procedural understanding (being able to recall mathematical facts and rules procedurally) and enhance the level conceptual understanding (ability to use procedural fluency and apply accurately to reasoning and problem solving) of our students. This process involves covering mathematical concepts that may have been seen in earlier years of learning and applying the procedural fluency gained in primary school, to conceptually deepen the understanding of the same topics in order to gain mathematical mastery in that area.

In order to share with you examples of the new curriculum diet your son/daughter will have, I would like to invite you to sample some of the mastery curriculum lessons we have to offer at Jarrow School on Tuesday the 20th of November from 5:30pm to 6:30pm. An introduction will be given as to what the mastery curriculum entails, followed by two exemplar lessons in a carousel form both of which have been used within lesson time this year.

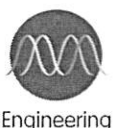
Yours sincerely
Mr J Farthing
Maths Faculty Leader

I parent/carers of: _____

Will be/will not be* attending the Maths Mastery Show Case Event on 20th November 2018 at 17:30-18:30

**delete as appropriate*

Please return slip to Mr Farthing by Friday the 9th November 2018



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