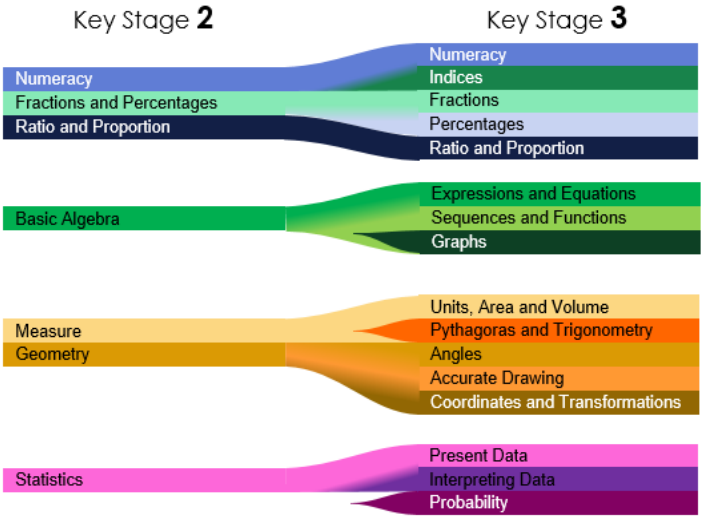
Midsomer Norton Schools Partnership

Buckler's Mead Academy

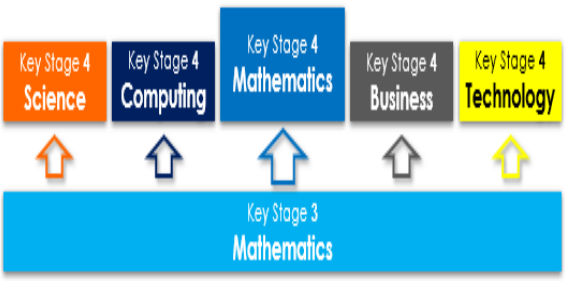
Mathematics - Subject Information

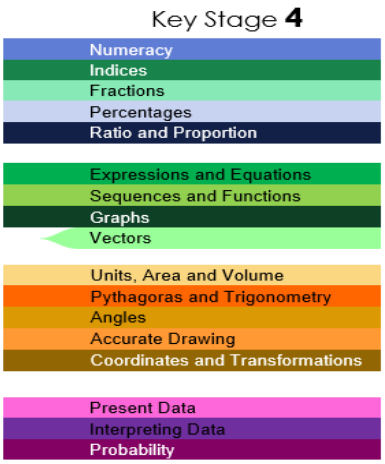
Our **Key Stage 3** curriculum intends to develop in students a deep appreciation of the **patterns and relationships between numbers** and to provide a firm foundation with the **tools of algebra, geometry and statistics** to enable students to **solve problems** in both abstract and real-world contexts.

The curriculum builds on prior knowledge by consolidating concepts and standardising techniques learnt at **Key Stage 2**, developing and enhancing understanding of all six areas of the secondary Mathematics curriculum and introducing new concepts such as Pythagoras and Trigonometry that provide essential foundations for **Key Stage 4** Mathematics.



The curriculum also recognises the role that strong Mathematical **understanding, problem solving and reasoning skills** play in supporting success in all **technical subjects at Key Stage 4.**



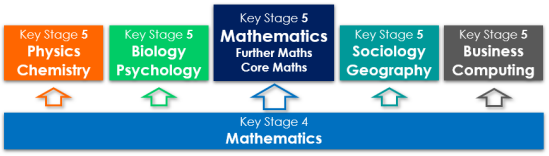


Key Stage 4

Our **Key Stage 4** curriculum intends to continue the development of all the areas of the Mathematics curriculum encountered in Key Stage 3 with an additional strand covering vectors.

In Key Stage 4 **problem-solving** and **reasoning** skills are further developed and refined up to, and in many cases, beyond the standard required in GCSE Mathe-matics examinations.

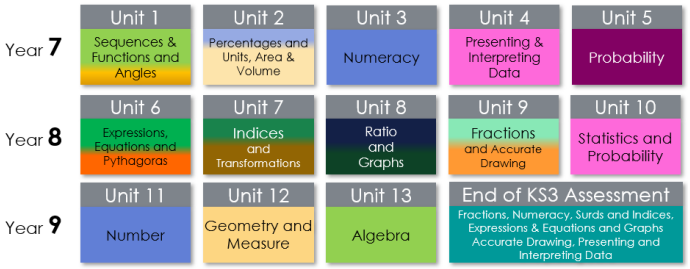
The curriculum recognises the pivotal role that Mathematics plays in facilitating success in many Key Stage 5 subjects.



The curriculum also recognises that in many cases GCSE Mathematics will be the final Mathematics qualification most students pursue and that the **core numeracy**, **problem-solving, systematic deduction, critical reasoning** and ability to **interpret statistics** acquired in Key Stage 4 are crucial to future employability and quality of life.

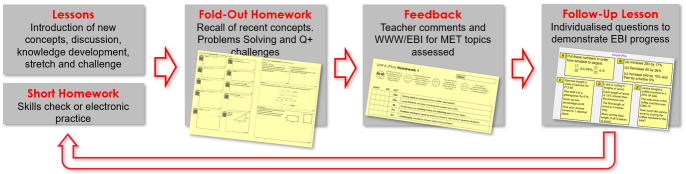
The Long Term Plan for each year presents and groups concepts in a logical sequence that enables students to develop the knowledge needed to access concepts later in the year and in subsequent years. This process begins with a 4 week induction phase at the start of Year 7 where we ensure knowledge acquired at **Key Stage 2** is refreshed and securely in place.

In Years 7 and 8 all areas of the curriculum are covered over 9 units with each topic enriched through mastery lessons which consolidate recall and retention and enable a deeper exploration of problem solving with each concept.



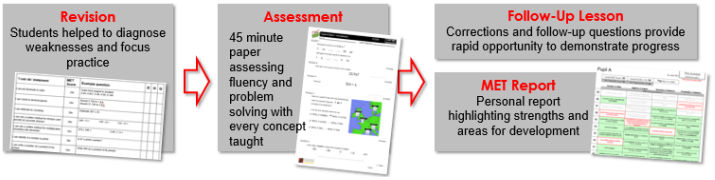
The final term of Year 8 and the first three terms of Year 9 are used to consolidate and enrich understanding of the 4 branches of Key Stage 3 mathematics. The last 3 terms of year 9 focus on preparing for an extended End of Key Stage 3 Assessment. Students study for two terms and then revise for one term before sitting three papers. This process builds students ability to retain and organise their key stage 3 knowledge over a longer time frame.

Progress is monitored through a 2/3 weekly cycle of homework, feedback and follow-up work.

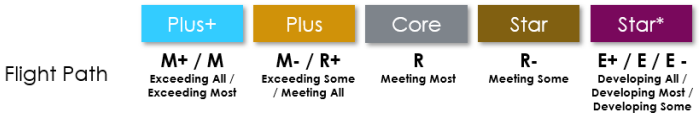


In addition, knowledge development is tracked through each unit with a **weekly knowledge check** covering key concepts.

Attainment is measured through termly cycle of revision, assessment and holistic feedback on progress through MET reports emailed to students and parents.



The curriculum is fully differentiated into five overlapping syllabi enabling students to spend more time on the concepts they need to secure to make the most progress. Frequent opportunities to transition between classes ensure rapid progress is recognised and sustained so that there is appropriate and continuous challenge for all.



Plus and Plus+ syllabi support **HAP** students with all topics studied at greater depth. UKMT team and individual challenges help foster an enthusiasm for rich problem solving and further Mathematical study.

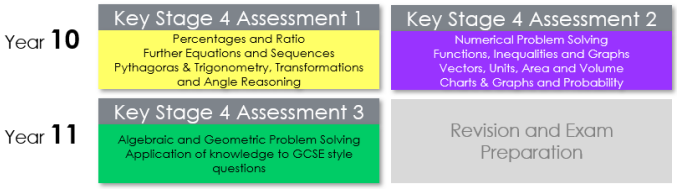
Q^{+} challenge questions are built into all syllabi and homework providing an ever-present opportunity to test understanding beyond the main objective.

Star* syllabus supports students with weaker numerical skills including some **SEND** with a higher emphasis on core numeracy and life skills.

Key Stage 3 Numeracy intervention programme identifies students with lower than expected progress and helps them with personalised programmes of support designed around weaknesses highlighted in MET reports.

Key Stage 4

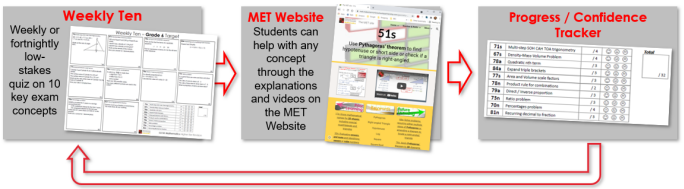
The Key Stage 4 curriculum is divided into 3 carefully assembled modules of mutually reinforcing concepts. The year 10 modules last for 3 terms and concludes with a fortnight of revision before a comprehensive assessment split over 3 papers (1 non-calculator, 2 calculator). Year 11 commences with a module of work explicitly focussed on developing problem solving and application of knowledge to GCSE exam questions.



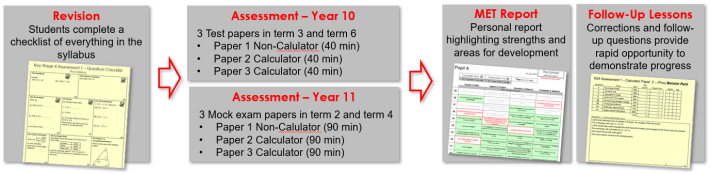
Lesson resources are interspersed with content explaining the relevance of Mathematics topic to a broad range of further study and careers.

Progress is monitored through a fortnightly cycle of homework, feedback and follow-up work as at Key Stage 3.

In addition, in Year 11, students build confidence and familiarity with exam style questions through **Weekly Ten** worksheets covering 10 key exam concepts.



Attainment is measured through tri-termly cycle of revision, assessment and holistic feedback on progress through MET reports emailed to students and parents.



Differentiation of the curriculum into 5 overlapping syllabi continues with opportunities for students to transition between syllabi after each assessment.

In Year 11 the syllabi builds toward Foundation or Higher tier GCSE entry.