S3 Mathematics

# Course Rationale

In S3, all pupils will study Maths – the course has been designed to allow you to progress to any course appropriate to your level of study in S4 year.

# Course Content

The S3 Maths course aims to prepare you for life and SQA exams.

Maths is important in everyday life. It allows us to make sense of the world around us and to manage our lives: to budget, plan a holiday, buy a car or a house and so on. It enables us to make sensible decisions: about medicines, investments, lifestyle choices. It allows you to understand risks and take control of your life.

Maths will open the door to many different careers. It plays an important role in areas such as science or technologies and is vital to research and development in fields such as engineering, computing science, medicine and finance.

Maths is both creative and rigorous. If you engage with it fully it will allow you to explore new ideas, see the beautiful underlying symmetry of the universe and spot when people are trying to fool you with bad logic, bad statistics or bad science.

# Progression

S3 Maths can lead on to either Applications of Mathematics (formerly known as Lifeskills Maths), the pure Maths qualifications, awards in Numeracy and Personal Finance as well as National 1 and 2 level awards.

The level at which a pupil studies is based on how they have progressed in S3. National 5 is a challenging qualification and pupils must demonstrate a readiness for work at this level to meet the entry requirements for the course.

It is important that pupils consider their choice of subject in S4 carefully as it is difficult to move from one subject to another. **Any pupil who may require Higher Maths should ensure they take N5 Maths and not N5 Applications of Maths in S4.**

**Career Pathways**

Economist Astronomer Actuary Teacher Physicist Mathematician.