

## Further Maths recruitment at High Pavement Sixth Form College

### Overview:

High Pavement College is part of New College Nottingham, a general F.E. college in the city centre.

Traditionally we have offered Further Maths AS and A level to Year 13 students only. This has enabled us to encourage many students to take up Further Maths who would not have considered such a course at the beginning of year 12.

**We expect a significant percentage of our year 13 students to be doing Further Maths of some kind. This year 39 of our 70 A2 students are following a Further Maths course. (8 of these are taking the full A level and 31 AS Further Maths.)**

Last year our Further Maths A level pass rate was 100% and the AS Further Maths pass rate was 83%. Most students gain approximately the same grade at Further Maths as they do in single Maths. (Further Maths is taken as an *additional* subject and this is indicated as such on UCAS applications.)

For the last few years we allowed particular gifted year 12 students to opt in to part of the year 13 FM program. (Mechanics 1 and/or Numerical Methods). This year, because of demand, we have had to allocate an extra group for these students.

### Organisation:

**Pre-enrolment:** A Further Maths timetable block is identified for the following year.

**At enrolment for year 12:** Potential Further Maths students are asked to reserve this block in advance for year 13. Some particularly gifted students can opt in to year 13 lessons at this stage is appropriate.

**March year 12:** Students are circulated with a flier indicating why they should consider Further Maths in year 13. They return a tear off sheet indicating which strand of Further maths they would prefer.

An extract is listed below:

- **Did you do well in your first unit? Are you enjoying your Maths?**

Further maths will give you more overall Maths practice and build on your single Maths success.

- **Are you studying Physics?**

The Mechanics part of the course will already be familiar to you and will help with any university course in Engineering or Physics.

- **Are you studying Computing or I.T.?**

You will enjoy the Numerical Methods units as this uses spreadsheets,

- **Are you considering a University course including Statistics?**

The Statistics 3 unit will help you prepare for this

- **Pure 4 covers topics you have not met before like imaginary numbers and matrices.**
- **Most people opt for an AS Further Maths course.**
- **Consider the full Further maths is you are intending to study Maths at University.**

**June Year 12:** Students enter Further Maths on their re-enrolment form along with their other A2 subjects.

**September year 13:**

We have 3 strands to our Further Maths provision.

Strand 1: Pure4 (and Pure 5)

Strand 2: Mechanics 1 and 2

Strand 3: Statistics 3 and Numerical Methods.

(AS students will opt for either Strands 1/2 or Strands 1/3.)

Mechanics 1 and Statistics 3 are taken in January and the other units in June.

**The new Specification for September 2004.**

We intend to continue offering our main provision in Year 13 recruiting as detailed above. It is only by doing this that we can encourage a high take up of Further Maths.

The changes to the 'old' pure 4 unit (the new FP1) means that we will be able to increase our provision for year 12 students allowing some of them to take the full AS Further Maths in their first year. These students will be the main core of students who take the full Further maths qualification the following year.

**Conclusion**

- **Our ex-students repeatedly visit us from University and tell us how pleased they are they studied particular topics in Further Maths and how much it has helped them in their first year in Higher Education.**
- The extra Further Maths work increases the students' confidence (and their grade) in single maths.
- As the subject is an extra it does not attract a compulsory UCAS grade but is often available as a replacement grade if one of their other subjects slip.
- With the main provision being in year 13 students do not have to decide on Further Maths options until they are focussed on particular University courses. This increases the take up dramatically.

Please contact me if you want any more information on our program.

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