What do you particularly enjoy about studying Mathematics?

The thing I most like about maths is that the subject is so broad. You cover statistics, pure maths, and mechanics - all of which are interesting and relevant in real life. I particularly like statistics because I find data analysis really interesting and algebra because I find it challenging yet enjoyable. I also like how maths links in with every one of my other subject choices and the skills learnt are extremely transferrable.

How much work is involved? (hours in lessons / outside of lessons)

We have 4 hours of lesson time per week, and you dedicate 5 hours outside of lessons for homework, independent study, and revision. I spend most of my time doing practice exam questions and putting the methods learnt in class into practice.

If you studied the subject at GCSE how different is studying it at A Level?

Maths at GCSE was all about learning how to use the formulas and put them to use. However in A Level, you look deeper into why you use certain methods. You look at the origins of maths and you look at how methods were developed into what we use today which is so fascinating. You also cover a lot more topics at A Level and you have to be able to use all of the skills to solve any problem you are presented with.
How are you assessed and how regularly?

After you have finished a few booklets, you do an end of topic test to make sure you have understood the topics you have just studied. It is really useful as you can check your progress regularly and make sure that if you have any questions you specifically struggled with you get the help you need.

What support have you received and is support available if you don’t understand something?

The support at Carmel is amazing. The teachers are willing to help you with anything you need. I have Sarah as a teacher, and she has made me feel welcome and supported from the very first lesson. All of the teachers are willing to give you any advice and tips about things like homework, directed study and classwork. If you do not understand something, that is okay! A level maths is tough, and you will not understand everything straight away, but the teachers will guide you and build up your confidence, so you are able to succeed in the final exam.

Have you received careers support and what are your future plans?

At Carmel, there is a designated careers team for if you have any enquiries about higher education, work experience or career options. You also have a Personal Achievement Tutor who you can go to for advice too, and they can book you in for careers appointments and anything you need. I am hoping to go to the USA to study Sport and Exercise Medical Science, whilst on a tennis scholarship. Maths is a big part of that degree and I am looking forward to extending my knowledge further on an area I am fascinated by.

Visit our website for more information about our A Level Mathematics course