

Ripon Grammar School

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Tuesday 21st September

Dear Year 8 students,

Re: Supporting your learning in mathematics

I am writing to explain how you can support your learning in mathematics through the website <https://www.mathspanda.com>, which is run specifically for RGS students and for which no login or password is required.

Scheme of work

From the homepage, you can download the **Mathematics Scheme of Work**. A scheme of work tells teachers what topics to teach, when to teach them and roughly how long to spend on them. Naturally, a teacher may choose to teach the material in a slightly different order and at a slightly different pace according to the group they are teaching.

From the **Contents** tab, all schemes of work can be accessed so you can go back to revise previous material if you need to do so. Year 8 students should select the **Y8** worksheet tab at the bottom.

Each scheme of work is set out lesson by lesson, **with clear textbook details**, and each lesson usually has an **e-lesson** attached to it for further reference.

The **Y8 LO** tab clearly states what the **learning objectives** for each topic i.e. what needs to be learnt for each topic and is a useful reference when revising.

Year 8 page on MathsPanda

The **Year 8** page on MathsPanda, <https://www.mathspanda.com/year8.html>, accompanies the course topic-by-topic throughout the academic year. Each topic includes:

Lessons: if you miss a lesson or require another explanation, click on the individual lesson links. Each lesson includes **explanations, notes, worked examples**, link to **videos** should you need further help and a helpful **summary** at the end. Click on the blue link 'Solutions to Starters and E.g.s' at the bottom of the lesson to view all the working for the questions in the lesson.

Textbook: the textbook unit which you may use in class and from which **homework may be set**. It includes **explanations prior to each exercise** which will help you should you become stuck.

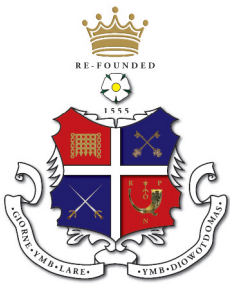
Extra exercises: a set of extra exercises for each topic to give you **extra practice when revising** for topic tests and examinations. **Answers are provided** at the end of the document.

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Activities: a collection of investigational-type tasks that teachers may set for homework as a means to get you thinking about a topic before you start it or as a means of reinforcing a topic after it is completed. **E-lessons:** links that provide **explanations, example questions and exercises** for you to complete. The exercises are **self-marking** so you can immediately gauge your understanding of the material. Again, these will prove very useful when revising.

Examination preparation: as requested by parents, previous November, March and June (end of year) examinations are placed on MathsPanda in order to aid your revision. In addition, skills and interleaf sheets provide extra practice.

Maths Challenge page on MathsPanda

The **Maths Challenge** <https://www.mathspanda.com/UKMT.html> pages houses **extension material**. Teachers may set these as exercises for homework or do them in class. However, there is nothing stopping you from doing them at home and then asking your teacher for the answers.

Junior – Year 7 and Year 8

Intermediate – Year 9, Year 10 and Year 11

Senior – Lower 6th and Upper 6th

After completing the sheets for Year 7 and Year 8, you may wish to ask your teacher for the UKMT mentoring material – but be warned, this is not for the faint hearted.

If there is no internet access at home, you can use the computers at school to get hold of the material. Of course, in addition to the above, you can always seek support from your teacher should you reach an immovable point. We hope you find what is detailed above useful as you study mathematics at Ripon Grammar School.

Yours sincerely,

Mr. White
Head of Mathematics

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