



ABINGDON

From Teacher of Mathematics: Nick Ball

30 September 2020

Dear Parents of L6th (and 5th year) students

Calculators

As you are aware we expect all boys to come to Maths lessons with a scientific calculator. We have always recommended the Casio fx-8GTX model which is suitable for iGCSE.

For those studying A level Maths, the new A level specification requires a more advanced calculator and we recommend the boys use the Casio FX 991EX (Classwiz) model. Students are required to calculate probabilities which were previously accessed via statistical tables in the formula booklets. This feature is on the Classwiz and is also available on graphical calculators but as a department we believe the graphical calculators are not essential for A level and will be basing our teaching of Statistics around the Classwiz model. This is a suitable calculator at a reasonable price with sufficient features that will not disadvantage any students.

If your son is currently in the 5th year and is looking to replace his calculator before his GCSEs next Summer, he may want to consider buying the Classwiz should he be considering A level Maths/Further Maths in the Sixth form. The calculator is allowed in the iGCSE and Additional Maths exams he will sit.

We will be placing an order with our supplier next month and can have the calculators engraved with your son's name. This will be done on the back of the calculator. As the calculators are white, the engraving does not stand out but it is clear, legible and ensures the calculator is easily identifiable. The cost of the calculator is £26.

If you wish to purchase a Classwiz calculator for your son, the cost will be added to your next school bill. Please complete this [google form](#) to agree to the cost and type clearly the name you would like to be engraved onto the calculator. Please ensure the form is completed by Friday 9 October in order for me to place the order before the October holiday.

If you have any queries do not hesitate to contact me.

Nick Ball
Teacher of Mathematics
nick.ball@abingdon.org.uk
01235 849080

Abingdon School, Park Road, Abingdon, Oxfordshire, OX14 1DE

Tel: +44 (0)1235 521563

Fax: +44 (0)1235 849079

www.abingdon.org.uk