OCR
RECOGNISING ACHIEVEMENT

Case Studies

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Birley College

Ysgol Penglais School

Wakefield City High School
Outstanding Achievement For All

OCR GCSE Mathematics

– assisting Mathematics and computing excellence

The teaching of OCR GCSE Mathematics qualifications has been a great success story for the 300 learners at specialist Mathematics and Computing College - Wakefield City High School.

A mixed comprehensive school catering for pupils aged 11-16 years, Wakefield City High School has a reputation for providing a quality education for all children irrespective of background or ability, within a caring environment. The school was granted Beacon status in September 2000 and Leading Edge status in 2004.

Head of Mathematics at Wakefield is Richard Madarasz: *"The original decision to choose the new OCR Mathematics specification A was made jointly by the Head of Mathematics and the Mathematics department. Previously we have had an excellent overall experience with OCR's GCSE in Mathematics qualifications and achieved a great deal of success."*

Using the OCR Mathematics GCSE

Now teaching OCR's Mathematics GCSE specification A as a matter of course, Wakefield had briefly considered a review of its teaching methods before OCR added a linear option to the specification. *"We are really pleased that OCR is providing a linear teaching alternative and we love the fact that we can mix and match linear with modular. It's something our students find very useful. The modular element of the new specification is its most appealing aspect as it means pupils can re-sit if necessary. The flexibility of the modular approach, the different tiers of units and the ability to mix linear with modular teaching are also all highly popular features."*

Richard likes the fact that OCR's new GCSE Mathematics specification A includes three exams and major changes, such as the improvements in functionality and the longer-type questions, are seen as positive moves. *"We are looking to change our way of working so that it's more 'in line' with OCR's new specification."*

Choosing OCR again

Staff at Wakefield City High School are looking forward to teaching the new specification and are interested in looking at new options, planning for them and making the most of resources: *"We like working with OCR and appreciate their papers and support materials."*

Looking ahead

Wakefield City High School is preparing to teach GCSE Mathematics specification A from September 2010.

Want to find out more?

For more information on OCR GCSE Mathematics visit **www.ocr.org.uk/maths/2010**, call **0300 456 3142** or email **maths@ocr.org.uk**