

3rd April 2018

Dear Parent / Carer,

Year 7, 10 & 11 HegartyMaths Home Learning Programme

The purpose of this letter is to inform you about an exciting home learning maths programme we are trialling with all our Year 7, 10 and 11 pupils until 10th of June 2019. The Queen Elizabeth Academy is part of many schools across the UK launching the HegartyMaths programme this year and we are excited about the benefits for your children.

HegartyMaths is an online website created by UK Teacher of the Year and Global Teacher Prize Top 10 Finalist, Colin Hegarty. Colin received these his awards for his contribution to maths education and is one of the top 10 maths influencers in a recent Evening Standard Top 1000 Londoners list. More details can be found out about Colin and his programme here:

- <https://hegartymaths.com/>
- <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/education-35592440>
- (<http://www.standard.co.uk/news/the1000/the-progress-1000-londons-most-influential-people-2016-mathematics-a3335331.html>)

The aim of this programme is to provide a top quality home learning platform to students so that, along with fantastic teacher-led maths lessons in school, your child will be supported at home with their maths learning and/or revision. Often maths homework can be difficult without the right support when students get stuck. At home students may struggle to remember concepts they learnt in class and parents often find it difficult to help their child through the methods used as they were different methods to when they were at school.

This HegartyMaths system makes it easier for a child to engage with their maths homework. It teaches (via 800 10 minute videos made by Colin), assesses (in small quizzes of usually 10 questions) and tracks everything a child needs to learn in school maths. The programme aims to have a positive impact in the following areas:

- 1) Student intrinsic motivation for learning maths and their attitudes towards maths
- 2) Student attainment in maths
- 3) Parental engagement and ability to assist in your child's maths learning

Your child will receive one/two homeworks a week from the HegartyMaths platform and each homework can take up to one hour to complete properly. Your child may complete additional work should they wish but this is not a requirement. The HegartyMaths homework will consist of two main parts:

- 1) Watching and taking detailed notes in their homework book from one of Colin's 10-minute video (Teachers will be using one lesson in the next few weeks to model what taking notes looks like and how to do this effectively as it is a key skill that is useful in maths and in many other subjects)
- 2) Doing the quiz that follows the video showing full working in their homework books.

The system has been working well with students across the UK as the video is very closely related to the quiz and representations a good tutor explaining a concept and then letting a child practice that exact concept afterwards.

Each week the teacher will set a task that is suitable for your child based on what they have been doing in school. Our main focus is on the effort that your child puts into their homework, the care they take with their notes and the pride they take in their work. All notes and all answers to the quizzes must be written in their homework books and students should mark their work in their books as they go along on the computer. It is fine to make mistakes and students should be encouraged to write the mistakes in their book, write the correct answer which the computer will show them and retry any question they struggle with as this will make encourage good habits and take the fear out of making mistakes in maths.

We have also included for your reference a Student Starter Guide. This explains the site in more detail and shows an example of a student's work.

Your child will be told by their teacher how to log-in to the site but in short they should:

- 1) Go to www.hegartymaths.com
- 2) Existing users, Student login (at the top)
- 3) Type in the school name
- 4) Write in their first name, last name and date of birth
- 5) Recommended password is tqea followed by the year they started year 7. So for instance, a year 7 student will have **tqea2018** for their password.

This should make the passwords easy to remember. However, students should also write this password in their planners, maths homework books and **parents/carers should take a copy of the password to keep at home in case your child forgets it.**

If for any reason your child will have difficulties accessing the online homework we can make provisions at school, so please let us know so we can help. You can contact me via infor@tqea.org.uk or our switchboard 01827 712477.

Thank you very much for your time spent reading this letter, we look forward to working with you during this programme.

Yours sincerely

Mr Ato Hammond
Teacher of Mathematics