



Our Ref: JMC/JBR

6th July, 2018

Dear Parent/ Carer,

At Irlam & Cadishead College, we believe that students should bring a calculator with them to every Maths lesson from the start of secondary school as they will use this over the next five years in Maths, Science and some other lessons. We really think that students who do this stand a better chance of success in their GCSE exams.

Over the last few years, there have been a number of changes to the Maths curriculum and this has had an impact on the calculators that we would like students to buy. However, some of these calculators are expensive and therefore we want to advise you as best possible in buying a calculator which will be useful for as long as possible. I would also suggest you write your child's name on the back of the calculator in a permanent marker so they can be returned should they misplace it.



Casio FX-85GTPLUS-SB-UT Scientific Calculator £6.00 online from Amazon

Tesco, Aldi, Lidl, ASDA all sell scientific calculators ranging from £5 to £10. During the summer break many of the high street stores have reduced priced scientific calculators on sale for the rush back to school.

This is one of the best non-graphical calculators available. It has many functions which are very useful for the GCSE syllabus, including quadratic and simultaneous equation solvers. This would be a very good calculator for all GCSE syllabuses, but would come highly recommended for those studying towards Higher Tier GCSE.

We have of course some calculators for students to borrow within their Maths lessons should they require to borrow on an 'ad hoc' basis.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs J McKay,
Head of Maths