



EXETER MATHEMATICS SCHOOL

SERVING CORNWALL, DEVON, DORSET AND SOMERSET

NEW STUDENT AND PARENT INFORMATION PACK

Academic Year 2017-18

INTRODUCTION

This pack contains vital information to support the transition from your existing school to EMS. You will have plenty of opportunities to ask questions about the content of this booklet on the 3rd July at our information day; in the meantime, if you have any urgent questions please do not hesitate to get in touch.

In addition to this document, you should find enclosed:

- Letter about the Information Day on 3rd July
- A number of forms to be returned to EMS (as outlined in the covering letter)
- Letter about the maths test students will take in September
- Letter about the Year 12 induction week

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ENROLMENT AND INDUCTION

Thursday, 24th August – GCSE Results Day

As soon as you have received your results, please email us at: admissions@exetermathematicsschool.ac.uk with the details.

Please do NOT telephone the school as this will delay the process – thank you.

If you have met our minimum entry criteria, we will reply confirming your place with us.

If you have not met the minimum entry criteria, please include in your email a telephone number on which to reach you and the times at which you are available to take a call. We will then contact you with a time that Kerry will phone. Having reviewed your application and results, Kerry will give you a call to discuss your options. We will endeavour to speak to you as soon as possible, however please bear with us as this is likely to be a very busy day.

We are currently have a waiting list for places. It is important that you let us know your results as soon as possible so that we can let others know whether we have space for them. We therefore ask that you notify us of your results **by midday**.

We are very mindful of the high levels of anxiety caused by the new grading system. Our minimum entry criteria may need to be adjusted (down) if significant numbers do not achieve these grades. Please do not panic, just get in touch with us as soon as possible.

Friday, 25th August – Enrolment Day

You will each have a 15 minute appointment with a member of EMS staff to complete your enrolment form. Please bring original evidence of your GCSE results (results slips) and your passport with you to this appointment.

We will email you with the time of your enrolment interview when we respond to you about your results on Thursday 24th. Please reply to this email so that we know you are aware of when to visit us.

Students who will be staying with us in the Molly Hayes flats will have the opportunity to move their belongings into their rooms during the afternoon of enrolment day. Meredith, Grace and Lucy will be on site from 1300 to 1600 to welcome you and show you to your room.

If for any reason you are unable to attend this enrolment day, please make contact with Susie as soon as possible so that alternative arrangements may be made: susiecatling@exeterms.ac.uk

Monday, 4th September – Induction Week

The first week of term has a unique timetable and is dedicated to year 12 induction. In addition to lessons and academic activities, social events are timetabled to help students get to know one another and members of staff.

Lessons will include, Mathematics, Lab Induction, EMC skills, Computer Science and an Introduction to Proof with a university academic.

At the beginning of the week, all students will have their pictures taken for their ID cards at Exeter College. Although there are no College lessons taking place during this week, students will visit the College on Friday to take part in the Freshers' Fair where they will be able to sign up for extra-curricular activities.

Year 13 students will join year 12 for some activities and tutorials.

Induction Week – Draft Timetable

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
0900 to 1030		Lesson	Tutorial	Lesson	Freshers' Fair
1045 to 1215	Induction Assembly	Lesson	Lesson	Lesson	Lesson
1315 to 1445	Tutorial	Lesson	Buffet lunch and board games (from 1215)	Lesson	EMC Presentations (1245 to 1415)
1500 to 1630	Exeter Mathematics Certificate (EMC) Launch	Inspire Lecture	Sport 1500 to 1700	Lesson	
After School		Meal out and bowling			

There is a £30.00 charge to cover the cost of the year 12 induction week. If you are unable to afford this, please apply for support through the School Bursary Fund (see page 9). If you are not eligible for this fund, but will nevertheless struggle to make this payment, please get in touch with Will Denford, our School Business Manager, as soon as possible: wilddenford@exeterms.ac.uk

Monday 11th September – Normal Timetable Begins

Students will have their first lessons at Exeter College this week. This will also be the first week of the regular timetable at EMS.

CURRICULUM & EQUIPMENT

A summary of the EMS courses is given below. Further details of the Exeter College courses can be found on the College website: <http://www.execoll.ac.uk/1618/Courses/CourseSearch.aspx>

Mathematics & Further Mathematics

At the end of year 12 you will not sit any external examinations, both courses will be assessed at the end of your second year.

We will be following the MEI specification for both Mathematics and Further Mathematics.

To complete the Mathematics A-level you will sit the following papers:

Component 01: Pure Mathematics and Mechanics – 100 marks

Component 02: Pure Mathematics and Statistics – 100 marks

Component 03: Pure Mathematics and Comprehension – 75 marks

For your Further Mathematics qualification, 50% of the marks will come from a Core Pure paper. You will then opt to study either one major and one minor unit or three minor units from the table below.

Major Units (33.3%)	Minor Units (16.7%)
Mechanics	Mechanics
Statistics	Statistics
	Further Pure with Technology
	Numerical Methods
	Modelling with Algorithms
	Extra Pure

You will study all of the A-level Mathematics syllabus and part of the Further Mathematics syllabus in year 12 and will conclude your studies by Easter of year 13, enabling you to prepare thoroughly for final examinations in the summer term.

You will have 8 lessons / 9 hours per week of Mathematics/Further Mathematics and can expect two pieces of homework per week.

You will need to have a suitable graphical calculator to complete this course. We recommend that you purchase one through the school. This will ensure you are using the same model as your teachers and peers and you will also benefit from our ability to buy at a discounted price.

Physics

We will be following the Eduquas syllabus.

You will have 4 lessons / 4.5 hours of Physics per week, all of which will be taught in one of our purpose built labs. Practical Skills will be developed throughout the course and emphasis will be given to problem solving and applying knowledge.

The A-level is comprised of three components:

1. Newtonian Physics;
2. Electricity and the Universe;
3. Light, Nuclei and options.

Component 3 contains some optional content and students will choose one option from:

- A: Alternating Currents;
- B: Medical Physics;
- C: The Physics of Sports;
- D: Energy and the Environment.

All units are assessed by examinations in Year 13; there are also a number of required practical experiments that will be conducted and evidenced through both years of study.

The Year 12 and 13 course textbooks are available for students to use in school. We recommend the Eduqas Physics for A-level revision guides to students as a useful accompaniment to the course.

Computer Science

We will be following the AQA syllabus and students will be sitting the A2 examination at the end of year 13.

Students will have 4 lessons / 4.5 hours of Computer Science per week, all of which will be taught in the computer room. The course has a fairly even split between theory and programming; initially the programming will be focused on Python 3 and there will be opportunities to work with other languages at different points in the course.

The A level is assessed by an on-screen exam (40%), a written paper (40%) and a non-exam assessment (NEA) (20%). The NEA project is very open and students are encouraged to find something that they find interesting for this project. The project will start in the summer term of year 12 once sufficient programming skills have been learned. There will be other mini-projects during the first year before the students embark on their own NEA project.

You are not expected to buy a textbook for Computer Science. The book that is used in class (supplied by the school) is AQA A level Computer Science 9ISBN 978-1471839511. We do recommend that students purchase the revision guide "My Revision Notes AQA A-Level Computer Science", ISBN 978-1471865824.

4th Option at Exeter College

There are two options for those that are not taking both Physics and Computer Science at EMS: A-level subject or Extend.

Students taking a 4th A-level at the College will be taught for 4 lesson /5 hours per week. Exeter College charges a resource fee to all A-level students to meet the cost of textbooks and other essential equipment and experiences. The course fees vary from subject to subject, normally in the range of £20 to £40. Please find enclosed further details in the enclosed *Exeter College Resource Fees* leaflet. Resource fees should be paid to EMS, not directly to Exeter College. This can be done either during, or immediately after enrolment.

Extend will be taught for one hour per week. There is no resource fee of this option.

INSPIRE

This is a series of stand-alone lectures and workshops designed to broaden students' experience of mathematics and its applications. These occur once a fortnight.

EMC

This is a project-based course designed to develop the independent study skills necessary to thrive at university and in the workplace. Students are timetabled to attend workshops and have develop projects for one hour per week.

EMC Skills

Designed to support students' overall development and equip them with the skills to successfully complete their EMC, this course will include programming and communication and will be taught for one lesson / 1.5 hours per week.

Academic Tutorial

Mixed groups of year 12 and 13 students meet with their tutor once a week to review progress, set targets and receive support with their academic studies. This course will equip students with effective study techniques and will support them as they plan for the future.

Pastoral Tutorial

Once a fortnight, students meet together to consider issues beyond the academic, from our democratic system to the importance of sleep, and from managing a student-budgets to considering our community, students are encouraged to review data and make informed, rational decisions.

Equipment List

Students will need to have the following equipment:

- A natural-display Scientific Calculator
- Pens, Pencils, Ruler, Eraser
- A4 lined paper
- Ring Binders – 1 large & several narrow (1 per unit/course)
- Ring Binder Dividers
- A Graphical Calculator*

*Graphical Calculators are available to purchase from the school at the discounted price of £71.95. Should you wish to purchase a calculator from the school, please complete the enclosed form and make payment in line with the instructions. They will be available to collect at the Information Day 3rd July and again at enrolment on the 25th August.

SAMPLE YEAR 12 TIMETABLE

Students studying both Computer Science and Physics at EMS

		9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00	1.00	2.00	3.00	4.004.30
week A	Monday			Physics A	CS A		Maths A		Computer Science B
	Tuesday	Maths B		Study Period	Phys B		Academic Tutorial		Physics A
	Wednesday	Computer Science A		Maths C	Extra Curricular at Exeter College			Maths A	Extra Curricular
	Thursday	Physics B		Computer Science B	Maths B		EMC Skills		Maths C
	Friday	Maths A		EMC	Maths A		Inspire		

		9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00	1.00	2.00	3.00	4.004.30
week B	Monday			Physics B	CS B		Maths A		Computer Science A
	Tuesday	Maths C		Study Period	Phys A		Academic Tutorial		Physics B
	Wednesday	Computer Science B		Maths B	Extra Curricular at Exeter College			Maths A	Extra Curricular
	Thursday	Physics A		Computer Science A	Maths C		EMC Skills		Maths B
	Fri B - 12	Maths A		EMC	Maths A		Pastoral Tutorial		

Students taking a 4th A-level at Exeter College

		9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00	1.00	2.00	3.00	4.004.30
week A	Monday			Physics A			Maths A		Exeter College
	Tuesday	Maths B		Exeter College	Phys B		Academic Tutorial		Physics A
	Wednesday	Exeter College		Maths C	Extra Curricular at Exeter College			Maths A	Extra Curricular
	Thursday	Physics B		Exeter College	Maths B		EMC Skills		Maths C
	Friday	Maths A		EMC	Maths A		Inspire		

		9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00	1.00	2.00	3.00	4.004.30
week B	Monday			Physics B			Maths A		Exeter College
	Tuesday	Maths C		Exeter College	Phys A		Academic Tutorial		Physics B
	Wednesday	Exeter College		Maths B	Extra Curricular at Exeter College			Maths A	Extra Curricular
	Thursday	Physics A		Exeter College	Maths C		EMC Skills		Maths B
	Fri B - 12	Maths A		EMC	Maths A		Pastoral Tutorial		

Students studying an Extend option at Exeter College will have three additional study periods per week. Extend will either take place during one of these lessons or on a Wednesday lunchtime.

SCHOOL BURSARY FUND

The School Bursary Fund is different from and additional to Accommodation Bursaries. It can help with:

- Essential equipment, including calculators;
- Compulsory books;
- Essential materials for art/photography;
- Essential course trips/residential visits;
- Travel to and from school.

To be eligible for the Bursary Fund you must be either:

1. A Vulnerable Student - includes young people in Care, Care Leavers, young people receiving Income Support (or Universal Credit) and young people who are receiving both Employment and Support Allowance and Disability Living Allowance (or Personal Independence Payment)

AND

Enrolled at Exeter Mathematics School

AND

Aged under 19 on 31st August in the academic year in which the programme of study starts.

OR

2. A Student Facing Financial Hardship (have a household income of under £23,000)

AND

Enrolled on a further education course at Exeter Mathematics School

AND

Aged under 19 on 31st August in the academic year in which the programme of study starts

AND

Meet residency criteria in line with EFA Funding regulations.

Application Forms are available from Tamsin Loudon, the school's Finance Assistant:

finance@exetermathematicsschool.ac.uk

Students in Receipt of Accommodation Bursaries

If you have already applied for an Accommodation Bursary, you do not need to apply separately for support with transport. Transport subsidies will be applied automatically according to the information received in your Accommodation Bursary application.

If you would like support with any other costs that are covered by the School Bursary Fund, you will need to contact Tamsin with the details of how much you need and for what purpose:

finance@exetermathematicsschool.ac.uk

SUBSIDISED TRANSPORT SCHEME

Students may wish to purchase a travel pass through the school. In most cases this will work out cheaper than buying individual tickets each day; before applying, we recommend that you check the likely cost of alternative transport.

Your student travel pass will provide you with bus or train transport between home and school during term time only. Bus passes do have other perks such as discounted weekend travel.

The price of a travel pass for the full academic year is £550 but discounts are available to those eligible for the School Bursary Fund (see page 10). Families with a household income of between £16,000 and £23,000 will receive a 50% discount, those on less than £16,000 will receive their pass free of charge.

If you would like to apply for a pass, we must receive your completed application form, first payment and ID photograph by Monday 5th June. Late applications will be processed but we will not be able to guarantee that your pass will arrive on time for the start of term.

Important Dates

Monday 5th June	£200.00 (or £550.00) payment and application form received
Monday 11th December	£200.00 payment received
Monday 12th March	£150.00 payment received

Please ensure that all payments for travel passes are made directly to EMS to avoid any unnecessary delays. Please refer to the travel pass application form for further information.

College Scheme

Although very similar, the Exeter College transport scheme runs entirely separately from EMS. If you have applied to both organisations, you will still need to apply for a EMS travel pass separately as mentioned above. Once you have enrolled at either EMS or Exeter College, you will be able to cancel one order and obtain a full refund.

Exeter College have arranged for buses to transport students to and from areas that are not well served by public transport. Students from EMS may be able use this transport; to do so, they should complete the transport application form and return to EMS, indicating that they wish to use College transport.

Refunds

If you have applied for an Exeter College transport pass and have paid for it, it will be sent to you. If you do not attend Exeter College you must return this pass to obtain a full refund.

If you apply for a travel pass with EMS and then do not enrol, we will give you a full refund. All travel passes for EMS students will be sent to the school. We will issue these to students at enrolment.

STAFF AND GOVERNORS

Governors

An up to date list of governors is available on our website. At present, we have two parent governors. From September 2017 one of these places will be available for new parents.

If you are interested in becoming a governor of the school and would like some further information, please contact the clerk to governors, Jill Williams: jillwilliams@exeterms.ac.uk or telephone 01392 429020.

To be considered as a parent governor we ask that you email Jill a couple of paragraphs about yourself, providing some background information and outlining why you wish to be a governor. If more than one parent puts their name forward, we will share this information with other parents prior to holding an election.

Staff

Stuart Allen, Teacher of Mathematics
stuartallen@exeterms.ac.uk

Tom Bowler, Teacher of Mathematics
tombowler@exeterms.ac.uk

Sophie Brown, Outreach Officer
sophiebrown@exeterms.ac.uk

Kerry Burnham, Headteacher & Teacher of Mathematics
kerryburnham@exeterms.ac.uk

Liam Cante, Lead Teacher of Computer Science & Teacher of Mathematics
liamcante@exeterms.ac.uk

Susie Catling, Reception and Admin Manager (including Admissions)
events@exetermathematicsschool.ac.uk

Lucy Chapman, Pastoral Accommodation Tutor – from June 2017
lucychapman@exeterms.ac.uk

Will Denford, Business Manager
willdenford@exeterms.ac.uk

Julia Gardner, Receptionist
juliagardner@exeterms.ac.uk

Will Halwyn, Teacher of Mathematics
willhalwyn@exeterms.ac.uk

Meredith Holmes, Lead Pastoral Accommodation Tutor
meredithholmes@exeterms.ac.uk

Ed Horncastle, Teacher of Computer Science & Physics
edhorncastle@exeterms.ac.uk

Tamsin Loudon, Finance Assistant
tamsinloudon@exeterms.ac.uk

Joe Rowing, Deputy Headteacher & Lead Teacher of Physics
joerowing@exeterms.ac.uk

Malcolm Simpson, Teacher of Physics
malcolmsimpson@exeterms.ac.uk

Grace Strachan, Pastoral Accommodation Tutor – from May 2017
gracestrachan@exeterms.ac.uk

Jill Williams, Clerk to Governors and Examinations Officer
jillwilliams@exeterms.ac.uk

Claire Willman, Teacher of Mathematics
clairewillman@exeterms.ac.uk

TERM DATES

Term	First day of (half-) term	Last day of (half-) term
Autumn 2017	Tuesday 29 th August (NB: Tuesday 29 th August to Friday 1 st September is Y13 only)	Friday 20 th October
Half term	Monday 23 rd October	Friday 27 th October
	Monday 30 th October	Friday 15 th December
Spring 2018	Tuesday 2 nd January	Friday 9 th February
Half term	Monday 12 th February	Friday 16 th February
	Monday 19 th February	Thursday 29 th March
Summer 2018	Monday 16 th April	Friday 25 th May (NB: Monday 7 th May is a Bank Holiday)
Half term	Monday 28 th May	Friday 1 st June
	Monday 4 th June	Friday 6 th July
Autumn 2018	Monday 3 rd September	Friday 19 th October
Half term	Monday 22 nd October	Friday 26 th October
	Monday 29 th October	Friday 21 st December
Spring 2019	Monday 7 th January	Friday 15 th February
Half term	Monday 18 th February	Friday 22 nd February
	Monday 25 th February	Friday 5 th April
Summer 2019	Tuesday 23 rd April	Friday 24 th May
Half ter	Monday 27 th May	Friday 31 st
	Monday 3 rd June	Friday 5 th July

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What extracurricular activities will students be able to access?

EMS students are able to access the full range of activities on offer at the College, subject to timetabling constraints. These include sport, music, drama and many more. Students will be made aware of all the College clubs and how to join them, as part of their induction.

Additional activities will be run by EMS for our students alone. These will often occur immediately after school or during lunchtimes so as not to clash with College activities.

Some activities will be academic, such as the CANSAT competition (students design and launch a satellite in a can) whilst others will be of a broader nature. We anticipate that our students will be instrumental in determining the activities that we run.

There will be some link up with Exeter College's REACH academy – their students will join some of our events and vice versa. EMS students will not, however, be members of the REACH academy.

Who is my son's / daughter's tutor?

All students have a tutor with whom they meet regularly, at least once a week. These will be assigned prior to their induction week and we will notify parents of the name of the tutor and his/her contact details.

Whom should I contact if I have a question or concern?

In addition to the contact emails in this pack, our contact details are on the "contact us" page of the school website:

- For questions relating to admissions, Susie Catling is the person to contact (admissions@exeterms.ac.uk);
- For finance questions including matters in connection with payments, contact Tamsin Loudon or Will Denford (finance@exeterms.ac.uk);
- For general enquiries, including student absence, contact Julia or Susie (enquiries@exeterms.ac.uk);
- Questions relating to accommodation provision should be addressed either directly to Meredith or to the Deputy Headteacher, Joe Rowing;
- Questions or issues relating to Safeguarding (child protection etc.) should be addressed directly, and only, to Designated Safeguarding Lead, Joe Rowing;
- If you have a general concern, please contact your son's/daughter's tutor – you will be given their name at the start of term;
- If you have a subject-specific enquiry, contact the teacher or lecturer directly. If you are not sure whom to contact, ask your son's/daughter's tutor;

In general, it is best to contact teaching staff by email as there are limited times that they can get to a phone. If in doubt, however, just ring the main school number: we're a small team so it's easy to point you in the right direction.

How do I make payments to the school?

You can make payments by a cheque made payable to Exeter Mathematics School and posted to: Finance Office, Rougemont House, Castle Street, Exeter EX4 3PU.

Alternatively, payments can be made by bank transfer. Please make it clear what each payment is for: you can do so by emailing Tamsin when you make a payment into the school account or by quoting a reference which will be given to you by Tamsin in relation to specific items or activities. Any payment reference must always include your child's name.

Our school bank details are:

Bank: Lloyds Bank, High Street, Exeter

Account No: 00604421

Sort code: 30-93-14

BIC: LOYDGB21073

IBAN: GB83 LOYD 3093 1400 6044 21

Will there be additional costs over the year?

We have outlined in this pack all the costs that there are likely to be over the next year.

This year, the only additional cost over and above these has been for students attending university open days with the school.

Below is a summary of the anticipated costs:

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------|
| • Travel Pass | £550.00 |
| • Graphical Calculator | £70.00 |
| • Induction Week Activities | £30.00 |
| • General Stationery | £20.00 |
| • Possible Locker deposit | £5.00 |
| • University visit | £50.00 per visit |
| • College Resource Fees | £30 approximately |
| • Revision Guides and Text Books | £* |

If you have a low household income (under £23,000) you may be able to receive support with these costs (see page 9).

*The amount spent on revision guides varies significantly from student to student depending on how they wish to prepare for examinations.