



# THE BUCKINGHAM SCHOOL

## A SPECIALIST SPORTS COLLEGE

London Road  
Buckingham  
MK18 1AT

Tel: 01280 812206

Fax: 01280 822525

Email: [office@buckinghamschool.org](mailto:office@buckinghamschool.org)

Website: [www.buckinghamschool.org](http://www.buckinghamschool.org)

Headteacher: Mr A McGinnes

15 January 2020

Dear Parent / Carer

### Intermediate Mathematical Challenge

As you may already be aware, every year, the UK Mathematics Trust (UKMT) runs a series of competitions for secondary school pupils to encourage them to develop their love of solving problems.

Solving problems is a key element of the new Mathematics GCSE and participation in these competitions is actively encouraged.

This year, The Buckingham School would like to widen access to the competitions such that more pupils can experience using their knowledge, mathematical reasoning, precision of thought, and fluency to solve interesting problems - and gain an idea of how their solutions compare to a national benchmark.

The Intermediate Mathematical Challenge is the UKMT competition for pupils in Year 9 and Year 10 and based on their progress and attitude to learning, your child has been selected to be offered an opportunity to enter the competition.

All pupils who enter the UKMT Intermediate Mathematical Challenge will receive a certificate of participation for taking part and the highest scoring pupils may earn a bronze, silver or gold award; with the very best possibly being selected to be entered for the international stage. The UKMT itself marks the Challenge papers, determines which pupils have earned the awards and which are put forward to compete for the UK at one of the two possible International levels (Kangaroo or Olympiad). These can, hence, be seen as valuable independent evidence of attitude and ability when applying for 6th Form and University.

In order for your child to take part, we are asking parents to make a small voluntary contribution of £2.00, to cover the cost of the papers plus the administration process. We hope you will agree it is of huge benefit taking part in this prestigious annual competition - and a chance at potentially earning an award - or even representing the UK at an international level.

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*The Buckingham School is concerned that every student should have the opportunity to attend school activities/obtain equipment, regardless of their financial circumstances. As such, it may be possible to subsidise those students who would otherwise be unable to attend trips/purchase items. Please feel free to write in confidence to Mrs K Bones at [kbones@buckinghamschool.org](mailto:kbones@buckinghamschool.org), if you wish to seek assistance, or obtain more information about Pupil Premium funding.*



The competition itself will be on Thursday, 6 February 2020 and we will make arrangements for your child to take part within the normal school day. Further information, including advice on how you and your child can prepare for the challenge can be found at:

<https://www.ukmt.org.uk/competitions/solo/intermediate-mathematical-challenge>

We would really like your child to attempt this challenge. It is a great opportunity to assess and develop problem solving skills ready for their GCSE's and wider life. If you would like your child to be entered for the Challenge, payment should be made via ParentMail before 31 January 2020.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Yours faithfully

Mr M Siu  
Curriculum Leader, Maths  
[msiu@buckinghamschool.org](mailto:msiu@buckinghamschool.org)

Mr B Waive  
Teacher & Assistant CL, Maths  
[bwaine@buckinghamschool.org](mailto:bwaine@buckinghamschool.org)

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