

Vital Information from the Mathematics Faculty for 2012 Year 10 students

The Year 10 syllabus this year will include the use of a graphical calculator. I have made the decision to introduce this during Year 10 as it allows students to become familiar with the use of this complex calculator. This will be crucial in Year 11 and even more so in Year 12 as it is now an essential tool for successfully studying NCEA Mathematics. By introducing the graphical calculator in Year 10 students will be greatly advantaged in Year 11 and Year 12.

The calculator we use is the Casio fx-9750 and it is important students have this particular graphical calculator and not a cheaper alternative as many of these cheaper alternatives do not have the same functions. I am aware these calculators are expensive, although they are cheaper when stationery sales are on in January, or you may be able to purchase a second hand one from students who have finished taking mathematics in school.

Students will be able to *manage* with a scientific calculator, Casio fx 82, while in Year 10 but they will be advantaged if they obtain the graphical calculator for Year 10. This is particularly true for the most able students who are thinking they will be in the higher level classes in the senior school.

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