

Dear Parents/Carer,

**Letter Summary: Students require calculators for their lessons.**

Teaching staff are working hard to raise academic achievement at Montsaye Academy and your children have been rising to the challenge so far. We're currently re-establishing many routines and standards, so that we minimise any barriers to our students' learning and appreciate your ongoing support with this. To aid your child's learning it is important that they come to school prepared. I would like to take this opportunity to emphasise that a student's readiness to learn includes having the necessary equipment. At Montsaye Academy this includes a calculator.

I would like to urge all parents and guardians to buy a calculator for their child and ensure that they bring it to school every day. This will allow your child to fully participate in lessons and to understand how technology can be used to aid problem solving. The reason for this is because it allows them to familiarise themselves with how to utilise and take full advantage of how to use their calculators with confidence. This will also save them time in the exam, particularly under time constraints. This will be a focus in lessons after we return from the Easter break and normal equipment sanctions will be in place for those students who don't come to school prepared.

Students study Mathematics or Science almost every day at our school. They may also require the use of a calculator in Geography, Technology and other subjects. Calculators are essential for Maths, Science and other GCSE examinations. Being familiar with their calculator through their journey at Montsaye will help them be best prepared in the future. The lack of equipment during lessons can cause disruption and those who do not have access to them at home cannot familiarise themselves with their equipment. This can increase stress levels and lower attainment during revision and assessments. The following calculator (Casio FX-85 GTX) is recommended, and an example can be found [here](#) (they can have alternative branded scientific calculators).

If you have any questions or concerns regarding this matter, please contact Mr Darnbrook (Head of Maths), Mrs Sutliff (Head of Science) or your Progress Leader.

Kind regards,



Conor Darnbrook  
Head of Maths  
Montsaye Academy



Pam Sutliff  
Head of Science  
Montsaye Academy