

18 September 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

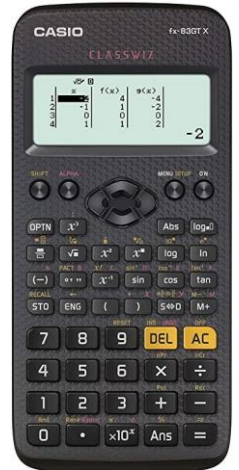
### Scientific Calculators

I am writing to clarify the essential equipment required for students' Mathematics lessons. As part of our risk assessment to reduce the risk of contracting COVID19 we are unable to lend calculators to students during lessons. Therefore, we are asking that all students purchase a scientific calculator and bring it to every lesson.

We strongly recommend the Casio fx 83GTX, fx 85GTX (solar version) or the older version of this calculator, the fxGT-plus. I have included a picture for your reference of the fx 83GTX.

We recommend this particular calculator for the following reasons:

1. Other scientific calculators may not have all of the functions that we use and teach; without the Casio your child is at a disadvantage to their peers in both assessments and, ultimately, their GCSE.
2. This is the model of the calculator that students will be issued during their examinations therefore it is crucial that they are familiar with it.
3. Students increasingly need the use of a calculator for their GCSE examination courses, two thirds of their papers are now calculator papers. If students do not have their own calculator they are unable to practise and revise for their Mathematics exams and assessments at home.



The fx 83GTX can be purchased through school for £8.50.

If you wish us to order a calculator for your child then please complete this [survey](#) by Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> September. We will then contact you with details about payment and collection.

If you have any further questions regarding this or you require financial support, please feel free to contact me at [ashleyc@dartonacademy.org.uk](mailto:ashleyc@dartonacademy.org.uk).

Yours faithfully



Mr C Ashley  
Associate Assistant Principal & Head of Mathematics