

Level 3 Certificate in Mathematical Studies

Why study Core Mathematics?

If you are wanting to extend your study of mathematics beyond GCSE, but are not looking to study a full A Level in mathematics, then core maths is for you! The emphasis in this mathematical study is in the application that maths has to real life and it will also help you with the maths in your other subjects, such as psychology, geography and the sciences. Lessons will promote the use of ICT in the form of laptops, iPads and calculators to enhance your study of mathematics, developing your analytical thinking and quantitative reasoning.

What will I study?

Financial maths - including loans, credit cards, mortgages, saving and investments, tax and National Insurance, students loans.

Statistics - build on the skills developed at GCSE such as averages, scatter diagrams and histograms. The normal distribution is introduced.

Fermi estimation - learn how to use estimation skills to answer questions such as 'How much water do all the household in the UK use in a year?'

Critical analysis - learn to criticise the mathematical presentation of others and find flaws in their arguments. Should you believe everything written in the newspapers?

Assessment

100% examined.

Paper 1: Written Exam 1.5 hours in length, testing financial maths, fermi estimation, and specific parts of the statistics.

Paper 2: Written exam 1.5 hours in length, testing critical analysis and the remainder of the statistics.

Study trips, visits and events

Year 12 have the chance to attend a Maths Inspiration event at the Bristol Hippodrome where they can experience the UK's most inspiring maths speakers live in theatres, presenting mathematics in the context of exciting, real-world applications.

Subject entry requirements

A grade 4 in mathematics.



Student Perspective

"I took Core Maths because of its vast real-life applications. I've learnt many useful skills such as calculating taxes and interest rates which will be really beneficial in the future when I (hopefully) live independently. So far, I've applied our sessions on car budgeting to actually buy my own car! I really recommend this qualification to everyone."

Mariella, Core Maths student