MATHS

Core Maths (Level 3 certificate in mathematics in context)

Examination Board: AQA
Course Leader(s): Mr Barrett & Miss Sneddon

Course Structure

A two year programme leading to GCSE Statistics at the end of Year 12 and Level 3 (AS equivalent) Mathematical Thinking at the end of Year 13.

Topics/Unit Title	Assessment
GCSE Statistics	2 exams (equal weighting) of 1hr 45 minutes each in June of Year 12
Core Maths	2 exams (equal weighting) of 1hr 30 minutes each in June of Year 13.

What does the course involve?

Core maths is for those who want to build on valuable maths skills learned at GCSE, but who are not taking A-level mathematics. The course is designed to relate mathematics to real-life situations, ranging from loans and mortgages to probability to the critical review of published statistics. If you've ever asked a maths teacher "When will I ever use this in the real world?" then Core Maths might be for you!

As there is a great deal of common content between Core Maths and GCSE Statistics, at the end of Year 12 you will have the opportunity to gain an extra GCSE in Statistics, building on this knowledge to sit Core Maths at the end of Year 13. Core Maths is a Level 3 qualification comparable to an AS level.

Topic areas include:

- Data collection, analysis and presentation;
- Financial maths, including loans, investments and taxation;
- Probability;
- Estimation of real life numbers;
- Critical review of published data.

Further Study/Employment Prospects

Both Core Maths and GCSE Statistics are seen as valuable qualifications for many careers and university courses, particularly as the mathematical content is taught in the context of real- life applications. A number of universities will reduce the required A level grades for selected degree courses to students sitting Core Maths (with an A grade being worth 20 UCAS points). In addition, the course complements and supports the mathematical elements of many A level subjects such as geography, business studies, psychology and economics.

Entry Requirements

Grade 5 and above in GCSE Mathematics.