

ADDITIONAL SUBJECT – LEVEL 3 CORE MATHEMATICS

AQA EXAMINATION BOARD

2026 ENTRY

What does the course involve?

This is a new qualification, equivalent to an AS. It will be taught over two years, with three lessons per fortnight.

How will you learn?

- Build on your knowledge of mathematics from GCSE
- Extend your previous experience to practical and relevant scenarios: for example we will study the Mathematics of personal finances (budgeting, taxation, investments and loans).
- Refresh and extend your numeracy skills in areas such as compound and exponential growth and Fermi estimation. Students have found this particularly relevant when preparing for vocational or pre-university aptitude tests.
- Become familiar with new statistical techniques relevant to the management of large data, and modelling based on large data sets.

The course will use IT equipment, making extensive use of Spreadsheets and Graphical Calculators.

- The course is designed to help you develop your mathematical thinking and reasoning beyond GCSE Mathematics. It will provide useful mathematical skills for other A-level courses such as A-level Psychology, Sciences and Geography; as well as technical and vocational qualifications.

What exams and coursework are involved?

The specification that we follow is the AQA Level 3 qualification in Mathematical Studies. We opt for the 2A specification: Statistical Techniques.

You will have access to a graphical calculator both in lessons and for your exams.

This is assessed by two 90 minute papers, each worth 60 marks., at the end of Year 13.

What are the entry requirements?

All students are able to take this course on entry into the sixth form along with their 3 A-Level options.

What could you do after completing the course?

The course content includes analysis of data, Maths for personal finance, estimation, critical analysis of given data and models, including spreadsheets and tabular data as well as advanced statistical techniques. The course will familiarise you with the use of spreadsheets and sophisticated statistical techniques to analyse big data sets: these skills are relevant to a wide number of academic courses, as well as to any employer.

By following this course you will have supported your other studies as well as keeping your mathematical skills current; previous students have found them invaluable support in tackling the various numeracy tests which are gateways to further qualifications.

You will be able to apply your school mathematics to “Real Life”, and you will understand many aspects of financial mathematics, including taxation, cost of credit, financial markets.

You will be able to build and use spreadsheets, and to model real-life situations using mathematics and technology.

You will have experienced modelling complex situations using mathematical techniques and Fermi estimation.

You will have learned some sophisticated statistical techniques, including Sampling, Normal Distribution, Correlation and Regression.

These skills are rare and highly prized in our data-driven world.

Our previous students have told us that these skills have been invaluable in many diverse fields, from Business and Management to Midwifery.