Course Summary

Core Maths is an umbrella term for a specific type of level 3 maths qualification. The qualification is equal in size to an AS level qualification and is graded A-E. It has the same number of UCAS tariff points as an AS level qualification, and the course is taught over one year.

Core Maths is intended for students who have passed GCSE Mathematics at grade 5 or better, but who have not chosen to study AS or A-level Mathematics. The course is aimed at students who want to improve their quantitative and problem solving skills.

Why study this subject?
Core Maths gives students valuable preparation for the quantitative skills they will need for many degree courses, particularly subjects such as psychology, business-related courses, sports and social sciences, and natural science courses that do not require AS/A Mathematics.

What happens in lessons?
Core Maths gives students an opportunity use Maths to solve real-life problems you’ll meet when studying other subjects and also in work and life. An array of data is sourced; enabling discussions, debates and analysis allowing students to explore different ways of tackling problems. Teachers aim to embrace collaboration between each-other and with students, and to teaching through problem-solving.

Course Assessment
Paper 1: Comprehension (1 hour 40 mins; 40% of total)
Paper 2: Applications (1 hour 40 mins; 60% of total)
Topics covered across both papers:
- Applications of statistics – Spearman’s rank, Linear regression, PMC, Variance and Standard Deviation.
- Probability – Venn diagrams and risk.
- Linear Programming - Graphical solutions.
- Sequences and Growth – Graphing exponential and reciprocal functions, gradients of curves, Quadratic and

Entry Requirements: Grade 5 or above in GCSE Maths.

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Fibonacci sequences, APs and GPs.

What to do afterwards
Core Maths is useful to improve both quantitative and problem solving skills. It helps to develop skills that will support courses and careers in areas such as Psychology, Health and Social Care, Geography, Sociology, Biology, Environmental Sciences, Sports Science and PE.

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'I am so glad I studied Core Maths – I had to use skills at my University course such as standard deviation and spearman’s rank for my Psychology qualification.'