

# CORE MATHS

EDEXCEL

# LEVEL 3 CERTIFICATE

Entry Requirements	GCSE Grade 5 in Maths (or a strong Grade 4)
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## **Brief introduction to subject:**

Core maths is a post-16/level three qualification taken alongside A-levels, or other level three qualifications, complementing a range of academic and technical programmes. It is designed for students to retain, deepen and extend their knowledge and skills from GCSE, as well as studying and applying new level three material relevant to their needs.

The primary focus is on using and applying mathematics and statistics to address authentic problems and real-life scenarios, drawn from study, work and life, with a strong emphasis on problem-solving.

Core maths has three key objectives:

- deepen competence in the selection and use of methods and techniques
- develop confidence in representing and analysing authentic situations and in applying mathematics to address related questions
- build skills in mathematical thinking, reasoning and communication

## **Progression to Career/ University Courses:**

Core maths is useful for students who need to be equipped for the mathematical and quantitative demands of other courses and employment, but it is also particularly relevant for those who need to these skills to meet the demands of a range of courses in higher education. In fact, over 40 universities this year made a statement in support, and it was publically endorsed by the Russell Group of research-intensive universities.

## **Key Points:**

Core Maths is suitable for students who do not wish to study A-level Maths but who do wish to develop their mathematical, statistical and quantitative skills. Mathematics in Context is a two year course, that is measured as a Level 3 qualification, accredited by Ofqual, and equivalent in size to an AS qualification. However, it is distinct from AS Mathematics as learners consolidate mathematical techniques that can be directly applied to real-life contexts.

## Level 3 Certificate (Equivalent to an AS Level)

**Assessment consists of two externally examined papers which are taken in May/June of Year 13**

### **Paper 1 - Comprehension – worth 40% of the total qualification**

#### **Overview of content**

This paper will examine the following content areas:

- applications of statistics
- probability
- linear programming
- sequences and growth.

#### **Overview of assessment**

- Written examination paper with two sections, A and B, and a source booklet.
- The source booklet will detail two real-life contexts. These contexts will be assessed in the written paper, which requires students to comprehend, interpret and analyse the content in order to answer the questions. One context will be assessed in Section A and the other context will be assessed in Section B. Students will need to refer to the source booklet when answering the questions
- The source booklet will be available for centres to download from our website no later than 15 April for the examinations in May/June of that year. A 'clean' copy will be provided in the examination. Students must not bring their copy into the examination.
- A calculator is allowed.
- Assessment duration is 1 hour and 40 minutes.
- The paper consists of 60 marks.
- A formulae sheet is given at the front of the source booklet.

### **Paper 2 - Applications – worth 60% of the total qualification**

#### **Overview of content**

This paper will examine the following content areas:

- applications of statistics
- probability
- linear programming
- sequences and growth

#### **Overview of assessment**

- Written examination paper with two sections, A and B, and a source booklet.
- The source booklet will detail one themed task in Section A – this will be the same as one of the contexts provided in Paper 1. Students will need to refer to the source booklet when answering the question. Section B will contain three tasks, each of which has a separate theme. The four themes will be assessed in the written paper, which requires students to apply their problem-solving skills in order to answer the questions.
- A calculator is allowed.
- The assessment duration is 1 hour and 40 minutes.
- The paper consists of 80 marks.
- A formulae sheet is given at the front of the source booklet.