



A LEVEL FURTHER MATHEMATICS

What does the course involve?

Further Maths is an A Level taken on top of A level Maths and takes topics covered in that qualification further, as well as introducing entirely new concepts.

The Further Maths modules consist of further core pure content which makes up two thirds of the course and introduces topics such as Matrices, Complex Numbers and Hyperbolic Functions. The last third is evenly split between a unit of Discrete Maths which introduces topics such as graph theory and game theory. These are areas of maths involved with computer studies and economics. The final module is Mechanics which closely aligns with the kinematics unit in A level Physics and considers work, energy, collisions and circular motion.

What exams and coursework are involved?

There are three exams for each A level. Each is an hour long and worth 100 marks.

What are the entry qualifications?

A Grade 7 in GCSE Maths is the minimum requirement to study Further Maths, although a grade 8 is preferable. It is recommended that students should have studied level 2 Further Maths during year 11 as well. Students are also expected to complete some preparation work over the summer holidays and are to be able to demonstrate sound GCSE algebra skills in the first few weeks of the course. But, perhaps more importantly, you need to have a real interest in maths and in solving mathematical/logical problems. You should probably have been in a top set and would need to have discussed this option with your teacher before applying for the course.

What could I do after completing the course?

If you are thinking about studying mathematics at university then this is an extremely useful course to take. It is also true to say that many university courses that require an A level in maths, e.g. Engineering, will cover the Further Maths content during the first year, so doing this course will give you a huge advantage over those who have not.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT MR. G SPURR