

A LEVEL SUBJECT INFO 2023-24

Mathematics	
Exam Board	Edexcel
Course Entry	7 in GCSE Maths
Criteria	Plus Maths Assessment Required see date below.
Essential skills	The emphasis at A level is on algebra: its manipulation, its use in representing problems and its relationships with graphs.
	All students follow a course split into two sections; the major section covers pure mathematics and represents two thirds of the grade, the minor section covers applied mathematics and represents the remaining third of the grade.
	Pure Mathematics takes GCSE topics into more depth, for example indices, surds and quadratic equations. You will cover a huge quantity of calculus – differentiation and integration – and learn to become far more accurate with your calculations.
	Applied mathematics covers Statistics and Mechanics. You will recognise many of the GCSE Statistics topics such as probability and histograms but meet many new areas such as correlation, regression, the normal distribution and discrete random variables. Mechanics takes GCSE vectors as its starting point and applies them to the real world of acceleration, velocities and forces.
	Students will sit 3 examinations, 2 pure examinations of 2 hours in duration and 1 applied examination also of 2 hours in duration, all sat in the summer of Year 13.
University	Typical grade requirements to study a Mathematics degree are as follows:
requirements	Oxbridge: A* A* A
	Russell Group: A* A A to A A B
	Non Russell Group: A B B
	Top universities will also expect Further Maths to have been taken at A-level.
Related	Physics, Chemistry, Computing, Economics, Music Technology,
courses and careers	Engineering, Architecture, Finance, Insurance, Software Design, Scientist, Armed Forces, Police
Other Details	You will be asked to sit an assessment on Saturday 27 th January 2024. The assessment does not require any knowledge of algebra beyond GCSE but it does assess your ability to use it and apply it in a way that will become routine at A-level. It will assess your ability to link through problems and select appropriate techniques. The assessment is one hour long and you will not be allowed a calculator. Topics included are: • Algebraic fractions • Graph sketching
	Simultaneous equations including quadratic ones
	Solving quadratic equations by factorisation or completing the square
	• Surds