



AS / A2 Mathematics (Level 3)

WHY TAKE THIS COURSE?

This is a highly regarded subject which complements all other courses. Choose Mathematics if you enjoyed it at GCSE and you like the challenge and want to progress to a degree or career where it is a key component.

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

AS Mathematics consists of two pure modules and one applied module. The pure modules include topics such as algebra, co-ordinate geometry, polynomials, trigonometry and calculus. The applied module is either Mechanics or Statistics.

A2 Mathematics consists of two more pure modules and one more applied module. The second applied module may be Mechanics 2, Statistics 2 or Decision Maths. The pure modules include topics such as further differentiation and integration, partial fractions, vectors, further trigonometry and parametric and differential equations.

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

Each module is assessed by an external written exam. One A2 pure module contains a piece of coursework where you will investigate the solutions of equations using numerical methods. One module is taken each year in the January session, the other modules are taken in June.

WHAT SKILLS AND SPECIAL QUALIFICATIONS DO I NEED?

You should normally have at least a grade B at Higher Level GCSE Mathematics to join this course and you should also have a minimum average GCSE pass of grade C. You should be confident in the use of the algebra you studied at GCSE and you will be expected to demonstrate your skills and abilities during our induction programme.

You will need to be committed and willing to spend approximately four hours per week of your own time, practising examples and solving problems. You will need to be well organised, hard working, logical and determined, and be able to work independently.

WHAT CAN I DO NEXT?

Many students go on to pursue careers in areas such as Medicine, Research and Development, Engineering, Statistics, Operational Research, Computing, Accountancy, Actuarial work, Business Management, Insurance, Financial Services and Teaching. If you are hoping to pursue a course in Science, Mathematics or Engineering at University, we would also recommend that you take Further Mathematics to at least AS Level.

PRIESTLEY EXTRA

You will have the opportunity to apply to join a College team which will work with a local company to solve real engineering problems through the Engineering Education Scheme. You will also be able to attend Maths Inspiration Lectures and take part in National Maths competitions and our annual trip to Alton Towers.