

# Core Maths - Level 3 Certificate (H869)

Awarding Body OCR MEI B



## Course Overview

Core Maths (OCR MEI B) is a Level 3 qualification designed for students who have completed their GCSE Mathematics and wish to continue developing their mathematical skills in practical and real-world contexts. The course is ideal for students who are studying subjects that require a solid understanding of mathematics, such as Sciences, Economics, Psychology, Geography, and Business. It provides students with essential mathematical skills to support their further education, career aspirations, and everyday life.

## Key Features

- **Mathematical Content:** The course focuses on applying mathematical concepts to solve problems and interpret data in real-life contexts. It covers areas such as statistical techniques, financial mathematics, and problem-solving strategies. This qualification is designed to bridge the gap between GCSE Maths and the more advanced A-Level Mathematics, equipping students with practical skills they will use in a range of subjects and professions.
- **Real-World Applications:** The emphasis of Core Maths is on the application of mathematics to practical situations. Students will engage with problems related to areas such as finance, statistics, and data analysis. These skills are invaluable for both academic and professional development.
- **Mathematical Tools:** Students will use a variety of tools, including spreadsheets, graphical calculators, and statistical software, to support their learning and problem-solving.

## Course Content

The Core Maths course is structured into the following key areas:

1. **Analysis of Data:** Understanding and interpreting data, including methods of data collection, descriptive statistics, and presenting data effectively.
2. **Mathematical Modelling:** Using mathematical techniques to model real-world situations, including linear and non-linear models.
3. **Financial Mathematics:** Applying mathematical methods to solve financial problems such as budgeting, interest rates, and loans.
4. **Critical Path Analysis:** Solving problems that involve networks and projects, focusing on efficiency and optimal solutions.
5. **Probability and Statistics:** Advanced techniques for working with probability, including distributions, hypothesis testing, and statistical inference.

## Assessment

The Core Maths qualification is assessed through two written examinations, each lasting 1 hour 30 minutes. These exams assess students' ability to apply mathematical concepts and methods to solve problems and interpret data in a range of contexts. The focus is on demonstrating practical understanding, with a substantial component of the assessment based on the application of mathematical techniques to real-life situations.

## Entry Requirements

To undertake Core Maths, students are expected to have achieved at least a grade 5 in GCSE Mathematics. The course is designed to support students who want to maintain or develop their mathematical skills but are not pursuing A-Level Mathematics.

## Progression Opportunities

Core Maths provides an excellent foundation for further study and careers that require strong numeracy and analytical skills. It complements a range of subjects and can enhance students' performance in areas such as:

- **Higher Education:** Particularly useful for students pursuing courses in Social Sciences, Business, Economics, Psychology, Geography, and other fields that require mathematical skills.
- **Career Development:** The course equips students with transferable skills that are highly valued by employers in sectors such as finance, marketing, statistics, data analysis, and management.

## Why Study Core Maths at Newstead Wood School?

- **Engaging and Supportive Learning Environment:** At Newstead Wood School, Core Maths is taught by experienced and enthusiastic staff who provide excellent support throughout the course.
- **Real-Life Applications:** The course places a strong emphasis on how mathematics is used in the real world, ensuring students understand the practical relevance of what they are learning.
- **Comprehensive Preparation:** Whether students are pursuing further education or entering the workforce, the skills gained from studying Core Maths provide a solid foundation for future success.

For more information about course content and entry requirements, please visit the Sixth Form section of the Newstead Wood School website.