

Frequently Asked Questions

A-level Double Maths

Question: What's the difference between Maths and Double Maths?

Answer: Single maths is for students that really enjoy the subject – it takes up one of your subject choices and you will spend 4 hours a week in lessons and 4-5 hours a week outside of lessons studying it. Single maths has an entry requirement of a 6 in Maths and a 4 in English Language.

Double maths is for students that really love the subject! It takes up two of your subject choices and you will spend 8 hours a week in lessons and a further 8-10 hours a week outside of lessons studying it – so it is really important you enjoy it. Double maths has an entry requirement of a 7 in Maths and a 4 in English Language. At the end of the course you will get two A-levels.

Question: What are some of the key topics I would cover?

Answer: We cover the full Maths A-level course in the first year. The maths A-level is $\frac{2}{3}$ Pure, $\frac{1}{6}$ Mechanics and $\frac{1}{6}$ Statistics. At the end of the first year we start the Further maths A-level. This consists of more compulsory pure maths, but after that students get some choice whether to specialise in a combination of at least two of: more statistics; mechanics; pure; or decision maths. At the end of the second year students will take the maths and further maths A-level exams.

Question: Can I just take further maths?

Answer: No, it is not possible to just take further maths as it builds on parts of the single maths A-level. If you only want to study one maths A-level it must be the single Maths A level.

Question: How many other subjects can I choose alongside this one?

Answer: The majority of students across college will study 3 A-level subjects and so would take 1 more A-level alongside double maths. However a significant proportion of students studying double maths will study 4 A-level subjects so would be able to study 2 more alongside double maths, so if you chose to do this, you would be in good company!

Question: Do I need to have studied Additional Maths for Further Maths at GCSE to do this course?

Answer: No, the course is taught building on GCSE maths only

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Question: What is the learning style like within this subject?

Answer: Lessons are a mixture of methods and examples taught from the board, guided discovery of important principles and time to practice new concepts. There is plenty of opportunity for group work and students are encouraged to share their ideas of approaching problems. Many lessons will feature students working in groups on a shared problem on big whiteboards around the room. The pace of lessons moves quickly to ensure everyone is adequately challenged by the course.

Question: How will I be assessed?

Answer: Students are regularly tested using a combination of formal tests that review recently covered topics and less formal unit tests that focus on examining understanding of a specific topic.

Question: What support can I access if I am struggling?

Answer: We run several workshops throughout the week that are drop in sessions for students to ask any questions they have. There is also a workshop room which students are welcome to use even when not staffed and they can ask other students who will be working on the same problems. Teachers are always happy to answer student questions, and we encourage students to send us a picture of the question and any working they've attempted so we can give hints and suggestions. Second year students are available in some extra workshops or as 1-1 mentors as well.

Question: Are there any subject specific entry requirements?

Answer: Yes, please refer to the prospectus [here](#) for general and subject specific entry requirements

Question: Are there normally any trips that I can go on?

Answer: We run an annual maths trip to Thorpe Park looking at the mechanics of rollercoasters, a biennial trip to New York to visit the maths museum and other area of mathematical interest and various other trips to local universities. We also take a group of students to Maths Fest in London each year and run numerous competitions and enrichment activities

Question: What do students who have studied this area normally do after Collyer's?

Answer: The Maths and Further Maths A-levels are great qualifications for many pathways. Students have gone on to study subjects such as Maths, Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Biological sciences, Medicine, Economics, Accountancy at University. Other students have gone straight into degree apprenticeships or other forms of employment.

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