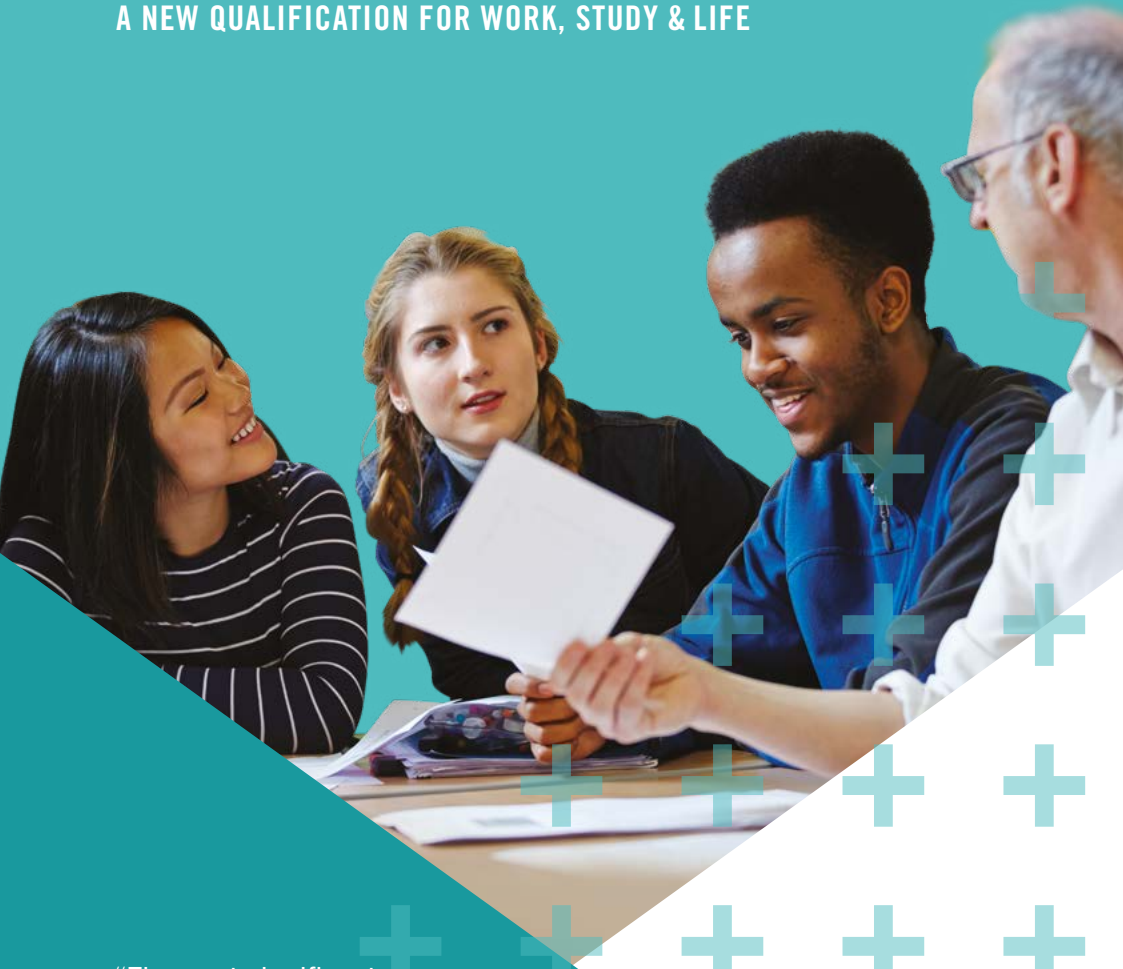
[core:maths]

A NEW QUALIFICATION FOR WORK, STUDY & LIFE



"The most significant development in post-16 mathematics education in a generation"

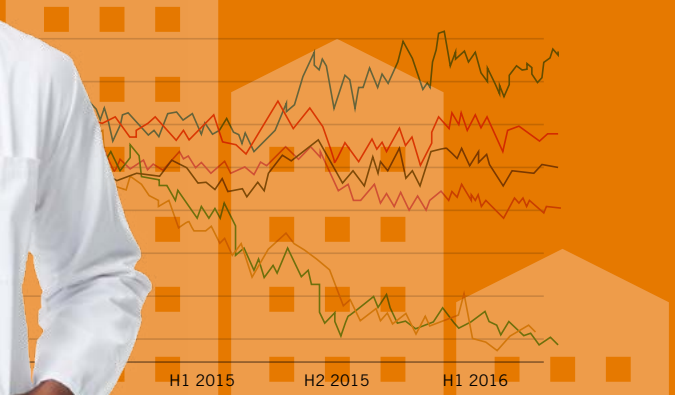
Professor Paul Glaister

WHAT IS CORE MATHS?

Core Maths is a new Level 3 course for students who have achieved a good pass at GCSE mathematics. It is designed to better prepare students for the mathematical demands of work, study and life.

It is a major part of the government's plan to increase participation and raise standards in mathematics – the ambition is for most students to continue studying mathematics to 18.

The course has been developed with employers, universities and professional bodies as valuable preparation for higher education and employment.



WHO IS IT FOR?

Post-16 students, with a GCSE grade C or above, who want to continue to study mathematics, but not at AS/A Level.

Core Maths builds on, and strengthens existing skills; it focuses on using and applying mathematics to solve problems relevant to everyday life.

The course helps students:

- Be better prepared for higher education and employment
- Apply mathematical reasoning to solve real life problems
- Analyse and interpret data
- Confidently deal with everyday financial matters
- Retain, deepen and extend their mathematics

The qualification merits the same UCAS points tariff as an AS level.

WHO IS TEACHING CORE MATHS?

Any post-16 provider in England can teach Core Maths, and hundreds are already doing so. Almost 150 started teaching Core Maths in 2014, with over 200 more starting in 2015. Approximately 3,000 students from 200 centres sat the first Core Maths exams in 2016.

Support For Schools & Colleges

The Core Maths Support Programme is the Department for Education funded initiative supporting the rollout of Core Maths. Delivery is through an experienced regional network, providing peer to peer support and teaching resources for any school or college.

Why Teach Core Maths?

Only 20% of students in England study maths beyond GCSE – the lowest rate in leading developed countries in the world; in Japan, this figure is 85%. This puts young people in England at a major disadvantage in a global job market.

Many students arrive at university with unrealistic expectations of the mathematical and statistical demands of their subjects.

This course has been introduced to address these issues and, importantly, counts towards the Level 3 mathematics achievement measure in 2017 Performance Tables.

" Being able to develop my practice as a teacher, especially with regard to teaching problem solving, this is starting to change how I teach other maths classes."

Core Maths Teacher

The course helps students be better prepared for higher education and employment

WHAT IS THE RESPONSE?

Feedback from Core Maths teachers and students is extremely positive. A key success factor has been the engagement of students with the practical content and approach of the Core Maths course:

" Students are bringing their own real life problems to lessons, such as buying a car or converting currency for a sixth form trip."

Core Maths Teacher

Students appear to appreciate and actively enjoy the problem solving approach and the opportunity for collaborative working to develop their mathematical thinking and understanding:

" I'll be ready for the maths content in engineering next year..."

Core Maths Student

" The new Core Maths qualification is an excellent way to ensure British employers have a ready pipeline of young talent with the maths skills they need"

Dame Fiona Kendrick, Chairman & CEO Nestle UK & Ireland

Full support programme available, including resources, delivered by Education Development Trust

[core:maths] support programme

More than twenty universities endorse the Core Maths qualifications

"The University of Bath welcomes the introduction of Core Maths qualifications to allow students the opportunity to develop their mathematical and statistical problem-solving, evaluation and data-analysis skills beyond GCSE. Many of the degree schemes at Bath value these skills, even where there is no formal requirement for attainment of a Mathematics qualification beyond GCSE level, and highlight this in their published selection criteria. Successful completion of a Core Maths qualification would therefore be appropriate evidence of mathematical skills and would contribute towards receipt of an offer for these courses."

UNIVERSITY OF BATH

WHERE CAN I FIND OUT MORE?

Visit the website for lots of information on the curriculum, teaching resources, case studies as well as details of the Core Maths regional network:

www.core-maths.org

@theCMSP

theCMSP

Scan this code with your smart phone to view more Core Maths stories.

The following Awarding Organisations provide Core Maths courses:

edexcel AQA City & Guilds OCR Oxford Cambridge and RSA eduqas Part of WJEC

Education Development Trust

Highbridge House, 16-18 Duke Street, Reading, RG1 4RU.

Information correct at time of print. July 2016.