



Current Student Case Study

Student name:
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School: Cardinal
 Newman RC
 School

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Background- provide a bit of background regarding the student.
 I am in year 13 and am studying the full Further Mathematics course in one year alongside A2 physics. Last year I completed the whole mathematics course in one year achieving an A* and also did AS physics and Chemistry, achieving an A in both.

How did you end up taking Further Maths through FMSP Wales?
 I ended up doing Further Mathematics because the school was unable to provide a teacher to deliver the course to us (as there were so few of us). Seeing as there was already someone in the year above studying Further Mathematics with FMSP, they decided that this was the best option. I also had to study Further Mathematics in order to be able to apply to the universities I wanted to go to as the majority of them had it as a requirement.

How was the tuition delivered?
 The tuition is delivered all online through live lessons by the tutors. These lessons are more lecture style than in school but the teachers ask you to do some questions by yourself in the lesson and then to tell them the answer to see if you have understood a topic. After a lesson the tutor will usually set you homework and ask you for the homework to be scanned and sent to them so that they can mark it and send it back to you. Integral access is also provided with good notes on all subjects and exercises and tests to be done also.

What key skills do you think studying Further Maths has given you?
 Further Maths has taught me time management skills because I have up to 5 lessons a week and therefore have a lot of homework that I have to complete quickly alongside my Physics work in school. It has taught me independent study as I have no other students in my school that I can ask for help. I have also learnt about perseverance because the questions set for homework can be very difficult and so require a lot of time and effort.

Finally, it has taught me about commitment because having the lessons after school has meant that I have to make certain sacrifices to be able to attend the lessons.

Would you encourage others to study Further Maths?

Yes – because if they enjoy mathematics then they will enjoy the challenge of Further Mathematics. Further Maths is also favoured greatly by top universities when applying for sciences courses so it can be a very useful A level to have. Finally, it teaches you new skills that you can apply to other areas of academia as well as in everyday life.

What's next for you?

I have applied to university and hope to go and study Maths and Physics next year. After that I hope to continue in academia and complete a Master's degree (and maybe a PhD) in order to be able to go into the field of research.

Anything you would like to add about your experience of studying through FMSP Wales?

The teachers have been very helpful and always answer any questions that I email to them very quickly. They have also offered me extra support, online or in school, to try and help me with topics that I hadn't yet completed because of the way that I was doing the course.