



www.furthermaths.org.uk/wales



Case Study	Ysgol Bro Gwaun
Address	Ysgol Bro Gwaun, Heol Dyfed Fishguard, Pembrokeshire, SA65 9DT
Number of students aged 16 – 18 2013/14	



### Case Study:

## Student – William Thomas

### Further Maths Delivery:

The possibility of undertaking a full A level in Further Maths through the Further Maths Support Programme was first suggested to me by my Maths teacher, who is also one of the tutors for the programme. My school only offers an AS in Further Maths in year 13, so this was the only way I could do the full A level. When I decided to study Further Maths it was out of pure enjoyment of the subject and I had not yet decided on what to do after A levels, but by the end of year 12 I knew I wanted to take it further.

The AS modules for Further Maths were all taught during normal lessons, but I had to make up the extra three modules in different ways. My Maths teacher was able to provide one to one sessions to teach me one of the modules whilst the other two were taught to me online in the evenings. Taking the time to study three extra modules in my own time alongside my other subjects required a lot of dedication, but because of my interest and enjoyment of the subject it did not really feel like more work. The tutors were absolutely wonderful in delivering lessons and assisting with revision etc. and they were prepared to spend as much time as necessary to help you understand a particular concept. They were always happy to answer any questions I had and even went beyond the syllabus to discuss STEP and AEA questions with me, which are exams some top universities ask you to take in addition to A levels.

## **Benefits of Studying Further Mathematics?**

One of the key skills that learning through the Further Maths Support Programme gives you is the ability to learn independently. Whilst there is plenty of help available if needed, it requires more self-discipline to put the effort in outside of the online sessions which is something that is well recognised by universities. Studying Further Maths also helps to reinforce the concepts introduced in normal Maths, and it does make it easier when you have covered concepts in Further Maths before you cover them in normal Maths. Thanks to the tutors and the Further Maths Support Programme I was able to achieve A\*s in both Maths and Further Maths and obtain a place at my first choice university, the University of Bath.

If you are considering doing Further Maths, don't let the extra work put you off. If you really do enjoy Maths it won't feel like work and there is loads of support available to you online, from the tutors and from your own teachers. Studying through the Further Maths Support Programme demonstrates to universities that you are a well-rounded individual who is capable of both thinking logically and studying independently. If you are considering studying Maths or anything Maths-related at university, or even if you are undecided but enjoy Maths as a subject, I would wholeheartedly recommend studying Further Maths. It was one of the most enjoyable parts of my A level studies and it really does make a difference to how you study as a whole. Without it, I may not have achieved the grades that I did and may not be studying where I am now.