

Supporting Core Maths

Work Group Information Sheet

NCP 19-21



Overview

The success of Core Maths depends in part on the growth of the pool of teachers, schools and colleges with the necessary expertise, experience and enthusiasm to teach it. This project, run collaboratively by the Maths Hubs Network and the Advanced Mathematics Support Programme (AMSP), will contribute to the wider national effort to grow that pool, and embed Core Maths confidence and culture within school and college maths departments.

Who is this for?

The Work Group will largely consist of teachers from schools/colleges who have just started offering Core Maths in 2019/20 or are planning to offer it in 2020/21. These may be teachers in post-16 settings whose main subject is maths or whose main subject is not maths, and who may be unable to access local TSST provision for Core Maths.

Although the focus is for potential and newer teachers of Core Maths we will spend later sessions sharing good practice and resources which will make this a useful Hub for more experienced teachers.

What is involved?

The work group will have three half-days of face-to-face training, one in the autumn term and two in the spring term. There will be gap tasks between the sessions and twilights throughout the year. On top of this, participants will be able to discuss, share and collaborate through the Online Community.

Taking place at [Alexandra Park School](#) (13:30 – 16:30), lunch will be provided at all face-to-face sessions.

- **Session 1: Monday 25th November** - An introduction to Core Maths and preparation for teaching the course
 - Understanding the rationale and ethos of Core Maths
 - Maths in context and contextualised problem-solving resources
 - Routes for Core Maths
 - Schemes of work
- **Session 2: Wednesday 26th February** - Lesson observation
 - Observation and discussion of Core Maths lesson at Alexandra Park School
 - Resource sharing
- **Session 3: Tuesday 17th March** - Exam preparation and Pre-release materials
- **Additional twilight sessions** – to be decided by participants
- **Gap tasks** – These will include:
 - Planning a Core Maths topic
 - Trialling resources shared in the sessions with your classes and evaluating outcomes

Intended Outcomes

- Participants will understand the philosophy of Core Maths, with its approach to maths through contextualised problem-solving, appreciate the different Core Maths qualifications available, and be able to choose the course appropriate for their students
- Through collaboration and experimentation, participants will develop improved teaching approaches that fit the open-ended problem-solving skills students need to develop, and share these with departmental colleagues
- Participant departments will support the role of Core Maths in promoting contextualised problem-solving and links to other teaching
- Participants will also become familiar with the concept of Pre-release Material and how to prepare pupils for assessment of this.

The wider context

Collectively, the network of Maths Hubs across England work on projects around key national maths education areas. In KS5/Level 3 mathematics, Maths Hubs work in close partnership with the AMSP to support schools and colleges in increasing participation, and improving teaching, in all areas of Level 3 maths, including Core Maths.

Each Maths Hub participating in a national project runs a local Work Group, where teachers come together over a period of time to work on areas defined by the project. All Work Groups are subject to a common evaluation process, which collectively provides a body of evidence on the project's outcomes. So, your participation in this Work Group will contribute to your own professional learning, and that of your school colleagues, as well as making a contribution to the improvement of maths education at a national level.

Expectations of participants and their schools

In general, participants should:

- ✓ Ensure they have support of their school and attend **all** the workshops.
- ✓ Engage in pre-work group materials and surveys.
- ✓ Engage fully and professionally in the workshop activities.
- ✓ Be mindful to maintain the trust and confidence of the Work Group, understanding the different contexts of each individual participant.
- ✓ Participate in the gap tasks.
- ✓ Maintain the learning journal/reflective log where required.
- ✓ Complete the evaluations required by the Work Group.

Funding

This Work Group is free to participants and run in partnership with the AMSP.

Who is leading the Work Group?

Jesse Dangoor-Jesse is currently teaching and leading on Core Maths at Alexandra Park School and is a STEM lead teacher. Last year he supported the Core Maths Work Group for North London teachers offering his classroom for participants to experience contextualised problem-solving alongside his students. Alexandra Park School is the lead teaching school in the New River Teaching Alliance.

If you're interested, what next?

To book your place please visit:

<https://www.londonthamesmathshub.com/post-16>

For more information please contact:

Sam.McQueeney@londonthamesmathshub.com

Maths Hubs Network Collaborative Projects 2019/20

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