

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?

All current and potential teachers of Core Maths. 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.

What is involved?

Through three face-to-face Work Group meeting days (or equivalent), participating teachers will develop their practice to effectively teach mathematical concepts and processes through contextualised problem-solving, lead others in their own department to ensure an effective delivery of Core Maths courses, and promote and deliver a Core Maths course in a way that engages qualified students.

Participants may work collaboratively with other institutions using a school-to-school support model.

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
- Students in participant schools and colleges will take and succeed at Core Maths in increasing numbers.

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

Attend face-to-face Work Group meetings amounting to three half days. These are usually twilight sessions from 2pm to 5pm. However the times and dates are flexible and can be decided by the work group once it is established.

Take part in further in-school activity, for example, trialling teaching approaches or further departmental professional development.

Contribute to Work Group evaluation processes.

Funding

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

Who is leading the Work Group?

This work group will be led by Martin Bamber (AMSP) and Sarah Boyle (Level 3 Lead at North West 3).

If you're interested, what next?

If you are interested in participating in this work group, please email sarah.boyle@calderstones.co.uk.